

THE INFORMER

Montreal West Newspaper

May 2026, Vol. 54, No. 4

Paddy Cardarelli: Theatre in his blood



MoWest's very own Paddy Cardarelli playing Sir Toby Belch in the Lakeshore Players Dorval rendition of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*

by Trish Hewat

“Dost thou think, because thou art virtuous, there shall be no more cakes and ale?” declares Sir Toby Belch, the charmingly shrewd hedonist who is William Shakespeare’s voice railing against the growing Puritanical influence in sixteenth-century Elizabethan England. That influence is represented in the flesh by Malvolio, the self-righteous social climbing steward to Sir Toby’s niece, the Lady Olivia.

No, you are not in Shakespeare’s Stratford-upon-Avon theatre with the gentle waters of the River Avon flowing by, nor are you seated in the Festival Theatre in Stratford, Ontario, on the banks of another Avon River, although you’d be easily forgiven for thinking you were in either of these venues. You

Continued on page 6

Café Artistique:

When two friends share a dream – and make it come true

interview by Jada Cheng
story by Julia Ross

I remember, quite a few years ago now, we’d be pushing our strollers along Westminster and saying, “Wouldn’t it be great to have a cozy little place for families, to have a cup of coffee, to sit, chat and relax, and have the kids busy playing!” Well, our kids have long grown up, but our wish has finally been granted.

The wish was granted by two friends who shared an idea of bringing together coffee and art – and a little bit of magic (as the customers say).

Susy and Mimosa met working across the street at *Pharmaprix*. And while a lot of people would know and recognize Susy, Mimosa was a newcomer. They had just moved here from Toronto when Covid hit. With a new baby, having been bound to the house in a new place, it was not easy. But then sometimes, you meet your person, a true friend who makes all the difference.

When Mimosa started at *Pharmaprix*, Susy instantly made her feel welcome and part of the team. They quickly became friends.

Continued on page 7



INDEX

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|--------------------------|------|
| Centre sportif/récréatif | 26 | IODE | 12 | Réunion du Conseil | 22 |
| Club 60+ Club | 25 | Kosher corner | 25 | Schools | 9-10 |
| Council meeting | 23 | Libraries | 11-13 | Scouts | 18 |
| CRA | 16-17 | MADA | 6 | Sports/recreation centre | 27 |
| Guides | 19 | Mailbox | 7 | Tennis Club | 21 |
| Horticultural Society | 3 | News from the pews | 21 | West End Quilters | 20 |
| | | Rotary | 24 | Wiersma, Hendrik Jan | 5 |



Paige Gold of Pâtisserie de la Gare

Pâtisserie de la Gare 3.0

by Harold Simpkins

Paige Gold has always felt a natural affinity for food and the business of food. From her high school years, when she baked special occasion cakes for her fellow students to enjoy, to her career in various industries, including graphic design, market-

ing consulting, business development, and financial services, she was constantly on the lookout for new possibilities in the food industry – especially those that would offer the opportunity to create a company that she could call her own.

That opportunity came along in late 2025 when, after 13 years of ownership, the husband-and-wife operators of *Pâtisserie de la Gare* put the business up for sale. They were the second owners of the shop, which has been a major presence on Westminster Avenue since the 1990s. In partnership with craft baker Mounir Semmouka, Paige acquired the pâtisserie, and for the past four months, they've been fully occupied renovating the space, creating an enhanced product line and, when they have the time, getting to know the MoWest neighbourhood. Paige's father, Elliot, a happily retired businessman, has been working alongside them as a mentor and sounding board.



New, different!

So, what will make the new iteration of the pâtisserie different from its previous version? First, the space has been opened up with a dramatic increase in seating capacity and it's also airier and brighter. Second, Paige plans to take the basics – breads, cookies, muffins, cakes and pastries – to the next level with the addition of new flavour choices including mango/passionfruit. Third, new sandwich and salad offerings have been added to the menu. But two things haven't been changed: the original espresso machine and bean grinder will continue in their roles of producing the pâtisserie's much-loved coffee.

Paige's vision is to create a warm, inviting and welcoming place to be for everyone in the neighbourhood. Whether it's for a snack, dessert, breakfast, lunch or a much-needed coffee break, she's looking forward to seeing the same faces on a regular basis and becoming part of the unique fabric that makes up the Montreal West community.

May the third version of the *Pâtisserie de la Gare* be a charm.

The Informer is happy to welcome resident Harold Simpkins as a new member of the team!



THE INFORMER

10 Westminster North / Nord
Montreal West, Quebec
Montréal-Ouest, Québec
H4X 1Y9

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.

ISSN: 084741X

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
ÉDITRICE EN CHEF

Heather Baylis, 489-7022

ISSUE EDITOR
ÉDITRICE DU NUMÉRO
Joanna Duy

EXECUTIVE BOARD
CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION
Cynthia Koomas - Chair / Présidente
Jeanne Ragbir - Secretary / Secrétaire
Robert King - Treasurer / Trésorier
Heather Baylis, René Boucher,
Véronique Belzil-Boucher,
Joanna Duy, Carol Foster,
Trish Hewat, Maurice Krystal,
Julia Ross, Rhonda Schwartz

LAYOUT DESIGNER
MISE EN PAGE
Julia Ross, julia@ross.ca

PUBLICITY
PUBLICITÉ
Heather Baylis, 489-7022
montrealwestinformer@gmail.com

DISTRIBUTION
Rhonda Schwartz, 482-0227

RATES / TAUX
1/6 page: \$50. Billed annually or semi-annually. / facturation annuelle ou semestrielle
Monthly billing / Facturation mensuelle : \$60 per/par insertion
1/12 page: \$30. Billed annually / facturation annuelle
Monthly billing / Facturation mensuelle : \$35 per/par insertion
Flyer / Dépliant : \$50 (non-profit / non lucratif), \$85 (commercial)
Professional card / Carte professionnelle : \$135 per year / par an
Subscription / Abonnement : \$25
Classifieds / Petites annonces:
26-50 words / mots – \$10,
25 words or fewer / mots ou moins – \$6

PROOFREADERS
LECTEURS D'ÉPREUVE
René Boucher, Sheila Ettinger, Cynthia Koomas, Mia Massicotte, Lise McVey, Munit Merid, Jeanne Ragbir, Harold Simpkins, Marcel Thomas

The Informer is published nine times a year (usually on the second or third week-end of the month) except January, July and August. Typesetting by *Informer* staff, printing by *Les Publicités A. Campeau Ltée*. Extra copies available at Town Hall and both libraries. Funded, in part, by the Town of Montreal West. Articles are printed in French or English, as submitted.

L'Informer est publié neuf fois l'an (habituellement le deuxième ou troisième week-end du mois) sauf en janvier, juillet et août. Composition par le personnel de *l'Informer*, impression par *Les Publicités A. Campeau Ltée*. Des exemplaires supplémentaires sont disponibles à l'hôtel de ville et dans les deux bibliothèques. Financé, en partie, par la Ville de Montréal-Ouest. Les articles sont imprimés en français ou en anglais, tel que soumis.

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE
DATE LIMITE DU PROCHAIN NUMÉRO

May 13 mai



Crossing guard at last!

RWA crossing guard **Colin** was assigned to the corner of Ainslie and Westminster as of April 7, much to the delight of RWA parents and students. He is there from 7:15 to 9:15 am and 2:30 to 4:30 pm daily until June 12, after which times will shift for exams. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this happen including the SPVM, Town of MoWest, MNA McGraw, parents and residents!



Spring concert & sing-along

Montreal West United Church
with Montreal Welsh Male Choir

In collaboration with Montreal West United Church, the *Montreal Welsh Male Choir* will be holding a spring concert and sing-along on Tuesday, May 26 at 7:30 pm at the church (88 Ballantyne Avenue North). There will be a free will offering at the door.

The choir will perform traditional Welsh songs, rugby songs, hymns and contemporary works. The audience will be encouraged to sing along with some of the familiar hymns and contemporary works. We are encouraging choir members from other churches and community choirs to lend their voices to a wonderful evening of music. All are welcome.



Rewilding our backyard: the indigenous experience

Early last summer, we decided to redo our backyard garden. Well actually, the decision was made for us as the installation of French drains had pretty well demolished it. We were hearing a lot about indigenous plants so decided to go that route. When we do something, it is no half measure, so we decided on 100% native. The advantage of being older is that you pay someone else to do it, so that is what we did. Bye, bye trip around the world.

The French drains meant that we now had to let the water from the downspouts pour into our backyard. "Whatever are we going to do?" I lamented. Always the one to find a solution, my wife said, "We will make a river." There were lots of rocks from the excavation around the foundation and again I threw up my hands in despair. "How are we going to get rid of these things," I cried. My wife said, "These would look great in our new garden."

The crew came in the last week of May, five young workers, and it poured rain most days. As we sat watching from the kitchen window, I marvelled at the wisdom of my decision to hire out.

In eight days, we had a new garden. By mid-July, the grass was back and we were sitting on our patio admiring the flowers.

Monday, May 11, at the Town Hall Music Room, I will be talking about our experiences. There will be lots of slides of the process, the results and the installation of the fountains (okay, bird baths).



Staff from the Public Library will be there to share their information on their free seed library so you can start your own garden.

There will also be a sale (cash only) of indigenous plant seedlings as a fundraiser for the society. Plus a raffle for a \$100 *Black Sheep Perennials* gift certificate. Doors open at 7 pm, talk starts at 7:30 pm – \$5 for non-members.

from Al Hayek

Seedling fundraiser sale and raffle

...at the Pop-up Event May 24, Paula Cordeau Park! Indigenous plants, heirloom Quebec tomatoes, Montreal melons. Buy tickets for our raffle: a \$100 *Black Sheep Perennials* gift certificate and a \$50 *Lufa Farms* gift certificate!

The indigenous Canada lily, *Lilium canadense*



Garage Sale, Garage Band and Lemonade Stand festival

The 4th Montreal West Community Garage Sale and Garage Band Festival will be held Saturday, May 30 (rain date is Sunday, May 31).

The goal of this event is to promote sustainability by focusing on the "Reuse" mantra in preventing more items from being sent to the landfill. Giving an old item a new life is promoting sustainability, all while making a few bucks and decluttering. Why not get on board?

If I can't convince you to host a garage sale, I hope you will consider browsing the neighbourhood for lost treasures. In addition, there will be live music performed throughout the day by local musical talent playing classical, jazz, folk, country, rock and classic rock throughout the town on their porch or driveway. The times and locations of each band will be shown on our interactive map.

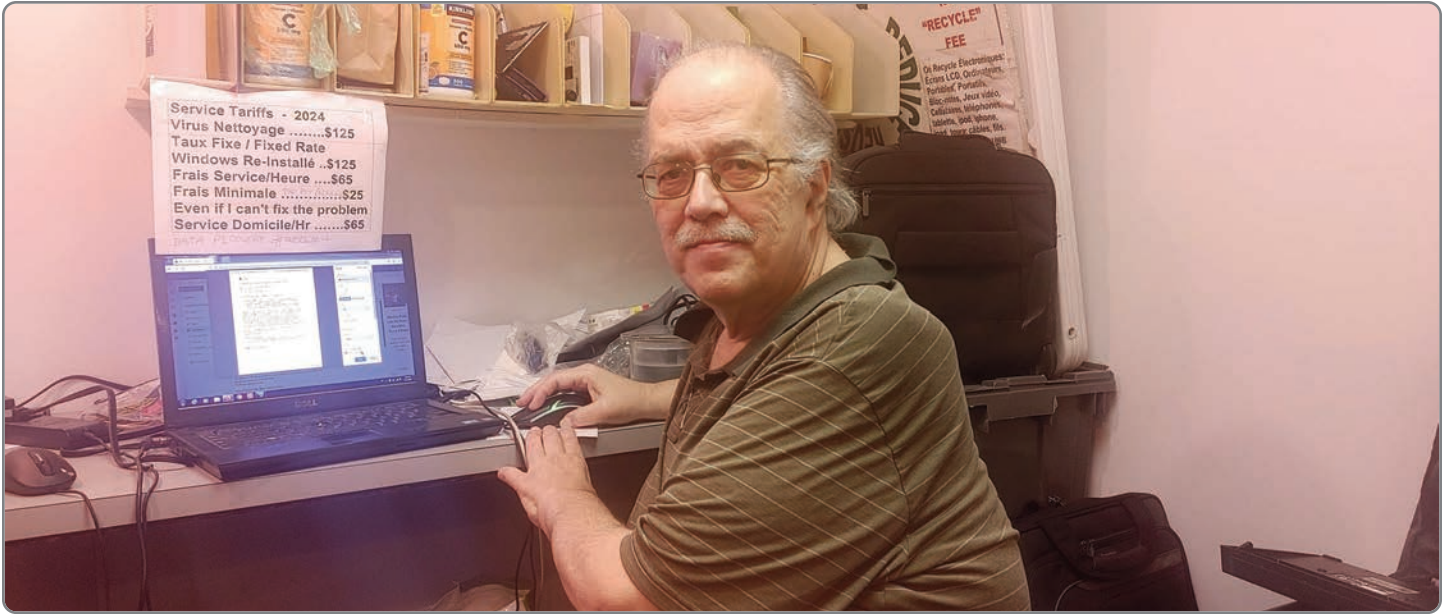
Back by popular demand, lemonade stands will be added to our map repertoire. Calling on all young entrepreneurs who want to put forth their baking and lemonade-making skills to replenish the thirsty deal hunters and music lovers of the festival.

Please sign up through the website (see link below) in the hopes of increasing the number of garage sales published on the website to attract more foot traffic. The website registration, map location, marketing and promotion of the event are all free services.

Join us as this promises to be another great community event.

from Phil Bergeron
montrealouestgaragesale@gmail.com
montrealouest-garagesale-garageband.ca/





Hooked on computers

by Trish Hewat

Richard Eckerlin's office is squirreled away in a stuccoed gray building at the corner of Milner and Wolseley N that has seen various identities from a lumber yard to its present iteration as offices for several businesses. When I phoned him for the interview, he told me that his office is down the left corridor and I pass a few doors before I find him. I peek in an open door and know I'm in the right place - the tiered shelves are piled with laptops and a jumble of computer cords. I knock and the man intently focusing on his screen with his back to me swivels his chair and greets me with a smile. "Hi, I'm Richard," he says and invites me to sit, indicating the only chair in the small office space he now calls home.

Richard hasn't been at this location for long. The building's owner, **Daniel Durant**, had approached Richard after he lost all his data when his hard drive crashed. After Richard recovered his data, a grateful Daniel offered him office space at a reasonable price. It was an offer he felt he couldn't refuse.

Richard found he had an aptitude for computing when he took his first computer course in programming as part of his degree in agricultural engineering at McGill's MacDonald campus in 1982. He was hooked, and from then on, his focus was on programming. At that time, there were only four computers for the 1500 students at the college. They were located in the college's computer room, which closed at 11 pm every evening. But Richard found that if you were there by the 11 pm closing, you were able to stay all night.

One Friday evening, a professor noticed Richard and asked for his help with a programming problem. Richard was able to solve the issue and the professor saw his potential. He took Richard under his wing, teaching him how to troubleshoot using a computer error message. Richard was an eager student and learned quickly. Soon, this first-year undergrad began helping other students, including those doing their Master's degrees.

The early 1980s were an era when laptops were coming out, replacing the heavy desktop computers attached to large, dedicated computer rooms with their whirring machines maintained in a dust-free environment. The professor hired Richard as a researcher tasked with finding the best laptop for student use.

There were several models being developed as the industry miniaturized components, allowing for a light, efficient and portable computing device. Richard researched several options and settled on the model he thought most promising, the Tandy Model 100, a notebook-sized portable introduced in April 1983 and sold by Radio Shack. Hailed by many in the industry as a breakthrough, it was regarded as the first commercially successful notebook model and a favourite with journalists and computer enthusiasts because of its long battery life and responsiveness. This led Richard to a summer job running a Model 100 club for students, a club so popular it attracted 500 members.

Not bad for a boy from Ontario whose family constantly moved from small town to small town every couple of years or so as Richard grew up. With computing, Richard

felt he'd settled into something and found a niche that was all his own. Born in Toronto, he was the son of immigrant parents. His father had come to Canada in the mid-1920s from Switzerland. His mother, originally Austrian, grew up in Poland before moving to Canada.

In 1986 Richard started his own company, though still living in student quarters on the MacDonald campus. The next year, he moved to NDG. He was still writing software for traditional desktop computers, but the trend by 1989 was towards laptops. He saw that this was where the opportunities lay so he expanded the business into hardware while still installing software and operating systems for clients.

Half of Richard's business now involves virus cleaning for his clients. People unknowingly get into sketchy websites, like some recipe sites that look completely harmless, then find their laptop has a virus. The other half of his business involves re-installing and updating operating systems and recovering data when laptops crash.

He also recycles old laptops and desktops. Some he brings to the EcoCentre, but others he harvests for parts. He can remove the hard drive from the old laptop and give it to a client when they wish to upgrade to a new model. He can also install a new hard drive on an old laptop and make it available for resale. As well, he has also donated upgraded laptops to churches like St. Philip's, St. Ignatius and the United Church for use by refugees.

Montreal West Computer Store
48 Wolseley North,
corner of Milner Unit J
Office hours are 1-3 pm,
Monday through Saturday

After 3 pm, Richard is available for at-home visits, especially for seniors.

in memoriam

Hendrik (Henk) Jan Wiersma

1935-2026

Father of Rusty Wiersma

It is with profound sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of **Hendrik (Henk) Jan Wiersma** on March 7.

Born August 21, 1935 in Gravenhage, The Netherlands to Aaltje (Alice) Geesje Brommer and Jan Wiersma. Loving brother to Ruke (Dirk), Hugo (Mieke) and Joop (Yvonne).

Devoted husband to the late **Carol Louise Duclos**. Cherished father to Jan (aka Rusty), Andrew (Sara) and Karen (Greg). Dear brother-in-law to Beatrice (Ann) Duclos. Proud Opa to Annabelle (Francis), Jakob and Ethan. Great-Opa to Billie. Oom Henk (Haay) to many nieces, nephews and their children in the Netherlands.

His early years were shaped by wartime in the Netherlands, as his family travelled throughout Friesland, changing homes and schools before eventually settling in Haarlem. These experiences instilled resilience and adaptability from a young age.

He attended Montessori school, where his curiosity for education was encouraged and continued throughout his life. His passion for working with the land led him to pursue studies in landscape architecture, which included placements in the United Kingdom that expanded his skills. He then worked for Royal Moerheim Nurseries under his mentor Mien Ruys. He completed his military service, a time filled with adventures that made for some of the great stories he loved to share.

In 1959, Henk accepted an opportunity to work for Sheridan Nurseries and landed in Montreal on May 5. In 1962, he met his soulmate at a potluck dinner after a day of skiing. They courted for four years to establish themselves and were married in 1966.

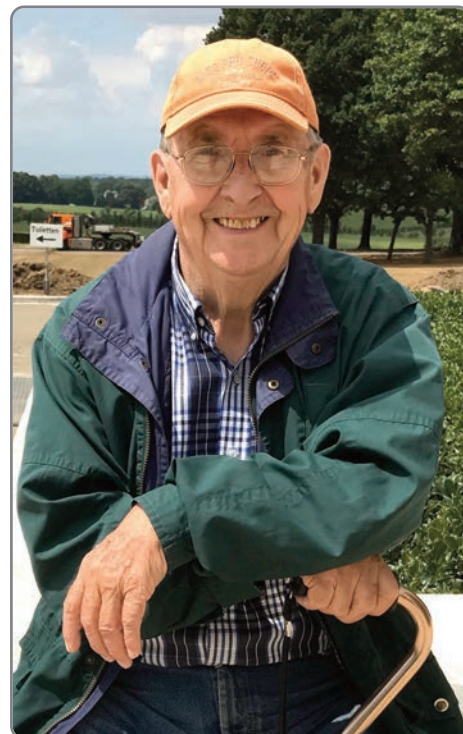
They raised their family in Montreal West, spent winters skiing at Owl's Head in Mansonville, summers in Maine and many cherished visits were made to family in the Netherlands. Maintaining strong family connections across the ocean was always a priority.

Henk's career was varied and fulfilling. After reschooling as a draftsman in Montreal, he worked for FINA/Petro-Fina and Petro-Canada at both the refineries and at Place Ville Marie. A highlight of his career was his work as an Administrator with GML Associates.

In 1995, Henk and Carol moved to Oxford Mills, where they later founded HenCar Transportation, providing accessible transportation within the community.

Henk was a dedicated volunteer who served on several boards, including helping create Le Renfort, where he served for 22 years, supporting independent living in the community and where Ann lived for many years. He also volunteered with the Montreal West Scout group (coordinating the long-standing garden supplies fundraiser when Rusty was a youth) and the Kemptville District Home Support, among many others. His commitment to community service left a lasting impact.

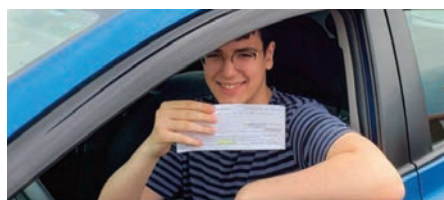
In retirement, Henk and Carol enjoyed sharing stories, spending time with family and friends, and following tennis, soccer, Formula 1 and, his favourite program, At Issue. He loved jazz, current events, and had a remarkable ability to "work a room,"



making everyone feel welcome.

To celebrate Henk's life, we invite you to raise a toast to the distinguished gentleman that he was. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Henk's name, to Kemptville Ontario Seniors' Community Services. Their transportation program, now providing thousands of rides annually for seniors to their appointments, reflects the vision and dedication that Henk and Carol helped bring to life.

The family will be having a private interment at Mount Royal Cemetery in the spring.



**Examen ou reprise à la SAAQ ?
Soyez en CONFIANCE !**

**SAAQ test or retake?
EMPOWER Your Drive!**

**Débutants
Aînés
Conduite Adaptée**

**Beginners
Seniors
Adaptive Driving**

MoWest Service VIP

**Tom "MoWester" - City Driving School
514.738.2211 • CityDrivingSchool.ca/MoWest
Susan Sofer, Ergothérapeute • Occupational Therapist
ACT Inc. 514.733.1414 • ActDriving.com**

Lakeshore Players

continued from page 1

are, in fact, watching a performance of the *Lakeshore Players Dorval* whose actors strut the boards in one of the many productions they've staged in their 60 years in the biz. It is a theatre group renowned for their polished productions which have kept the audiences filling the seats since their first play, *Sabrina Fair*, hit the stage in April 1966.

And in the role of Sir Toby is MoWest's **Paddy Cardarelli** who, over the years, has acted in 49 of the *Lakeshore Players'* 130 productions. Getting involved in theatre was one of the first things the 24-year-old Cardarelli did when he arrived in Montreal with \$400 in his pocket, no job in the offing and not knowing a soul in this new country he would call home.

But when he checked into the YMCA, then offering rooms to those new to the city or just passing through, he saw an audition notice for a play called *Tea and Sympathy*. He was not new to the theatre; he'd had his first part at age 15 back home in England, so he auditioned and got the part. It was the start of something good.

That led him to the St. Andrew's Church theatre group that put on its plays in the Church's basement. He joined their cast, but after a while, a few members of that group, Cardarelli among them, looking to be a little more adventurous, broke off to form the *Lakeshore Players*. That was 60 years ago, and they've been going ever since. The secret of their success? Keeping audiences happy.

"We consistently, year in and year out, do predictable fare," said Paddy, who has acted in so many Lakeshore productions that the press referred to him as "a Lakeshore stalwart." "You know Neil Simon, a bit of Shaw, accessible Shakespeare and the staple mysteries and farces. Audiences know what to expect," said Cardarelli. And they weren't disappointed. But occasionally the company put on plays like *Amadeus*, by

Peter Shaffer, *Becket* by Jean Anouilh or Arthur Miller's *After the Fall* that pushed into serious dramatic themes, like *Amadeus'* toxic rivalries or Becket's conflict between loyalty and morality. And, as in the case of *After the Fall*, a play purported to be about Miller's short, troubled marriage to actress Marilyn Monroe, lost souls. "You experience more demons in an hour than most people deal with in a lifetime," the Miller-like protagonist bemoans to his glamorous and troubled wife Maggie.

The first play Cardarelli performed in at *Lakeshore Players* was written by one of the founding members of the theatre group, **Mac Reilly**, a World War II airman shot down over enemy territory and taken prisoner at 20 years old. He was sent to Stalag Luft 3 in Poland, where a group of prisoners had hatched a clever escape plan to tunnel out of the camp to freedom. Under the watchful eyes of their Nazi captors, they had to go to great lengths to disguise their enterprise.

The plan was a success, and the bold escape captured public imagination. In the sixties, it was made into a movie called *The Great Escape*. Reilly, though not part of the escape crew, witnessed the action and later wrote a play about it called *The Second Factor*. Renamed *The Wheel*, the troupe entered the play in the 1968 Dominion Drama Festival, where it garnered several awards – including best play – and Cardarelli was singled out as an actor "most promising on his debut." *The Wheel* went on to be the first play ever performed at the *Saidye Bronfman Centre*.

The Lakeshore Players' zenith was with their production of *Not Now Darling* in 1976. It was directed by **Pauline Rathbone**, niece of 1930s Sherlock Holmes actor **Basil Rathbone**, and as theatrically talented as her famous uncle. The play was so popular that it moved to Place des Arts' Théâtre Maison-neuve for a run where it outsold Quebec's popular songstress of the day, **Ginette Reno**.

But that was the year **René Levesque's** *Parti Québécois* won the election and Montreal experienced a change. Once the finan-



Paddy as Sir Toby Belch in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and stage set for *Twelfth Night*

cial capital of Canada, Montreal saw many of its businesses take the trip down the 401 to Toronto and, with them went a significant number of Anglos, affecting audience levels for the *Lakeshore Players*. Yet there remained enough loyal theatre goers to keep the company viable. And the players continued their high standards of performance, putting on classic plays like *A Man for All Seasons* by **Robert Bolt** and TV writer **Larry Gelbart's** farce *Sly Fox*.

"Cardarelli," according to an article written by *Gazette* writer and one-time *Lakeshore Players* actor who played Becket in Anouilh's play of the same name, **Alan Hustak**, "is one of the few actors who could quit his day job as a textile importer and make his living as a professional actor."

And there were those who got their start with the Lakeshore Players and eventually did go professional. **Dixie Seattle**, for one, who went on to play at *The Shaw Festival*; **John Gilbert**, who became a pianist and entertainer. Not well-known names, but for those who feel the pull to the stage it is the footlights that matter, not the name in the spotlight thing; it is the opportunity to stand there on the stage as the curtain opens, speak the playwright's words and, in breathing life into the character, make it your own.

Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward
May 6-10

John Rennie High School, 501 St-Jean, Pointe Claire
Box Office: 631-8718

ESTHÉTIQUE
Luvo

Une peau lisse, en toute simplicité
Smooth skin without the hassle

Prenez rendez-vous pour votre consultation gratuite :

Book your free laser hair removal consultation:



esthetiqueluvo.com
info@esthetiqueluvo.com
514.465.1230

Café Artistique

continued from page 1

Susy and Mimosa shared the same passion for baking and art. And then the idea was born: “We should open a business together!” The dream turned into a business plan when they went for a coffee on Westminster and saw a listing for rent across the street. They decided to check out the price and when the next day they came to visit the space, it immediately felt right. The moment they entered, they got an image of what it was going to be like. They signed the lease. On August 24, after two months of renovations from scratch, a former gym opened as a European-inspired café, reflecting the cultural backgrounds of both of its owners.

Mimosa is from Albania. She is an artist, painting in realism and abstract. Back at home, she also worked at her family grocery store, which gave her experience in pricing and creating a menu. Her husband, a former

baker, contributes with recipe advice and baking techniques. But it’s her mom whom

Mimosa is thanking for her inspiration and love for cooking. Growing up in a family of six kids, she would always help in the kitchen.



This, she believes, is where magic happens and where family recipes and traditions are passed on from one generation to the next.

Susy is Italian. For her, the coffee shop is a tribute to her father, whose portrait you can see on the wall over the counter. He was an entrepreneur, the owner of a carpentry shop here in Montreal. He was also a great supporter of his daughter’s dreams, who encouraged her to start her own business.

The choice for the coffee shop fell on Montreal West as it charmed them both with its kindness, support and community spirit. Neighbours contributed by bringing toys and puzzles.

And that’s how they see their place: a community space, welcoming the locals. The typical customers here are families, Royal West students, regulars who stay for hours. Here you can witness a homework session or a Dungeons and Dragons group meeting.

Both Susy and Mimosa agree that affordability is important. Students get a 10% discount. The philosophy is: avoid the expensive and the generic! And the place is anything but! With old carved furniture pieces, posters and paintings on the floral walls, cards and beads laid out on the long side tables and an old record player in the corner – it gives you a welcoming and cozy vibe.

They are happy to offer birthday, tea and “glamour” parties. Science-themed parties are done in collaboration with **Steve Rosen-**



stein, a science performer and chess player who gives classes to seniors every weekend. There is a pay-per-activity craft corner where you can make a bracelet (\$5), necklace (\$10), custom bag, decorated water bottle and so on.

Art classes are also in the works, both for children and adults.

Every morning at 8 am, they start by mixing their dough. They try to come up with unique ideas, homemade items, introducing customers to new cultural foods, Italian influences and Albanian deserts. Here you can taste sweet and salted focaccia and Albanian Bobza, German chocolate cake and – students’ favourite – the waffle dog!

Come and try for yourself! Get charmed.

16 ave Westminster, suite 100 (ground floor)
@lecafearartistique.sm

Mailbox



Volunteer appreciation?

April is Volunteer Appreciation month, and our Town has always done a great job of appreciating and celebrating our many volunteers. However, in late February, I was surprised to learn that, as a member of the Seniors’ Advisory Committee (SAC)-MADA, the new Town Council had dissolved my committee as well as all others except for PAC. They had announced it at the February 24 Council meeting. They had not notified the members of our committee of this change, nor had they thanked them for their years of service to the Town.

I then found out from the MW website that if I wished to be on the SAC-MADA again, I needed to apply and send in my CV. The deadline for applications was at the end of March, at which time I received an email from Martha Slocombe thanking me for applying and saying that I will be informed when they have made their decision. I have now learned that they will announce the committees at the next Town Council meeting at the end of April.

As a longtime volunteer in many organizations, be it in our town or externally at

Dreams Take Flight, at the MMFA and other organizations, I am constantly on the lookout for new volunteers. For the Town Council to ask for possible volunteers to send in an application with a CV is not the way to attract volunteers.

Dissolving the committees without discussion and without notification is an insult to the many fine volunteers the Town had. I have learned that our SAC-MADA team has lost at least two very valuable members. Both had been part of the steering committee for the MADA plan since 2018. We were an excellent committee. We had accomplished so many of the MADA five-year goals and we were ready to tackle some more.

I understand the desire to invite new members onto all the committees, but you can refresh a committee by adding new voices without replacing the whole choir. Some continuity is important. The new Town Council would have benefitted from meeting each committee to discuss and possibly realign the committee’s goals. Instead, in our case, we have lost almost six months in our planned goals as well as some key people. I hope Town Council might consider doing things a little differently in the future.

from Barbara Brzezinski

Council’s response

Montreal West’s proud tradition of volunteerism is one of the many things that makes our Town so special. We are committed to nurturing this spirit of engagement. The contributions of all past and present volunteers are deeply valued and have played an integral role in shaping our community.

Town committees are structured around specific Council portfolios and are led by elected officials; their mandates align with the term and priorities of Council. Given Montreal West’s history of long-serving Councils, some committees have continued with little change over multiple terms. These committees have made significant contributions, and the establishment of new committees is in no way intended to diminish their work. On the contrary, their efforts have underpinned the strong foundation on which we continue to build.

The call for applications was open to all residents to encourage broad participation, including returning members.

We are truly grateful to everyone who has given their time to our community. Montreal West simply wouldn’t be the same without you, and we look forward to continuing this important work together.



The Montreal West and NDG Rotary Club's Youngers Little Theatre Troupe is thrilled to present Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy, *Much Ado About Nothing*. This captivating tale of deception and mistaken identity will be performed from May 28 to May 30!

No good rom-com is complete without a couple of lovers, their group of scheming friends and a destination wedding. While young Hero and Claudio fall in love at first sight, their friends – the fiery, staunchly single and quick-witted Beatrice and Benedick – can't stand each other for now. Enter the villainous Don John, sneaky ploys to spark a cheating scandal, a bumbling constable, and it's a recipe for mayhem. Come join us for two hours of fun and frolic!

The talented volunteer troupe, directed by **Doug Floen**, promises to truly entertain the audience with their skills. Everyone involved in this production is volunteering their time.

Past performances of the *Youngers Little Theatre Troupe* have raised a total of \$20,525 for charity. All proceeds from the performances will go to *03 On Our Own*, an NDG-based non-profit that offers transitional housing and support services to young, vulnerable parents and their children. Your ticket purchase will help pay for yard refurbishment and playground equipment. Make a point of attending to not only be wowed, but also to help a good cause!

Save the dates

Performances: May 28, 7 pm; May 29, 7 pm; May 30, 2 and 7 pm will take place at Saint Philip's Church, Memorial Hall, 7505 Sherbrooke West. Tickets: \$30 adults; \$25 seniors and students are available at the door or through *Rotary* club members or contact **Ron D'Souza** at 573-9769 or by email at: dsouza.ronald0920@gmail.com.

from Patricial Nolan

Edinburgh School



As Nutrition Month in Quebec comes to a close, we are grateful to Sunny Kamar, Edinburgh parent and owner of Fruiterie Fruiti Maruti, for generously donating groceries to our K5 students and helping highlight the importance of healthy eating and good nutrition.



Congratulations to the participants and winners of Edinburgh's storytelling festival which took place this spring. Participants' creativity, confidence and unique perspectives made the event enjoyable and memorable.

Dr. Michael J. Wexel

Chiropraticien / Chiropractor

Douleur au cou
Maux de tête et migraines
Rigidité
Blessures liées au sport
Bien-être et soins préventifs
Lombalgie
Douleur musculaire
Engourdissements et picotements
Conseils nutritionnels



Neck Pain
Headaches & Migraines
Stiffness
Sports Related Injuries
Wellness & Preventative Care
Low Back Pain
Muscle Pain
Numbness & Tingling
Nutritional Counseling

514-773-7246

18 Westminster N., Suite 110

**Prenez rendez-vous dès aujourd'hui pour vous sentir mieux demain.
Call for an appointment today so you can feel better tomorrow.**

Elizabeth Ballantyne School



Leprechaun traps

St Patrick's Day

The hallways and classrooms were glowing with green, as students celebrated St. Patrick's Day. Kindergarten and Grade 1 students built creative leprechaun traps using recycled materials, hoping to catch the mischievous visitor. Although the leprechaun escaped, he left behind mysterious rocks that required a special potion to dissolve, revealing gold coins inside. Cycle 2 students joined in the fun by writing lively, humorous limericks that added even more joy to the celebration.

Rosemount Technology Centre visit

March 25, Grade 6 students visited the Rosemount Technology Centre for a full day of hands-on exploration.

They discovered several of the exciting programs offered at RTC, including screen printing, where they digitally designed and printed colourful artwork onto their own tote bags.

Students also took on the challenge of building the tallest spaghetti tower, putting their creativity and problem-solving skills to the test. It's an opportunity for students to understand that while skilled trades offer valuable career options, getting an education is essential to building the knowledge and skills needed for any future path they choose.

A heartfelt thank you to the staff members at the Rosemount Technology Centre for sharing their time and expertise and for inspiring our future creators.

from Kate Marien

Des Amis-du-Monde

Un voyage dans l'espace!

Fin mars, plusieurs classes ont eu la chance d'essayer le planétarium mobile. Un grand dôme était installé dans le gymnase. À l'intérieur, des images de l'espace étaient projetées et un animateur expliquait des concepts aux élèves. Un beau voyage dans l'espace!

At the end of March, several classes had the chance to try the mobile planetarium. A large dome was installed in the gymnasium. Inside, images of space were projected and a facilitator explained concepts to the students. A beautiful journey into space!

de Natasha Lam



GRACIE BARRA

A FAMILY-ORIENTED
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**BUILD CONFIDENCE
WITH JIU-JITSU**

Gracie Barra Montral Ouest
offers professional BJJ classes
for children, teens & families.



SCAN
TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT OUR
PROGRAMS FOR
KIDS & ADULTS

[263] 880-9677 | info@gbmontrealouest.ca | 14C Westminster N



63 Av. Westminster N. (514) 369-0255
Montréal-Ouest montrealwestdental@gmail.com
H4X 1Y8



Dr. Mark Santaguida, O.D.
docteur en optométrie / optometrist

- examen de la vue • eye exams
- lunettes • glasses
- verres de contact • contact lenses
- consultation laser • laser consultation

514 481-4791

47 av. Westminster Ave. S. Montréal-Ouest, QC H4X 1Y6

Royal West Academy



Where music meets the streets!

For most people, a parade is something you watch, standing on the sidelines, cheering as performers pass by. But for Royal West Academy's Honour Band, it was something we experienced firsthand. With instruments and lyres in hand, uniforms decorated with green

accessories and overall good vibes in the air, we took to the streets of downtown Montreal on March 22 to march in the annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

I've participated in many other parades before with the Honour Band, but this year's Saint Patrick's Day Parade was

different. Although the snow made marching a little difficult, there was still a huge crowd! This parade will be one I will never forget!" said **Kathie W.**, our band's wonderful president and trombonist.

Picture this: hundreds of people cheering you on, being able to see other floats and ensembles, green decorations everywhere in sight, getting to hang out and bond with your friends and overall good spirits coming from everyone. Doesn't that sound super cool? As Kathie mentioned, despite the poor weather, with simple garbage bags to protect our instruments from water damage and lots of dedication, we still delivered an amazing performance!

Because the band contains instruments that you can't march with, some musicians switched instruments while playing and practising for the parades. **Daniel P.**, the oboist, switching to the crash cymbals; **Ezra D.**, the bassoonist, to saxophone; **Felix T.**, the bass clarinetist, to drums and **Ben B.** and

Joseph R-V., the two horns, to their trumpets. Additionally, though it's still considered a marching instrument, some flutists played piccolo during the parades since it's louder. Overall, this goes to show how talented our musicians are, including those remaining on their normal instruments!

Many teachers, family members and friends came to support us as we marched through the snowy streets, which was much appreciated. For example, Mr. **Michael Wilson**, a teacher at RWA, came to watch and he shared, "As always, I really enjoyed seeing the Royal West band. I always feel proud seeing our school represented, and really just joy hearing and getting into the music. My daughter always marches in place when y'all pass by. Before working at RWA, I would go to the parade every year. I got out of the habit years ago, so for me knowing my students are there has really pulled me back in."

from Olivia Guzman

RWA values onstage: An alumnus' story

Creative. Kind. Engaged. Interested.

These are among the ideal traits of any Royal West Academy student. They are qualities epitomized in our school's assemblies, classes and extracurricular activities. They are attributes valued in the core of everything RWA stands for. They are also exactly how Royal West Academy class of 2012 graduate **Adrian Smith** remembers, not only the youth he grew up with in RWA's theatre program, but the students he now encounters in theatre.

In the midst of his third year working at the Segal Centre for Performing Arts as the director of their Broadway and Beyond program, Smith has spent ample time working with adolescents and emphasizes the importance of "[meeting] young people in the places they're choosing to be." As an audition-only extracurricular for high schoolers,

Broadway & Beyond attracts passionate, dedicated students devoted to performance, and Smith is unwavering in his determination to "making sure that [the experience] is fun."

Smith's own realization that theatre could, in fact, be fun came at a young age, when he was cast as Snoopy in his elementary school's production of *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. In high school, he took drama classes and performed in Chicago, *Twelfth Night* and various other productions, crossing paths with longtime RWA choreographer **Jonathan Patterson**, with whom Smith has gone on to collaborate regularly throughout his career in the arts. It was Patterson who would eventually invite him to work at the Segal Centre, after they reconnected while working at The Lyric Theatre following Smith's high school graduation. "I learned a lot from him," Smith

says of Patterson, having worked as the latter's assistant for a number of years. "I was very lucky."

Before earning his current position at the Segal Centre as a director, Smith filled various roles within the industries of theatre and film, working as a stage manager, usher, boom operator, and production assistant. "I think a lot of people are scared of working in the arts because they don't see it as a legitimate profession. But if there's a piece of art that you think is worth making, you can carve that out for yourself in a way that isn't always possible in other fields," Smith explains. "There are so many amazing, viable options in theatre besides [acting]. It takes a village to put a show together."

Assembling said village can be a challenge, but Smith credits RWA's focus on group work for teaching him how to "build the

right team for the right project." He also highlights the school's concentration on analytic and critical competency, commenting on the necessity of media literacy (an ability highly valued in RWA's drama and film courses). "The skills [learned in high school theatre programs] are required in pretty much any job you're going to do," Smith says. "You learn to create something greater than the sum of its parts, and you also get to work with incredible people who can challenge your ideas and make them better."

This outlook is precisely what Smith inspires in his students today. The creativity, kindness, engagement, and interest taught at our school are noticeably reflected in his own approach to teaching. Thus, while current RWA students demonstrate these values, Smith proves that RWA alumni personify them, and pay them forward.

by Alice M.

Montreal West 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



Fermée pour Pâques du 3 au 6 avril
Closed for Easter April 3-6

484-7194

www.mwcl.ca mwcl@mwcl.ca



Charlotte and Teddy Darwish are happy to have found some of the dragon eggs!

Dragon egg hunt!

We were happy to have been offered masterfully crafted paper dragon eggs that were the starting point for the development of an exciting event for the little ones. Volunteer **Carling Cheng** had made dozens of colourful paper eggs that she generously donated to the library and to the children who came for a special story time and dragon egg hunt. After the reading of two mesmerizing stories about dragons and their eggs, the children were launched on a hunt where they could find the eggs using clues devised to educate them about different sections in the library. You can still marvel at the dragon itself, made by volunteer **Momoko Li** and our own **Newt Pekker**, which is still adorning our space.

Bill Foster Writing Contest: awards ceremony

We have received all the submissions for the 2026 writing contest. The jury is starting their work. This year, the judging panel is composed of local author **Dara Murphy**, Elizabeth Ballantyne teacher **Kate Marien**, and librarian **Rennie MacLeod**. They will be ready for the awards ceremony Sunday, May 3 at 11 am, when the names of the winners will be announced. Don't miss this opportunity to meet the young authors and hear some of the texts they have written. Come and encourage them!

Elevate Aviation Learning Centre

Elevate Aviation Learning Centre is a Canadian non-profit organization with a mission to help women and underrepresented groups thrive and succeed through careers in aviation. They believe that introducing young people to the wide range of career opportunities available

in aviation is an important step in increasing diversity and representation in this industry. **Elizabeth Smyth** will introduce *Elevate Aviation* and the resources provided to those interested in pursuing a career in aviation. The event will include a few activities whereby children and parents will be introduced to the phonetic alphabet and learn about the different parts of a plane. Join us Saturday, May 23 at 11 am for this unique event!



Author's visit: Julia Grawemeyer

The picture book *I Want to Eat My Brother* has been part of our collection since its publication. **Julia Grawemeyer**, who translated it from French into English, will be visiting the library to meet the children and read the story that she helped bring to an English-speaking audience. This special story time will take place Saturday, May 30 at 11 am.



Video games workshop animated by Explorations Learning in our Library on March 14



Children listen to dragon stories before the egg hunt; "Egg-laying dragon" made by Momoko Li and Newt Pekker

Book sale

Our spring book sale will take place on May 31. Pass by to choose from a big selection of second-hand books, magazines and DVDs.

Montreal West Public Library

Managing detours in the road of living as we gently age

May 6 at 2 pm, join us for a talk by **Joan Foster**. This amazing resident (nurse, homecare expert and tireless volunteer) will discuss ways to navigate the aging process and answer questions those present might have. Please register online (mwpl.ca) or by email: info@mwpl.ca.



Crafting VR

We've had a blast collaborating with artist **T Braun**, who has been bringing our crafts into the virtual world since last fall. From creating tiny worlds in teacups to crafting cozy sweater mittens, all of our projects now live in virtual spaces designed by T. At the end of April, we celebrated with a party and vernissage, showcasing the incredible creations made by participants and giving the public a chance to try the VR headset and explore the crafts in their new digital home. Who knew crafts could leap off the table and into virtual reality?

Puzzle swap

From now until the end of August, refresh your puzzle stash at the library's puzzle swap! Bring gently used jigsaw puzzles and trade them for new-to-you finds.

Puzzles must be complete (no missing pieces) and in their original box (which should be in good shape with no tears, stains, odours or damage).

The puzzle swap will gladly accept jigsaw puzzles of all sizes for adults and children, 3D puzzles or new or unused puzzle books.

A great way to reduce waste, switch things up, and maybe even discover a new obsession.

Borrowing updates

In order to keep up with increased demand for popular items, to improve turnaround times so holds move faster and to protect and maintain the condition of materials, we have made a few changes to our loans policy. You can take out up to five items at a time, be they books, DVDs or audiobooks. The loan period is four weeks. All

items can be renewed for a period of three weeks, a maximum of two times. Renewals are possible only if the item has not been requested by another member.

If there are overdue items on your account, you cannot take out more items until they are returned or renewed. Items overdue for more than 30 days may be charged to your account.

We're excited to keep improving your library experience. Happy reading!

481-7522

41 Westminister N.

Reservations / requests:

info@mwpl.ca

Visit us online: mwpl.ca

HEURES / HOURS

Lundi au Vendredi /Monday to

Saturday:

Noon-6 pm

Library closed from

May 16 to May 18 inclusive



IODE



IODE Award winner

The IODE offers awards to the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders at McGill University.

This year (2025-26), we are pleased to share that **Abigail McLellan**, a second-year MSc. student at McGill, is the recipient of this award.

I am a Speech Language Pathology student at McGill University. As a musician and singer, I have a deep appreciation for the gift of hearing. My journey with hearing became personal when my mother lost hear-

ing in one ear due to an acoustic neuroma. Learning more about hearing loss through my classes and clinical experience at McGill has deepened my passion for the subject.

I am writing to express my gratitude for receiving the IODE Silence to Sound Award. This award is particularly meaningful to me given my academic and clinical interests in hearing loss and my commitment to working with Deaf and hard-of-hearing populations. The support will allow me to continue developing my clinical skills and pursuing opportunities that contribute to accessible and equitable care.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the IODE for their ongoing commitment to supporting individuals with hearing impairments and students entering this field.

Thank you again for your generosity and encouragement.

Sincerely,

Abigail McLellan

Did you know?

For Canada's 1967 centennial, IODE raised \$50,000 shared equally among the 10 provinces; Quebec's share funded scholarships for teachers of children with learning disabilities.

The Silence to Sound project began in 1974 with hearing aids donated to the McKay Centre for Deaf and Disabled Chil-

dren; an annual award now recognises students in McGill's Communication Sciences and Disorders program.

The bursary program, initiated by the Provincial Chapter of Quebec, was assumed by IODE Canada in 2002.

Anniversary campaigns funded an audiometer for hearing testing and a prize for a McGill audiology student. In 1986, the Silence to Sound Scholarship fund was established at McGill – a tradition that continues today.

Don't forget

As you do your spring cleaning, we will gladly accept your donations (cleaned, polished and priced) for the May 30 Montreal West Garage Sale. Drop off your items Friday, May 29, between 10 am and 2 pm at 152 Wolseley N. Email for any questions: iodehmsvictory@gmail.com or follow us on [facebook.com/iodehmsvictory/](https://www.facebook.com/iodehmsvictory/).

Join us

Our meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 1 pm. We invite you to attend, connect with our members, and see how your unique skills can contribute to our vibrant group.

For further information, please get in touch with us at iodehmsvictory@gmail.com.

from Diane Ellison

Montreal West Public Library



Participants in the Recipes for the Future Event on March 25 where the featured topic was eggs

An egg-ceptional afternoon:

crème brûlée and community

On March 25, the Public Library hosted its fourth meeting of the Recipes for the Future: Empowered Aging (RFF) initiative – and we're still thinking about that crème brûlée!

RFF brings together Concordia University's ACT Lab, engAGE and other community partners across NDG, Côte-St-Luc, Montreal West and Côte-des-Neiges with the goals of reducing social isolation among older adults, creating opportunities for intergenerational learning and collaboration, strengthening local food security and building a collective community network. Once a month, whoever wants to participate in the initiative can join in on a meeting of minds – and more importantly, stomachs – at the Public Library. Everyone is encouraged to bring a recipe and a meal that meets that month's theme, so that their recipe can be shared with the community, distributed to the other attendees and preserved in the library's archives.

In honour of Easter, the most recent meeting's theme was eggs. You might be imagining a table covered in different variations of devilled eggs – and maybe a few chocolate eggs for the sweet tooth. However, participants got really creative, bringing meringues, Far Breton (a French cake), frittatas, tamagoyaki (a Japanese omelette), and crème brûlée, to name a few. Recipes and stories from different sources, eras and countries were shared, and we all left with full bellies.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday May 27 at 2 pm, and the theme is "Flour Power." For more details, head to the MW Public Library's website, Facebook, or Instagram (@mwplib). All are welcome!

from Haley Clarke-Cousineau

Un après-midi « œuf-phorique » :

crème brûlée et communauté

Le 25 mars, la bibliothèque publique a accueilli la quatrième rencontre de l'initiative Recettes pour l'avenir : Vieillesse engagée (RFF) – et nous pensons encore à cette crème brûlée !

Le projet RFF rassemble le laboratoire ACT de l'Université Concordia, engAGE et d'autres partenaires communautaires de NDG, Côte-Saint-Luc, Montréal-Ouest et Côte-des-Neiges. Ses objectifs sont de réduire l'isolement social chez les aînés, de créer des occasions d'apprentissage et de collaboration intergénérationnels, de renforcer la sécurité alimentaire locale et de créer un réseau communautaire collectif. Chaque mois, toute personne souhaitant participer peut se joindre à cette rencontre des esprits – et surtout, des estomacs – à la bibliothèque publique. Chacun est encouragé à apporter une recette et un plat correspondant au thème du mois, afin que sa recette puisse être partagée avec la communauté, distribuée aux autres participants et conservée dans les archives de la bibliothèque.

Pour Pâques, le thème de la plus récente rencontre était les œufs. Vous vous imaginez peut-être une table couverte de différentes variétés d'œufs farcis – et peut-être quelques œufs en chocolat pour les becs sucrés. Pourtant, les participants ont fait preuve d'une grande créativité en apportant, entre autres, des meringues, du far breton, des frittatas, du tamagoyaki (une omelette japonaise) et de la crème brûlée. Des recettes et des histoires issues de différentes sources, époques et pays ont été partagées, et nous sommes tous repartis le ventre plein.

La prochaine réunion aura lieu le mercredi 27 mai à 14h et le thème sera « Flour Power » (le pouvoir de la farine). Pour plus de détails, consultez le site Web de la bibliothèque publique, sa page Facebook ou son compte Instagram (@mwplib). Bienvenue à tous!

de Haley Clarke-Cousineau

JCC
J COLLINS CONSTRUCTION INC

J. Collins Construction Inc.
www.jccmontreal.ca
514 554-6042
RBQ 5625-7694-01

ENTREPRENEUR GÉNÉRAL

Annette Wolfstein-Joseph

CANADIAN
PRINTMAKERGRAVEUSE
CANADIENNE

www.annette-etchings.com annette.art@sympatico.ca

DR. HEATHER FOX B.Sc., D.D.S.*Dentiste / Dentiste*

18 Westminster N. #120

Tél: 487-4577

Fax: 487-8376

**Little Bear Pet Supplies**

Est. 1996

- Friendly and Knowledgeable staff
- Specializing in:
 - Raw, Natural, Holistic, and Organic diets
- Many locally sourced treats available
- Free Delivery to Montreal-West (some restrictions apply)
- PETS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

514-935-3425

info@littlebearonline.ca

FOR YOUR DOG! FOR YOUR CAT! FOR YOU!

4152 St. Catherine W (corner Greene) Westmount, QC H3Z 1P4

**PHARMACIE BUDNING**ASSEZ GRAND POUR VOUS SERVIR,
ASSEZ PETIT POUR VOUS CONNAITRE

BIG ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU; SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

40 Westminster N
(514) 481-5665

www.groupeproxim.ca

Lun-Ven: 9 am-6 pm
Sam: 10 am-5 pm

Proxim

- Bureau de poste à service complet
- Services de prescription
- Livraison gratuite
- Service personnalisé
- Cartes de vœux et fax
- Ception santé des animaux
- Guichet automatique
- Full-service post office
- Prescription services
- Free delivery
- Personalized service
- Greeting cards & fax
- Pet health section
- ATM

Prestige GÉNÉRATRICES

GENERAC
POWER PRO
ELITEMAISON - CHALET - COMMERCIALE
INSTALLATION - ENTRETIEN**Parlons
Génératrices.**TRISTAN MACKENZIE
DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL

514 466 6840

RBQ: 5874-0754-01

www.prestigegeneratrices.ca

- Soins du visage et microdermabrasion
- Micro-canalisation avec cellules souches
- Épilation • Pédicure • Manucure
- Gel • Vernis • Extensions de cils et d'ongles
- Épilation laser médicale
- Rajeunissement de la peau au laser pour la pigmentation, capillaires brisés, rosacée, taches brunes et ride
- Médico-esthéticienne



- Facials and Microdermabrasion
- Micro channelling with stem cells
- Waxing • Pedicure • Manucure
- Gel • Polish • Lash and nail extensions
- Medical laser hair removal
- Skin rejuvenation by laser for pigmentation, broken capillaries, rosacea, dark spots & wrinkles
- MedEsthetician

by appointment only / par rendez-vous seulement

514-910-212516 Westminster ave Nord, #205
www.alexandraesthetique.ca**PAUL DESJARDINS**Courtier immobilier résidentiel & commercial
Residential and Commercial Real Estate Broker**514.232.0364**pauldesjardins@royalpage.ca
www.pauldesjardins.caRésident de Mo-Ouest depuis plus de 20 ans
A MoWest resident for over 20 years

ROYAL LEPAGE VILLAGE

**HAN CHUN WU, Ac**

Acupuncture

Médecine traditionnelle chinoise

www.acupuncturewu.ca

514-369-119814-B Milner
CSST • SAAQMontréal-Ouest
H4X 1J1

Dr. Michael J. Wexel

Chiropractor / Chiropraticien

Tel: 773-7246

E-mail: drmjwexel@videotron.ca

18 Westminster N., Suite 110
Montréal-Ouest, QC H4X 1Y8

Pilates sur appareil est de retour à Montréal-Ouest!
Reformer Pilates is back in Mo-West!



mindbody  

studio 51 Westminster N. suite B, Montréal-Ouest
studiopilatesmo@gmail.com
514-369-4578

Pilates

DR. BEVERLY LAI
Dentist • Dentiste

73 WESTMINSTER N.
MONTRÉAL-OUEST
H4X 1Y8

514-486-4411



Andrew Blundell
Courtier immobilier résidentiel
Residential real estate broker

514.772.0008
ablundell@profusion.global

Nettoyeurs • Cleaners Tél: (514) 488-6220

WESTMINSTER

94 Westminster N., Mtl West H4X 1Z2

En exclusivité à l'aide écologique Solvon K4
• Biodégradable • Dermatologiquement sûr • Non-toxique
• Inodore • Biologique • **100% VERT**

Exclusively using eco-friendly solvon K4
• Biodegradable • Dermatologically safe • Non-toxic
• Odorless • Organic • **100% GREEN**

Nettoyage de chemise sur place / Launder shirts done on premises

Bijouterie **XO** Jewelry 

Travaux sur mesure - Nettoyage et polissage de bijoux - Mise à taille de bagues - Remplacement des griffes de bijoux - Réparation de montres et remplacement de piles - Réenfilage de perles et de pierres - Achat d'or

Custom work - Jewelry cleaning and polishing
Ring sizing - Jewelry prong replacement -
Watch repair and batteries
Pearl and bead restringing - We buy gold

51 D Westminster N.
514-419-6787



Bijoutier de troisième génération - Service et réparation sur place
3rd generation jeweler - Jewelry service and repair on premises



Prestige GENERATRICES **GENERAC**
POWER PRO ELITE

HOME - COTTAGE - COMMERCIAL
INSTALLATION - MAINTENANCE

Let's Talk Generators.

TRISTAN MACKENZIE
GENERAL MANAGER

514 466 6840 RBQ: 5874-0754-01
www.prestigegeneratrices.ca



NOUVEAU *NEW

2030-2032 av Grey | NDG



160 Northview | Montréal-Ouest



63 Ainslie | Montréal-Ouest



80 Brock N | Montréal-Ouest

PROFUSION **Forbes**
IMMOBILIER GLOBAL PROPERTIES

AGENCE IMMOBILIÈRE - REAL ESTATE AGENCY

Girls' M12A team crowned provincial champions, Boys' team head to the Chevy Cup



M12A Westluc Girls' team at the regional championship on their way to Quebec Provincials to play for the Chevy Cup

MWH hockey

It has been an exciting and busy month for hockey in Montreal West, with playoff action in full swing across the region. Our MWH Knights teams, from M11 through M18, took to the ice across the EHL territory, proudly showcasing their skills, determination and team spirit.

M12A Westluc Wings crowned provincial champs

Congratulations to our M12A Westluc Wings girls' team, who captured the regional championship and earned their spot at the provincial championships in Quebec City, April 9-12, where they delivered an outstanding performance, culminating in a thrilling overtime victory to secure the title.

The Wings set the tone early in the tournament with a commanding 8-0 win over the Cyclones in Game 1. They carried that momentum into Game 2, edging out the Rebels with a hard-fought 3-2 victory. In Game 3, the team continued to showcase their strength and dis-

cipline, shutting out the Nitros 2-0 to earn their spot in the semi-finals.

Sunday, April 12, the Wings faced the Huskys in the semi-final and once again demonstrated their dominance, earning a 2-0 win and advancing to the

provincial championship final.

In a dramatic final matchup, once again against the Huskys, the game proved to be a tightly contested battle. After a scoreless stretch, the Wings found themselves trailing before Montreal West hockey's own **Zoe Rochester**

er stepped up in a key moment, scoring the equalizer to tie the game 1-1 and force overtime.

The tension carried into overtime, where both teams battled for victory. Just over a minute into the extra period, **Audrey Robbins**, from Montreal West, scored the game-winning goal, sealing a 2-1 victory and crowning the M12A Westluc Wings as Provincial Champions.

MWH Hockey is extremely proud of our players **Emily Hamilton**, **Zoe Rochester**, **Audrey Robbins** and **Tabitha Sky Woo** for their contributions to this incredible achievement.

It was a remarkable tournament run defined by strong team play, resilience and clutch performances when it mattered most. Congratulations to the players, coaches and families on an incredible achievement.

Closer to home...

Our youngest players wrapped up their seasons in style. The M7, M9 and M11 teams celebrated with an end-of-year game and pizza party on March 29, where snacks, medals, certificates and plenty of

M13AA regional champs



CRA

smiles were shared by all. It was a wonderful way to recognize a season of fun and hard work.

We would like to congratulate all of our teams on a fantastic season and thank our dedicated volunteer coaches and managers. Your time and positivity are what make MWH such a special community. The spirit of MWH hockey truly lives in each of you.

North Stars Double Letter hockey

On the double-letter side, it was a remarkable weekend for the North Stars program on April 4-5. Four teams were crowned Regional Champions, and five teams have qualified for the Provincial Championships taking place April 16-19. Congratulations to our M11AA, M13AA, M13BB and M15AA teams for winning the Lac St. Louis Regional Championships and advancing to Provincials and to M11BB Red for also qualifying for the Provincial championships. We are proud of your achievements and wish you continued success.

Mudhens baseball

Mudhens baseball kicks off indoors on April 13 with training led by *Sandlot* coaches, with open house sessions on April 13 and 15. The season officially begins May 1 and will include 10 games, followed by playoffs and finals in June. Come out and join our spring training and learn the game, make some friends and enjoy Mudhens ball.

Registration also remains open for spring soccer, rugby and mini baseball, with spots still available.

Mini baseball

New this year, our mini U9 baseball program is the perfect introduction to the exciting world of baseball! We're excited to offer a program for 7- and 8-year-olds in collaboration with the City of Hampstead and Côte Saint-Luc, allowing us to create a bigger and more engaging program for our players. The youngsters will learn the fundamental rules of the game while



M13BB champions eh?

developing essential skills such as hitting, throwing, running and catching through fun practices and games.

Basketball

We are also offering spring basketball for ages 14+ and 21+ at Royal West Academy. These indoor programs are under the supervision of coach **David Steiner**. This is supervised pickup basketball, and we welcome all athletic abilities. This is a relaxed, fun environment to come out and enjoy the game while still being active.

Rugby in MoWest!

The CRA is excited for the 2026 rugby program, led by a team of experienced and certified coaches: **Susy Binstock, Karl Cernovitch, Cathy Nichols, Adam Sommer and Patrick Ghattas**.

This program is designed to introduce players to the fundamentals of rugby in a fun, safe and supportive environment. Participants will develop basic

rugby knowledge, ball handling skills and game awareness, while also learning proper techniques for safe play.

Players will have the opportunity to put their skills into action through Sunday jamborees, giving them a chance to experience game situations and teamwork in a structured setting.

For younger players (under 12), rugby is non-contact, played in a touch or flag format, making it an excellent and safe introduction to the sport.

Whether your child is new to rugby or looking to build on their skills, this program is a great way to stay active, make friends and be part of a growing sport in our community.

Register now and come discover rugby this spring!

Get ready for spring soccer!

As the snow melts, again, and the fields come back to life, it's time to get outside and play! We are excited to kick off another season of spring soccer, offering programs for players of

all ages and skill levels.

Our mini soccer program is perfect for young players ages 3 to 6, introducing them to the game in a fun, supportive environment. With once-a-week sessions, kids will learn basic skills, build confidence and most importantly – have fun!

For our older players (U8 and up), the program offers two sessions per week: one dedicated to skill development and the other focused on game play. The season includes regular games, playoffs and finals, giving players the full soccer experience.

Whether your child is new to the sport or looking to continue developing their skills, spring soccer is a great way to stay active, enjoy the outdoors and be part of the community.

Come enjoy the game, make new friends and be part of the action this spring!

We look forward to another great season of community sports and hope to see many familiar faces back again this fall.

Montreal West Scouts



Beavers tying knots; Beavers Éclair, Emilie, Beatrice, Oliver, Henry doing puzzles in tent; Theo, Zahir and Jasmine in tent



Beavers

Since winter camp in February, the Beaver Colony has completed their programming rotation of snowshoeing, healthy snacks for taking on hikes, crafts and obstacle courses. A games night started the spring session after March Break.

They have been “eager beavers” learning Scouting skills, starting with knots. Of course, this includes the standard reef knot, but the Scouters felt that it would also be helpful to learn how to tie their own shoelaces and braid. We then moved on to compasses. Everyone can now find true north and point out north, south, east and west. Venturer

Nicholas and Rover Alex came in to show us how to put up and take down a tent. The Beavers even had time to sit in the tents and put together animal puzzles.

Our last Scouting skill was “What to do if you get lost in the woods? – Stay in one place, find shelter, stay warm and answer if you hear searchers calling your name!” Preferably, tell an adult where you are playing, don’t wander off on your own so you won’t get lost in the first place! We finished April by making, painting and racing our beaver buggies. Friends and family joined in at the rally to cheer on the racers. May will be a busy month, ending with our annual family banquet.

from Karen Johnstone

Venturers and Rovers

The Venturers and Rovers have been busy this winter with four Venturers joining the Quebec contingent to the Scouts Canada Leadership weekend, held in New Brunswick, with youth joining from Nova Scotia and PEI. It was special for our “Vents” as they reunited with some of the youth they met last summer while cycling PEI’s Confederation Trail together. The youth were presented with program badges/levels they earned as part of the work they are doing towards earning the King’s Venturer Award. Planning is underway for a couple of camps on the calendar: “Bear Claw” on the May long weekend this year (being held at Camp Tamaracouta) and summer camp at the Haliburton Scout Reserve in early July.

The outdoors is an important part of the Scouting program, and the group enjoyed a few events this winter, including skating and pickup hockey at a local park, winter group camp at Camp Kinkora, a ski day at Tremblant and in early April, the group cleaned up Coffee Park.

from Jon Wiersma

Group committee

The residents of Montreal West and surrounding neighbourhoods have once again been very generous in supporting the Scout Group’s Spring Garden Supply Fundraiser. Thank you all so much! Your contributions will go toward supporting our youth with uniforms, camps, equipment and badges. See you next year!

from Tom Johnstone

Venturers cleaning Coffee Park



Montreal West Guiding



Guides sharing

Guiding good turns



It is often by chance that the three groups work on the same program area. This happened again this past month when all three worked toward the “Be Well” program. The three themes in this program area are My Mighty Mind, My Physical Self and My Healthy Relationships. The Sparks and Embers earned their My Physical Self badge last year, but earned the other two badges this year. Some of the activities included performing 100 good turns. The Sparks and Embers accomplished this within three weeks. We have some very helpful youth in our midst! They played a game where they hypothesized what could be done to help someone jump higher. They came to the conclusion that sometimes we need a psychological or a physical boost from a friend to attain greater heights. They also put their minds together to problem-solve building sturdy towers that could withstand being tested with rocks. The Guides tested themselves with physical activities and endurance games. They also all focused on how to build healthy friendships.

Another activity all the units worked on was the Career Compass. It’s never too early to start dreaming about your future. Not only did the girls share what they were hoping their future selves would be doing, they also really thought about the parts of their future careers which they would be most excited about and the different types of people they would interact with. The girls who are in high school and CEGEP have an opportunity to go to York University in May to attend a weekend conference. At this conference there will be leading female professionals who will help the youth find their

passions, identify their strengths and come away with a plan for achieving their goals. It all starts with a dream!

The Guides continued to work on the service project of making stuffed comfort animals for Ste Anne’s Hospital. In total, 40 creations were made. The comfort animals will be delivered to the residents in May.

Try now, join later

During April, girls can register with a unit under the Try Now, Join Later program. This program allows girls to attend unit meetings and outings for the remainder of the Guiding year without needing to pay the registration fee. The girls have a taste of the fun and exciting activities that are done on

a weekly basis. They are also given priority to register for the 2026-2027 Guiding year before it opens to the general public. Some things being planned for May and June include another bird watching event to wrap up our National Service Project contribution to the conservation of wildlife. As well as a day up at Camp Peaceful Waters for Sparks and Embers with a caregiver.

Even the Sparks and Embers offered a helping hand in the service project



DÉSIRÉE MCGRAW

DÉPUTÉE DE / MNA FOR
NOTRE-DAME-DE-GRÂCE

À votre service et présente pour vous.
Here to serve and connect with you.

Pour rester à l'affût avec mon infolettre,
visitez mon site web ou balayez le code QR.

Please sign up to my newsletter by visiting
my website or scanning the QR code.



✉ Desiree.McGraw.NDG@assnat.qc.ca

📍 5890, avenue de Monkland, bureau 406
Montréal (QC) H4A 1G2

☎ 514-489-7581

🌐 www.desireemcgraw.ca



West End Quilters



Allison and Howard are hard at work at the retreat

Fifteen quilters enjoyed another retreat at Manoir D'Youville in Chateauguy at the end of March. **Phyllis Moody** from *Mad Moody Quilting Fabrics* came with a pop-up store on Friday, so no quilter would run out of fabrics, thread or notions.

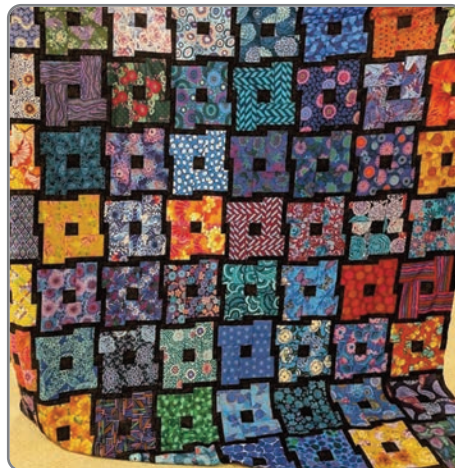
At our last meeting, members shared their tips and tricks for improving their quilting and making their work more precise and fun. There are many things that quilters can't do without, and other items that don't live up to their hype. We mostly showed items we love because, as one quilter said, if it doesn't work, I get rid of it!

One needs a very bright LED lamp to see small stitches, a special magnet to pick up dropped pins and a stiletto to hold down fabric while sewing, so as not to sew through one's finger. There are rulers for everything and a spray coating or weights to keep the ruler securely on the fabric while cutting with a rotary cutter that everyone also must have. See-through project

bags are helpful to keep everything from one project together and visible.

from Mary Sutherland

Howard's quilt top has a variety of colourful fabrics that also look good in black and white



From Vimy Ridge to Montreal West

In the early hours on Easter Monday, April 9, 1917, the Battle of Vimy Ridge began. This would be the first time all four divisions of the Canadian Corps fought together as one formation. Located in northern France, about 175 km north of Paris, Vimy is a long, high hill that dominates the surrounding landscape. The Battle of Vimy Ridge proved to be a great success, but it came at a heavy cost, with more than 10,000 Canadians killed or wounded.

The Canadian National Vimy Memorial monument, by Canadian sculptor Walter S. Allward, sits atop Hill 145. The monument is inscribed with the names of 11,285 Canadian soldiers who were listed as "missing, presumed dead;" in France during the First World War. It stands as a tribute to all who served our country in the conflict and helped shape Canada's identity and presence on the world stage. What emerged from Vimy was more than a battlefield win. It demonstrated the strength, discipline and cohesion of Canadian Forces under a unified Canadian command.

As you may be aware, the Town of Montreal West is steeped in military connection and history. Roots and Remembrance, which commemorates the lives of the young men of Montreal West lost in the Second World War, chronicled in *One Town in a Very Long War: The Sons of Montreal West: Remembering the Town That Gave its Best* by Dr. **John Drummond**, a long-time resident.

I recently discovered that Vimy also has a connection to Montreal West. As a proud board member of the Vimy Foundation, I met **Donald Wood** and his daughters at a reception at the Embassy of France in Canada. At 98 years old, Mr. Wood is the only surviving person to have made the pilgrimage to the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in 1936 for its unveiling, with his WWI veteran father, **Henry Wood**. A simple conversation about Montreal geography found us living in the same Town, a few blocks away on Bal-lantyne North, many years apart. It's a very small world and a very interesting piece of Montreal West military history!

by Lauren Small-Pennefather

ReFit_{MTL}

Reconnu à Montréal-Ouest depuis 2019
Trusted by Montreal West since

La Thérapie du Sport Athletic Therapy

(514)261-0911
141A Westminster N.
info@refitmtl.ca
www.refitmtl.ca

Les Spécialistes en:

- La Force pour vieillir en bonne santé
- La Force pour une vie active
- Exercices pour la densité osseuse
- Équilibre et prévention des chutes
- Prévention des blessures
- Réadaptation après un cancer

The Specialists in:

- Strength for Healthy Aging
- Strength for Active Living
- Exercise for Bone Density
- Balance & Fall Prevention
- Injury Prevention
- Cancer Rehabilitation

News from the pews

St. Philip's

The *Gloria Vocal Ensemble* will present an evening of sacred choral music on Saturday, May 9 at 7 pm at St. Philip's. Admission is free.

New date

St. Philip's annual spring fair will take place Saturday, May 23 from 10 am to 2 pm in the church hall (7505 Sherbrooke St. W.). A wide array of delicious home-baked goods will be on sale, as will housewares, used books, puzzles, games, CDs and DVDs for your summertime entertainment.

Stop by for some great bargains and to catch up with friends and neighbours!

Work on St. Philip's community garden has begun, despite the somewhat up-and-down weather this spring. Please stop by when you are in the neigh-

bourhood – if any of our volunteer garden crew are present, they would love to show you what is new, not to mention they always welcome newcomers to join their ranks. A garden workday is planned for early May. Please contact **Anne Williams** (anne.johnston.williams@gmail.com) for more information. The rewards are delicious!

from Mark Reimer

MW United

...the brick one

As the season of renewal unfolds, we are reminded of the many ways we are invited to gather, reflect, and celebrate together. Spring brings both energy and grace to our life as a church – and there are many meaningful ways to take part.

The Quiet Centre continues to offer free yoga sessions

Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 pm. Join us for a gentle time of yoga and meditation, open to all ages and abilities including those who prefer chair yoga. Our group is proudly multigenerational – everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact **Natalie** at **884-0444**.

Book Browse

Saturday, May 2 from 9:30 am to 3 pm, we host our much-anticipated Book Browse.

Come explore tables filled with gently used books for children and adults – everything from beloved classics to new discoveries. You'll also find CDs, DVDs, puzzles and more, all at wonderful prices.

Christian Family Sunday

Sunday, May 10, we mark Christian Family Sunday. Our Sunday School children will

help lead worship as we give thanks for families in all their forms and honour mothers with gratitude and love.

Labyrinth Walk

Sunday, May 17, you are invited to take part in a Labyrinth Walk – an opportunity for quiet reflection and prayer through this ancient, meditative practice.

Looking ahead to June, we are preparing to wrap up our Sunday School year with our second annual picnic – a joyful time of community and celebration.

And each Sunday, you are warmly invited to join us for worship, fellowship, and beautiful music from our choir under the gifted direction of **Christopher Ducasse**. There is always a place for you here.

*Your church neighbour
with a keyboard,
Tania Watson*

MW Tennis club

A community hub for sport and connection



For nearly a century, the Montreal West Tennis Club (MWTC) has been a gathering place for sport, friendship and connection. Tucked into a quiet corner of the Town, between the Sports and recreation centre and the local baseball diamond, the club remains a vibrant hub for the community. Its membership includes players, staff and dedicated volunteers, primarily from Montreal West and nearby communities, and it remains a welcoming and inclusive space for tennis enthusiasts of all levels.

At its core, the MWTC is committed to promoting tennis and fostering a strong sense of club spirit. The club offers a wide range of programming for players of all ages and abilities, including lessons and group clinics led by experienced instructors. Members can also enjoy friendly round robins,

providing a relaxed and social way to stay active on the courts.

For those seeking a more competitive experience, the club proudly fields interclub teams for juniors, women and men, giving players the opportunity to represent MWTC across the city. The season culminates in the club's end-of-season championships – a highlight of the year that brings members together for friendly competition and celebration.

Off the court, the MWTC continues to build a vibrant social atmosphere. This year, the club plans to expand its summer social calendar, creating even more opportunities for members to connect.

As the club continues to grow, the current Board of Directors is focused on investing in its future. In collaboration with the Town of Montreal West, discussions are underway to refurbish the clay court sur-

faces with a modern watering and drainage system and to upgrade the club's lighting to energy-efficient LED technology – enhancements that will improve both playability and sustainability for years to come.

Operating seasonally from early May through mid-October, the club remains a cornerstone of local life, where sport, tradi-

tion, and connection come together. Whether you're picking up a racquet for the first time or returning to the game, MWTC welcomes you to be part of the community this season.

from Siobhan Babkine

www.mwclub.com
Instagram @mowesttennis

LtoR: Siobhan Babkine, Paula Voza, Fabiola Breault, Marie-Hélène Goyer, Claudia Hess, Patricia MacDonald, Valerie Landreville, Fabiana Israella



de Alexandra (Olesia) Lewyckij
traduction par René Boucher

La réunion du conseil municipal
s'est tenue le 30 mars.

Rapports du Conseil



Dans son rapport, le **maire Cha** a décrit les mesures prises par le Conseil pour améliorer la sécurité à l'intersection Ainslie-Westminster à la suite de l'accident du mois dernier. Une réunion de travail a eu lieu entre la Ville, la députée **Désirée McGraw**, la *SPVM*, la CSEM et l'Académie Royal West. Plusieurs solutions possibles sont à l'étude, ainsi que les implications en matière de responsabilité. Pour sa part, la Ville a retenu les services d'une firme d'ingénierie pour évaluer les mesures d'apaisement de la circulation et une signalisation temporaire a été installée. Le *SPVM* a également accepté exceptionnellement de poster un brigadier à l'intersection jusqu'à la fin de l'année scolaire. Le maire Cha a également annoncé qu'un représentant du *SPVM* sera présent aux réunions du conseil municipal afin de mieux répondre aux questions et aux préoccupations des citoyens.

Le rapport du maire Cha a fait état de certaines rencontres au cours du dernier mois : avec la CSEM et le CSSDM pour mieux comprendre l'inclusion de Mo-Ouest dans les deux systèmes scolaires; avec le maire de Lachine pour discuter de la reconstruction prévue de l'échangeur Saint-Pierre, des liaisons de mobilité et de transport en commun entre nos municipalités et de l'état environnemental de la Falaise; avec *Hydro-Québec* pour discuter de l'amélioration des communications et mieux comprendre la planification stratégique de *H-Q* pour les prochaines années; avec la Chambre de commerce de Montréal Centre Sud Ouest; une visite à Moisson Montréal pour mieux comprendre les programmes d'aide alimentaire dans la grande région de Montréal et comment mieux servir le nombre croissant de citoyens qui les utilisent.

La **conseillère Small-Pennefather** a dis-



Une hellébore (aussi appelée « rose de Carême ») qui s'épanouit dans un jardin de Mo-Ouest. Photo de J.Duy

cuté des subventions accordées par le Conseil des services communautaires à des organismes comme la Bibliothèque publique de Mo-Ouest, la Bibliothèque pour enfants, *The Informer* et le Dr **John Drummond** (Nos racines, notre patrimoine).

La **conseillère Slocombe** a discuté du calendrier des prochaines réunions du CCU et a encouragé tous les jardiniers locaux à mettre en terre des plantes et des fleurs indigènes pour un jardin magnifique et résilient tant pour les pollinisateurs que les résidents.

Le **conseiller Tassé** a souligné que la Ville continue d'enquêter sur les plaintes déposées contre l'entrepreneur municipal en enlèvement des déchets pour des bacs endommagés et égarés. Tout problème avec les bacs ou l'enlèvement des déchets doit être signalé via le portail de la Ville, créant ainsi une bonne documentation et améliorant l'imputabilité.

Le **conseiller Bergeron** a souligné les restrictions saisonnières de stationnement de nouveau en vigueur à compter du 15 avril. Il a également fait remarquer que la Ville a été avisée très récemment de travaux sur Elmhurst et Harley débutant en septembre; autres renseignements à venir.

Rappel aux résidents

Les propriétaires peuvent être tenus responsables des infractions commises par leurs paysagistes ou entrepreneurs; veuillez rappeler à toute personne travaillant sur votre propriété de suivre nos règlements municipaux concernant les permis, l'élimination des déchets, le soufflage des feuilles et plus encore.

QUESTIONS DE RÉSIDENTS

Sécurité routière et mobilité

Quand la firme d'ingénierie commencera-t-elle à évaluer l'intersection Ainslie-Westminster?

De plus amples informations seront disponibles dans les semaines à venir.

Comment les nids-de-poule sont-ils priorités?

Les Travaux publics disposent d'un indicateur pour prioriser les réparations. Actuellement, la Ville est toujours limitée par les contraintes météorologiques, mais espère entreprendre des réparations plus complètes plus tard ce printemps. Il existe un formulaire en ligne pour signaler les nids-de-poule, ce qui est très utile pour attirer l'attention des Travaux publics sur les problèmes.

La Ville envisage-t-elle de restreindre le stationnement le long de l'édifice Easton sur Westminster?

Non, il n'est pas actuellement envisagé de limiter le stationnement dans cette zone. Cependant, lorsque le promoteur aura terminé certains travaux de finition, d'autres

mesures de sécurité seront appliquées.

Le passage piétonnier à Avon et Westminster peut-il être prolongé pour allouer plus de temps aux enfants et aux personnes âgées qui traversent?

La Ville n'a pas le personnel pour mettre en œuvre ce type de changement et doit faire appel à des ressources externes, mais il sera pris en considération.

Des fonds publics sont-ils consacrés à l'expansion du service BIXI à Mo-Ouest?

Oui, la Ville paiera des frais de service pour l'installation des stations *BIXI*.

Sports et loisirs

La Ville envisagerait-elle d'investir dans l'amélioration du terrain de baseball Percival afin de le mettre aux normes? À l'heure actuelle, l'équipe de baseball des Mud Hens de Mo-Ouest n'a pas de terrain et doit jouer ses parties « à domicile » à Côte Saint-Luc ou à Hampstead.

Le terrain de baseball Percival appartient à la CSEM. Cela complique quelque peu les travaux d'amélioration des immobilisations, mais les objectifs à moyen et à long terme de la Ville incluent l'amélioration du terrain pour en assurer la jouabilité.

Quand retirera-t-on les clôtures et les débris de construction du terrain adjacent au centre récréatif?

La clôture ne sera retirée qu'une fois que *SAJO* aura terminé ses travaux finaux sur le chantier. Il n'y a malheureusement pas encore de date fixée pour ce transfert.

Divers

La Ville peut-elle en faire plus pour protéger les locataires de notre municipalité?

Les différends entre locataires et locataires sont souvent très spécifiques à chaque cas, et les préoccupations peuvent être portées à l'attention du Conseil par écrit pour un examen complet et mesuré.

Les locations à court terme comme Airbnb sont-elles légales à Mo-Ouest?

Non, elles ne le sont pas. Lorsqu'une plainte est déposée à la Ville, une enquête et l'application de la loi s'ensuivent au besoin.

Quelle est la meilleure façon pour déposer des plaintes sur les graffitis à Montréal (au-delà de Mo-Ouest)?

Chaque arrondissement a un programme de gestion des graffitis avec un système en ligne pour les plaintes et les suivis. Le Conseil d'agglomération est également un lieu approprié pour exprimer des préoccupations au sujet des graffitis.

Comment les citoyens peuvent-ils tenir le CCU imputable des décisions qu'il prend?

Le CCU est un organisme consultatif; le Conseil prend les décisions définitives. Lorsque le CCU rejette une demande, il cite le règlement qui n'est pas respecté.

Town Council meeting: March

by Alexandra (Olesia) Lewyckyj

Council meeting was held
March 30

Council reports

In his report, **Mayor Cha** described steps taken by Council to advance safety at the Ainslie-Westminster intersection following last month's accident. A working meeting was held between the Town, MNA **Désirée McGraw**, the *SPVM*, EMSB and Royal West Academy. Multiple possible solutions are being studied, including liability implications. For the Town's part, an engineering firm has been contracted to evaluate potential traffic calming measures and temporary signage has been installed. The *SPVM* has also agreed to station a crossing guard at the intersection on an exceptional basis until the end of the school year. Mayor Cha also announced that an *SPVM* representative will also be present at Town Council meetings to better address citizen concerns.

Mayor Cha's report noted a number of meetings over the past month: with EMSB and CSSDM to better understand Montreal West's inclusion in both school systems; with the Mayor of Lachine to discuss the planned reconstruction of the St-Pierre interchange, mobility and transit connections between our municipalities and the environmental condition of the Falaise; with *Hydro-Québec* to discuss improving communications and better understand *H-Q's* strategic planning for the coming years; with the Montreal South-west Chamber of Commerce; and a visit to *Moisson Montréal* to better understand food assistance programs in the greater Montreal area and how to best serve the growing number of citizens who use them.

Councillor Small-Pennefather discussed grants issued by the Community Services Council to organizations including the Montreal West Public Library, the Children's Library, *The Informer*, Dr. **John Drummond** (Roots and Remembrance).

Councillor Slocombe discussed the coming PAC meeting schedule and encouraged all local gardeners to consider planting indigenous plants and flowers for a beautiful, resilient garden for both pollinators and residents.

Councillor Tassé noted that the Town is continuing to investigate complaints made against the municipal waste removal contractor for damaged and misplaced bins. Any issue with bins or waste removal should be reported via the Town portal, as this creates a well-documented trail that improves accountability.

Councillor Bergeron highlighted seasonal parking restrictions that are back in effect beginning April 15. Councillor Bergeron

also noted that the Town has very recently been notified about work on Elmhurst and Harley that will begin in September, with more information to come.

Reminder to residents

Homeowners can be held liable for infractions committed by their landscapers or contractors; please remind anyone working on your property to follow our municipal bylaws regarding permits, waste disposal, leaf blowing and more.

QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS

Road safety and mobility

When will the engineering firm begin evaluating the Ainslie-Westminster intersection?

More information will be available in the coming weeks.

How are potholes prioritized?

Public Works has a metric for evaluating what repairs take priority. Right now, the Town is still constrained by weather limitations, but hopes to undertake more comprehensive repairs later this spring. There is an online form for reporting potholes that is very helpful for bringing problem areas to Public Works' attention.

Is the Town considering restricting parking along the Easton development on Westminster?

No, there is not currently a plan to restrict parking in this area. However, once the developer completes certain roadside finishes, other safety measures will be implemented.

Can the pedestrian crossing at Avon and Westminster be extended to allow more time for kids and the elderly to cross?

The Town does not have the personnel to implement this type of change and must call upon outside resources, but it will be considered.

Are public funds going towards the expansion of BIXI service into Montreal West?

Yes, the Town will be paying a service fee for the installation of BIXI stations.

Sports and recreation

Would the Town consider investing in improvements to the Percival baseball diamond to bring it up to playable standards? Currently, the Montreal West youth baseball team (the Mud Hens) does not have a "home field" and must play home games in Côte Saint-Luc or Hampstead.

The Percival baseball diamond is located on land that belongs to the EMSB. This makes capital improvements somewhat more complicated, but the medium- and long-term goals of the Town include improvements to the field to ensure its playability.

When will the fencing and construction debris be removed from the field adjoining the rec centre?

The fence will only be removed once SAJO completes their final work on the project. There is, unfortunately, not yet a set date for this handoff.

Other

Can the Town do more to protect tenants in our municipality?

Landlord-tenant disputes are often highly case-specific, and concerns can be brought to the Council in writing for full, measured consideration.

Are short-term rentals like Airbnbs legal in Montreal West?

No, they are not. When a complaint is brought to the Town, investigation and enforcement can follow.

What is the best venue for lodging complaints about graffiti in Montreal (beyond just Montreal West)?

Each borough has a program for graffiti management with an online system for complaints and follow-ups. The Agglomeration Council is also an appropriate venue for voicing concerns about graffiti.

How can citizens hold the PAC accountable for the decisions it makes?

PAC is an advisory body, with final decisions made by the Council. When PAC rejects an application, it cites the bylaw that is not being met.

Juliette LORD

PHYSIOTHÉRAPIE Á DOMICILE
HOME PHYSIOTHÉRAPIE

438 875 2115

maisonphysio@gmail.com

LIBRAIRIE BONDER BOOKSTORE
52 Westminster N.



CONTACT US FOR ANY ENGLISH
BOOK IN PRINT

CONTACTEZ-NOUS POUR TOUT
LIVRE EN ANGLAIS

514-484-7131
bonder@bonder.com
bonder.com

An Irish-themed month of March for Rotary

Two Irish-themed events held in March as part of *MoWest and NDG Rotary Club's* Thursday lunch meeting program also put the spotlight on Canadian history. Both gatherings drew a wide audience of Rotarians and community members.

The March 12 event featured a talk by **Keith Henderson**, a former CanLit professor and journalist who has authored a number of works of fiction and non-fiction. Known for his advocacy for Canadian unity, Keith's writing touches on subjects as diverse as Quebec politics and society, UFOs and the Humility of True Science.

On this occasion he discussed and read from his 2013 historical novel, *The Roof Walkers*. A tale of intrigue and espionage, the book is set in the mid-1860s, when the Fenian Brotherhood, whose ultimate goal was to secure Ireland's independence from Britain, was operating from the post-Civil War USA and plotting a series of incursions into British North America. The central character is a young "double agent" ostensibly working for the Fenian movement in New York while passing information to the head of John A. Macdonald's secret police service in what was then Canada West. Historians agree that the threat posed by the American Fenian raids at the time played an important role in uniting Canadians and garnering support for Confederation.

Copies of the book were available for purchase, with proceeds going to a project

launched by *Rotary* in support of *O3 On Our Own*, an NDG-based non-profit that offers transitional housing and support services for young, vulnerable parents and their children.

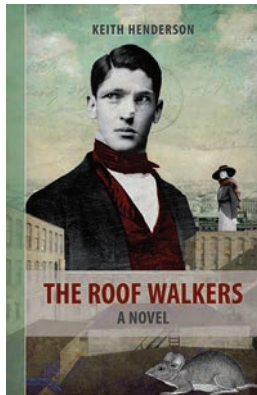
On March 26, Irish Montrealer **Cynthia Costigan** talked about her quest, begun more than 15 years ago, to trace her family's ancestors, who came to North America from Ireland in 1841 – a process that became an ongoing struggle to unravel a con-

founding puzzle. Since her research, undertaken with the help of a genealogist, had shown that much of her family was buried in Sainte-Bibiane Cemetery in the town of Richmond in Quebec's Eastern Townships,

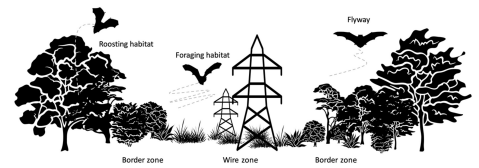
Cynthia drove there with her father, only to find that many of her family's tombstones had disappeared, while others were broken or in some cases used to prop up the foundations of a nearby building. That disturbing dis-

covery soon led to others, including vanishing or inconsistent church and/or public records of births, marriages, deaths and property transfers, bizarre requests for information from officials and other mysteries that remain unresolved. Cynthia concluded her talk with the following takeaway: if history can vanish from records, from stone or even from memory, how much of the past do we truly know?

from Doreen Solin



Coming events on the Hydro-Québec corridor



Work bees: Clean up and wood chip spreading on the path. For dates and times, watch for signs posted on the gates.

Corvées: de nettoyage et pour répandre des copeaux de bois sur le sentier. Pour les dates, surveiller les affiches sur les barrières.

Evening bat walks will begin soon. To be on the list please write to email below.

Les randonnées de chauves-souris au crépuscule débuteront bientôt. Pour être sur la liste veuillez envoyer un message au courriel ci-dessous:

mw.hq.greencorridorvert2019@gmail.com

Louise Chênevert
Spokesperson for / porte-parole pour:
Les Amis du corridor vert
d'Hydro-Québec à Montréal-Ouest
mw.hq.greencorridorvert2019@gmail.com

1, 2 et 3 mai 2026

Promenades
de Jane



I will again lead free guided walks on the corridor every day from May 1-3, two morning and one afternoon walks (#43, 44 & 45). The bilingual walks are titled Discover the biodiversity in the *Hydro* corridor of Montreal West through advocacy, stewardship and citizen science.

We will meet at the 162 bus stop at the corner of Westminster / Northview. To register and for full description please see link below.

Je vais encore mener des promenades guidées (#43, 44 & 45) gratuites sur le corridor tous les jours durant la fin de semaine de l'événement. Deux en matinée et un en après-midi. Elles se nomment Découvrez la biodiversité dans le corridor d'Hydro-Québec de Montréal-Ouest par le plaidoyer, l'intendance et la science citoyenne.

La rencontre sera à l'arrêt d'autobus #56435 de la 162, Westminster et Northview. Pour la description et pour s'inscrire voir le lien ci-dessous:

<https://tinyurl.com/2f3dwxus>

Louise Chênevert

Montreal West Dentistry

Dr. Shaat · Dr. Craig · Dr. Diamandis

Nous acceptons de nouveaux patients  We are accepting new patients

“ It's a family atmosphere here and the staff are all warm and friendly and **truly care** about you. Top notch! – Joe F. ”

514.484.0521

 12, ave. Brock Nord, Montréal-Ouest, QC

 reception@montrealwestdentistry.com

 www.montrealwestdentistry.com



MON

May
11

The Informer Board Annual General Meeting

Monday, May 11, 7:30 pm
Montreal West Public Library
41 Westminster Avenue N
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

INFORMER

Assemblée générale annuelle du conseil d'administration de *The Informer*

Lundi 11 mai, 19 h 30
Bibliothèque publique de Montréal-Ouest
41, av. Westminster N.
OUVERTE AU PUBLIC

Club 60+

Cinco de Mayo : Repas et conférence 1^{er} mai, 12h

Centre sportif et récréatif

Rejoignez-nous pour un repas mexicain et découvrez la culture mexicaine en compagnie de **Brenda**, notre professeure d'espagnol.

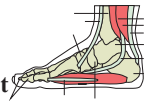
Cinco de Mayo lunch and learn May 1, noon

Sports and recreation centre

Join us for a Mexican lunch and learn about Mexican culture with our Spanish teacher **Brenda**.

Foot clinic / Soins des pieds

\$50 initial visit
\$40 subsequent visits
by appointment only
\$50 visite initiale
\$40 visites subséquentes
par rendez-vous seulement



Kosher corner

Activities in May

First Friday Shabbat will take place on Friday, May 1 at 7:30 pm. The evening will feature spirited prayer services, welcoming all ages, followed by a traditional Kiddush featuring cholent and refreshments.

The community calendar continues with two exciting annual events.

The Lag Ba'omer community BBQ is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, from 5 to 7 pm. Families can enjoy great food, drinks, children's activities and fun for all ages. All are welcome.

Later this month, the annual Shavuot outdoor dairy dinner will be held on Friday, May 22 at 5 pm. This year's gathering will include a special Shabbat atmosphere, combining traditional dairy dishes with an early Shabbat celebration under the open sky.

For more information about any of these events, or to RSVP, please email info@chabadwestminster.com. All events are family-friendly and open to the broader community.

from Rabbi Mendy Marlow



RE/MAX ACTION INC.
AGENCE IMMOBILIÈRE
Franchise indépendante et autonome de RE/MAX Québec Inc.

Marie-Antoinette Del Peschio
Courtier Immobilier | Real Estate Broker

C 514.894.9929
F 514.483.9929

1314 Av. Greene,
Westmount, QC H3Z 2B1
T (514) 933.6781
remax@tonidelpeschio.com
www.tonidelpeschio.com

LES ENGAGEMENTS
COMMITMENT
QSC
Qualité de Service à la Clientèle
Tranquilli-T



Anna Gainey
Member of Parliament | Députée
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Westmount

anna.gainey@parl.gc.ca
408-5165 Sherbrooke West/Ouest
(514) 481-1897
@annamgainey



Sutton

DAVID DOUBT

RÉSULTATS... c'est ce qui compte le plus
RESULTS... are what matter most

514 220 6298
ddoubt@sutton.com



Camp de jour

Les inscriptions sont maintenant ouvertes!

Les inscriptions pour les semaines individuelles ouvriront le 11 mai selon les disponibilités.

Inscrivez-vous en ligne sur notre plateforme d'inscription Amilia ou appelez au 484-6186.

ÉVÉNEMENT ÉPHÉMÈRE

Dimanche 24 mai, de 10h à 14h
Parc Paula Cordeau

Appel à tous les artisans, commerçants et résidents! Réservez votre table dès maintenant! 35 \$ + taxes pour les résidents / 45 \$ + taxes pour les non-résidents

Inscrivez-vous sur Amilia ou appelez le centre sportif et récréatif.

Patinage libre

Enfilez vos patins et rejoignez-nous au nouveau centre sportif et récréatif pour une séance de patinage libre gratuite! Les résidents de tous âges sont invités à profiter de la glace dans une toute nouvelle installation moderne. Aucune inscription nécessaire, le Pro Shop sera ouvert pour louer des patins et des casques ou faire aiguiser vos propres patins!

Consultez la section Patinoire Steve and Rob Michelin du site Web de la Ville pour connaître l'horaire complet!

Gymnase libre

Des activités sportives libres se déroulent actuellement au centre sportif et récréatif! Ces séances offrent aux résidents des occasions flexibles et décontractées de rester actifs et de profiter des installations du gymnase. Parmi les activités proposées, on trouve le pickleball, le badminton, le volley-ball, le basket-ball, la gym pour bébés, la gym pour adolescents et bien plus encore.

Consultez la section « Gymnase » du site Web de la Ville pour connaître les horaires.

Inscrivez-vous sur Amilia ou appelez le centre sportif et récréatif au 484-6186.

Programmation de piscine



Les inscriptions aux programmes de la piscine sont en cours. Nous sommes ravis d'accueillir les résidents et les usagers dans notre nouvelle piscine au Centre sportif et récréatif. Cette installation moderne offre un espace accueillant où les nageurs de tous âges et de toutes habiletés peuvent apprendre, s'entraîner et rester actifs. Il y en a pour tous les goûts: cours de natation, cours parents-enfants, de l'aquaforme, des cours de sauvetage, du bain libre et plus encore!

Abonnement

Famille: rés. 145 \$; non-rés. 180 \$

Individuel: rés. 80 \$; non-rés. 100 \$

Aînés (65+): rés. 75 \$; non-rés. 90 \$

Inscrivez-vous en ligne sur notre plateforme d'inscription Amilia ou appelez au 484-6186.



Conférence gratuite Perte auditive

5 mai, 13h

Centre sportif et récréatif, salle polyvalente B

Soirée congé pour les parents

Prochaine date :
Vendredi 8 mai

Centre sportif et récréatif

4 à 10 ans, 17h à 22h

Pizza, film et plaisir garanti

Inscrivez-vous sur Amilia ou appelez le centre sportif et récréatif.

Musique avec Shawny

dimanche 10 mai

Centre sportif et récréatif

Bébé et moi : 0 à 2 ans, 3 à 5 ans

Inscrivez-vous sur Amilia ou appelez le centre sportif et récréatif.

TOP BEAUTÉ

STUDIO
ESTD. 2006

**SERVICES DE COIFFURE
POUR HOMMES ET FEMMES
PÉDICURE, MANUCURE & ESTHÉTIQUE**

**HAIR SERVICES FOR MEN AND WOMEN
PEDICURE, MANICURE & ESTHETICS**

BOOK NOW
(514) 484-0118
RÉSERVER
MAINTENANT

55 Westminster N., Montréal-Ouest
www.topbeaute.wordpress.com

SPRING PROMO - ONLY 15 SPOTS

Sign up for a Monthly Lawn Maintenance Plan!

Get **25% OFF** Your Spring Clean-Up!

MOW WEST LANDSCAPING
AU SERVICE DE MONTRÉAL-OUEST

PROMO PRINTEMPS - SEULEMENT 15 PLACES

Inscrivez-vous à un forfait d'entretien mensuel!

Obtenez **25% de rabais** sur votre Nettoyage Printanier!

Only the **FIRST 15** customers qualify - Act Fast!

Seulement les **15 premiers clients** - Faites vite!

- ✓ Locally Owned & Operated Since 2017
- ✓ Residential & Commercial
- ✓ Montréal-Ouest & Area

- ✓ Propriétaire local depuis 2017
- ✓ Résidentiel & Commercial
- ✓ Montréal-Ouest et environs

FREE QUOTE • BOOK NOW

Scan to text us for a quote
Scannez pour nous texter pour une soumission!

SOUSSION GRATUITE
RAPIDE • FIABLE • DES PRIX ABORDABLES

FAST • RELIABLE • AFFORDABLE LAWN CARE | RAPIDE • FIABLE • DES PRIX ABORDABLES

Sports and recreation centre 484-6186



Day Camp registration is now open!

Registration for individual weeks will open on May 11 based on availability!
 To sign up, register your child(ren) on Amilia or call the sports and recreation centre at 484-6186.

Free skate



Lace up your skates and join us for free public skating! Residents of all ages are invited to enjoy the ice in the brand-new, state-of-the-art facility. No registration required – the pro shop will be open to rent skates and helmets or to sharpen your own skates!

Please see the Steve and Rob Michelin Rink portion of the Town website to stay updated with the schedule.

Gymnasium activities

Drop-in gym activities are ongoing at the sports and recreation centre! These sessions give residents flexible, casual opportunities to stay active and enjoy the gym space. Activities include pickleball, badminton, volleyball, basketball, baby gym, teen gym and more.

Visit the Gymnasium portion of the Town website for the latest schedule.

Sign up on Amilia or call the sports and recreation centre at **484-6186**.

Pool programming



Pool programs are now open for registration! We're excited to welcome residents and patrons to our new pool at the sports and recreation centre. This modern facility offers a fresh, welcoming space for swimmers of all ages and abilities to learn,

train and stay active. From swim lessons, parent and tot lessons, aquafit, lifesaving courses to open swim – there is something for everyone!

Membership pricing

Family: res. \$145 / non-res. \$180
 Individual: res. \$80 / non-res. \$110
 Senior (65+): res. \$75 / non-res. \$90
 Register on Amilia or call the sports and recreation centre.



**Free lecture
Hearing Loss**

May 5, 1 pm
 Sports and recreation centre
 multi-purpose room B

Parents' Night Off

Friday, May 8, 5-9 pm
 Sports and recreation centre

4 to 10 years | pizza, movie and fun!
 Register on Amilia or call the sports and recreation centre at **484-6186**.

Music with Shawny

Sunday, May 10
 Sports and recreation centre

Baby & Me: 0-2 years old, 3-5 years old
 Register on Amilia or call the sports and recreation centre.



A photo moment. Once upon a walk with the dog. April 2026. Photo by Julia Ross

POP-UP EVENT

Sunday, May 24, 10 am-2 pm
 Paula Cordeau Park

Calling all artisans, merchants and residents! Reserve your table now! \$35 + tax for residents / \$45 + tax for non-residents.

Register on Amilia or call the sports and recreation centre at **484-6186**.

VANESSA IANNUCCI
 COURTIER IMMOBILIER RÉSIDENTIEL | RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE BROKER
 514.839.2842 | VANESSA.IANNUCCI@THEAGENCYRE.COM

L'immobilier, redéfini pour vous
Real Estate, Redefined for You

—

À VOUS DE JOUER! - YOUR MOVE!

THE AGENCY MONTRÉAL AGENCE IMMOBILIÈRE
 UNE FRANCHISE INDÉPENDANTE

GLENDACAPLAN
 COURTIER IMMOBILIER AGRÉÉ DA | CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE BROKER AEO
 514.862.6950 | GLENDA.CAPLAN@THEAGENCYRE.COM



Spring is here! Photos by Julia Ross.

COMING EVENTS / À VENIR

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

Next deadline / Date limite: **May 13 mai**

May

- Fri 1 Promenades de Jane.** Aussi les 2 et 3 mai. Also May 2-3. Page 24.
- Sat 2 Book Browse.** MW United. 9:30 am-3 pm.
Knit & Natter. Drop in. Every Saturday in May. Public Library. 4 pm
- Wed 6 Managing detours in the road of living as we gently age.**
Registration required. Public Library. 2 pm.
- Thu 7 Knit & Natter.** Every Thursday in May. Drop in. Public Library. 3 pm
- Sat 9 Gloria Vocal Ensemble in concert.** St. Philip's. 7 pm.
Knit & Natter. Every Saturday in May except May 16. Drop in.
Public Library. 3 pm.
- Mon 11 Horticultural Society: Rewilding talk & plant sale.**
Town Hall. \$5 for non-members. 7:30 pm.
Informer Annual General Meeting. Public Library. 7:30 pm.
- Sun 17 Christian Family Sunday.** MW United. 10 am.
Afternoon Labyrinth Walk. All welcome. MW United. 2-4 pm.
- Thu 14 Rotary.** Speaker Ralph Mastro Monaco, A Journey.
Town Hall. 12:15 pm.
- Wed 20 Tea and Books.** Drop in. Public Library. 2 pm.
- Thu 21 Rotary.** Speaker MNA for NDG: Désirée McGraw.
Town Hall. 12:15 pm.
- Sat 23 Spring Fair.** St. Philip's. 10 am-2 pm.
- Sun 24 Pop-up Event.** Paula Cordeau Park. 10 am-2 pm.
- Mon 25 Town Council meeting.** In person and virtually. Town Hall. 8 pm.
- Wed 27 Recipes for the Future for Empowered Aging: "Flour Power!"**
Please register. Public Library. 2 pm.
- Wed 27 Municipal taxes due (second installment) /
Échéance: taxes municipales (deuxième versement).**
- Thu 28 Rotary Yonkers Little Theatre Troupe stages Shakespeare's Much
Ado about Nothing.** Continues to Saturday, May 30. Saint Philip's.
Page 8.
- Sat 30 4th Community Garage Sale and Garage Band Festival.**
Rain date is Sunday, May 31.

Classifieds

TUTORING: Need help with English, French, Math or Science? Maya, a second year student at McGill, living in MoWest, offers personalized tutoring sessions for elementary and high school levels. Patient, enthusiastic and experienced. Contact Maya today to improve your academic results at **486-6717**. Available weekends and week nights!

SMALL-GROUP CHILDCARE PROGRAM in Montreal West (Curzon), Mon/Wed/Fri, 1-4 pm. Ages 4-7 (flexible). Warm, nurturing environment fostering well-rounded learning, deep-focused engagement, longer attention spans and independent play. Child-led + structured, with outdoor time and enriching, interest-based activities. Community-centred, personalized care. Limited spots. kimberlytolife@gmail.com.

INFORMER

Survey update!

Thank you to everyone who filled out *The Informer* survey! We had a total of **293 responses**, and we're crunching the data! Results will be discussed at our AGM and the next *Informer* will include a summary.

Please sign up!

The Age-Friendly Municipality Committee is looking for **volunteer families** to help a local senior for **3 hours** with outdoor chores. Please call Rec Centre: **484-6186**.

Inscrivez-vous!

Le Comité Municipalité Amie des Aînés recherche des **familles bénévoles** pour aider une personne âgée du quartier pendant **3 heures** avec ses tâches extérieures. Veuillez appeler le Centre sportif: **484-6186**.

Westminster reflections. Photo by Julia Ross.



COUNCIL communiqué



MAYOR'S REPORT

Concrete actions for safety at the Ainslie/Westminster intersection

Following the accident involving two students, we convened a working meeting between the Town of Montreal West, MNA Désirée McGraw, the SPVM, the EMSB, Royal West Academy and the Parents' Association's subcommittee on safety to assess everyone's roles and responsibilities in finding solutions to reduce risks and increase the safety of the most vulnerable at the Ainslie/Westminster intersection. All stakeholders are collaborating and committed to this process. Several solutions are being studied by all partners, including the option of private or volunteer crossing guards and the associated liability insurance issues. Political communications with the Government of Quebec are taking place concurrently. The Town has continued to be proactive, awarding a new mandate to an engineering firm to conduct a study with the goal of implementing new traffic calming measures in the coming months and installing a new temporary pedestrian crossing sign. We are pleased that following an exceptional meeting of the SPVM's crossing analysis committee, a school crossing guard has been assigned to the intersection and has been ensuring the safety of children since April 7, until the end of the school year.

SPVM presence at Town Council

We felt it was important to invite the police commander to attend Town Council meetings to present information and answer residents' questions. As an important partner of Montreal West, he will be present at the beginning of each Town Council meeting, starting with the next meeting on April 27, 2026.

Political meetings and training

Over the past month, I have met with the directors of the EMSB and the CSSDM to understand their relationship with Montreal West, their operating methods, and their strategic plans. More specifically, we discussed with the EMSB the Little Red Playhouse file, their properties, and the permission to use, maintain and improve the baseball field. I met with the mayor of the Lachine borough to discuss the reconstruction of the Saint-Pierre interchange, currently under study by the Quebec government, mobility issues between our territories and the environmental value of the cliff.

All elected officials met with the President and DG of the Chambre de commerce de Montréal Centre Sud Ouest (CCCSOM) to assess the opportunities available to the Town. Finally, I attended a webinar on integrating the circular economy into municipal practices – tools for reducing GHG emissions – a Hydro-Québec webinar entitled *"Better Understanding Vegetation Management to Protect Your Network"* and a training session on smart and profitable business networking offered by the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal.

Hydro-Québec's work planning at the Côte Saint-Luc substation

Following our discussions over the past few months and the requests made by local elected officials for better and more communication, Hydro-Québec invited all residents to an information session on April 16 on works to upgrade the electrical system near the Côte Saint-Luc substation. Hydro-Québec is investing in its infrastructure to increase energy capacity and improve service quality on the Island of Montreal. Construction of the new Côte Saint-Luc substation (currently known as Hampstead) will take place from 2026 to 2029 and aims to replace the 120kV lines with 315kV lines.

Union of Quebec municipalities

I have been appointed to two standing committees of the Union of Quebec Municipalities, which bring together elected officials from across Quebec: the Planning and Transportation Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Committee. We will meet several times a year to discuss issues and challenges of concern to municipalities and to participate in the drafting of briefs, position papers, and various public statements by the Union. Regarding the recent tabling of the 2026-2027 budget in the National Assembly, the UMQ "notes an initial sign of reinvestment by the Quebec government in municipal infrastructure, but emphasizes that these funds are far from sufficient to make up for the significant disengagement of recent years and to meet the growing needs of municipalities."

Major Montreal events in 2026

At the initiative of Christine Black, Vice-President of the Executive Committee, responsible for Family, Seniors, Youth, Sport and Recreation, and Gabrielle Rousseau Bélanger, Executive Committee Member, responsible for the Environment, Ecological Transition and Green Spaces for the

City of Montreal, elected officials from the metropolitan area met and mobilized to plan the major celebrations scheduled for 2026, including:

- the UCI Road World Championships Montreal 2026,
- the 50th anniversary of the Montreal Olympic Games,
- the 150th anniversary of Mount Royal Park,
- the 300th anniversary of the Moulins site.

This meeting aimed to:

- Present the main features of the celebrations planned for 2026;
- Clarify the potential roles of the boroughs and suburban cities
- Initiate coordination amongst teams for program development
- Collect needs, comments and concerns to foster a harmonious mobilization.

We will get back to you with more information to encourage the participation of all citizens in these major celebrations of international renown for the Greater Montreal area.

Visit to Moisson Montréal

At the invitation of its Executive Director, I had the opportunity to visit Moisson Montréal, whose mission is to ensure an optimal food supply for Montreal community organizations while developing sustainable solutions. It is very impressive to see the facilities, the quantity of food and volunteers at work, and the entire production chain of Canada's largest food bank. Nearly 24 million kg of food are distributed annually to 292 organizations. Almost one million requests for food assistance are met each month through accredited organizations. Demand continues to grow, and it is important to understand this reality, which is affecting more and more of our citizens.

St. Patrick's Day and Easter celebrations

During the month of March, I participated in three large festive gatherings. The St. Patrick's Day lunch for members of the 60+ club took place in the new multipurpose room of the sports and recreation centre. Nearly 70 people attended in a wonderful atmosphere with Celtic music. A big thank you to the musicians, volunteers and Councillors Nick Tassé and Phil Bergeron for their work in the kitchen. I think Nick's stew is already a tradition, given the rave reviews it received. St. Patrick's Day also coincides with the Shamrock tournament at the Montreal West Curling Club. It was a pleasure to participate as both a player and a spectator. The final was hotly contested until the very last stone, which was won by the team of young skip Zikai Fu. My family and I also participated in the Cotton Tail Party. The crafts, the egg hunt and the magic show delighted the many children present at the Town Hall.

Citizen participation committees

We are very pleased with the interest shown by citizens, as nearly 80 applications were received to serve on municipal committees. Following the selection of members, an official resolution was adopted by council on April 27.

Work can begin in May and June.

Have a great start to the baseball and tennis season!

Review of the new Council's first six months

Our administration has completed its first six months in office. In addition to familiarizing ourselves with the files, attending thematic sessions, training days, working on the budget, monitoring day-to-day operations, managing crises and emergency measures, processing citizen requests daily and participating in numerous events, we have been working on developing our strategic plan in close collaboration with the municipal administration. I commend the Council's involvement and commitment to inclusive, collaborative, and efficient governance focused on solutions and decisions that benefit the community and the common good. Among our key achievements are:

- Development of strong relationships with all mayors of the boroughs and neighbouring cities
- Establishment of a dialogue with all the Town's main partners
- Inauguration and commissioning of the sports and recreation centre
- Implementation of a communication and complaint/request management system to ensure better follow-up
- Standardization of job postings in French and English
- Implementation of citizen participation mechanisms
 - Holding an initial information session on emergency measures – extreme cold
 - Holding an initial focus group – Nelson Street parking
 - Holding an initial Discussion with Council
 - Establishment of 5 new citizen committees and a consultation table
- Securing the intersection of Ainslie Road and Westminster Avenue
 - Addition of temporary traffic signs
 - Increased police patrols
 - Addition of a crossing guard until the end of the school year
 - Granting of a mandate to an engineering firm to implement new traffic mitigation measures
- Initiating the process to install Bixi stations in the area
- Developing a strategic plan for 2026-2029

Strategic plan 2026-2029

The strategic plan was developed along four axes:

- **Fiscal responsibility:** increasing revenue streams through urban development
- **Resilience:** the rehabilitation and implementation of sustainable and environmentally friendly infrastructure
- **Inclusion:** the implementation of inclusive programming and planning
- **Participation:** improving communication methods, citizen participation, and fostering a sense of community

Here are the main themes and key objectives of the strategic plan:

Governance: Strengthen our partnerships inside and outside the town and improve our public communications by formalizing service agreements (MoU) with organizations, mobilizing local organizations and enhancing the municipal response through a new communications policy.

Urban Development: Redevelop strategic sectors in the heart of and at the entrance to the town by consolidating the sports hub around the sports and recreation centre, increasing density and optimizing the Milton, Ronald and Westminster sectors and revitalizing and redesigning Westminster Avenue.

Finance: Implement a financial framework to diversify revenue streams by updating our leasing and donation policies, our pricing regulations and by developing a strategic financial plan.

Bilingualism: Protect our bilingual status by ensuring that services and communications are offered in both official languages.

Urban Planning: Update our urban planning and heritage conservation tools by producing a renovation assistance guide for residents, revising our regulations and developing a new urban plan.

Ecological Transition: Adapt to climate change, regenerate the urban forest and improve energy efficiency by developing a climate resilience strategy and a green infrastructure management plan and by implementing public awareness tools and activities.

Citizen Participation: Foster greater democracy and a sense of community by increasing citizen participation activities, offering inclusive programming, organizing special events and encouraging active aging through an updated Age-Friendly Municipality policy.

Asset Management: Reduce the aging infrastructure index, beautify the town and make travel safer and more pleasant by developing asset management plans and prioritizing interventions (roads, water systems, vehicle fleet, green infrastructure).

Economic Development: Revitalize the main street, foster community engagement, and attract new investments and businesses by relaunching the Westminster Avenue street fair and implementing a beautification and standardization program for commercial signs and displays.

Sustainable Mobility: Ensure everyone's safety, optimize parking, promote active transportation and reduce the environmental footprint by revising parking regulations, ensuring the conformity of the level crossing, developing traffic calming measures, installing bike lanes and Bixi stations and adding electric vehicle charging stations.

Sports: Offer programming for all ages and upgrade facilities and equipment by redeveloping sports fields to continue providing opportunities for a wide variety of sports and recreational activities.

Jonathan Cha, Mayor
Town of Montreal West
jcha@montreal-west.ca



FROM QUEBEC CITY TO MONTREAL WEST: WHY THE PROVINCIAL BUDGET MATTERS LOCALLY

On March 18, 2026, Finance Minister Eric Girard tabled Quebec's 2026–2027 budget. With a provincial election on the horizon, the tone is clear: fiscal restraint and deficit reduction. What does that actually mean for a small town like Montreal West?

Provincial budgets don't stay at the provincial level, they show up on our streets, in our pipes and in the services residents rely on every day. The level of transfers and infrastructure funding we receive directly shapes how we maintain roads, manage water systems and invest in community assets. Unlike other levels of government, municipalities must balance their budgets every year, with limited revenue tools beyond property taxes; when provincial spending tightens, the pressure shifts locally.

The province's \$167B Quebec Infrastructure Plan, an increase of over \$5B over six years, signals a commitment to maintaining *existing* assets. For Montreal West, where financial flexibility is already tight, it doesn't fully close the gap between what is needed and what is possible. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) continue to push for stable, long-term infrastructure funding. Municipalities need predictability to plan, invest and innovate effectively. FCM generally calls for increased federal and provincial support for mu-

nicipal infrastructure to ensure community resilience against climate change and to support growth.

In Montreal West, every budget decision counts. It's not just about managing assets, it's about managing risk, expectations and the long-term sustainability of our community.

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





Dear residents and neighbours of Montreal West,

Sustainable mobility and safety

You may have noticed a new crossing guard at Ainslie and Westminster South. This exceptional and temporary measure is in place until the end

of the RWA school term and aims to improve safety while permanent upgrades in the area are completed this summer. This was made possible through collaboration with local officials, MNA Désirée McGraw, RWA parents, the EMSB and the SPVM. Thank you to all.

With the arrival of spring, seasonal street cleaning began on April 1, along with the return of parking restrictions on certain public streets until November 15. Residents are reminded to respect these restrictions to ensure proper street maintenance and to avoid fines. As part of spring upkeep, it is also important to note that placing or blowing debris onto public property is prohibited. Gas-powered blowers remain banned across Montreal West. Homeowners are responsible for ensuring that any landscaping con-

tractors they hire are properly registered with the town for the 2026 season. Additionally, Public Security Officers have completed an inventory of non-functional streetlights, and repairs are being coordinated with Public Works.

Sports

Summer pool registration is now open, and residents of all ages are encouraged to enjoy the facilities and programming at the town's pool. This season introduces two new programs for kids: artistic swimming and water polo.

The sports and recreation centre will expand its spring schedule to include additional time slots for pickup hockey, as well as drop-in activities such as pickle ball, badminton, and basketball. More details are available on the Town's website.

Here to serve,

Phil Bergeron, *Councillor*
Sustainable Mobility and Sports
pbergeron@montreal-west.ca



COMING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY

Spring has arrived in Montreal West, and with it comes a renewed sense of energy and many opportunities get involved and support one another as a community.

I would like to remind residents that the coming Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings will take place on May 6 and May 20. If you wish to have a project considered, please submit your complete file at least two weeks in advance.

Council continues its efforts to create more opportunities for open dialogue. Our second "Discussions with Council" event will be held on Wednesday, May 6 at 8 p.m. at the Town Hall. I hope you will join us for this informal gathering—it's a great opportunity to meet members of Council, ask questions, share your ideas and take part in conversations about the issues that matter most to you.

I am especially excited about our annual Caring Neighbourhood initiative this May. This program reflects the generosity and neighbourly spirit that make Montreal West so special. I encourage families to consider volunteering three hours during the month to help seniors with outdoor chores such as yard clean-up and seasonal main-

tenance. It's a hands-on way to make a difference while connecting with our community.

If you or someone you know could use a hand, or if your family would like to get involved, please contact the Recreation Department to register.

Our Town's popular spring pop-up event will be held at Paula Cordeau Park on Sunday, May 24 at 10 a.m. These events are always a lot of fun. If you'd like to have a table at the event, please register on Amilia or call the Recreation Department.

As the days grow longer and warmer, I look forward to seeing many of you out and about—contributing to the vibrant community life that defines Montreal West.

Martha Slocombe, *Councillor*
Ecological Transition, Urban Planning and Citizen Participation
mslocombe@montreal-west.ca



communiqué du CONSEIL



RAPPORT DU MAIRE

Des actions concrètes pour la sécurité de l'intersection Ainslie et Westminster

Suivant l'accident impliquant deux élèves, nous avons convoqué une rencontre de travail entre la Ville de Montréal-Ouest, la députée Désirée McGraw, le SPVM, l'EMSB, RWA et le sous-comité sur la sécurité de l'organisation de parents de l'académie Royal West pour évaluer les rôles et responsabilités de tous dans la recherche de solutions pour réduire les risques et augmenter la sécurité des plus vulnérables à l'intersection Ainslie/Westminster. Plusieurs pistes de solutions sont à l'étude par nos partenaires, notamment l'option de brigadiers privés ou bénévoles et les questions d'assurance responsabilité civile que cela implique. Des communications politiques avec le gouvernement du Québec ont lieu en parallèle. La Ville a continué d'être proactive, elle a octroyé un nouveau mandat d'étude à une firme d'ingénierie dans l'objectif d'implanter dans les prochains mois de nouvelles mesures d'apaisement de la circulation et a installé un nouveau panneau temporaire de passage pour piétons avec flèche vers la chaussée. Nous sommes heureux que suivant une rencontre exceptionnelle du comité d'analyse des traverses du SPVM, un brigadier scolaire a été affecté à l'intersection et assure la sécurité des enfants depuis le 7 avril, et ce, jusqu'à la fin de l'année scolaire.

La présence du SPVM au conseil municipal

Nous avons jugé pertinent d'inviter le commandant de police à siéger au conseil municipal pour présenter des informations et répondre aux citoyens. Partenaire important de Montréal-Ouest, il sera présent en début de chaque conseil municipal à compter de la prochaine séance du 27 avril 2026.

Rencontres politiques et formations

Dans le dernier mois, j'ai eu des rencontres avec le directeur de l'EMSB et de la CSSDM pour comprendre leurs relations avec Montréal-Ouest, leurs modes de fonctionnement et leurs planifications stratégiques. Nous avons plus spécifiquement abordé avec l'EMSB, le dossier de la Little Red Playhouse, de leurs propriétés, de même que la permission d'utiliser, d'entretenir et d'améliorer le terrain de baseball. J'ai rencontré la mairesse de l'arrondissement de Lachine pour discuter de la reconstruction de l'échangeur Saint-Pierre, à l'étude selon le gouvernement

du Québec, des enjeux de mobilité entre nos territoires et de la valeur environnementale de la falaise.

Tous les élus ont rencontré la présidente-directrice générale de la Chambre de commerce de Montréal Centre Sud-Ouest pour évaluer les opportunités que cela offre pour la Ville. Enfin, j'ai suivi un webinaire sur comment intégrer l'économie circulaire dans les pratiques municipales – outils pour réduire les émissions de GES, un webinaire d'Hydro-Québec intitulé « *Mieux comprendre la maîtrise de la végétation pour protéger votre réseau* » et suivi une formation sur le réseautage d'affaires intelligent et rentable offert par la Chambre de commerce du Montréal métropolitain.

La planification des travaux d'Hydro-Québec au poste Côte Saint-Luc

Suivant nos discussions des derniers mois et les demandes formulées par les élus locaux pour davantage et de meilleures communications, Hydro-Québec a invité tous les résidents le 16 avril à une séance d'information sur les travaux de modernisation du réseau électrique à Côte Saint-Luc. Hydro-Québec investit dans ses infrastructures dans le but d'augmenter la capacité énergétique et d'améliorer la qualité du service sur l'île de Montréal. La construction du nouveau poste Côte Saint-Luc (nommé actuellement Hampstead) s'échelonne de 2026 à 2029 et vise le remplacement des lignes à 120kV par des lignes à 315kV.

Union des municipalités du Québec

J'ai été nommé au sein de deux commissions permanentes de l'Union des municipalités du Québec qui regroupent des élus de partout au Québec, soit la Commission de l'aménagement et des transports et la commission de l'environnement et des changements climatiques. Nous nous réunissons plusieurs fois par année pour aborder des thèmes et des enjeux qui préoccupent les villes, et participer à l'élaboration de mémoires, de prises de position et de diverses interventions publiques de l'Union. Concernant le récent dépôt du budget 2026-2027 à l'Assemblée nationale, l'Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ) « note un premier signal de réinvestissement du gouvernement du Québec dans les infrastructures municipales, mais souligne que ces sommes sont largement insuffisantes pour rattraper le désengagement marqué depuis quelques années et répondre aux besoins grandissants des municipalités ».

Événements majeurs montréalais en 2026

À l'initiative de Christine Black, vice-présidente du comité exécutif, responsable de la famille, des personnes âgées, de la jeunesse, du sport et du loisir et Gabrielle Rousseau Bélanger, membre du comité exécutif, responsable de l'environnement, de la transition écologique et des espaces verts de la Ville de Montréal, les élus de l'agglomération se sont rencontrés et mobilisés dans le cadre de la planification des grandes célébrations prévues pour l'année 2026, incluant :

- les Championnats du Monde Route UCI Montréal 2026,
- le 50^e anniversaire des Jeux olympiques de Montréal,
- le 150^e anniversaire du parc du Mont Royal,
- le 300^e anniversaire du site des Moulins.

Cette rencontre répondait aux objectifs de :

- présenter les grandes lignes des célébrations prévues en 2026;
- préciser les rôles potentiels des arrondissements et des villes liées
- amorcer la coordination interéquipes pour l'élaboration du programme
- recueillir les besoins, commentaires et préoccupations afin de favoriser une mobilisation harmonieuse.

Nous vous reviendrons avec davantage d'information pour encourager la participation de tous les citoyens à ces grandes célébrations de rayonnement international pour la grande région montréalaise.

Visite de Moisson Montréal

À l'invitation de sa directrice générale, j'ai eu l'opportunité de visiter Moisson Montréal, dont la mission est d'assurer un approvisionnement alimentaire optimal aux organismes communautaires montréalais tout en développant des solutions durables. C'est très impressionnant de voir les installations, la quantité de nourriture et de bénévoles à l'œuvre et toute la chaîne de production de la plus grande banque alimentaire du Canada. C'est près de 24 millions de kg de denrées qui sont acheminés annuellement à 292 organismes. Près d'un million de demandes d'aide alimentaire sont comblées chaque mois par l'entremise des organismes accrédités. La demande ne cesse de croître et c'est important de bien comprendre cette réalité touchant toujours plus de nos citoyens.

Fêtes de la Saint-Patrick et de Pâques

Durant le mois de mars, j'ai participé à trois grands rassemblements festifs. Le dîner de la Saint-Patrick pour les membres du club 60+ s'est déroulée dans la nouvelle salle polyvalente du centre sportif et récréatif. Près de 70 personnes y ont participé dans une belle ambiance aux airs celtiques. Un grand merci aux musiciens, aux bénévoles et aux conseillers Nick Tassé et Phil Bergeron pour leur travail en cuisine. Je pense que le ragoût de Nick est déjà une tradition tellement il a reçu d'éloges. La Saint-Patrick rime aussi avec le tournoi Shamrock du club de curling de Montréal-Ouest. Ce fut un plaisir d'y participer comme joueur et spectateur. La finale a été chaudement disputée jusqu'à la dernière pierre remportée par l'équipe du jeune capitaine Zikai Fu. J'ai aussi participé avec ma famille à la Fête du Lapin. Le bricolage, la chasse aux œufs et le spectacle de magie ont ravi les nombreux enfants présents à l'hôtel de ville.

Comités de participation citoyenne

Nous sommes très heureux de l'intérêt manifesté par les citoyens alors que près de 80 candidatures ont été reçues pour siéger sur les comités municipaux. Après avoir procédé à la sélection des membres, une résolution officielle a été adoptée au conseil du 27 avril. Les travaux pourront commencer en mai et juin.

Bon début de saison de baseball et de tennis !

Bilan des 6 premiers mois du nouveau conseil

Notre administration complète ses premiers six mois en poste. Outre la prise de connaissance des dossiers, les lac-

à-l'épaule thématiques, les journées de formation, le travail sur le budget, le suivi des opérations courantes, la gestion de crise et des mesures d'urgence, le traitement quotidien des demandes citoyennes et la participation à de nombreux événements, nous avons œuvré à l'élaboration de notre planification stratégique en étroite collaboration avec l'administration municipale.

Je salue l'implication et l'engagement du conseil pour une gouvernance humaine, consensuelle et efficiente tournée vers des solutions et des décisions au bénéfice de de la communauté et du bien commun. Parmi nos principales réalisations, notons :

- Le développement des relations solides avec tous les maires et mairesses des arrondissements et villes limitrophes
- L'établissement d'un dialogue avec tous les principaux partenaires de la Ville
- L'inauguration et la mise en service du centre sportif et récréatif
- La mise en place d'un système de communication et de gestion des plaintes et requêtes pour assurer un meilleur suivi
- La standardisation des offres d'emplois en français et en anglais
- La mise en place de mécanismes de participation citoyenne
 - La tenue d'une première séance d'information sur les mesures d'urgence – froid extrême
 - La tenue d'un premier groupe de discussion – stationnement de la rue Nelson
 - La tenue d'un premier échange avec le conseil
 - La mise sur pied de 5 nouveaux comités citoyens et d'une table de concertation
- La sécurisation de l'intersection du chemin Ainslie et de l'avenue Westminster
 - L'ajout de panneaux de signalisation temporaires
 - L'augmentation des patrouilles policières
 - L'ajout d'un brigadier jusqu'à la fin de l'année scolaire
 - L'octroi d'un mandat d'ingénierie pour mettre en place de nouvelles mesures d'atténuation du trafic
- L'amorce de la démarche pour implanter des stations bixi sur le territoire
- La réalisation d'une planification stratégique 2026-2029

Planification stratégique 2026-2029

La planification stratégique a été développée selon quatre axes :

- **La responsabilité fiscale** : l'augmentation des sources de revenus par le développement urbain
- **La résilience** : la réfection et la mise en place d'infrastructures durables et écologiques
- **L'inclusion** : la mise en place d'une programmation et d'aménagements inclusifs
- **La participation** : la bonification des moyens de communications, la participation des citoyens et le développement d'un sens de la communauté

Voici les grandes lignes et principaux objectifs de la planification stratégique :

Gouvernance : Solidifier nos partenariats à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur de la ville et améliorer nos communications publiques en formalisant les protocoles d'ententes de service avec les organismes, en mobilisant les organisations locales et en améliorant la réponse municipale par une nouvelle politique de communication.

Développement urbain : Redévelopper des secteurs stratégiques au cœur et à l'entrée de la ville en consolidant le pôle sportif autour du centre sportif et récréatif, en densifiant et en optimisant les secteurs Milton, Ronald et Westminster et en réaménageant l'avenue Westminster.

Finances : Mettre en place un encadrement financier pour diversifier les sources de revenus en mettant à jour nos politiques de location, de donation et notre règlement de tarification et en se dotant d'un plan financier stratégique.

Bilinguisme : Protéger le statut bilingue en s'assurant d'offrir des services et des communications dans les deux langues officielles.

Urbanisme : Actualiser nos outils d'urbanisme et de mise en valeur du patrimoine en produisant un guide d'aide à la rénovation pour les citoyens, en révisant notre réglementation et en se dotant d'un nouveau plan d'urbanisme.

Transition écologique : S'adapter aux changements climatiques, régénérer la forêt urbaine et améliorer l'efficacité énergétique en rédigeant une stratégie de résilience climatique et un plan de gestion des infrastructures vertes et en mettant en place des outils et activités de sensibilisation de la population.

Participation citoyenne : Favoriser une plus grande démocratie et un sentiment de communauté en accroissant

les activités de participation citoyenne, en offrant une programmation d'activités inclusive, en organisant des activités spéciales et en encourageant le vieillissement actif par une mise à jour de la politique municipalité amie des aînés.

Gestion des actifs : Réduire l'indice de vétusté des infrastructures, embellir la ville et rendre les déplacements plus agréables et sécuritaires en produisant des plans de gestion des actifs et en priorisant les interventions (voirie, réseaux d'eau, flotte de véhicules, infrastructures vertes).

Développement économique : Dynamiser la rue principale, favoriser l'appropriation citoyenne et attirer de nouveaux investissements et commerces en relançant la foire commerciale sur l'avenue Westminster et en mettant en place un programme d'embellissement et d'uniformisation des enseignes et des affichages commerciaux.

Mobilité durable : Assurer la sécurité de tous, optimiser les paramètres de stationnement, favoriser les déplacements actifs et réduire l'empreinte environnementale en révisant le règlement de stationnement, en s'assurant de la conformité du passage à niveau, en élaborant des mesures d'apaisement de la circulation, en implantant des voies cyclables, des stations bixis et en ajoutant des bornes de recharge électrique.

Sports : Offrir une programmation pour tous les âges et mettre à niveau les installations et équipements en réaménageant les plateaux sportifs pour continuer à pouvoir pratiquer une grande variété de sports et d'activités récréatives.

Jonathan Cha, *maire*
Ville de Montréal-Ouest
jcha@montreal-ouest.ca

DE QUÉBEC À MO-OUEST: POURQUOI LE BUDGET PROVINCIAL A DES RÉPERCUSSIONS LOCALES



Le 18 mars 2026, le ministre des Finances, Eric Girard, a déposé le budget du Québec pour l'exercice 2026-2027. Avec une élection provinciale à l'horizon, le ton est clair : maîtrise des dépenses et réduction du déficit. Mais qu'est-ce que cela signifie concrètement pour une petite municipalité comme Mo-Ouest?

Les budgets provinciaux ne demeurent pas abstraits : ils se font sentir dans nos rues, nos réseaux d'aqueducs, et les services sur lesquels les résidents comptent au quotidien. Le niveau des transferts et du financement des infrastructures que nous recevons influence directement notre capacité à entretenir les routes, à gérer le réseau d'eau et à investir dans les actifs municipaux. Contrairement aux autres ordres de gouvernement, les municipalités doivent équilibrer leur budget chaque année, avec des sources de revenus se limitant principalement aux taxes foncières. Lorsque les dépenses provinciales sont resserrées, la pression se répercute localement.

Le Plan québécois des infrastructures de 167 milliards de dollars, en hausse de plus de 5 milliards sur 6 ans, témoigne d'une volonté de maintenir les **actifs existants**. Pour Mo-Ouest, où la marge de manœuvre financière est déjà restreinte, ce financement ne permet toutefois pas

de combler entièrement l'écart entre les besoins et les moyens disponibles. La Fédération canadienne des municipalités (FCM) continue de plaider en faveur d'un financement stable et à long terme des infrastructures. Les municipalités ont besoin de prévisibilité pour planifier, investir et innover efficacement. La FCM réclame également un soutien accru des gouvernements fédéral et provincial afin d'assurer la résilience des collectivités face aux changements climatiques et d'appuyer leur croissance.

À Mo-Ouest, chaque décision budgétaire compte. Il ne s'agit pas seulement de gérer des actifs, mais aussi de gérer les risques, les attentes et la viabilité à long terme de notre communauté.

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



Chers voisins et résidents de Montréal-Ouest,

Mobilité durable et Sécurité

Vous avez peut-être remarqué la présence d'un nouveau brigadier à l'angle des rues Ainslie et Westminster Sud. Cette mesure exceptionnelle

et temporaire restera en vigueur jusqu'à la fin de l'année scolaire de l'Académie Royal West et vise à renforcer la sécurité pendant que des mesures permanentes sont réalisées dans le secteur cet été. Cette initiative a pu voir le jour grâce à la collaboration entre les autorités locales, la députée Désirée McGraw, les parents d'élèves de l'école RWA, la Commission scolaire de Montréal (EMSB) et le SPVM. Merci à tous.

Avec l'arrivée du printemps, le nettoyage saisonnier des rues a débuté le 1er avril. Un rétablissement des restrictions de stationnement sur certaines voies publiques est donc en vigueur jusqu'au 15 novembre. Il est rappelé aux résidents de respecter ces restrictions afin d'assurer un bon entretien des rues et d'éviter des amendes. Dans le cadre de l'entretien printanier, il est également important de noter qu'il est interdit de déposer ou de projeter des débris sur la voie publique. Les souffleuses à feuilles à essence restent interdits sur l'ensemble du territoire de Montréal-Ouest. Les propriétaires sont tenus de s'assurer

que les entrepreneurs en aménagement paysager qu'ils engagent sont dûment enregistrés auprès de la ville pour la saison 2026. De plus, les agents de sécurité publique ont dressé un inventaire des lampadaires hors service, et les réparations sont coordonnées avec le service des Travaux publics.

Sports

Les inscriptions pour la piscine estivale sont désormais ouvertes, et les résidents de tous âges sont invités à profiter des installations et des activités proposées à la piscine municipale. Cette saison, deux nouveaux programmes destinés aux enfants sont proposés : la natation artistique et le water-polo.

Le centre sportif et récréatif élargira son programme de printemps en ajoutant des créneaux horaires pour le hockey libre, de même que des activités à la carte, comme le pickleball, le badminton et le basket-ball. De plus amples informations sont disponibles sur le site web de la ville.

Ici pour vous servir,

Phil Bergeron, *conseiller*
Mobilité durable et Sports
pbergeron@montreal-ouest.ca



ENSEMBLE POUR NOTRE COMMUNAUTÉ

Le printemps est arrivé à Montréal-Ouest, apportant avec lui un regain d'énergie et de nombreuses occasions de s'impliquer et de se soutenir les uns les autres au sein de notre communauté.

Je souhaite rappeler aux résidents que les prochaines réunions du Comité consultatif d'urbanisme (CCU) auront lieu les 6 et 20 mai. Si vous souhaitez déposer un projet, veuillez soumettre votre dossier complet au moins deux semaines à l'avance.

Le conseil poursuit ses efforts afin de créer davantage d'occasions de dialogue. La deuxième édition de notre activité Échanges avec le conseil se tiendra le mercredi 6 mai à 20 h à l'hôtel de ville. J'espère que vous vous joindrez à nous pour cette rencontre informelle : c'est une excellente occasion de rencontrer les membres du conseil, de poser vos questions, de partager vos idées et de participer à des échanges sur les enjeux qui vous tiennent à cœur.

Je me réjouis également de notre initiative annuelle, la Journée de bon voisinage, qui aura lieu en mai et qui illustre parfaitement la générosité et l'esprit communautaire qui font la fierté de notre ville. J'encourage les familles à donner trois heures de bénévolat au cours du mois afin d'aider les aînés avec des travaux extérieurs, comme le nettoyage des terrains et l'entretien saisonnier. C'est une façon concrète de faire une différence tout en renforçant les liens communautaires.

Si vous ou une personne de votre entourage avez besoin d'aide, ou si votre famille souhaite s'impliquer, veuillez communiquer avec le Service des loisirs pour vous inscrire.

L'édition printanière de l'événement éphémère très apprécié de notre ville aura lieu au parc Paula Cordeau le dimanche 24 mai à 10 h. Ces événements sont toujours très appréciés ! Si vous souhaitez tenir une table lors de l'événement, veuillez-vous inscrire sur Amilia ou communiquer avec le Service des loisirs.

Alors que les journées s'allongent et se réchauffent, j'ai hâte de vous voir nombreux dans la communauté, prenant part à la vie communautaire dynamique qui fait la richesse de Montréal-Ouest.

Martha Slocombe, *conseillère*
Transition écologique, Planification urbaine et Participation citoyenne
mslocombe@montreal-ouest.ca