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LOCAL NEWS

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Allen Nutik stands up for minority rights.
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Raising the flag

Mayor Karin Marks and City Councillor Patrick Martin hold the Communities in Bloom flag in front of City Hall with the help of city councillors George Bowser, John de Castell and Nicole Forbes. "It's significant that we are participating nationally as the City of Westmount," Marks says of the Canada-wide floral competition.

Westmount hires expert clerk from Outremont

By Don Wedge

Westmount's new City Clerk will be Mario Gerbeau, currently head of the Outremont Borough Office. He will also take the title of Director of Legal Services.

Gerbeau was chosen from 44 applicants. One of his colleagues described him as "being the city clerk the other city clerks check things out with!"

Westmount Council is expected to officially confirm the appointment at its next monthly meeting on Aug. 27, and Gerbeau will begin his appointment the same day.

The new clerk has been a member of the Quebec Bar since 1987, specializing in municipal law.

He set up from scratch the city clerk's department in two new municipalities — Baie James in 1989, and Amos in 1991.

He first joined Outremont in July, 1993, and was one of the relatively few

managers of the forced-merger cities to move to the mega-city for its launch in 2002. Another was Westmount's Marie-France Paquet, and both became assistant clerks in the megacity.

Gerbeau did not stay long, returning in April, 2003, to head the borough office in a now down-graded Outremont. By joining Westmount, he resumes his career as City Clerk.

The appointment fills a vacancy left when Lucie Tousignant — also a former Outremont manager — resigned in the summer last year. Since then the Assistant Clerk, Nancy Gagnon, has been deputized, although she is currently on sick leave.

Alan Kulaga, Assistant Director-General and head of Human Resources, is acting as Interim Clerk.

Since the deadline for applications closed on April 27, there has been a

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Green Patrol to tour environmental complex

>Martin C. Barry

Members of the City of Westmount's 'Green Patrol' will be spending a morning this month at the City of Montreal's St-Michel environmental complex, broadening their knowledge of ecological issues.

The patrollers, who were hired by the City to help eradicate ragweed and improve cleanliness in lanes and commercial areas over the summer, are going on a three-hour

tour of the complex's recycling facilities and landfill site on Thursday, Aug. 16.

While on duty in Westmount, they have been riding around on bicycles, handing out information leaflets about the local anti-idling regulations, as well as on ecological gardening.

The two university students, who are being supervised by Westmount's environmental coordinator, Marina Peter, were hired with a Canada summer employment program grant through the Conseil régional de l'environnement de Montréal.

One of the two is a Westmount resident, both are bilingual, and they're always happy to speak with anyone interested in what they have to say. They've had to learn a lot before going out and meeting the people who live, work, and play in Westmount.

Their campaign is officially based on the following three subjects: waste management, climate change and ecological gardening.

They have to know about garbage reduction and recycling, what goes into the blue box, and how to sort properly.

They are promoting the use of permanent depots for recycling used clothing, batteries, scrap metal and used electronics. They have information about the safe disposal of household hazardous waste, and promotional material for HHWs — how to dispose of it safely, either at eco-centres or during mobile collections.

The patrollers are ready to talk to children at Westmount's day camps, to give demonstrations of environmentally-friendly methods, and they are ready to organize tours for residents and daycares, like the one they themselves are going on of the St-Michel complex.

The Green Patrol is also ready to talk to merchants about installing exterior cigarette receptacles, or about proper garbage storage. They're able to give information on other issues that concern merchants such as garbage cans at outside terraces.

The students are also promoting the Public Works Department's garden waste pickup, and are helping the city with its on-going campaign to inform gardeners about the seasonal ban on the use of leaf blowers.

City Councillor George Bowser, who as chairman of the Horticulture Advisory Committee was instrumental in creating the

Green Patrol, said the patrollers will be mounting a special display on composting before they finish their work at the end of August.

On three afternoons between Aug. 2 and 24, they will be educating Westmount's citizens about composting, tools that are available for that purpose, alternatives to pesticides, and ways to help eradicate ragweed.

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Nutik sounds the charge

Local activist's new party protests the loss of minority rights in Quebec

>Martin C. Barry

Redfern Avenue resident Allen Nutik, founder of the new provincial party Affiliation Quebec, has issued a "call to arms" to the province's anglophone and cultural communities in light of the "complete failure" of the Charest Liberal government to represent them.

Speaking to members of the Rotary Club of Westmount at Victoria Hall last week, Nutik, who launched the new party last May, detailed factors he said have led to the loss of anglophone and minority rights in Quebec since the Quiet Revolution in the early 1960s.

Alluding to last year's motion in the House of Commons that recognizes Quebec's population as a nation within Canada, Nutik said, "We at Affiliation Quebec really want to know from Prime Minister Harper exactly where the minorities and anglos of Quebec figure as part of the Quebecois nation."

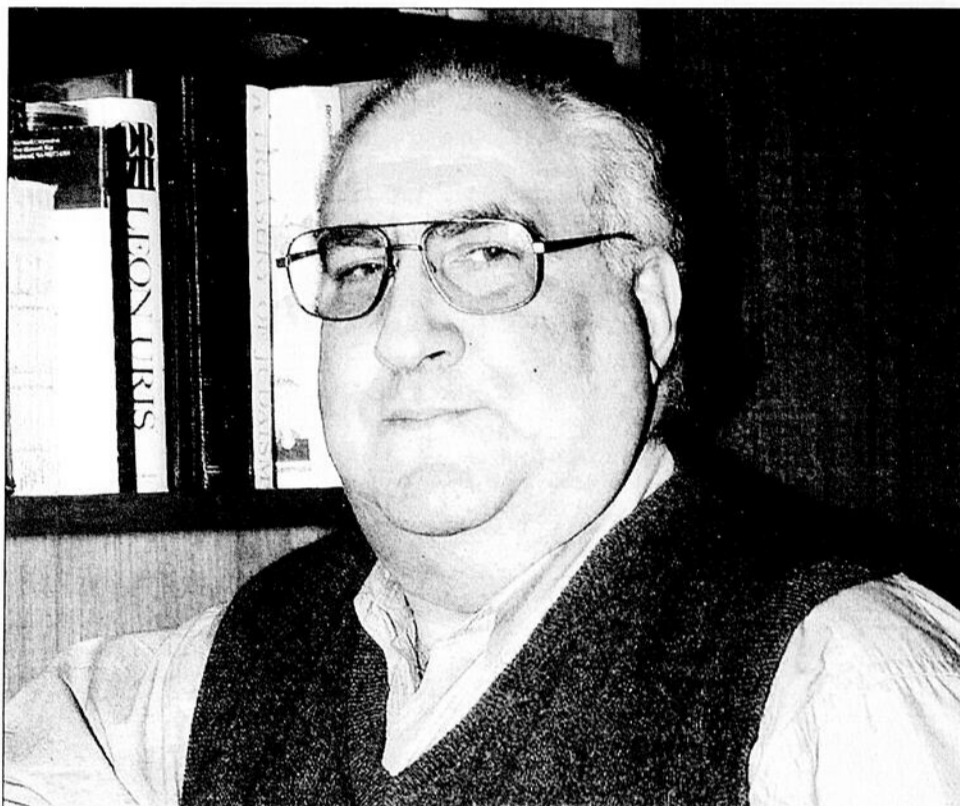
"We know we live with abrogated rights as a result of Ottawa's acceptance of the use of the notwithstanding clause, as Quebec has used it. But why has it been accepted? Why have we been sold out? Explain to us our place in the Quebecois nation, when Quebec leaders consistently demonstrate so clearly our devalued status in the nation of Quebec."

"We have been unceremoniously traded by both Ottawa Liberals and Conservatives, for the soft nationalist votes they so desperately need to cheat their way to majority government," Nutik added.

"We, minorities and anglos — we stand on guard for thee, oh Canada — while you have abandoned us, your steadfast sons and daughters, in the lion's den of Quebec. Shame on you in Ottawa — we deserve better — if only we could demand it — and that is why Affiliation Quebec has been founded ... We are the front troops of Canadian national survival."

Referring to the Quebec Community Groups Network, a provincial anglophone interest umbrella organization, which some observers suggest could end up taking on a greater role representing Quebec's anglophones, Nutik said, "The QCGN used to represent the interests of the 25 per cent of Quebec anglos living outside of the Montreal area."

"They have moved recently to new offices in Montreal from Quebec City, now, God help us, to represent all of us anglos in Quebec since the demise, in its



Affiliation Quebec leader Allen Nutik. Photo: Martin C. Barry

meeting last April realizing that Quebec's minorities and anglos needed a real address — a proper voice to register their views and concerns — and that the political agenda needed to be refocused. QCGN cannot do that." During the following month, he founded Affiliation Quebec.

Nutik's speech was heard by many local Rotarians, as well as members from other clubs — including one from Mexico — who were present that day. Several members of the press were there, but as Nutik pointed out in his remarks, there was none from Montreal's Gazette. Le Devoir was represented, and it ran an article and photo of the event the following day.

The presentation was introduced by Rotarian Stanley Baker, who mentioned Nutik's career highlights, included his unsuccessful bid for Westmount mayor in 1983, as well as for city councillor in 1984 and 2006. However, as Baker was quick to point out, John Diefenbaker lost many elections before he became Canada's prime minister.

last form, of Alliance Quebec. If you didn't know it, the QCGN has the \$3 million of Heritage Canada funding to hold empty public consultations, and to write nice reports full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

Nutik, who attended one of the only high-profile meetings the QCGN has ever organized, said of the public consultation held in Montreal, "I walked out of that



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Group show presents a variety of forms and talents

>Bridget Forbes

There are 10 very good reasons to visit the Gallery at Victoria Hall over the next two weeks.

Each summer since 2005, the Gallery presents a group exhibition featuring the work of Westmount artists, and this summer's show, 'Close to Home', features the work of 10 local artists who express themselves in a variety of visual art forms, including photography, painting, collage, printmaking, and quilting.

The artists have related to the theme — close to home — in ways as varied as the art forms on display.

For certain artists, the community of Westmount was an inspiration.

Gael Eakin, working in pen and ink presents portraits of Westmount buildings including City Hall, as well as a winter landscape.

Photographer Burt Covit has turned his lens on the dogs of Westmount and manages to capture expressive moments and emotion in each of his three portraits.

The Westmount Quilters Guild produced a quilt entitled 'Westmount Blanketed by HBC', which depicts a map of the city and explores the local history of the fur trade using appliques and embroidered images.

Co-founder of the Guild, Lilly Lam said that the embroidered figures represent "the ghosts of yesterday," while contemporary



Gael Eakin's pen and ink 'Westmount City Hall'

landmarks are featured in different colours, with green identifying parks, yellow identifying houses of worship, and blue showing schools in the community.

The one red dot identifies the fire station.

Lam explained that the quilt was initially conceived as part of a national competition launched by the Hudson's Bay Company in the summer of 2005.

Competitors were encouraged to incorporate local fur trade history into their work.

The Guild consulted the Westmount Historical Association and learned about fur trader Simon Clarke, whose home is shown in the quilt.

The HBC provided the material in the form of blankets, which were used as trade items during the fur trade.

Work on the quilt had already begun when the HBC cancelled the competition in 2006, but the 15 members decided to finish the project anyway, with each member creating a section of the map that was then stitched together.

Lam has held on to the quilt and looked for opportunities to exhibit it.

"When the gallery invited submissions with the theme 'close to home', I thought it

was very appropriate," said Lam.

Tony Shine was also inspired by geographic representations but represented his home away from home, which has been San Miguel, Mexico for the past 15 years.

The architect and printmaker visited a city planning office to obtain a town plan of San Miguel, which he then used to create 'Opus Urbus V', an intaglio solarplate, and its impression, 'Opus Urbus IV'.

"I love town plans," said Shine. "They're evocative of all kinds of patterns of development and historical evolution."

The plan of San Miguel was scanned onto a computer and the image transferred to an acetate sheet that was then placed on a metal plate with a polymer surface.

The plate was placed in the sun for about two minutes, allowing the sun's rays to penetrate through the acetate and etch the image onto the plate.

The two pieces are displayed side-by-side in the Gallery, where the artist hopes the light from different angles will allow the viewer to explore the rich texture of the work.

Other artists delved into the emotional meanings of the theme.

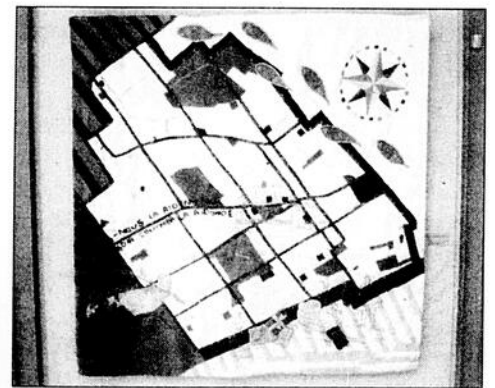
Caroline Benchérit's 'Playmates' takes the viewer back to childhood, but the artist insists that her work is not for children, but instead intended to inspire adults.

"I'm trying to bring people back to that moment of inspiration where people knew what it was like to be real and anything was possible," said Benchérit. "There's something about that idea that anything is possible when you're a kid."

The artist uses beeswax and acrylic paint to create her signature long-legged, redheaded female characters, who have inspired a cartoon television series and webcast that is in the commercial development stage.

"It's about three girls who kick the mainstream to achieve their highest personal destinies," said Benchérit.

The series and her art is all about following one's dream, which is what she did when she left her career as a pharmaceutical consultant to become a full time artist.



'Westmount Blanketed by HBC', by the Westmount Quilters Guild.

Her message that anything is possible can be seen in 'Almost Home', a work where her 'girls' dance and float their way through an urban landscape and fields of flowers. "What 'Almost Home' is about is getting on the path and following it until it brings you back to yourself. And that's home," said Benchérit.

Close to Home runs until Aug. 18 at the Gallery at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W., and with a variety of media and styles represented, visitors will likely find something that appeals to their personal taste.

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Vacationing with the children... who really has all the fun?

>Marylin Smith Carsley

Our over-packed car is bulging at the hinges as we drive vigilantly out of the driveway towards our vacation destination.

Pails, shovels, rafts plus some educational games and books (for those quieter moments), are thrown in for extra insurance towards the creation of an ideal retreat. After all, this effort is all about providing a wonderful time for the children and somehow, in the process of subconsciously trying to be the greatest parents, we tend to neglect ourselves, the ones who actually require a getaway and a change of pace.

As we head out with anticipation, our heavy-set car plods along weighed down by all our excess baggage. The hours tend to drag on in the front seats as the familiar childhood musical renditions do not in any way capture our adult attention, but the kids are content and isn't that what we want? Parental pleasure is not as essential as satisfying their needs. Their evident delight is proof of a successful trip wrapped in family togetherness, and new experiences.

Throughout the developmental years, as parents of once-upon-a-time younger children, I cannot recall a family escape that included an actual adult rest. They were not work related stressful occasions, but they were demanding in other ways as we earnestly tried ensuring that the children were indulging in new adventures. We were always so intent in providing sufficient diversions that we totally neglected ourselves. We sweated in endless lines waiting at The Great Escape to enter the

miniature fairytale houses, tried all the rides we bravely dared to ride on our three occasions to Disney World, chased the kids around every toy store during Christmas in Florida after a day at the beach, and dined solely at restaurants that provided toy prizes or had arcades as entertainment.

As the children grew older and our parental presence wasn't as pleasurable, we began a nightly chauffeuring service in order that they could visit their friends. This included transporting them from Boca Raton to Hollywood to Fort Lauderdale and back, and driving in Florida during that time of year was not a treat in the very hectic traffic. I am trying to remember when we actually remained still, but honestly the expectation was never there. But we couldn't blame our children for these inconveniences, as we had offered. Our motivation was to create special times and hopefully we did, but did we also go overboard?

The memory of our overtaxed, bulky car travels back to a particular vacation about 12 years ago in Lake George, New York. It was a very oppressive summer, a typical end of July, when I decided to take my family to a haunt of my own past youth. The desire was to enjoy with them while subconsciously reliving my own childhood. After weeks of preparation we were off. We had five days reserved at this little motel right on the beach and the name of it escapes me as I try desperately to recall it.

When we arrived, we were breathlessly awestruck with the picturesque scenery. The sun reflected shadows of yellowish light on the greenish blue waters.

Surrounding the lake was a wide array of water sports displayed on the beach tempting us all. Cozy cabins lined the grassy grounds with wild flowers framing their entrances. Our rented place was adequate, but unfortunately it was also quite damp, and to this day, I can still smell that odd musty smell permeating the walls. The air conditioning was very noisy, and only cooled down one room. The carpets were slightly stained and although I momentarily contemplated moving, as the accommodations were disappointing, the beach was too inviting so I decided to manage with a few inconveniences. Besides the kids never seemed to notice the discomforts so I was resolved to make the best of it, as we were anticipating on being outside more than inside. Although each evening we would remark that the sheets on the bed felt slightly wet, and my youngest daughter had contracted some kind of stomach virus, we carried on optimistically as if she was fine. If she could handle it, so could we.

Each day was jam packed with activities, and tourist attractions. We were extremely grateful for the excellent weather and we relished in the kids' enjoyment, but were all

our sacrifices and fatigue worth it? After all, by the time we reached the finale of this trip, we were instantaneously reminded, especially on the long way home, that we desperately needed a real vacation.

If I close my eyes and step back in time, I can still hear the childish laughter, the splashing in the lake, and the sunburned little noses shaded by floppy coloured sunhats intently immersed in building sand castles. There are visions of mud pies, sleepy faces, lying together on towels on the beach, shouts of appreciation, and late night excursions to the nearest ice cream parlour in pyjamas. As parents we realized that these times were fleeting and presently all that remains are faint glimmers of those days. Frankly, it was, without any doubts, and without hesitation, most definitely worth it.

I may not have been any more relaxed after these vacations, but I did feel connected to my kids and therefore my goal was satisfied. I wanted them to experience all that I could offer to their childhood.

After all, there is plenty of time to rest and those moments should be reflected upon as special snapshots of that irreplaceable past and those youthful days.




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Nutik strikes again



Commentary

Wayne
LARSEN
larsenw@transcontinental.ca

Well known to Westmounters for his mayoral and city councillor candidacies in municipal elections over the years, Allen Nutik is back — but this time he isn't eyeing a spot at the local city hall. Now he's fixed on a bigger goal, and true to form, he's been making a lot of noise to launch his platform.

As founder and driving force behind the brand new provincial political party Affiliation Quebec, Mr. Nutik has been taking the Charest Liberals to task for virtually ignoring the Anglo population, and he says he intends to do something about it at the political level.

The Equality Party, Alliance Quebec — we've seen it all before. Anglo rights movements in this province have always tended to be a pet novelty for those who don't play the game and a bit of an embarrassment for those who do. And as the population continues to evolve toward a greater plurality, with so-called 'allophones' rapidly becoming the demographic majority, the entire definition of 'minority' is called into serious question. Now, as our society embraces a more global attitude, the very need for minority-rights advocacy is on the decline.

But there are still many problems — and that's where Mr. Nutik comes in.

With the Parti Québécois virtually out of the picture and a Westmounter well into his second term as premier, we are currently enjoying a prolonged lull in the ongoing social tensions that have marred life in this province for longer than most people care to remember. But while some may accuse Mr. Nutik of poking the sleeping giant of Quebec nationalism, others will no doubt applaud him for taking a brave stand against the gradual chipping away of Anglo rights in Quebec. But of course these are the same people who would be hard put to say exactly which rights have been abolished — the Anglo equivalent to the separatists whose de Gaulle-inspired rhetoric is based around the word freedom. Freedom from what, exactly?

It's easy to get worked up when it comes to Quebec politics, so the fire in Mr. Nutik's speeches should come as no surprise. Whether or not you agree with him, you must admit that the man definitely has chutzpah — and I mean chutzpah with that good old-fashioned Yiddish rattling-up-from-the-depths-of-the-throat pronunciation.



Westmount's big 'To do' list



Civic Alert

Don
WEDGE

We are approaching half-way between elections. In two years' time - as city life regroups after the construction vacation - we will probably know the names of some candidates for seats on the 2009 council and be plunged, like it or not, into an election mode.

With this council's first 20 months dominated by the newcomers adapting to their portfolios, four senior staff changes and the ongoing agglom problems, we are only now entering the fall period when the results of council's preliminary work could at last be unveiled.

So it is a good time to review the progress made in the first part of the present council's mandate and determine what is still on a very comprehensive "To do" list.

I believe we are near to details of some projects, but most remain behind the city fortress with little or no public discussion.

So, let's discuss. First, water.

In the demerger legislation, the water supply lines on secondary streets were transferred from Montreal to Westmount; those on arterial streets stayed with Montreal.

Without personnel to handle this new responsibility, Westmount contracted out the maintenance.

The contractor, Dessau-Soprin, gets praised for good response times and Utilities Commissioner Patrick Martin goes out of his way to explain their work at council meetings. But no comprehensive report on the first 20 months has been presented to the public. One is currently promised for the fall.

The major task will be to develop a strategy for renewing the water infrastructure, much of which was installed 80 and more years ago. The contractor plan, promised by the summer, is now expected in September.

Many other water issues are raised from time-to-time and should be re-examined in view of the huge investment Westmount faces.

For instance, should we invest in metering?

Should we require "grey" water systems? Is it time to end the use of water purified to be safely drunk, to flush toilets, wash cars and treat lawns?

Chlorination

Indeed, should drinking water be chlorinated, with its attendant, unwelcome, residual

chemicals? Should we use other methods of purification instead? Is there a future role for rain water?

Do think about these matters because Council is about to make proposals for water services. Most of the projects mentioned are costly, but these are decisions that will affect Westmount for many years beyond this council's mandate. They are far more fundamental than whether or not to tolerate a plastic surface in the Park.

But as the interveners on the artificial turf issue discovered, it is better to speak out sooner than later.

Look at the new Kensington Ave. Beautiful and smooth; its black surface is set off on either flank by neat, white undulations where vehicle driveways interrupt pedestrian progress on the sidewalks.

Easy for motorists, no doubt, but rotten for those of reduced mobility, with walkers or baby strollers or wheelchairs and even more difficult in winter.

More seniors

There will be more such citizens in the next decade. Many will probably be under doctors' order to walk at least 20 minutes every day and leave their car in the garage. The undulations certainly will not help them.

(Continue on page 7)

The Westmount
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(Continued from Civic Alert, page 6)

For a handicapped person in a motorized cart, a voyage along Kensington must be akin to an ocean swell!

For the first time, Westmount had jurisdiction over the water pipes. These and connections to residences were renewed as the road was reconstructed.

There was no need to persuade Montreal to come and dovetail their work. There was one schedule and residents paid tribute to the thoughtful construction planning.

How many years do we have to rethink our sidewalk policies before Kensington needs to be reconstructed again?

There is much more reconstruction to come. Mayor Karin Marks warned, when preparing the year's budget, that Westmount was up to eight years behind in its major road works' schedule. Martin believes that modern cost-efficient technology will mean that the schedule for water pipe replacement work can be accelerated.

The Arena is the next public building due for improvement or renewal, which began with the Library and Victoria Hall. It was also a project interrupted by the forced merger. Some residents want a higher priority for the Arena and Pool, which they say are outdated and need to be replaced. "Disgrace" is one of the politer words used to describe them.

Arena steering

The mayor, with coucillors Lulham and Forbes, already form a steering committee for the project.

MNA Jacques Chagnon is promoting some tempting support money from the Quebec

government - tobacco taxes that previously went to pay loans for the Big O.

The arena project cannot be easily resolved because it will need substantial investment - as much as \$15 million has been mentioned by some supporters, although others have spoken of a stratospheric \$25 million.

Does a city of 20,000 need such a costly facility? Can it afford one? Can it afford not to have one comparable to neighbouring cities?

Park resolution

The council's agenda is by no means filled by construction projects. There are many smaller ones; not least is the answer on possibilities for artificial turf in Westmount Park.

Then there is the long-awaited need to have compost collection and reverse the trend for increased garbage.

Of course, most of these projects require big investments. Reversing damage to the capital structure, a result of the forced merger is a costly project.

Account settling

There is still no settlement of the final account with the megacity. The transition committee's auditors have closed the books and it is now up to lawyers to examine how the provincial laws and decrees were applied.

Certainly, Montreal's civil servants applied them to suit the big city and not its partners. In fact, too many Montreal staff do not recognize "partners".

Let us hope that they will soon be receiving a letter on Westmount's behalf from Cain, Lamarche, Casgrain, Wells - the business lawyers retained by Council last month to

investigate the big city's financial interpretations.

What happened to Westmount's carefully-saved pay-as-you-go funds?

The debt ballooned at least four times during the years that we were annexed to Montreal. Why should we lose the reserves that had been built in the Trent years?

Can there be any doubt they will find errors that need adjusting in our favour? Will the result be Tremblay-Zampino running again to Nathalie Normandeau, Quebec's bemused Municipal Affairs Minister, for protection?

Team complete

Council can think of addressing these problems with a full house now. The selection of Mario Gerbeau to be the City Clerk fills a gap on the city's nine-person directorate. At least, it is complete until Marc Roy leaves at the end of the year. The Hydro director has carefully given sufficient notice to ensure that his successor is in place and there is a smooth handover.

Alan Kulaga, who heads the Human

Resources department, is very proud of the selection process that the city has developed and which resulted in earlier top appointments - Treasurer Claude Lachance, Public Security chief Richard Blondin and Public Works director Jacques Lahaie.

"Mario Gerbeau seems to be ideal for the position," Kulaga said. "We were looking for a strong academic record, but also someone with the strength to overcome problems that every manager must face." He will make Westmounters very proud of their new City Clerk.

*Community activist Don Wedge can be reached at calert@web.net. His columns are archived at www.westmountexaminer.com, go to Opinion.

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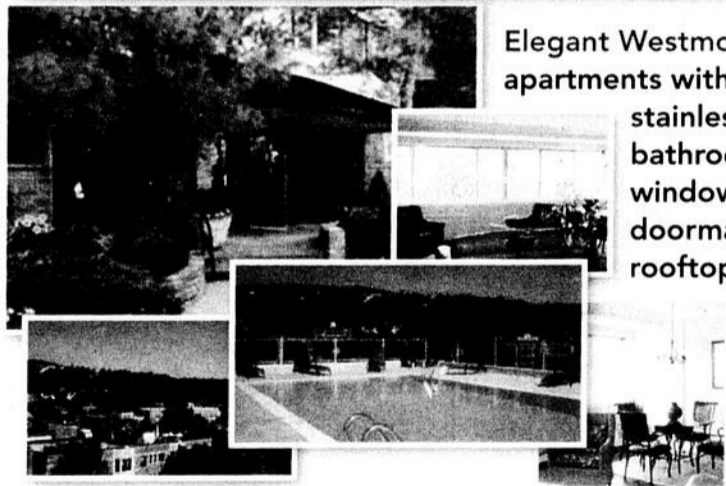
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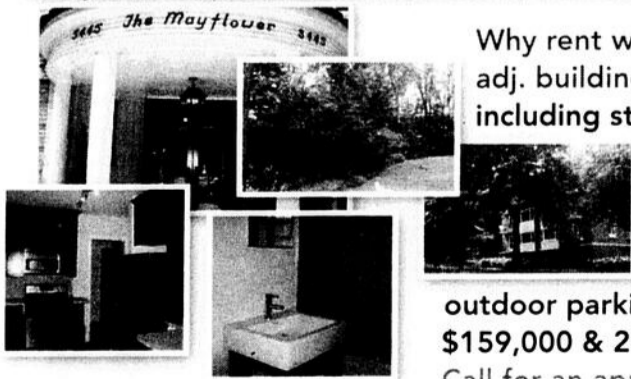
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Library joins mp3 revolution

>Matthew Surridge

New technology is coming to the Westmount Public Library's collection of audiobooks. The library has announced that it has recently added 40 Playaway mp3 devices to its audiovisual department.

Each of the devices holds an unabridged audiobook, recorded in mp3 format. Like CDs, the devices cannot be recorded over; unlike CDs, they can't be scratched. No downloading or other preparation is needed. Each machine is a single, simple unit, ready to play at once. The Playaway audiobooks will be available on the south side of the audiovisual section, on the carousel which formerly held DVDs.

Library Director Ann Moffat first saw the machines displayed at a librarian's conference in the United States, and was impressed with their convenience and with what they

had to offer.

"We're hoping they will introduce more people to the value of listening to a book," she said, noting that the quality of performance on an audiobook can provide a new dimension to a text.

The Playaway machines are small, half or a third the size of a TV remote control, with a few buttons for controls and a small display screen. The controls allow a listener to play the contents of the device at one of three different speeds, to fast forward or rewind through the recording, to adjust the volume, or to bookmark selected spots. Extremely light, the devices are clearly aimed at portability, and will easily fit in a purse or pocket. Each device comes in a box with earphones, a spare battery, and instructions for use. The machines can also connect to external speakers.



Members of the Westmount Library staff display Playaway mp3 devices and audiobooks.

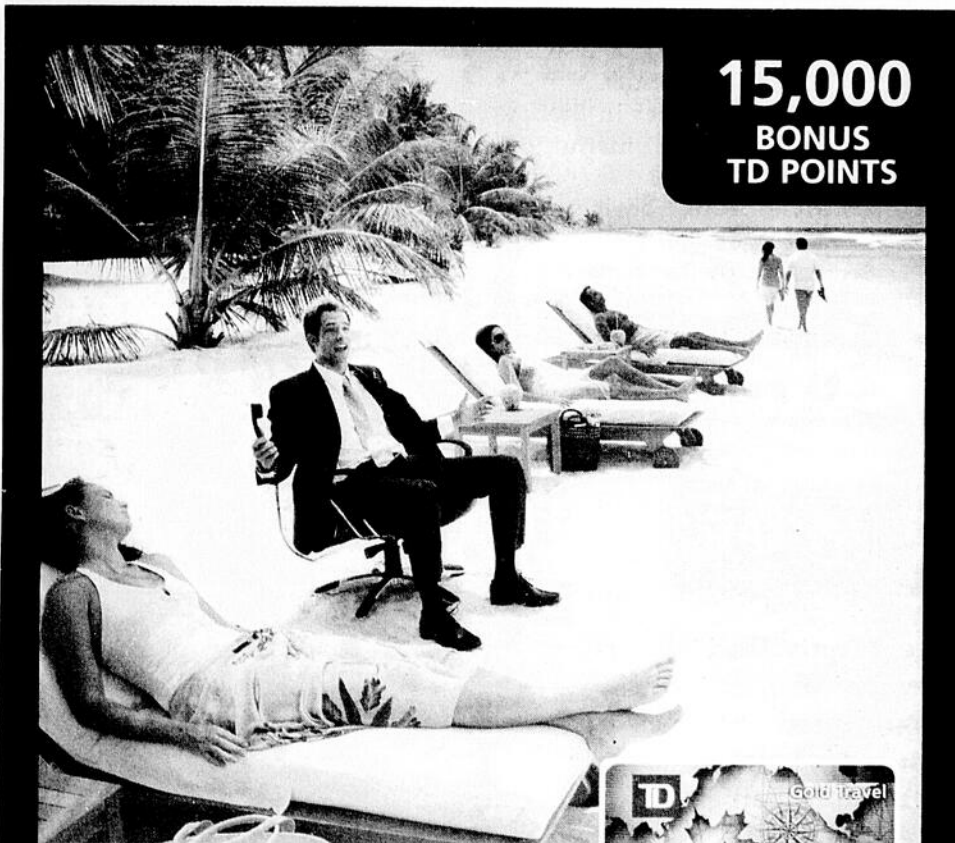
The first 40 Playaway titles available at the library are divided between fiction and nonfiction, including several language

tutorial titles. All are English.

Library members will be allowed to take out one title at a time, for up to three weeks. "They will be able to request them," said audiovisual clerk Jeanette Bruce. "They won't be able to renew them. We'll see how that goes."

Bruce noted that while the new machines are just now in the process of being introduced at some libraries in the United States, the company that manufactures the machines has already established partnerships with various publishers, and offers new titles each month. If the audiobooks prove popular in Westmount, the library will add more titles, including non-English recordings and children's books.

The Playaway machines are not available for private purchase in Canada, but each costs the library roughly \$60, equivalent to a book on CD. But while it takes several CDs to hold a 10- or 12-hour recording of a book, a complete novel can easily fit into a single small Playaway machine.



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Westmount eyes top honours in Communities in Bloom

"It's significant that we are participating nationally as the City of Westmount," says Marks

>Martin C. Barry

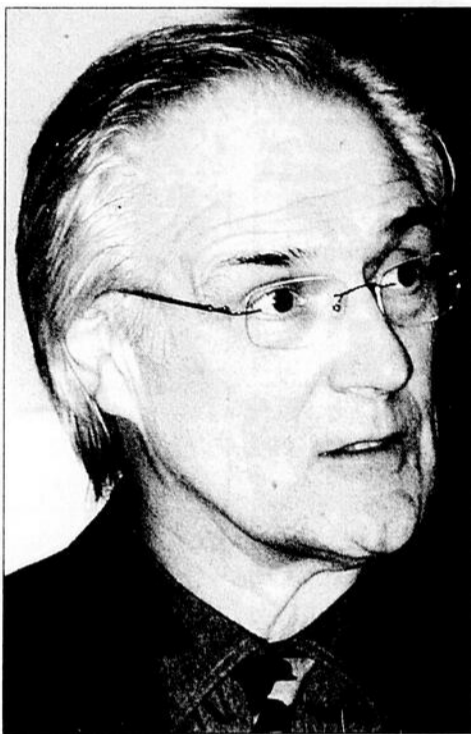
The flowers are all planted and the trees have been pruned — now City officials say they are hoping Westmount wins as many as five 'blooms' when judges arrive in about two weeks to make their evaluation for the Communities in Bloom competition.

In an unprecedented show of support for the cross-Canada floral competition, the City has been flying the Communities in Bloom flag outside City Hall since July 11. It is replacing the Westmount flag, leading up to the judging, which takes place on Aug. 13.

During a flag-raising ceremony last month, Mayor Karin Marks noted it was the first time the competition's banner had been raised in Westmount since the City's reconstitution. During the four-year merger with the City of Montreal, Westmount was unable to participate.

"It's significant that we are participating nationally as the City of Westmount," she said.

"I think we'll do extremely well, because we have a city that is very preoccupied with maintaining its beauty and its live-ability. It's not only council and the administration, it's



Flying the flag at City Hall sends a powerful message, says City Councillor George Bowser.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

the citizens who do that. So that's very visible to the people who come and see our community."

Flying the flag at City Hall sends a powerful message that Westmount considers Communities in Bloom to be important and that the City is in it to win, said Councillor George Bowser, chairman of the Horticulture Advisory Committee.

"It's all about civic pride and demonstrating to people right across Canada how much we love the beauty of Westmount and the lengths we're willing to go to make our city a wonderful place to live," he added.

The raising of the flag coincided with the launch of a new section of information on the Westmount web site (www.westmount.org) regarding the Communities in Bloom competition. It includes a history of Westmount's past involvement in several floral competitions.

Communities in Bloom began in 1995 and in 1998 Westmount won the coveted five-bloom rating, with special mention for landscaped areas, to become the national winner in the 20,001 to 50,000 population category.

With this honour came an invitation to participate in the international level World in Bloom competition, in which Westmount was accorded five blooms with special mention for private landscaping. In 2000, Westmount was paired with St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands, and in 2003 with Dungannon, Northern Ireland.

Westmount has also taken part in provincial competitions. Fleurir le Québec was a provincial contest in which, over the years, Westmount won top honours with three and four Irises. In 2006, 103 municipalities in Quebec participated in a new program, now called Fleurons du Québec, where horticulturalists and environmental consultants visited participating communities, giving them a rating.

This year in the Communities in Bloom contest, Westmount is competing against Langford, BC, Lloydminster, SK, Grande Prairie, AB, Charlottetown, PEI, and Westbank, BC. While Westmount's population dipped below 20,000 in 2007, the city remains in the 20,001 to 50,000 population category.

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- Create a permanent marketing initiative for minority language media

Qualities

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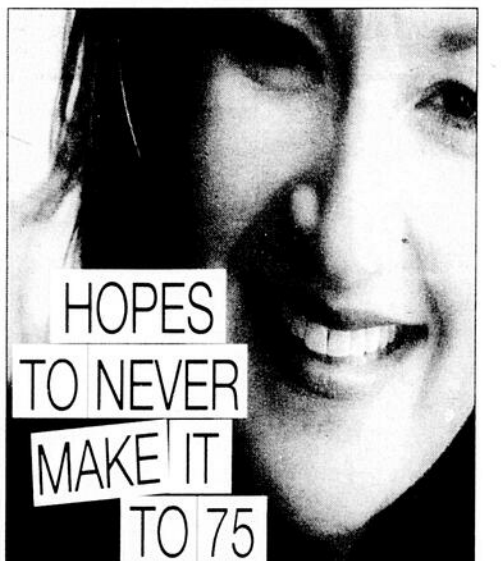
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(Continue from New Clerk, page 1)

very intense selection process. The applicants included several litigation lawyers, one of whom was included in the short-list of four interviewed several times by the selection group set up by Council.

"It was a very rigorous process," said Kulaga. "It was important to select a candidate who would step into the city's top management team. I am proud of our choice and believe Westmount deserves someone with his qualities."

Bulletin Board

Thursday, August 2

The Bimetallic Question, the local Sherlock Holmes Society, will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke St. W. The story 'The Adventure of the Creeping Man' will be quizzed and discussed, but participation in the quiz is optional. All would-be sleuths are welcome to join us for a fun evening. Info: 514-931-8690.

Friday, Aug. 3

The Montreal Children's Library presents storyteller Claudette L'Heureux in French, at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-5 in Cabot Square Park (Atwater and Tupper). Info: 514-931-2304.

Saturday, Aug. 4

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom's Saturday morning Shabbat "Subject to Debate" features the topic 'Referrals and Letters of Reference-What's Fair?' at 10:30 a.m. Please join us for summer Shabbat morning services which will include a subject to debate and discuss with Rabbi Lerner and the congregation. 4100 Sherbrooke St. W. Use Elm Avenue entrance. Free and open to the public. Info: 514-937-3575.

Thursday, Aug. 9

The Montreal Children's Library presents singer Micky Farkas in English, at 10:30 a.m. for ages 6-12 in Cabot Square Park (Atwater and Tupper). Info: 514-931-2304.

Friday, Aug. 10

The Montreal Children's Library presents Afrique en mouvement in French at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-5 in Cabot Square Park (Atwater and Tupper). Info: 514-931-2304.

Saturday, Aug. 11

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom's Saturday morning Shabbat "Subject to Debate" features the topic 'Chat Room Charades: Internet Fantasy' at 10:30 a.m. Please join us for summer Shabbat morning services which will include a subject to debate and discuss with Rabbi Lerner and the congregation. 4100 Sherbrooke St. W. Use Elm Avenue entrance. Free and open to the public. Info: 514-937-3575.

Wednesday, Aug. 15

Marriage Information Meeting at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. W., at 5:30 p.m. Couples considering intermarriage, or conversion by one partner before marriage, are invited to tour the facilities and learn about Temple's policies and practices from Rabbi Leigh Lerner and Executive Administrator Michelle Serrano. Appointments can be booked with Rabbi Lerner following a brief meeting. Info: 514-937-3575.

Friday, Aug. 17

The Montreal Children's Library presents Washboard Theatre performing Briar Rose, a bilingual presentation at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-5 in Cabot Square Park (Atwater and

Tupper). Info: 514-931-2304.

Ongoing

The Gallery at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W., presents 'Close to Home', a group exhibition featuring the work of Westmount artists Mona Agia, Caroline Benchérit, Peter Boyadjieff, Burt Covit, Gael Eakin, Lindsay Fryett, Francine Leduc, Marguerite Millette Trudeau, Tony Shine and the Westmount Quilters Guild. Continues through Aug. 18. Info: 514-989-5226.

The McClure Gallery of the Visual Arts Centre, 350 Victoria Ave., presents Physical Choir Theatre Project Part 2, 'Fragments of Knowing', conceived and directed by Vicki Tansey, Aug. 3 through 25, with performances on Aug. 2, Aug. 3 and Aug. 24 at 8 p.m. Vernissage on Aug. 2 at 6 p.m. Info: 514-488-9558.

Enjoy Lawn Bowling this summer: Westmounters interested in trying and learning this great sport are invited to come to the local club on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. It is located at 401 Kensington, next to Westmount City Hall. Bowls and coaching are provided. There is no dress code, except flat-soled shoes required. Info: 514-931-8690.

The Association sportive des aveugles du Québec is seeking volunteers to serve as directors for the blind lawn bowlers of Westmount and Beaconsfield. For more information, please call the ASAQ at 514-252-3178 ext. 3768 or visit the website at www.sportsaveugles.qc.ca.

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605 Miscellaneous employment

482 Miscellaneous services

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mountroyalroofing@gmail.com

605 Miscellaneous employment

Research and Marketing Coordinator

General description
The Marketing and Research Coordinator will work under the supervision of a consortium of media organizations whose members serve minority official language communities (anglophone in Quebec and francophone outside Quebec).

Responsibilities

- Implement a readership and audience research program for media serving minority official language communities
- Negotiate and manage partnerships with media organizations as well as governments
- Manage the tendering process to research firms
- Create a permanent marketing initiative for minority language media.

Qualities

- Able to multi-task and must be able to work independently as well as within a team
- Bilingual - English and French
- Previous marketing and research experience
- Experience preparing and submitting funding applications
- Knowledge of the Communications industry (newspapers, radio, television or ad agencies)

Start: End of August 2007
Location: Ottawa, Ontario
Salary: \$42,000 to \$49,500

Please forward cover letter and resume no later than **Tuesday, August 7th, 2007** to:

Research and Marketing Coordinator
c/o Executive Director
Association de la presse francophone
267 Dalhousie Street, Ottawa (ON) K1N 7E3
Ph: (613) 241-1017, Fax: (613) 241-6313
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523 Massotherapy

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605 Miscellaneous employment

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(Continue from New Clerk, page 1)

very intense selection process. The applicants included several litigation lawyers, one of whom was included in the short-list of four interviewed several times by the selection group set up by Council.

"It was a very rigorous process," said Kulaga. "It was important to select a candidate who would step into the city's top management team. I am proud of our choice and believe Westmount deserves someone with his qualities."

Bulletin Board

Thursday, August 2

The Bimetallic Question, the local Sherlock Holmes Society, will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke St. W. The story 'The Adventure of the Creeping Man' will be quizzed and discussed, but participation in the quiz is optional. All would-be sleuths are welcome to join us for a fun evening. Info: 514-931-8690.

Friday, Aug. 3

The Montreal Children's Library presents storyteller Claudette L'Heureux in French, at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-5 in Cabot Square Park (Atwater and Tupper). Info: 514-931-2304.

Saturday, Aug. 4

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom's Saturday morning Shabbat "Subject to Debate" features the topic 'Referrals and Letters of Reference-What's Fair?' at 10:30 a.m. Please join us for summer Shabbat morning services which will include a subject to debate and discuss with Rabbi Lerner and the congregation. 4100 Sherbrooke St. W. Use Elm Avenue entrance. Free and open to the public. Info: 514-937-3575.

Thursday, Aug. 9

The Montreal Children's Library presents singer Micky Farkas in English, at 10:30 a.m. for ages 6-12 in Cabot Square Park (Atwater and Tupper). Info: 514-931-2304.

Friday, Aug. 10

The Montreal Children's Library presents Afrique en mouvement in French at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-5 in Cabot Square Park (Atwater and Tupper). Info: 514-931-2304.

Saturday, Aug. 11

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom's Saturday morning Shabbat "Subject to Debate" features the topic 'Chat Room Charades: Internet Fantasy' at 10:30 a.m. Please join us for summer Shabbat morning services which will include a subject to debate and discuss with Rabbi Lerner and the congregation. 4100 Sherbrooke St. W. Use Elm Avenue entrance. Free and open to the public. Info: 514-937-3575.

Wednesday, Aug. 15

Marriage Information Meeting at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. W., at 5:30 p.m. Couples considering intermarriage, or conversion by one partner before marriage, are invited to tour the facilities and learn about Temple's policies and practices from Rabbi Leigh Lerner and Executive Administrator Michelle Serrano. Appointments can be booked with Rabbi Lerner following a brief meeting. Info: 514-937-3575.

Friday, Aug. 17

The Montreal Children's Library presents Washboard Theatre performing Briar Rose, a bilingual presentation at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-5 in Cabot Square Park (Atwater and

Tupper). Info: 514-931-2304.

Ongoing

The Gallery at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W., presents 'Close to Home', a group exhibition featuring the work of Westmount artists Mona Agia, Caroline Benchérit, Peter Boyadjieff, Burt Covit, Gael Eakin, Lindsay Fryett, Francine Leduc, Marguerite Millette Trudeau, Tony Shine and the Westmount Quilters Guild. Continues through Aug. 18. Info: 514-989-5226.

The McClure Gallery of the Visual Arts Centre, 350 Victoria Ave., presents Physical Choir Theatre Project Part 2, 'Fragments of Knowing', conceived and directed by Vicki Tansey, Aug. 3 through 25, with performances on Aug. 2, Aug. 3 and Aug. 24 at 8 p.m. Vernissage on Aug. 2 at 6 p.m. Info: 514-488-9558.

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The Westmount Examiner Thursday, August 2, 2007 11

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