

Check out what's happening Around Westmount. Page 10

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**Bill Sloan
in as Communist
candidate**

5



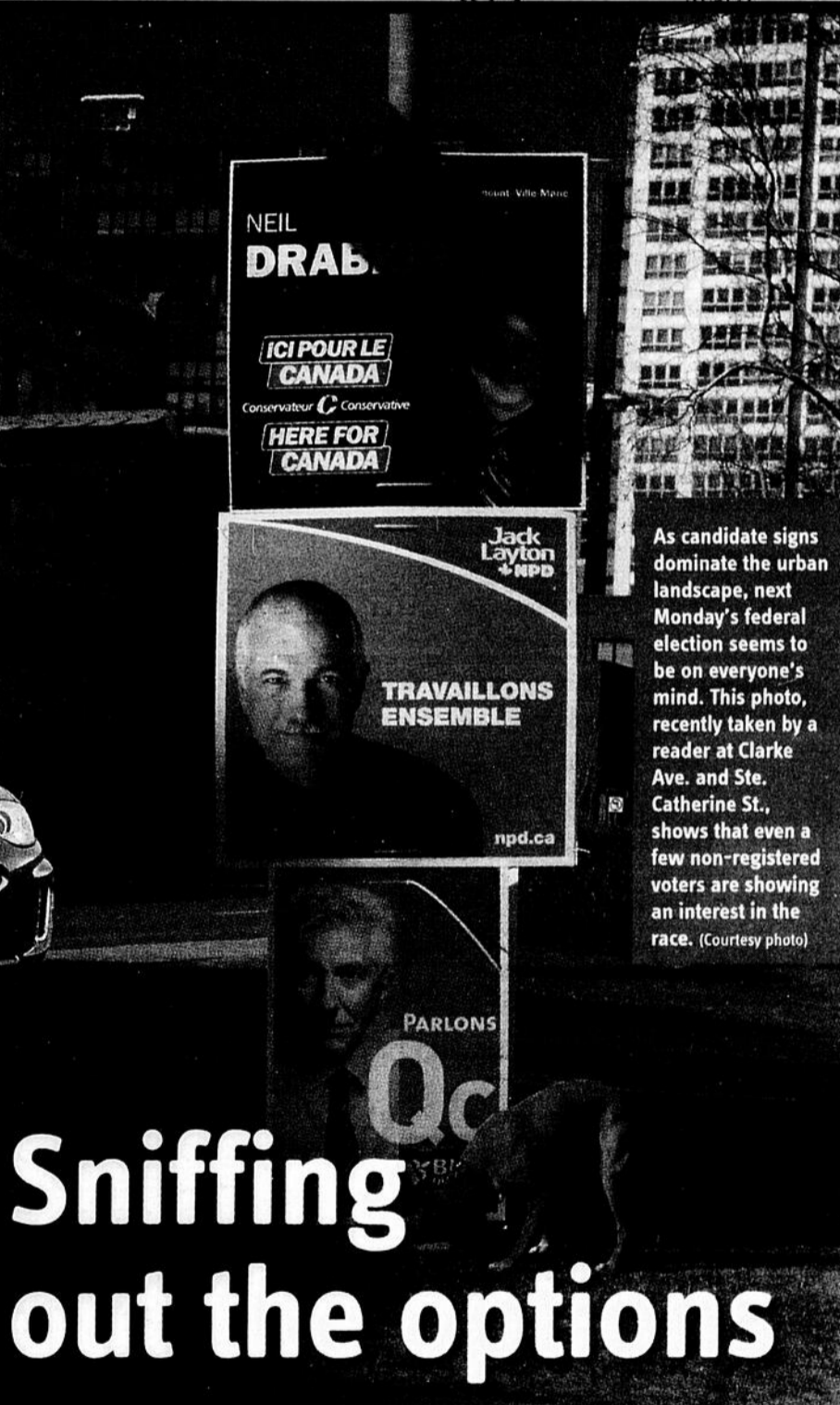
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As candidate signs dominate the urban landscape, next Monday's federal election seems to be on everyone's mind. This photo, recently taken by a reader at Clarke Ave. and Ste. Catherine St., shows that even a few non-registered voters are showing an interest in the race. (Courtesy photo)

Sniffing out the options

Dr. Maureen Kiely is a citizen extraordinaire

Named volunteer citizen of the year

■ CARMEN MARIE FABIO

Dr. Maureen Kiely possesses a sharp intellect and keen attention to detail and the concept of approaching anything half-heartedly is simply not part of her character.

"I will tell you something," she stated emphatically, "I think we live in a really good community."

The sentiment is reciprocal as the 250-member Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) recently recognized Kiely's dedication to the city by naming her the Derek Walker Volunteer Citizen of the Year for 2011.

"She is highly deserving of the award," said WMA secretary Patricia Dumais. "I'm very pleased she's getting it."

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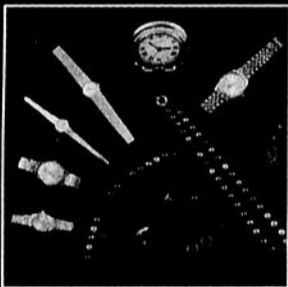
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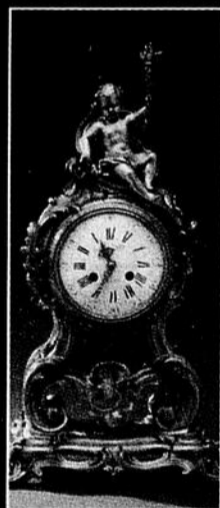
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Dr. Maureen Kiely is a citizen extraordinaire

►►► Continued from page 1

Dumais described the criteria necessary to be eligible for the award. Besides being a Westmount resident, the amount of time spent volunteering per week is weighed along with proven commitment, flexibility and adaptability and a willingness to do what's necessary and go beyond what is asked.

"It's not always easy to choose because we're fortunate to have very dedicated volunteers in Westmount," said Dumais. "Maureen was due for this."

Kiely believes in promoting as well as defending Westmount, something she has done for the past 30 years along with her professional life as a biochemist. Alongside her husband, the late Dr. Samarhji Lal, Kiely ran a lab that focused on psychiatric research at the Montreal General Hospital Research Institute. Kiely has also completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Experimental Medicine and is still part of the McGill University Health Centre as a research scientist in psychiatry.

It was the very nature of Kiely's solitary work in the lab that led her to take an active role in neighbourhood involvement.

"It was a way of interacting with the community," she said. "I needed some interests other than just research."

Born and raised in Notre Dame de Grâce, Kiely attended high school in Westmount and the city was home to her maternal and paternal grandparents. Kiely moved with Lal to Westmount in 1980 and after raising their son Alex — now a biology teacher for the English Montreal School Board — her volunteer work



Westmount's Dr. Maureen Kiely has been named the Derek Walker Volunteer Citizen of the Year. (Courtesy photo)

began with a safety triumph. As part of a citizen group that mobilized to protest the resulting traffic flow from the closure of Cedar Avenue at Argyle, the group successfully fought the Westmount City Council (WCC) in court to have the closure reversed. Kiely's continued interests in community affairs led to a membership in the WMA and she served on the Board of Directors for eight years.

In 1991, along with fellow Westmounter Flora-Lee Wagner, Kiely was appointed to the Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee (CTAC), a position she held for eight years.

"Maureen's a very strong woman," said

Wagner, "in that she always accomplished what she set out to do."

Her approach to getting the job done saw her active in the Westmount Health City Project (WHCP) to ensure a safe and healthy living environment for residents as well as participating in meetings and demonstrations during the forced merger of Westmount with the city of Montreal in 2002. She was also appointed to the Municipal Housing Bureau of Westmount and is a representative of Concertation inter-quartiers des organismes avoisinants la cours Glen (CIQ) which is studying the impact of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) super hospital project on the communities of Westmount, NDG, and St.

Henri. Of all her accomplishments, Kiely is most proud of her involvement in Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) in which her participation helped secure a \$1 million, five-year grant to support academic and community interests

in relation to the project's development. Her background in the medical field combined with her community activism made her a perfect fit to represent Westmount's concerns in the face of this major construction and health-care delivery initiative. Kiely is proud to credit the groundwork which was laid by the Inter-Neighbourhood Coalition in signing a Partnership Agreement with MUHC to ensure a harmonious integration of the project into the surrounding communities. She acknowledges the significant contributions made by all participants including Montreal area university Urban Planning graduate students and professors.

"Remember, there's nine community groups, plus the academics," she said. "We get a lot of help writing these things up."

Kiely's CURA involvement has pushed the WMA into new directions as a community group as the effects of a project of this magnitude are far reaching. CURA will be studying all MUHC project aspects including pedestrian and automotive traffic and environmental sustainability.

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Opinion
Toulou Foscolos/Toulou's Take

Sometimes you have to take sides...

And here we are again! Just a few days away from voting in another election. After it's all been said and done, it's now time for me to remind everyone that it's your democratic duty to get out there and vote. Or something along those lines...

It's no secret that voter participation is at an all-time low. People either don't care or don't feel they have a hand in shaping the process, so they abdicate responsibility and go on about dealing with their own personal challenges and timelines. Politics can wait for another day...

It's easy to do in a free country. While there are pressing issues, they rarely involve life and death situations (with the exception of the rapidly crumbling Champlain Bridge, perhaps), and so we lose patience with a political process that is far from perfect and focus on what we feel we can control. Don't get fidgety. I'm not going to sit here and write a tired and trite column that urges you to vote because "it's your duty and your privilege". It is all those things, but a guilt-inducing article in a local paper isn't going to make you get off your duff and cast your ballot.

Instead I'm going to share a compelling article I recently read in The Guardian. Written by Polly Toynbee, the article was in essence an interview with Aung San Suu Kyi, a Burmese opposition politician and a former General Secretary of the National League for Democracy. She is known to most of the world as a fearless woman who has spent the last 15 years under house arrest.

In 1991, primarily in response to her solitary isolation and her unwavering stance against the Burmese government, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. In 2007, the Government of Canada made her an honorary citizen, one of only five people ever to receive the honor.

In her interview with The Guardian, Kyi speaks about her faith in democracy and transparency, citing them as the only answer in a world lacking severely in both. She doesn't steer clear of the word "politician"; in fact she insists that politics is everything and that nothing is apolitical.

"With crystal clear precision she enunciates in capital letter, 'I AM A POLITICIAN'. That's a dirty word, but I write it on forms as my profession. I AM A POLITICIAN."

When asked about the universal contempt for politics in the West, she responds as only someone who has experienced the absence of any form of democracy could: "Just ask them if they would like to immigrate to a totalitarian state."

When asked by Toynbee how ordinary people can keep from being discouraged when the everyday business of governing falls short of expectations, she replies, "I've always tried to explain that democracy is not perfect. But it gives you a chance to shape your own destiny."

And that, right there, is its power. While imperfect as a system, it nevertheless, allows you the opportunity to make your own choices, outline your own goals and priorities, and "shape your own destiny."



"Sometimes, if you are human, you have to choose between 'Tweetledum and take sides,' wrote novelist Graham Greene. 'Tweetledee', taking sides is the very least—and the very most—that will ever be required of you. And, even though, as Helen Keller once said, it sometimes amounts to nothing more than

Parents are responsible for their kids' diets

CARMEN MARIE FABIO

It's a sad day in history when I take the side of a large multinational corporation that has a clown as a mascot – but parents, there comes a time when you have to stop blaming others and take some responsibility for your own actions.

I'm referring to the recent lawsuit launched in the United States against McDonald's Happy Meals for perpetuating the rise in childhood obesity. A California mother of two claims McDonald's advertising violates consumer protection laws by 'luring' children to the restaurant with the Happy Meal. Her suit is being supported by an organization called The Center for Science in the Public Interest.

Now what's scarier – the fact that this lawsuit wasn't thrown out for its sheer idiocy or that a privately funded organization with over 900,000 subscribers (100,000 in Canada) sees fit to support this frivolous claim?

C'mon parents, learn a new word. It's pretty simple, two little letters, 'N-O.' Yeah, your kids might complain. They might even kick and scream. But guess what? Parenting is

a tough job and tears, kicking, and screaming, as well as the word 'no' are all part of the parenting package. Stick to your guns and after a while, your kids will figure out that no matter how much they scream, McDonald's (or any other fast food outlet) will not be part of their regular diet.

Involve your kids in food preparation at home. Give them simple kitchen tasks and healthy food choices. Is this easy? Hell, no. But it's your job and like any job, when things screw up, you can't point a finger at someone else if you didn't do your fair share of the workload.

If I gave in to all my kids demands, not only might they be obese, we'd also live in a castle and be driving a sports car with blue flames shooting out from the exhaust. Oh yes, and we'd have a submarine.

But we live in a regular house and drive a Toyota.

We occasionally eat fast food but also try a lot of other cuisines. We sometimes go vegetarian and recently learned how to make sushi. When the kids were younger, we made it a point to try one new fruit or veggie every time we went grocery shopping. Beautiful

pink dragon fruit, star fruit, avocado, artichoke... some they liked, some they didn't but at least they learned for themselves that there are options above and beyond the golden arches.

Wake up, parents and smell the broccoli!

SEND US YOUR LETTERS!

The Examiner welcomes letters from readers on topics of local interest. While we only publish the writer's name and street, all letters must include the writer's name and address, as well as a daytime phone number for verification. Letters may be sent by mail to: Letters to the Editor, The Westmount Examiner, 245 Victoria Ave. suite 210, Westmount, QC. H3Z 2N2, by fax to 514-484-6028 or by email to larsenw@transcontinental.ca. We look forward to hearing from you!

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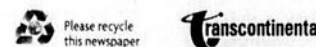


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'People's need ahead of corporate greed': Communist candidate

Bill Sloan vies for votes in Westmount

■ TARA SADIGHI

"Conservatives led by Harper think what is good for General Motors is good for the country," Westmount-Ville Marie Communist candidate Bill Sloan said on Wednesday's all-candidates' debate. "I suggest that Mr. Harper should do as General Motors did and leave."

Sloan is a lawyer who has represented refugees and immigrants for 27 years. He has worked with the Canadian Council for Refugees and a number of other organizations over the years. He occasionally defends demonstrators' right in cases where the protest has been stopped.

Continued on page 6 ▶▶▶



Bill Sloan is hoping to garner some votes in the Westmount-Ville Marie riding for the Communist Party of Canada. (Courtesy photo)



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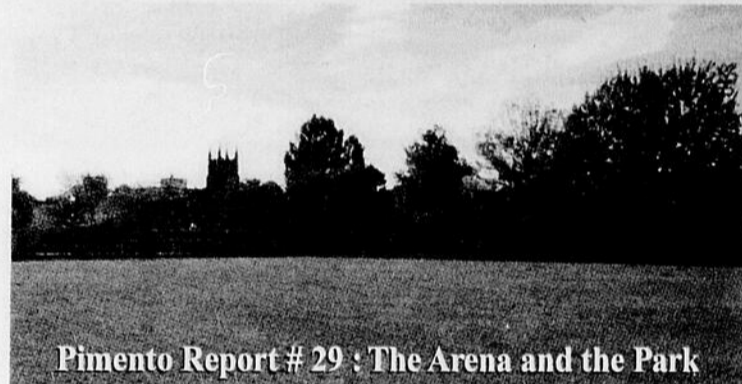
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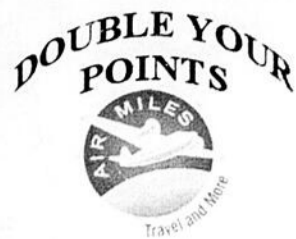
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Communist candidate

▶▶▶ Continued from page 5

Sloan said the Communist party calls for the defeat of Harper's Conservatives. He strongly opposes Harper's plan to buy multi-billion dollar army jets and says this money can go to address more important Canadian problems.

"Harper is trying to be fiscally responsible by spending billions on buying planes that are going to kill people in other countries," said Sloan. "But prosperity comes from peace."

Sloan introduced a foreign policy based on peace, disarmament and global environmental justice as one of the Communist Party's platform proposals. His party also calls for tax reforms that would place the burden on corporations and the wealthy.

"The way that the market is running now is a big pyramid game," he said. "If you don't spread the wealth around, the pyramid game just collapses."

Sloan said he was aware of the fact that his party hasn't had a representative in the House of Commons for years but the candidacy gives him the opportunity to put up ideas on posters. His posters contain messages like: 'Canada out of Afghanistan and Libya' and 'People before profits.'

As a member of the American Association of Jurists, Sloan has traveled to many countries such as Chile, Mexico, Ecuador and Bangladesh. He has also provided legal assistant to political prisoners in Guatemala. Sloan believes that the immigration policies in Canada need to be revised.

"If people are running toward this country it is not because we have a prettier country," he said. "It is because of the conditions that are imposed on them in their countries. They are fleeing violence. We are not helping them by putting up walls."

Sloan said Conservatives are running a carefully-calibrated campaign but he hopes they won't be successful in getting the majority of the seats.

"This country would be unrecognizable after a full term of a Harper majority implementing the corporate agenda," he said.

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WESTMOUNT AUTO GUIDE

Can you replace belts?

Look carefully under the hood and you will find that there are probably many belts at the front of the engine. If it's an older car, you may notice that there are up to three and even four belts to drive all the accessories, including the air conditioning. Many new cars will have only one belt. However, it may still need to be changed, so don't expect it to get changed on its own!

If you do your own car maintenance, you will want to inspect the belts, yourself. And the only way to do so, is visually. You will be looking for a cracked belt or an oil-soaked belt (in this case, it could mean more trouble emerging from elsewhere in the engine compartment). If the belt is glazed, chances are that it needs to be replaced, strictly because it is old and worn. However, if it's cracked, it needs to be changed very quickly.

If you are a car owner with no specific tools, you may be better off visiting your mechanic who not only has the experience, but also the proper tools to measure the belt tension and



Today's drive belts are bigger and better than ever. But they still need to be changed at a some point.

see if the part is even more worn out than it appears.

You can always change the belts yourself, especially if you own an older car with narrow drive belts. But in the case of those specific "serpentine" drive belts with all the adjusters and pulleys, you'd probably do better to let an expert do the job.

Check all the fluid levels in your car

There isn't much that a car owner can do to maintain his new car these days. Manufacturers build more reliable vehicles today, and dealers make certain that they're always a step ahead with the maintenance of your vehicle. Owning a car today is no longer the hobby it used to be. So, if you're a car owner what do you need to do to maintain your car?

To begin, be sure to maintain the proper pressure in all four tires at all times (and don't forget the spare tire, while you're at it!). Then, you can wash and clean your car as much as you like - you won't wear out the paint! But if you really want to stick your nose under the hood (and you'll notice that your engine is hidden under a plastic cover!) to ensure that your engine is well maintained, then check the fluid levels regularly.

Today's cars have all the bells and whistles to let the driver know if a liquid is low or leaking. But a little preventive maintenance will not hurt. Begin with the windshield washer

liquid. Although winter is behind us now, it is best to keep the windshield washer reservoir filled with the proper liquid (you never know when you are going to drive over a muddy road or follow a truck that's dripping with dark liquid and splashing your windshield). By the way, don't fill up the reservoir with water. You may forget about it next fall and you'll run into big trouble when the temperature freezes.

Engine oil can be checked easily, as you never know when an engine will burn off oil. Brake fluids are also easy to reach, but be sure to have the proper fluid to top it off (if oil is missing, you'd best visit your mechanic or your dealer... that's usually the sign of a problem!). The power steering fluid is another problem spot to watch and so is the engine coolant. And if possible, you can always have a look at the transmission fluid although many recent cars no longer offer that possibility. If in doubt, consult your mechanic. Fluids can usually tell a lot!

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Family Ties features the private lives of the Szilasi-Lindsay family



■ MARILYNN VANDERSTAAY
AROUND WESTMOUNT

Doreen Lindsay and her husband Gabor Szilasi are the patriarchs of a family all about art. Now members of the community will have an opportunity to peer into the personal lives and the art of the Westmount couple, their daughter, artist Andrea Szilasi and her partner, artist Michael Merrill at the Family Ties exhibition on May 9 to June 19 at Stewart Hall in Pointe Claire. The family will bring together many personal paintings, photographs, drawings and collages that they have made of each other during the decades of developing their own careers. Appropriately, there will be a special vernissage on Mothers' Day, Sunday, May 8. The public is invited. Coffee will be served.

Family Ties offers a unique opportunity to see private moments in the personal lives of four very different artists. The Stewart Hall Gallery is located at 176 Lakeshore Rd., Pointe Claire. For more information, call 514-630-1254

ext. 659 or email stewarthall@ville.pointe-claire.qc.ca

■ A glimpse of Our Canada

At a recent Rotary Club of Westmount luncheon, an editor with Our Canada magazine, Johanna Donovan — with some input from editor in chief Gary George — gave an interesting, informative and inspiring introduction to the magazine Our Canada. The magazine is a 68-page Readers' Digest bi-monthly publication that is reader-written and photographed, with contributions from Canadians all over the country and some from Canadians living abroad. Members and guests learned that the successful concept began in the 60s in the United States with publications like Taste of Home by Reiman Publications.

In 2003, Reader's Digest ran a photo contest in which contestants were challenged to photograph their Canada. The response was overwhelming and resulted in the birth of the magazine in 2004. Within two years the readership reached approximately 300,000 and led to the launch of a second magazine. More of Our Canada, in 2008 to come out the other six

months of the year. The community at large is invited to contribute relevant stories and photographs. Go to www.rd.ca/ourcanada/contribute/

■ FACE Chamber Orchestra to visit Mountainside

On Sunday, May 1 at 3 p.m., Mountainside United Church (4000 Boulevard), will present the final concert in its 2011 Concerts Plus series. Mountainside Choir will be joined by the FACE School Chamber Orchestra in a performance of Vivaldi's Gloria in D Major. Works by Barber, Cohen, Corelli, Handel and Lubeck will also be presented. An informal reception following the concert will give members of the audience an opportunity to meet and greet the performers. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for seniors and students and will be on sale at the door. For more information, call 514-486-1165.

■ Get your books

On Friday, April 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Atwater Library and Computer Centre will host its annual giant spring book sale in the

library's reading room. Among the collection of quality used fiction and non fiction books are the rare antique books. For more information, call 514-935-7344.

■ Israeli author Alex Epstein to read from his collection of short stories

On Tuesday, May 3, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Israeli author Alex Epstein will read from his collection of short stories, including Blue Has No South and Lunar Savings Time, at a reception at the Atwater Library, co-hosted by the Consulate General of Israel. There is no charge for admission. For more information, call 514-935-7344.

■ Eeyou Istchee: Land of the Cree

On Thursday, May 5, at 12:30 p.m., the luncheon series at the Atwater Library will feature photographer Louise Abbott who will discuss the recently published 'Eeyou Istchee: Land of the Cree.' The book tells the story of the history and cultural tradition of the Cree of eastern James Bay. Participants are invited to bring their lunch. As always there is no charge for admission and light refreshments will be served. For more information, call 514-935-7344.



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INVEST IN THE FUTURE



Sylvie Fontaine

Photo: Patrick Deschamps

Sylvie Fontaine is a woman who is very much involved in the life of youth.

Recipient of the 2009-10 National Assembly Medal for her outstanding volunteer work for the community, Sylvie Fontaine is a woman with a big heart.

The adolescents of the Mercier-Ouest MAGI youth centre and l'Antre-jeunes de Mercier-Est know Fontaine well. She is a regular at all their activities and never hesitates to give them a financial push when they need it. Every year, Fontaine, who is the owner of La Piazzetta restaurant on Sherbrooke Street in Montreal east, organizes a 'Journée G n rosa.' The profits from the event go directly to the two youth centres to fund the programs they offer.

Fontaine believes so much in the future generation of workers that she chose to go against the grain in helping local organizations over endorsing large restaurant chains. "The youth centres do amazing work," she said. "They manage to do miracles with limited financial resources. The effects they have on individuals are hard to measure but are very important."

As an employer, the restaurant owner also makes room for young people in her work place. She regularly offers them their first experience in the job market. She even goes so far as to choose employees who might have difficulty integrating into the workforce. "Adolescents have a lot of potential," she said. "They are eager to learn and take their place in the workplace for the first time. If I can allow them to flourish, gain the confidence they need to take off and make a difference in their lives, I don't hesitate because it is very gratifying on a human level."

Fontaine's support towards youth organizations in her neighbourhood have garnered her a Gold Medal. Given to her by La Piazzetta, underlines the commitment of a business to its community.

Throughout her many years with Mercier-Ouest MAGI youth centre and l'Antre-jeunes de Mercier-Est, Sylvie Fontaine has contributed greatly to brightening the lives of many adolescents.

Sarah Leavitt
sarah.leavitt@transcontinental.ca

Sylvie Fontaine in three questions

- 1 Who is your role model?
People who want to make a difference.
- 2 What is your greatest accomplishment?
The establishment of partnerships with organizations which put their heart and soul into helping youth.
- 3 If you could change only one thing in the world, what would it be?
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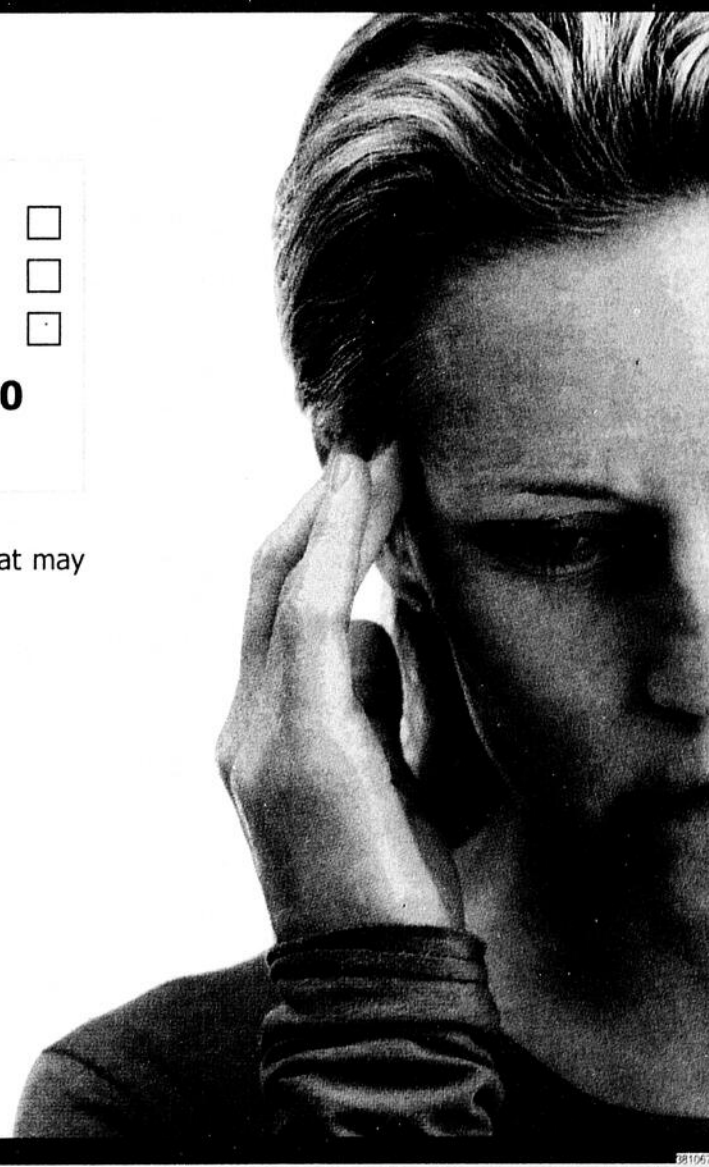
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Politicians face off

Debate brings together Westmount-Ville Marie candidates

ELISABETH FAURE

There were few surprises at the April 20 candidate's debate held at Victoria Hall. Candidates from the major federal parties (Liberal, Conservative, NDP and Green) eloquently delivered the party line, with a Rhino and a Communist thrown into the mix to spice things up.

"Welcome to my place!" joked Rhino candidate Victoria Haliburton, referencing the debate's location. Decked out in a colourful costume, Rhino button and an official Silly Hat, Haliburton made sure the night wasn't lacking in humour.

The debate was poorly moderated by Westmount Municipal Association President Jean-Pierre Picard, who seemed unable or unwilling to curb rowdy hecklers in the audience. Their rude and repeated jeers were mostly aimed at Conservative candidate Neil Drabkin.

At one point, Communist candidate Bill Sloan provoked laughter when he mimed cutting off his own hand while Drabkin explained his party's policy on crime.

"I'm glad you think this is funny, 'cause I

don't," Drabkin said to spectators, unaware of Sloan's subterfuge.

Liberal incumbent Marc Garneau argued, "We have the track record, in the Liberal party, of slaying deficits." Garneau attacked the Conservative's budget record, lamenting the current state of Canada's finances.

Drabkin got his own digs in, referring to his opponents as, "the Coalition" and accusing Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff of being a better President of the United States than a Prime Minister of Canada, referencing Ignatieff's 30 years of living outside of Canada. NDP candidate Joanne Corbeil, whose party has experienced sudden popularity in Quebec, asked voters to put more women in the House of Commons.

"I would be proud to represent all the women of Canada," said Corbeil.

Overall, the meeting was congenial, although at times Garneau and Drabkin raised their voices during rebuttals.

Audience members asked questions on everything from military spending to CBC funding. Green Party candidate Andrew Carkner joked that his party would restore

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Liberal incumbent Marc Garneau addresses the crowd at the candidates debate held at Victoria Hall on April 20.



CBC funds cut by the Conservatives. "Even though the CBC didn't let our leader (Elizabeth May) participate in the leader's debate."

After two hours of crowd questions and candidate responses, Picard wrapped up the meeting. Rhino Haliburton used her three-minute conclusion to encourage active voter participation. Pragmatic about her party's chances, she said, "We (the Rhinos) don't care who you vote for - just get out and vote!"

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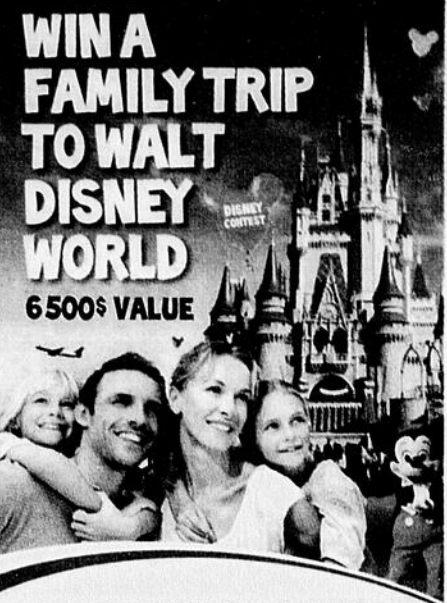
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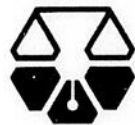
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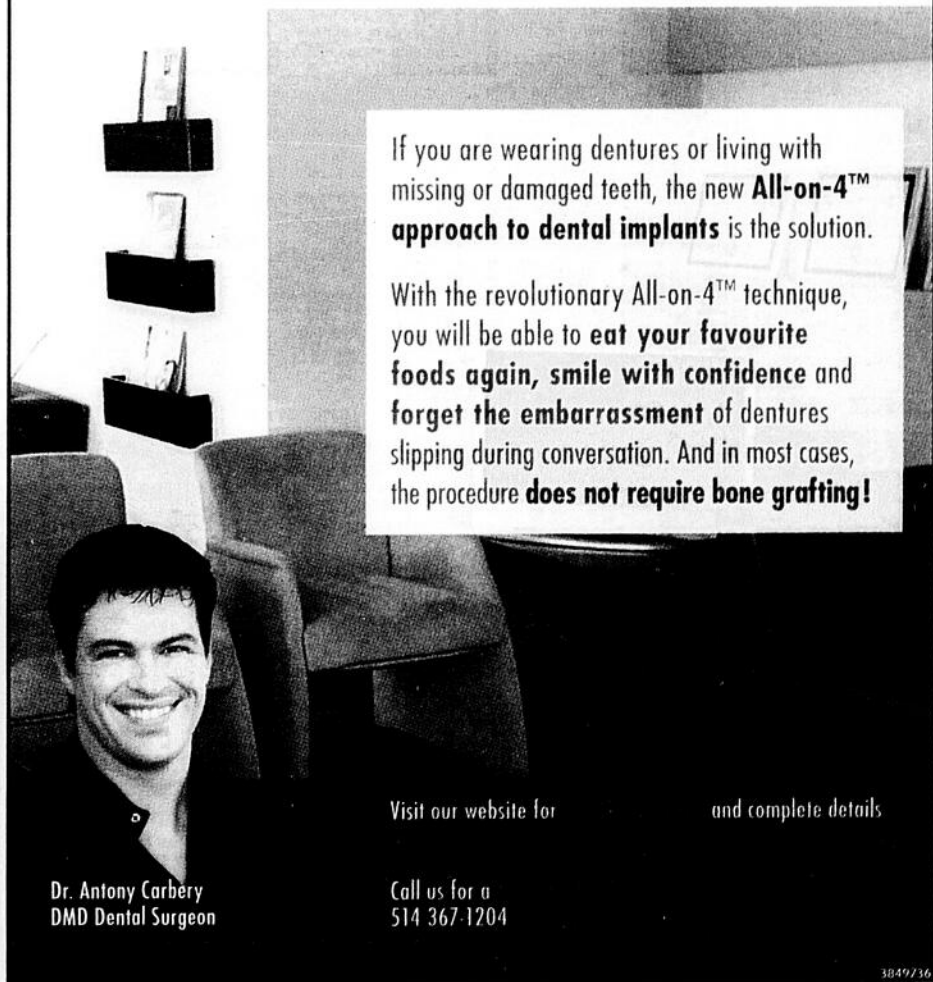
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Walking the Westmount walk

Local geography offers a wide choice of pedestrian routes

MARYLIN SMITH CARSELEY

No matter how frequently I walk along those Westmount streets, I am still appreciative of an area that forever transmits a unique character and remains a scenic delight. Walking does not have to be seasonal and I partake in all weather conditions except when an icy layer coats the sidewalks. My routes vary depending on the time factor, but I have measured in minutes and hours many destinations and I choose a path depending on my time

allotment.

Those vigorous walks are the hill-climbing varieties and occasionally I frequent Sherbrooke or Greene avenues for errand strolls. One bonus about travelling the Westmount streets is that an individual does not require complicated athletic equipment except for a sturdy pair of running shoes, as exercise is truly right outside the door. So where can you go? You can divide Westmount into two possible strolling sections: Upper and Lower. The Upper section involves the area above The Boulevard and takes

you to the lookout and for those ambitious types, you can even continue on to Beaver Lake. There are hills, meandering roads and circular streets that you can repeat continuously if you desire remaining in one locale. For the brave of heart, walk up Shomcliffe starting at Lexington, head upwards to Oakland, follow to Summit Circle and the Summit Woods and follow the way all around and back down. The scenery, during the peak of summer, exhibits extraordinary gardens and autumn foliage boasts a palette of colour. The Lower Westmount area possesses many destinations, but if you reside uphill, returning home can be challenging. There is Murray Hill Park and all its diversions within its expansive grounds, and passing through Westmount Park can be a literary bonus with the library nearby. You can walk along

The Boulevard and turn left on Clarke and walk down to Sherbrooke, turn left and go to Greene or keep on until you reach downtown. A personal favourite of mine originates from Devon Avenue and Upper Belmont. I walk along Upper Belmont to The Boulevard and cross following Roslyn all the way to Sherbrooke. I do some errands, stop at Starbuck's for coffee and then proceed up Claremont around Marianopolis Collge. I turn left on Grosvenor and climb upward back to Sunnyside, make a right, and then travel on to Upper Belmont. This walk can be tiring, but it is ideal exercise as well as being purposeful. Walking, a simple pleasure, invigorates the soul and there is no better way to indulge in the outdoors amidst nature's finery than walking the always glorious Westmount walk.

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NOTICE REQUEST FOR A NAME CHANGE OF AN ADULT
Take notice that Laurence Deborah Elkrief which the residence address is 720, Upper Roslyn ave., Westmount (Quebec) H3Y 1H9, presented to the directeur de l'état civil a request for a name change to Laurie Krief Tenenbaum.

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Westmount Arena one step closer to completion

Genivar awarded project management bid

■ CARMEN MARIE FABIO

Westmount announced the bid for project management of the new Westmount Arena has been awarded to Genivar, a company with a proven track record and an understanding of the specific demands of the arena project.

"Genivar has a history in Westmount and has shown their sensitivity to the unique architecture and neighborhood concerns," said Westmount City Councillor Patrick Martin. "They have previously project managed many pool and arena projects." Martin pointed out that Genivar's standards have frequently seen their projects achieve a rating of gold in the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) assessment process.

The announcement was made on April 20th at the mid-month council meeting. In light of recent allegations of collusion in the Montreal construction industry, the City of Westmount implemented new provincial rules and opened the bid to tender through a transparent process using the Service électronique d'appels d'offres, a process which allows anyone in Quebec to bid on construction projects. Ten companies submitted a bid (though one was later disqualified for not making the deadline) and after being subjected to a week's

worth of specific evaluation criteria to assess experience and ability to deliver on time and within budget, the field was narrowed to two bidders: Genivar and Groupe Axor Inc.

"We really needed to have a company that can work in the Westmount environment," said Martin, describing the challenges of a major construction initiative in an established residential area. "You only open the second envelope of those companies who have met the exacting criteria. The final decision was based on a combined score that factored in price and qualitative evaluation."

The evaluation team was chosen by Westmount Director General Duncan Campbell and as per provincial regulations, the evaluators' names were not made public.

With project management now established, Martin expects the project to ramp up quickly. Genivar will coordinate the completion of work by architect Lemay Associés in order to present artistic renderings to the City of Westmount Council and area residents as soon as possible.

The contract amount is \$383,500 plus taxes with an additional amount of \$60,401 in reserve for contingencies. The bid for construction is expected to take place this summer and construction is set to begin in the fall with a targeted completion date of summer 2013.



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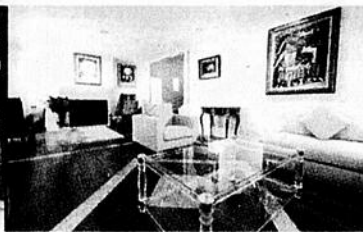
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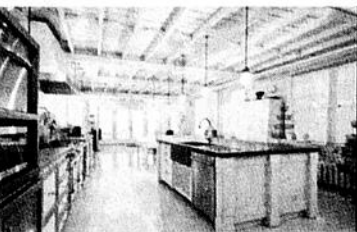
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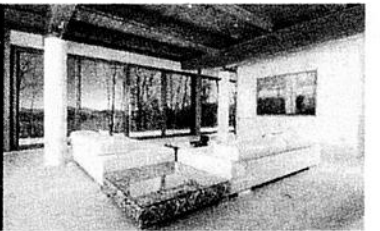
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