

CSL to install electric vehicle charging stations: Nashen

BY ISAAC OLSON

Côte St. Luc city officials are still hashing out the details, but the plan is to install several electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in the city over the next few years, according to Councillor Glen Nashen. The first 240-volt charger is slated to be installed this year at the Aquatic Community Centre (ACC), writes Nashen on his blog.

“Next year, with the reconstruction of the city hall parking lot, another charging station will be installed,” he states. “And in 2018, an additional station will be added at Trudeau Park on Mackle Rd. Meanwhile, Councillor Steven Erdelyi and I are encouraging council to purchase EVs for city purposes,



The Aquatic Community Centre (ACC), as seen here on March 1, will house the city's first electric vehicle charging station according to Councillor Glenn Nashen.

beginning with Public Works. This would result in an additional station at the Public Works parking lot.”

Nashen said the city has not gone out to tender on the stations and have only made preliminary inquiries as to the costs. Officials will have a better idea of exactly how much it will cost in the coming months, Nashen told the *Free Press*.

“I think this is a wonderful step forward with regard to sustainable development, the greening of transportation, and providing service to those switching to EVs,” he added. “Anecdotally I've noticed a few EVs around Côte St. Luc and several more in Hampstead. Looking online, it's easy to see that many municipalities throughout Quebec are adding charging stations to their local facilities.”

Constable Ouimet recommends prevention tips to avoid being a victim

BY ISAAC OLSON

Station 9's constable Nancy Ouimet sent the *Free Press* a long list of prevention tips to help people avoid being the victim crimes such as home and vehicle burglary.

While Côte St. Luc and Hampstead aren't hotspots for criminal activity, there are still reports of people being robbed. Homes are occasionally broken in to, cars are rummaged through and wallets are stolen right out of purses at places like the Côte St. Luc Shopping Centre and the Quartier Cavendish. While it's important that people are aware that theft can happen anywhere and at any time, Ouimet said

there are extra steps they can take to protect themselves.

In residential buildings, Ouimet says tenants should avoid having their names at the building's entrance, like on a mailbox or doorbell. Instead, it should say “occupied.” It's important, she said, that residents work together to ensure the main doors are locked at all time and that nobody sneaks in when you open a gateway to the building, be it the garage, garbage or main entrance.

No matter where you live, she said people should always lock their doors and windows when they leave even if it is only for a few minutes. Install a timer to turn lights

and radios on and off automatically, she said. Do not keep large sums of money at home and she recommends engraving valuables such as televisions, cameras and other electronics. She said residents should report suspicious loiterers to police.

Should you return home and find you were broken into, she said it is important that you do not touch anything, leave and call police from a safe place, like the neighbour's house.

When it comes to cars, she said doors should always be locked and valuables should never be left in the vehicle. If you must leave personal belongings, make

sure they are out of sight or in the trunk.

Pickpockets and bag thieves are active at public markets, outdoor shows, escalators, traffic lights, food fairs and large parking lots. They will target lines of people waiting, she said, and often operate during peak hours of transit.

Sun Youth's \$5k offer for assault suspect still unanswered

A Côte St. Luc senior citizen was brutally attacked last summer with a baseball bat in her Cavendish Blvd. parking garage and now Sun Youth organization has stepped in to offer up to \$5,000 in reward money for any information leading to the “important witness.”

That important witness is described as an early 20s, light-skinned black man who stands about 5'11" and has dreadlocks. He is described as thin with light blue eyes.

Faigie Adelman, 74 at the time, was put into an induced coma after the attack. The man allegedly followed her car into the garage, attacked her off camera and then reportedly rummaged through her purse.

Helio Galego, the director of crime prevention and victim services at Sun Youth, says a special fund was set up in 1991 designed to offer awards in serious cases when police have exhausted all other investigative avenues. Since the fund was

established, he said, 27 percent of cases have been solved.

This money comes from private donations specifically aimed at this particular service and, he explained, the money does not come out of any other budgetary resources.

So far, the reward offer has not drawn results in this case, he said. Those with information can call Info-Crime at 514.393.1133.

Ouaknine retires after 34 years with city

Josiane Ouaknine, a Côte St. Luc resident and 34-year employee of the city, has retired.

Ouaknine reportedly worked in many different city departments such as Finance, Archives, Urban Planning, Purchasing, Public Safety and more.

In the office of mayor and council, Councillor Mike Cohen writes on his blog, “over the last few years, she has been the person to greet members of the public at city hall, directing them to the right office as well as answering questions by phone. I am happy to be her city councillor. Good luck, Josiane!”

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