

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

June 20, 2007

All the news you can use.

Vol. 1 No. 3

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## Fire merger brings fewer local calls

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Five years after Westmount's firefighting services were assumed by Montreal, 2006 figures reveal a 40-percent drop in the number of local calls for assistance.

But a comparison of last year's calls to those in pre-merger 2000 shows the decrease of some 700 corresponds generally with the decline in first responder calls for medical assistance that have since been limited to priority 1 emergencies, such as heart attacks or traffic accidents.

"Very little has changed otherwise in the types of calls," said Fire Prevention Chief Daniel de Vries.

Excluding medical assistance, firefighters last year answered close to 800 calls in Westmount for fires, floods, gas leaks, strange odours and a host of other items. This compares with slightly over 900 in 2000.

Recent figures for 2007 indicate little ..... *continued on page 3*

### Westmount calls answered by firefighters

	2000	2006
Fire-related	*61	112
First responder	1,031	407
Alarm	406	369
Other	451	304
Total	<b>1,949</b>	<b>1,202</b>

\*Outlying year. 110 in 1998 and 1999.

## Revealing secret gardens



Tickets were sold out for Westmount's Secret Garden Tour last Thursday. Above, Ann Birks proudly displays the centrepiece of her garden on Aberdeen Ave. For additional coverage, please see pages 6 and 7.

## Westmount takes lead with tobacco 'police'

Westmount is becoming the first municipality on the island to appoint tobacco inspectors for the enforcement of provincial legislation that regulates smoking.

The duties go to Westmount's 24 full-time public safety officers who have been trained over the last week under a provision in the law that enables municipalities to enforce the provincial restrictions within their own borders.

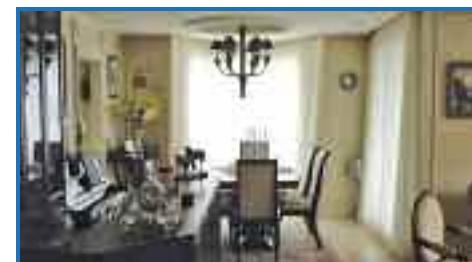
"We are the first to do so on the island and possibly in the province," Public Se-

curity Director Richard Blondin told the *Westmount Independent*.

The move comes two decades after Westmount adopted a bylaw to ban smoking in public places that propelled it to the forefront of smoking regulations in Quebec.

The provincial law went into force a year ago. It prohibits smoking in most public places including restaurants and bars, within certain distances of school and hos-

*continued on page 3*



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# Residents alerted to high fire risk posed by renovation work

*continued from page 1*

change.

Of 112 fire conditions last year, 10 were fires in buildings that caused estimated damages of \$608,350. Only two were considered major.

"Over the years, renovations have been the main cause of fires in Westmount followed by cooking and smoking," Chief de Vries says.

Last year's two major fires bucked the trend. A house fire at 503 Roslyn was caused by smokers' material, while fire in an apartment at 4129 de Maisonneuve was electrical in nature.

However eight other fires were caused by renovations, smoking, cooking, electrical and heating. Other fire incidents included 59 related to cooking, 22 to electricity, 18 to garbage and two to chimneys.

Other fire incidents, included 59 related to cooking, 22 to electricity, 18 to garbage and two to chimneys.

Perhaps the biggest impact on firefighting in Westmount following the fire department merger, he says, is an increase in the number of firefighters that can be quickly rallied to Westmount from nearby stations.

Other changes include increased training and the standardization and documentation of numerous procedures.

These are of special importance in an environment where firefighters are frequently transferred from station to station to make up staffing shortfalls.

During this peak renovation time, Chief de Vries asks residents to pay close attention to the hazards presented, in particular, by paint removal and the use of varnish and solvents.

"Read the manufacturer's instructions carefully and ensure there is proper ventilation."

"Ask your contractors what procedures



Westmount's fire station on Stanton St. maintains shifts of seven firefighters: four for pumper 276 (shown here) and three for the aerial. The station is number 76 in the Montreal fire department (Service incendie de Montréal - SIM).

they are taking and if they have charged portable fire extinguishers on hand. Answers such as "I've been doing this for years," should not be sufficient assurance.

As well, he says, just as cooking should not be left unattended, don't leave turpentine and oily rags where sun and heat can cause spontaneous combustion. Rags should be wetted down with water.



Damage from fire at 501-503 Roslyn last September.

## Westmount unaffected by recent first responder phase-in

The fire department's first responder service for medical assistance in Westmount is not expected to change in the near future with the phasing-in last week of basic service to areas of Montreal that previously had none.

Fire officials said that changes will only be introduced to Westmount in 2009 when backup coverage will be provided from nearby fire stations when locally-based firefighters are otherwise occupied at fires or unable to act as first responders.

Because Westmount and surrounding areas are generally well served by Urgences Santé, they are expected to be among the last to receive the backup service.

While the City of Westmount pioneered fire ambulance service in Quebec more than 30 years ago, its first responder system has been cut back to priority 1 emergencies under the Montreal system. Previously, Westmount's first responder service also was unavailable when personnel were needed in their firefighting role.

## Renovations transform the 4300 into "gated" community

"Is the fencing around 4300 de Maisonneuve meant to keep out the riffraff?" someone who lives in the building was jokingly asked by a friend. "No, it's meant to keep the loonies in," replied the resident of Le 4300 de Maisonneuve.

The fencing is in place to protect passersby and residents while the building's windows are being repaired as a major renovation project unfolds.

The first phase began on June 6 with a roof repair, which necessitated blocking the driveway to all but emergency vehicles.

Soon, the windows will be replaced. Residents hope that this ends years-long problems with temperature-control problems and leaks. In the winter some apartments become too hot, other ones too cold. Some residents on the upper floors complain of rain leaks.

Realstar manages the building, which is indirectly owned by Power Corp. Management had no comment when contacted by the *Westmount Independent*.



The 4300 at Clarke Ave. and de Maisonneuve Blvd. is undergoing major renovations.

## BUILDING PERMITS: What's Going On?

The following work permits for new construction, alterations and plumbing were approved by Westmount city council at a special meeting June 6.

**Vacant lot on Edgehill:** to build a new house;

**347-349 Clarke:** to replace the front staircase;

**4891 Sherbrooke:** exterior alterations to front façade to accommodate two entrances;

**629 Belmont:** landscaping;

**753 Lexington:** landscaping;

**453 Strathcona:** front landscaping to include walkway, driveway and new stone planting beds;

**481 Argyle:** to create a new front basement entry;

**224 Metcalfe:** to replace a front second storey window;

**362 Grosvenor:** to build a new rear deck and stairs, enlarge window opening to accommodate a French door, and change railing on second storey balcony;

**42 Sunnyside:** to landscape front and east side yards;

**4922 Sherbrooke:** to erect a sign for Spa

Enigma;

**107 Lewis:** to build a new garage;

**4839 Sherbrooke:** to erect a sign for Salon U;

**95 Côte St. Antoine:** to replace entrance and back doors to the Macaulay building of Selwyn House School;

**617 Carleton:** alterations to the front and side façades including replacement of windows and doors, and new window openings at rear;

**599 Belmont:** to replace some windows;

**433 Argyle:** to replace some windows;

**559 Argyle:** to replace some windows;

**789 Lexington:** to replace some windows;

**10 Willow:** to replace some windows;

**440 Lansdowne:** landscaping in front to include new walkway and resurfacing of driveway with unit pavers;

**333 Metcalfe:** to erect a fence;

**4334 Montrose:** to replace some windows;

**470 Strathcona:** to build a new rear deck;

**14 Surrey Gardens:** to replace some windows; and

**323 Redfern:** to replace a door.

# First woman sergeant

Kim Colquhoun has the distinction of becoming Westmount Public Security's first woman sergeant. She starts her new position in charge of a shift group June 26.

"I'm very proud that she is being promoted and that we have a woman in the position," said Director Richard Blondin in making the announcement.

The new sergeant joined Public Security in 2000 as a parking inspector and worked her way through various grades of Public Safety Officer. She will replace Sgt. Denis Proulx who moves off shift to take over responsibility for the department's traffic position.



*Kim Colquhoun*

## Library creates magazine depository

The Westmount Public Library has taken a new approach to recycling. In the library's newspaper room, members of the public can now drop off copies of magazines that they are finished with. Magazine readers can take or borrow magazines that interest them.

## Tobacco...

*continued from page 1*

pital entrances.

Enforcement in Westmount would follow a campaign to sensitize the public, Dir. Blondin said. It would then be carried out mostly by complaint unless officers came across violations or were made aware of specific problems. "We intend to do it in the Westmount way to bring quality of life to the community."

City council initially named the PSOs as enforcers a year ago. But it has taken a year for administrative procedures and codification to be set up by the Montreal municipal court, which has been conducting the three-hour training sessions for Westmount. Fines for tobacco offences will remain in Westmount but the administration fee will go to the municipal court.

## Story times at Cabot Square Park

The Montreal Children's Library presents two story hours on consecutive Fridays for children ages three to five.

At 10:30 am on Friday, June 22, Molly Walsh will read stories, sing songs and lead children in rhymes in a bilingual setting. Laurel Chin will do the same in English on Friday, June 29, also at 10:30 am.

Both events are to take place at Cabot Square Park (Atwater and Tupper). In case of rain, they will move to centre ice in the old Forum (Pepsi Forum). Both events are free for children and their caregivers. There is no need to sign up. For more information, please call 514.931.2304.

## More park arrests

More tickets were issued recently to persons taking alcohol into Westmount parks, public security officials said. Once again, the culprits came from other municipalities – one as far away as Sutton in the Eastern Townships.

Seven adults and four 17-year-olds were fined in three separate incidents June 8 and 9 around 11:30 pm in King George Park and Westmount Park.

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## Summer's skating



*Off the deep end in Westmount Park (at Melville Ave and Sherbrooke St.), from left to right: Martin Langlois, Charles LeMoine, Max Ortenberg and Bruno Abbott. The skateboarders expressed regret that the pool will soon be filled and that no comparable facility will be available in Westmount for the rest of the summer.*

## PSU cars receiving their stripes

Westmount's new hybrid patrol vehicles for the Public Security Unit have been received and are now in various stages of "striping" and being outfitted with emergency flashers, reports Director Richard Blondin.

The Toyota Highlanders are expected to take the road in the coming days.

Their new look includes a slightly different yellow – the new Toyota yellow – and the painting of a red and blue stripe down each side.

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# The Contrarian

## Taxis and tree-cutting

I recently tried to hail a cab at Claremont Ave. and Sherbrooke St. You'd think this would be easy. There are a lot of cabs and Sherbrooke is a major thoroughfare. Think again.

Firstly, cabs just weren't coming. If you're in the same predicament, think about calling a cab, it is almost always faster! (I wish I'd thought of the cab stand at Grey Ave. and Sherbrooke, but hindsight is 20-20 and I just kept expecting one to come along.)

### Getting lit

More irritatingly, Montreal cabs don't use their rooftop lights to any purpose. Elsewhere in the world, a lit light means that a cab is *available*. This custom makes sense. A lit light catches the eye, which helps the taxi driver find customers and the would-be passenger find travel. The opposite situation makes sense, too. When a cab is occupied or off-duty, an extinguished light lets it blend in with the other cars on the street, leaving the cabbie to go about his business in peace.

Montreal is not so logical. Lights are lit on most cabs, most of the time, regardless of occupancy. As you hail away at cabs, Montreal's perpetually grumpy taxi drivers wave you off angrily, pointing to passengers you couldn't see a minute before.

The look on their faces? "Can't you see I've got a passenger?" The answer? "No, but I would have noticed if you'd turned your light off!"

### When things work...

As the Contrarian, my mandate is to point out things that don't work. I take this task seriously, but every once in a while things work so well that I can't help but praise someone or something.

The *Westmount Independent*'s accountant recently noticed a tree growing into the transformer behind our building on Victoria Ave. At another client's, the same situation had caused a fire. Taking his counsel, I called Westmount Hydro and explained. Within days, without any fuss, the tree had been cut back! Kudos to the City of Westmount for being so responsive.

## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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## Civic Power in Quebec: Myth or Reality?

Tracing the development of municipalities in Quebec, Councillor Tom Thompson sets the record straight in a serious yet humorous presentation to the Westmount Municipal Association at its monthly meeting June 8 in Westmount Public Library.



### At Second Glance

## Fly to the wedding carbon neutral!

HEATHER BLACK

Like many Westmounters, I recently received an invitation to an out-of-town wedding. While some environmentalists say stay home and avoid adding carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, others like David Suzuki support carbon-neutral airfare. Besides the wedding's in Victoria, it's family and it's June!

To help me and all of us out, Air Canada recently announced it would offer flyers a carbon-offset program. In carbon-offset programs, flyers are asked to pay for their share of the flight's greenhouse gases. Currently air travel accounts for two percent of Canada's emissions, but global totals are estimated to soar to five percent by 2050.

So how much does it cost to offset your flight?

Using Air Canada's online calculator, a carbon-neutral round trip from Montreal to Victoria costs \$12.80. For a wedding party of thirteen, \$160.00 will offset 10 tonnes of carbon dioxide, the equivalent of driving two cars for a year.

But programs vary and travel agencies often offer separate programs. With Air Canada you pay non-profit Zerofootprint directly. However when you book online with WestJet, their corporate sponsors pay. And there are criticisms.

### The politics of flying

To some, carbon-offset fares are a feel-good solution. The Carnegie Foundation's Ken Caldeira considers reforestation outside the tropics is "a waste of time". And specific projects are criticized when reforestation of non-native eucalyptus or pine damages habitats. So what are the projects?

WestJet backs Climate Care's international projects for efficient stoves in Honduras and Madagascar, efficient lighting

in South African homes, Biogas Digesters to save the tigers' habitat in India, and reforestation in Uganda.

The Canadian project listed is a heat pump for a Vancouver housing and HIV/AIDS treatment centre.

Air Canada supports Zerofootprint's 250,000 native-tree reforestation in Maple Ridge, BC, estimated to offset 200,000 tonnes. But what about Quebec and our trees? As of late May, there were 26 wildfires – six out of control – forcing 1,000 to evacuate. How do forest fires affect our emissions?

### A red-hot cycle

Currently, forest fires account for 18 per cent of Canada's emissions.

Fires destroy 2.6 million hectares yearly, and release 34 million tonnes of carbon dioxide. In 1998 the increase in global emissions was attributed to forest fires worldwide, with 10 percent from the boreal forests of Eurasia and North America. Our fires pollute!

The problem is global warming increases drought-induced fires during El Nino cycles. And with more burnt hectares, sink areas are destroyed. According to "Canada's 2005 Greenhouse Gas Inventory" our forests sunk 150,000 million tonnes in 1990, but only 27,000 million tonnes in 2005. In fact, in 2003 our forests were a net source of 11,000 million tonnes of emissions.

### Environmental opportunity costs

But I am asked to be concerned about two percent and not 18. So, I'll choose a carbon-offset program and fly to the wedding. As for the wedding present, I'll offset a further 10 tonnes with a carbon-credit gift certificate.

Yet what I want is an offset program to put out wildfires! Soaring carbon neutral and guilt-free. Priceless!

# Roslyn neighbours donate garage sale proceeds to Y summer camp

The Westmount YMCA has started the summer in a sunny mood thanks to Roslyn Ave. residents who donated to its day-camp program the \$2,200 they raised in a neighbourhood garage and bake sale.

"She just called us up," Sharon Parry, the Y's director of child development and aquatics, said of Sylvia Reiter, a Y member and Roslyn Ave. resident. "We had no idea she had taken the initiative. They have a garage sale on their street every year and this year, after hearing some of our stories and learning about our work with special-needs children, they decided to have the money go toward our day camp."

## Good timing

The neighbours' timing could not have been more perfect: the Y is midway through a \$50,000 fundraising campaign, with a portion of the needed money going toward training staff to help special-needs kids.

"Don't forget that year round we accept special-needs children and our kids with special needs come from all over, they don't come just from Westmount," Parry explained. "So we have a high need to train counselors to work with these children."

"We've worked really hard at serving our community, from Westmount and beyond, which we're very happy to do. We've

taken it upon ourselves to find and hire and train people to work with our special-needs children. That's a tremendous amount of human resources, on top of which our main source of funding was cut by 30 percent."

On any given summer day, as many as 150 children attend camp at the Westmount Y. There is a half-day camp for children ages 2 1/2 to 5, and an all-day camp for children 6 to 14. They have a host of activities from which to choose, and not just outdoors ones. In addition to enjoying traditional summertime outdoor fun, the children can take arts and drama, as well as swimming lessons, inside the Y's familiar building at 4585 Sherbrooke St. W.

## One-on-one

"We have some children who really need the one-on-one with the counselors," Parry said. "Then we have children who started needing it and have outgrown it. But every summer the demand has grown. That money will go directly to help subsidize the companions for day camp. This was a really nice surprise."

The street-wide garage sale has become a tradition on Roslyn, where Reiter has lived for 18 years. Most of that time she has been a member of the Y, where she swims every morning at 6:30 in a masters

league.

"We always choose a charity to give the garage-sale money to," she explained. "We chose the camps at the Y because I knew through my membership that the Y was in need of funds for this very important cause."

About half of the street's residents held the garage sale and bake sale on May 26. They enlisted help from friends who, like them, were eager to simultaneously clear out their closets and garages and support a worthwhile endeavour.

## Bake sale important

"From the baked goods alone we raised \$350," said Reiter, whose 15-year-old daughter was in charge of the bake sale. "This kind of event gives children an opportunity to get to know their community better and it's all for a great cause. I had so much fun doing it. It brings a feeling of community that people are looking for in our society. That's what makes our street and our community so wonderful."



Sylvia Reiter in front of the Y

Wonderful is what Y Director Gary White called Reiter and her neighbours' donation to his organization.

"We want to make sure that every family who comes to us with special needs can participate," he said. "This is wonderful news."

## ON THE SHELVES

Among the many new arrivals at Westmount Public Library, the library staff singled out these titles:

### Magazines

"Trust the hand that feeds you – providing your dog with food that is good for them" by Claudia Kawczynska in *Bark* magazine, June 2007, p. 76.

"Black hole breakout – what happens when galaxies collide?" by Marcus Chown in *The New Scientist*, June 2, 2007, p. 34.

### Fiction:

*A thousand splendid suns* by Khaled Hosseini. Afghan-American novelist Hosseini follows up his bestselling *The Kite Runner* with another searing epic of Afghanistan in turmoil.

### Non-fiction

*There's a seal in my sleeping bag* by Lyn

Hancock. A former Montrealer's humorous stories and recollections of observing and photographing endangered species.

*Enfin je dors.....et mes parents aussi* by Evelyne Martello. Discover gentle ways to stop bedtime battles and improve your child's sleep.

### Film

*The Painted Veil*. A stunning adaptation of W. Somerset Maugham's 1925 China-set love story.

*Arthur et les minimoys*. A fantastical animated adventure for kids of all ages directed by Luc Besson.

### Reference

*The New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional Language*.

*Guide des Arbres, Arbustes et Conifères pour le Québec*.

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Great location! On the 3rd floor with mountain views, 1,635 sq.ft., 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 10 foot ceilings, fireplace, garage. **\$595K**

For Sale

**378 Grosvenor**  
"A diamond in the rough", extra large spaces, 10 ft. ceilings, 2 pwdr, 1 bath, 5 bdrm, antique staircase, 2 ble living room, very large dining room, 2 plus parking, extra large garden. **\$685K**

For Sale

**380 Lansdowne**  
Just listed, completely restored (RENOVATED), superb kitchen & dinette. Spacious living and dining with fireplaces, great bathrooms, exquisite terrace, large garden and parking for 2. **\$949K**

For Sale

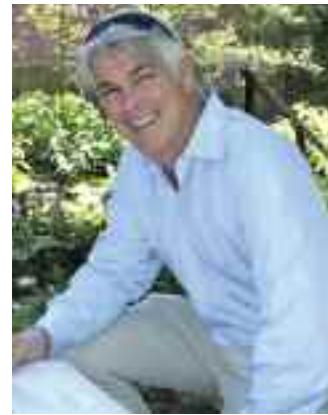
**Victoria Village**  
Just listed semi-detached 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, award winning garden, all in beautiful condition. Must see. **\$599K**

# A sneak peek at secret gardens

PHOTOS BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

***Tour goes behind the garden gate***

Under sunny skies, and with peonies, dahlias and roses in bloom, 12 very different Westmount gardens were opened to more than 125 admirers last Thursday. It was the first Secret Garden Tour held by the city's Horticultural Advisory Committee in several years. Some gardens were designed by professionals while others were the proud work of residents.

*Lupins in a garden on Claremont.**Catherine Richards in her garden on Melbourne Ave.**Susan Zegray, one of the volunteers that staffed the gardens, in the Birks garden on Aberdeen.**Cynthia Cundill and Nancy Molson inside this hidden walled garden on Carleton.**Visitors were invited through the gate of this rear garden on Côte St. Antoine.**Michel Gamache visits this mainly shade garden on Mountain Ave.**This garden on Belvedere Circle is built down the steep hill at the rear.**Flowering thyme on the steps.**This garden on Forden Crescent is built down the hill in terraces.**A panorama of colour in the garden of Victor Haines on de Maisonneuve.*

# in Westmount



Kicking off the Secret Garden Tour from Victoria Hall are: organizer Valerie Aitken (left) with Councillor George Bowser (standing) and volunteers Stuart Robertson and Donna Banks.

## City Hall keeping summer hours

These are the business hours of the following City of Westmount offices and services until Monday, September 3:

- Conservatory and greenhouses: 10 am to 2:45 pm Monday through Thursday; 10 am to 2:30 pm Friday; 10 am to 5 pm Saturday and Sunday.
- City Hall: 8 am to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday; 8 am to 1 pm Friday.
- The Gallery at Victoria Hall: 10 am to 9 pm Monday to Friday; 10 am to 5 pm Saturday.
- Hydro Westmount: 8 am to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday; 8 am to 1 pm Friday.
- Library: 10 am to 9 pm Monday to Friday; 10 am to 5 pm Saturday.
- Public Works: 8 am to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday; 8 am to 1 pm Friday.
- Recreation and Public Security (including the Parking Permits office): 8 am to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday; 8 am to 1 pm Friday.
- Victoria Hall: 8 am to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday; 8 am to 1 pm Friday.

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David Price, Editor

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WESTMOUNT  
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## On the Market: 3714 The Boulevard

BY ROBERT J. GALBRAITH

Built in 1926 and situated at the corner of The Boulevard and Sydenham Ave., this 14-room detached cottage's entranceway is shaded by an elegant spruce tree, which enhances the copper flashing and red brick of the three-storey cottage. The extra long bay windows, bordered by sandstone coloured trim give the house a regal elegance. It really is a beautiful property inside and out.

Entering from the muggy heat of an early June afternoon, the centrally air conditioned interior is a welcome respite. The main living room, with its hardwood floor and gold-trimmed ceiling, gives you the feeling that you have come home. This leads into a large dining room with its crown molding and functional marble-trimmed fireplace, where a ceramic tile floor leads into the large open kitchen and an attached den, with its gas-fired stove.

### Balconville

Just off the kitchen is a small balcony, with enough room for a table and two chairs, a nice location for an afternoon tea or coffee.

The balcony looks south, below which a small lawn lies. The lawn space looks as though it was drastically reduced to allow more parking space for the three-car asphalt lot. The car lot leads into a two-car garage. So if you own more than two cars, and don't want the bother of maintaining a large backyard, this is an asset. But, if

you need a large backyard to allow Fluffy to run about, then it may not be one of the best selling points of the property.

A beautiful carpeted staircase winds upstairs, past a bright, large, lead-paned window which casts a great amount of light on the stairway. The second floor holds the main bedroom area, with a large well-lit master bedroom with bathroom ensuite, which looks out across The Boulevard. At the rear of this floor is a 10-by-20 foot south-facing deck, a perfect spot for enjoying the sun.

### Pro and cons

The third floor is a good place for the kids as the rooms are smaller and it has a comfy, cottage-like feeling to it.

With four bathrooms and one powder room, there are enough washroom facilities for a large family. The basement has not seen much use, and is basically a storage area.

There is a bus stop in front of the property which could be considered a disadvantage to some and The Boulevard is not a quiet street, so the buyer may want to keep this in mind. Advantages are that it is well maintained and perfect for a growing family, with schools and parks nearby.

ADDRESS: 3714 The Boulevard.

ASKING PRICE: \$1,289,000

2007 TAXES: \$14,209

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## Westmount Profile: Victoria Chatziemannuel

# Gambling on the cutting edge

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

**A** young Westmount fashion designer and entrepreneur works on the cutting edge of sustainable clothing.

Victoria Chatziemannuel, a part-owner of Grace & Cello, is the only fulltime worker for the clothing line she describes as eco-friendly and sweatshop-free.

"It allows me to be creative while doing something for society," she says. "Our goal is to help make the earth a better place."

Victoria, who grew up in Westmount and graduated from McGill, always hankered to work in the fashion world.

But it took a year of teaching English in Tokyo for the idea to crystallize and for her to study fashion design.

Then, two years ago she discovered how two environmentalists wanted to start up a sustainable clothing line and were looking for a designer with connections in the industry.

"They started with a social cause and I helped make it happen."

Victoria designs the collections and supervises production processes, all from her home in Westmount.

Launched with the 2006 fall collection, the line is now being promoted across Canada, and even being ordered in the US off the website, she says.

"This season, we found we hadn't produced enough and couldn't fill last minute orders. It's always a bit of a gamble."

### Eco-friendly products

While there are other lines of sustainable clothing, she says, "they are few, and we want this to become the norm."

Some of the big stores are bringing out eco lines, she says, but "while it's a step in the right direction, judging by the prices, I question where some are being made."

While the public is becoming more aware of what they are buying, "people can't always afford to buy truly eco-friendly, sweat-shop free lines."

Among stores carrying Grace & Cello are Simons, Rien à cacher and Influence.u.

*'When you love what you're doing, ultimately you will be successful.'*

Victoria describes her collections as classic casual and feminine.

"The Grace & Cello woman is between casual and dressy, definitely not Junior, and not necessarily a business woman but urban chic. I do sell to my friends who are lawyers."

Victoria describes her designs as "a little flirty." And, "there are some sexy pieces, but it's not a sexy line." The 30-piece collection includes capris, short blazers with matching tops, pants and dresses.

### 2008 collections in the works

Victoria is now completing the 2008 spring and summer collection. "The samples have to be finished by August." And no, it's not a secret, she adds: "The collection has a '60s feel to it."

While some people may consider fashion design to be glamourous, she says, "it's not really. It's also about zippers, buttons, sampling and a lot of running around."

In Victoria's case, it means ordering the fabric, finding pattern makers, cutters and sewers, and liaising with sales representatives.

The sweatshop-free designation is easier to attain than the eco-friendly component, she says.

"We use fabric made from bamboo and organic cotton grown without the use of herbicides."

Dyes, however, pose more of a challenge. "Where natural dyes are not available in certain colours, we try to use low-impact dyes."

### Not perfect yet

"We're not perfect, but we're working toward that goal. Step by step, we're just trying to make a difference."

And for Victoria, colour is a defining element of both her own personality and her clothing.

"I love colours," she says, especially salmon, coral and yellow. And because of that, she sometimes has to ask friends in the fashion industry to help her choose among them.

The Grace & Cello woman, she says, "is



Victoria Chatziemannuel displays several of her designs from the Grace & Cello collection including the ruffle top she wears.

relaxed and comfortable in her own skin."

And while that describes Victoria, too, "I usually wear jeans and a T-shirt day-to-day because I work from home. But I love to dress up." And that means mixing and matching her own designs with other fancier clothing.

\* \* \*

An only child born and raised in Westmount, Victoria attended school at St. Léon and Villa Maria. Many Westmounters may know her father as the former maître d' of Michael D's restaurant on Greene Ave.

"I've always been interested in fashion and music," she says, "and my parents encouraged me to do whatever I wanted."

She studied creative arts at Dawson College and obtained a BA from McGill in 1999 in modern languages including Spanish and Japanese.

### Fashion in Japan

Lured to Japan by a fascination with the culture and the knowledge that Tokyo was one of the fashion capitals of the world, Victoria's thoughts of becoming a designer were only strengthened by the experience.

"Fashion in Tokyo is outrageous, fantastic or horrible," she says.

"It's obviously influenced by the Western world, but with a twist of the extreme. If a cowboy hat is in vogue, for instance, you'd see millions of people wearing cowboy hats. They take a style right off the runway, and a lot of trends are going on at the same time."

Despite taking the opportunity to travel to Bali, Hong Kong and Thailand, Victoria felt very lonely in Japan. "It's a very different culture and is still a man's world – defi-

nately not a place for a woman entrepreneur."

On her return to Montreal, she launched herself into the fashion industry by working at a new store opened by the Fidel clothing line.

She also attended the International Academy of Design to learn sewing, pattern-making, and computer drawing.

### Learned from Fidel

This led her to work at Fidel's head office where she learned the tricks of the trade, including the business side.

But she was looking for a way to get into business for herself, "something that would motivate me."

She found an ad on the internet for a fashion designer wanted by environmentalists Mark Ambard of Montreal and Gerri Brightwell of Invermere, BC.

"I was intrigued by it because fashion can be a shallow, materialistic world."

Victoria signed on and later bought into the company, becoming its only full-time worker while her partners continue their regular work.

"I'm now doing what I love: designing," she says. "And they're doing what's important to them. And together, all three of us are very passionate about Grace & Cello."

"And when you love what you do," she adds, "ultimately you will succeed."

In terms of changing society, a card attached to each item in the collection reads in part: "...and there goes another woman wearing Grace & Cello, beautiful in her guilt-free sense of belonging. To find out how we're helping to re-vision the world: [www.gracecello.com](http://www.gracecello.com)".

# CITYSCAPE



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mariasantini@sympatico.ca

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Lovely family home, steps to the private schools, with charming solarium overlooking large terraced garden. 4 + 1 bedrooms, interior garage with heated driveway! **\$825,000**

**SOLD**

## WESTMOUNT

Adorable cottage with secluded balcony overlooking Stayner Park. Perfect home for young family on this quiet street. Bonus: a 2-car garage at back of charming garden. **\$459,000.**

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Westmount adjacent. Charming cottage nestled against the mountain. 4+1 bedrooms, A/C, wood floors, fireplace, parking. Motivated vendor. Asking \$585,000.



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# Colourfully Yours: Lighting: cheap, quick and chic!

BY AURELIEN GUILLORY



Well, hello again my Dears, this is Greta von Schmedlapp starting off this second little talk with you... Those fine folks that produce the *Westmount Independent* want me to tell you about my cheapie lighting solution that Aurelien promised last time... since I'm the one that found the solution in the local Home Depot (the dressiest hardware store outside of Hogg's elegant shop in Victoria village). Go down, down, Lansdowne through the stone arch of the Glen to St. Antoine.

Once there, I'll tell you my secret trick for vastly improving the lighting in your home. Some of the best addresses in Westmount suffer from UNDER-lighting,

and you would not believe how many fancy crystal chandeliers have mixtures of bulbs – some clear, some frosted, different wattages...

### **Let there be light**

Lighting can make or break a room. I've said it millions of times: "When you play ball on the home court... you should at least look good!" Remember, your home is a backdrop for you! So, my dears, hie thee down to the lighting department of Home Depot, and find – on the end aisle – a small spotlight attached to a clip. I think that the black finish is less visible than the brushed silver finish or the white, and it's \$6.99!

Now, when you're back home, cast a cold-blooded eye over the living and dining rooms... in the evening, please (with a delicious martini to help you think). Notice the lighting balance. Often, one side

of the room is better lit than the other. Place a clip light behind that potted rubber tree and clip it onto the edge of the cachepot, or at the base of the stem, and swivel it upward toward the ceiling.

Voila! Beautiful filtered light through the leaves, and a lovely pattern on the ceiling, and more balanced illumination – your room looks bigger, and up-lights toward the top lift the height of the room – too often those industrial pot-lights shine on the floor, and leave the ceiling in darkness.

### **A case in point**

Aurelien: Hey Greta, let me tell our readers about my client's Chinese-influenced dining room! When I visited her on one of my quickie "prêt-a-porter" visits, I saw an elegant room, with a large-enough centre fixture, but the rest of the room was hiding in gloom! She had a pair of large porcelain pots with superb

preserved Bonsai trees about five feet tall flanking her Chinoiserie buffet. With the new clip-on up-lights casting pools of light upward, the room instantly had unusual shadows from the tree branches, and it looked much larger! All this for less than \$20!

Greta, you reminded me about another neighbour nearby, where we hid another pair of "clippies" behind the cornice molding of their TV cabinet. That simple solution helped reduce the TV glare, as well as showing off the height of the cabinet.

Thanks to your sleuthing, two families have a better atmosphere at home with very little cash outlay!

Next time, Greta and I will tell you how to take the curse off of that long, narrow upstairs hall. Bye for now. Do let me hear from you, I will reply to your problem-room questions – and with no invoice attached!

Aurelien (and Greta) can be reached at: aurelien@colorsbyaurelien.com

## **Today, Yesterday and Before**

# **When was "Westmount"?**

BY DOREEN LINDSAY

### **The Make-up Artist**



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Westmount is a small, compact and endlessly fascinating place to live that always seems to me to be a model example of the type of environment that the urban philosopher Jane Jacobs endorsed in her first book *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. We live, shop, conduct business, exercise, send our children to school, and attend recreational and cultural facilities within our built environment. Our buildings have the "diversity of uses, combined with diversity of age" that she admired.

### **Know thy city**

How well do you know your city? Find out how we got our name, which is our oldest road, the location of our oldest house, who built the City Hall, the Public Library and the many marvelous houses.

Who were the architects, the planners, and the business people who contributed to our identity?

I have prepared 10 questions about Westmount for your enjoyment. You can test your knowledge in upcoming issues of this *Westmount Independent* community newspaper.

Question #1. In what year did we take the name "Westmount"?

Answer on p. 12



St Catherine St. and Greene Ave. circa: the year we became Westmount.

### **Next week in**

Catherine McKenzie reviews *Poppy Shakespeare* by Clare Allan

Annika Melanson writes about "preparing Fido for Baby"

**Vivva MONTREAL**  
*What are you doing tonight?*



*Westmount vous informe...  
Westmount vous informe...*



## SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

### Couvre-feu dans les parcs

En raison de l'augmentation spectaculaire des rapports de vandalisme, de graffitis et d'infraction relative à la toxicomanie dans les parcs municipaux, la Ville de Westmount instaure un couvre-feu dans tous ses parcs. À compter du jeudi 7 juin, tous les parcs de Westmount seront fermés au public tous les soirs, de minuit à 5 h du matin, pour une période indéterminée. Les contrevenants sont passibles d'une amende minimum de 37 \$.



## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

### Fête de la Saint-Jean

#### Le vendredi 22 juin au parc Westmount

À compter de 17 h, apportez votre pique-nique et préparez-vous pour une soirée de fête avec musique, gâteau de la Saint-Jean et feu de joie. Un concert des plus belles chansons québécoises, en compagnie de Manuel Brault et François Guy, débutera à 19 h. En cas de pluie, l'événement aura lieu au Victoria Hall. Info : 514 989-5226

### Activités de la Fête du Canada

Participez à la Fête du Canada à la piscine de Westmount le 1er juillet. Le dîner BBQ aura lieu de midi à 14 h, suivi du Splash Bash de 14 h à 17 h avec des jeux, des prix et un gâteau pour tous. Info : 514 989-5353.

### Concerts d'été au parc Westmount

#### Du 8 juillet au 12 août à 14 h

Venez assister à des concerts professionnels près de l'étang du parc Westmount les dimanches à 14 h. En cas de pluie, les concerts auront lieu au Victoria Hall. Info : 514 989-5226

Le 8 juillet Quartette Robert Burnam

Le 15 juillet Quartette Sheila Smith

Le 22 juillet L'ensemble du Carré Saint-Louis

Le 29 juillet Quartet Nota Bene

Le 5 août L'esprit de la Nouvelle-Orléans

Le 12 août Trio Jon Geary



## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Club de lecture vacances 2007

#### jusqu'au 24 août 2007

Décolezz vers les confins de l'univers en participant au club de lecture vacances. Le

# Westmount Page

## DATES À RETENIR

### Jusqu'au 24 août

Club de lecture vacances 2007

*Lire au-delà du réel !*

Bibliothèque

### Le 22 juin - à partir de 17 h

Activités de la Fête de la Saint-Jean  
Parc Westmount

### Le 28 juin - 19 h

Gilde de Westmount Quilters  
Victoria Hall

### Le 1<sup>er</sup> juillet - à partir de midi

Activités de la Fête du Canada  
Piscine municipale

### Le 3 juillet - à partir de 9 h

Inscription - Camp d'été

*Session B*

Aréna de Westmount

Inscription au comptoir des enfants de la  
Bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5229



## HYDRO WESTMOUNT

### Vous déménagez ?

Veuillez nous aviser de votre déménagement au moins 7 jours précédent celui-ci en composant le 514 925-1414. Vous éviterez ainsi de payer l'électricité consommée à votre ancien domicile après votre départ. **Payez-vous votre compte à la banque ?** N'oubliez pas de l'aviser que le numéro de votre compte a été modifié. Ceci vous évitera des ennuis inutiles. **Paiement pré-autorisé ?** Profitez d'une nouvelle façon simple et pratique de payer vos factures. Le montant à payer est automatiquement prélevé de votre compte bancaire à la date d'échéance. Info : 514 925-1414.



## TRAVAUX PUBLICS

### Pesticides

Veuillez noter que l'application de pesticides est interdite entre le 15 juin et le 1er septembre à l'exception de situations dangereuses pour la santé publique. En tout temps, l'émission d'un permis est nécessaire avant de procéder à une application de pesticides. Info : 514 989-5268.



## PUBLIC SECURITY

### Park Curfew

Due to a dramatic increase in reports of vandalism, graffiti and substance abuse infractions in municipal parks, the City of Westmount is instituting a curfew in all parks. As of Thursday, June 7, all parks in Westmount will be closed to the public nightly from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. for an indeterminate period. Violators will be subject to a minimum fine of \$37.



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Fête de la Saint-Jean

#### June 22 in Westmount Park

Bring a picnic anytime from 5 p.m. and get ready for an evening of celebration, which includes music, St-Jean cake and a bonfire. A special concert of québécois songs featuring Manuel Brault and François Guy will begin at 7 p.m. Rain venue: Victoria Hall. Info: 514 989-5226

### Canada Day

Join us for Canada Day festivities on July 1 at the Westmount Pool. A BBQ will take place from noon to 2 p.m. followed by the annual Splash Bash from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Includes games, prizes and Canada Day cake for everyone. Info: 514 989-5353.

### Summer Concerts in the Park

#### July 8 to August 12, 2 p.m.

Join us on Sundays at 2 p.m. at the lagoon in Westmount Park for free concerts by professional musicians. Rain location: Victoria Hall. Info: 514 989-5226

July 8 Robert Burnam Quartet

July 15 Sheila Smith Quartet

July 22 L'ensemble du Carré Saint-Louis

July 29 Nota Bene Quartet

August 5 L'esprit de la Nouvelle-Orléans

August 12 Jon Geary Trio



## LIBRARY

### Summer Reading Club 2007

#### until August 24, 2007

Blast off to the outer reaches of the universe in this annual summer reading club. The theme this year is *To the Library and Beyond!* You can still register for this activity in the children's section of the Library. Info: 514 989-5229.



## DATEBOOK

### Until August 24

Summer Reading Club 2007

*To the Library and Beyond!*

Library

### June 22 - as of 5 p.m.

Saint-Jean Festivities

Westmount Park

### June 28 - 7 p.m.

Westmount Quilters Guild

Victoria Hall

### July 1 - as of noon

Canada Day Festivities

Municipal pool

### July 3 - as of 9 a.m.

Summer Camp Registration

*Session B*

Westmount Arena



## HYDRO WESTMOUNT

### Moving?

Please call us at 514 925-1414 at least 7 days prior to your move. That way you won't have to pay for electricity used in your old residence after you leave. **Do you pay your account through the bank?** Don't forget to advise them that your account number has been changed. This will avoid any unpleasant surprises. **Pre-authorized payments?** Take advantage of a new simple and convenient way to pay your bills. The amount owing is automatically deducted from your bank account on the due date. Info: 514 925-1414.



## PUBLIC WORKS

### Pesticides

Public Works would like to remind all residents that the application of pesticides is prohibited between June 15 and September 1, except in cases of infestation that present a threat to public health. Please note that even in cases of infestation, a valid permit is always required before using pesticides. Info: 514 989-5268.

# It's easy being Greene



Wesley McCoy is ready to help parents interested in having their children attend summer camp at Centre Greene.

A few spots remain for the Centre Greene's summer camp, which begins on Tuesday, June 26.

New this summer at the independent, not-for-profit community organization at 1090 Greene Ave. is a dance camp. It runs for one week, August 20-24, for boys and girls 7 and older with experience in dance.

"It features classical ballet, ballet jazz, contemporary dance — all sorts of wonderful things," said Anna Johansson, co-ordinator.

Dance camp is an addition to the Centre Greene's regular summer camp, which runs for eight weeks and is for children

ages 5 to 14.

"Every day is planned with many great activities and once-a-week campers go somewhere on a special outing," Johansson said.

Registration forms, camp descriptions and all kinds of other information are available at Centre Greene's website, [www.centregreene.org](http://www.centregreene.org).

Johansson asked that parents call 514.931.6202 to let staff know that they've registered online, as spots are filling up.

Looking forward, the Centre Greene's after-school program ends on Friday June 22 and fall registration is starting

# You know you're from Westmount when...

## (Part 2 of 2)

Former Westmounter, Stephen Lunny recently created a group on the networking website Facebook ([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)) called "YOU KNOW YOU'RE FROM WESTMOUNT WHEN". Attached to it is the following list:

- ...you've waited half an hour for the 66, the only link to the outside world.
- ...you took dance from Nanci at some point in your life.
- ...you know what "when Beverly talks, nobody else talks!" means.
- ...you still get excited by the annual Splash Bash at Westmount Pool.
- ...you remember the Mac's on Grosvenor and Sherbrooke and the people who owned it. Ah, good times.
- ...you thought lower Claremont Ave. was the ghetto.
- ...your first desire to rise up against social injustice came after Westmount Public Security denied you your right to roller skate, bike or roam freely in your own park.
- ...you watched *For the Love of Benji* (or *Return of the Jedi*) at The Claremont.
- ...you tried to shimmy between the Mac's and 4823 Sherbrooke St. West and your head got stuck.
- ...you smoked your first joint (or drank your first beer) at Murray Hill Park.
- ...you went "all the way" under a shrub near the tennis courts (or behind shrubs near park bathroom).
- ...your "formal" education began after school at Marcos and Pepe's.



Where Mac's used to be.

...you remember (and are slightly dated if you do) Murray's, Meta's, Steinberg's, Miss Westmount, Pascal's, Gulliver's, Select Bakery, The Piccadilly Theatre and you bought penny candy at that corner store on St. Catherine St. [Ed.'s note: Anthony's] and bought pencils from Westmount Stationery when it was on the south side of Sherbrooke St.



Used to be Steinberg's.

# Westmount history quiz

## From question on p. 10

Question: In what year did we take the name "Westmount"?

Answer: In 1895. In the beginning, in 1874, we were incorporated within the much larger Village of Notre Dame de Grace with Prudhomme as our Mayor. Then, reduced in size, our name became Côte St. Antoine for 15 years; first a Village from 1879 to 1890, then a Town from 1890 to 1895. In 1895 with public consultation, we changed our name to the Town of Westmount gaining City status in 1908.

## Why a city?

Many factors led to our becoming a city. The population was increasing. This previously rural area, which had been a mix-

ture of farmland and summer residences, began to be urbanized. Public transportation led to greater accessibility for more people. Electric streetcar lines were extended west on St. Catherine and Sherbrooke Streets as well as along Victoria and Greene Avenues. The first CPR train station was built at the end of Abbott Avenue in 1896 and replaced in 1907 by a second one at the lower end of Victoria Avenue.

Information about early times in Westmount can be found in *The Westmount Historian*, the newsletter of the Westmount Historical Association deposited in the Reference Department of the Westmount Public Library.



The former Pascal's.

## Next week in

**Vivva MONTREAL**  
What are you doing tonight?  
Carola Price writes about BEER!

# Girls and boys soccer leagues wrap-up exciting season

BY BENJAMIN SHINGLER

With the Westmount “turf wars” getting so much attention, maybe the sports being played on the fields aren’t getting enough. The debate between artificial turf and natural grass notwithstanding, Westmount’s youth soccer leagues are thriving.

## Bantams

On Saturday June 16 the city’s soccer fields were filled with energy as boys and girls played their final weekend games of the season.

Roxanna Bennett, a 13-year-old mid-fielder for the Calgary team in the Bantam Girls league, arrived early before her game to run through practice drills with her teammates. She likes soccer because “It’s a lot of teamwork, and we get to play against each other but still be friends.” Even though the season ends this week, Bennett will still get her soccer fix. She will be going to soccer camp this summer.

## Novices

Across the park coaches and parents were cheering on other young players.

Anima Nemiri came out to support her 9-year-old son Rémi. He plays for Spain in the Novice league.

“It’s important to encourage your kids,” Nemiri said in between cheers. She has three kids playing Westmount soccer and tries to attend all of their games. Her husband was also in attendance.

“I think he cheers even louder than me,” she said with a laugh.

Dr. Denise Perron, coach for the Kingston team in the girls Pee-wee league, thinks soccer is about more than winning and losing.

Perron said that when 12-year-old Stephanie Mansour first joined the team, she was shy and worried she wouldn’t be good enough for the league.

On Saturday Mansour proved she’s overcome those obstacles. She played the first half of the game in goal, and the sec-

ond half at midfield, helping Kingston squeak out a 2-1 victory over Sudbury. Stephanie’s advice to children who haven’t played the sport? “It’s fun, try it!”

Dr. Perron enjoys the sense of community at the games. “It’s a real social time for the children as well as the parents.”

A love of soccer clearly runs in the family. Perron plays in the women’s league, and her daughter Jackie plays on the Kingston team.

## Season’s round-up

Westmount sports coordinator Steve Robaire says this has been a very successful season for all age levels. Enrollment for



William Biron, Justin Gariépy, and Andreas Dionisopoulos (from left to right) enjoy some cool refreshment after their team, Argentina, beat China 4-3 in Novice league action.

the soccer program has been steadily rising over the last fifteen years.

“We’ve had good turnouts and all the leagues have been pretty competitive this year,” he said. One reason for the high attendance is the weather.

“It’s been sunny and warm nearly the whole season,” Robaire said.

In many leagues the championship title is still up for grabs. Final games of the season will be played the week of June 18.

# Rec roundup

Westmount’s recreation teams are winding down for the summer with the exception of the Mosquito-level boys baseball team. At press time, the Westmount Wings were facing the Cote St. Luc team in a best-of-three championship. The boys, ages 10 and 11, compete in a five-city league also comprised of Hampstead, Montreal West and the Town of Mount Royal.

Friday, June 22 brings the close of a soccer season that saw 1,100 boys, girls and women participate. Impressive as that sounds, what’s really taking off in the Westmount rec world is lacrosse.

“It’s gonna become huge,” predicted Westmount Recreation’s Steve Robaire. “This was our second year running it. Last year, our first year, we had 25 people. This past spring we had 80 people. It’s very popular.”

Players are boys and girls ages 6 to 12. Their coaches are players from the McGill University lacrosse team.

Would-be lax players will have to wait until March to register for next season.

The Recreation Department’s next big registration is in August, for hockey and skating.

The telephone number for the Westmount Recreation Office is 514.989.5353.

# McGill varsity players help bring lacrosse to Westmount

BY BENJAMIN SHINGLER

When Westmount Sports and Recreation first began offering lacrosse last year, 26 kids registered to play. This spring 81 signed up, and judging by the atmosphere at Murray Hill Park on Sunday, June 17 for the final games of the season, it will be even more popular in the years to come.

Much of the credit goes to members of the McGill men’s and women’s varsity lacrosse teams. All the coaches played for McGill this year, and still found time to get to the park every Sunday to teach kids the game.

Kyle Peterdy organized the boys league for 9- to 12-year-olds this year, and also coached the Roughnecks to the championship. “It was a positive learning experience for me,” he said. “I hope the kids enjoyed it as much as I did.”

## Lots to learn and lots was learned

Taylor Boyd, a member of Kyle’s Roughnecks team, said he learned a lot from his coach and the rest of the McGill lacrosse players. “It was definitely competitive and a lot of fun,” he said.

Kaitlin Soye, formerly a lacrosse player at McGill and Guelph, helped organize the

games and practices for the younger boys (aged 7-8) and girls of all ages.

She decided to divide up the Sunday meetings between practices and games so the kids could learn the rules and skills. Soye says it’s amazing how much the kids have improved.

For the last meeting on Sunday June 17, Soye invited parents to play alongside their children. “Parents have been supportive so we thought they would enjoy it, and a lot of the parents used to play,” Soye explained. “Plus, kids love to teach their parents what to do.”

## Next week in

# Vivva MONTREAL

*What are you doing tonight?*

Anthea Dawson writes about cedar plank salmon on a barbecue



# McGill

The University Centre for Research on Pain and Disability

affiliated with McGill University is seeking individuals with persistent pain to participate in a research project. If you are between the ages of 20 and 55 years, and have been experiencing back or neck pain for more than 6 months, you may be eligible to participate.

## You will receive compensation for your participation in this study.

You will be invited to complete questionnaires evaluating the impact of your pain condition on different aspects of your life. You will also be asked to participate in a brief physical task. The total duration of this meeting will be approximately one hour.

If you are interested in participating in this study, please call: 514.935.9559

# THE WESTMOUNTERS

## *Lots of fun planned for St. Jean, Canada Day*

Westmount is kicking off the St. Jean holiday weekend on Friday, June 22 with an evening-long celebration. Starting at 5 pm, picnics may be brought to Westmount Park, where, until 10 pm, there will be games, crafts, music, a bonfire, children's activities and even cake. At 7 pm **François Guy and Manuel Brault** will present a selection of Québécois songs. The bonfire will start casting its magical glow at 9 pm at the eastern junior playing field. In case of rain, all activities but the bonfire will be moved to Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W.

From 2 to 6 pm on Saturday, July 1, Westmount Pool will host the Canada Day BBQ & Splash Bash. For more information, please call 514.989.5226.

## *Not too early to think about Torah school in the fall*

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom is organizing this fall's Wednesday afternoon Torah school. Classes are planned for students from kindergarten to grade 3, from 3:45 to 5 pm. To express interest or to

arrange for personal consultation, contact Rabbi Leigh Lerner's office at 514.937.3575 or [rabbi@templemontreal.ca](mailto:rabbi@templemontreal.ca). The temple is located at 4100 Sherbrooke St. West.

## *Local gallery celebrates anniversary with group exhibition*

In a group exhibition running through July 1, Galerie D'Este is presenting the most recent works of its artists, both established and up and coming. The gallery, at 1329 Greene Ave., boasts an international roster of artists, including Westmount resident **Catherine Y. Bates** and **Dennis Jones**, who recently moved from Westmount. Named in honour of the Renaissance art patron **Isabella d'Este**, the gallery is celebrating its first anniversary. For more information, please call 514.846.1515.

## *LOVE comes to town*

Also on the Westmount gallery scene, the Visual Arts Centre's McClure Gallery is glowing with love or, more accurately, hosting a project called LOVE. Leave Out Violence, a non-profit organization, works with teens 13 to 18 whose lives have been

upset by violence as victims, perpetrators or witnesses.

In the exhibition, the youth of LOVE use photography, prose, multimedia and video to trace the organization's evolution into a global youth movement. The exhibition runs June 22 to July 14 at the gallery, at 350 Victoria Ave. The vernissage takes place at 6 pm Thursday, June 21. LOVE, Canada's leading not-for-profit youth-violence prevention organization aims to help youth develop the skills and motivation to help break the cycle of violence.

The exhibition is made possible through a grant from the TD Bank Financial Group to the Visual Arts Centre's Teen Outreach Program. For more information and hours of operation, please call 514.488.9558. LOVE's website is [www.leaveoutviolence.org](http://www.leaveoutviolence.org).

## *Atwater Library serves up season's last Lunchtime Series*

Community outreach activities are winding down for the summer at the Atwater Library and Computer Centre, Canada's oldest lending library. At 12:30 pm Wednesday, June 20, the season's last Atwater Lunchtime Series takes place – a free presentation by **Nathalie Bray** on Academos, a new government-funded program of internet mentoring ([www.academos.qc.ca](http://www.academos.qc.ca)).

Bray will explain how participants can help a young person make the right career choice. The Lunchtime Series, Book Club, Poetry Project and other community favourites will resume in the fall at the library, at 1200 Atwater Ave. During the summer, the library itself and the Booksale Room remain open, the latter from noon to 3 pm, Wednesday through Saturday. Run by volunteers, the Booksale Room features lightly used books and magazines at great prices. For more information, please go to [www.atwaterlibrary.ca](http://www.atwaterlibrary.ca) or call 514.935.7344.

## *Rotarians help promote fire safety*

The members of the Westmount Rotary looked well rested at their June 13 meeting, which was something of a surprise considering that many of them had spent the previous evening installing dozens of smoke detectors. Rotary International turned 100 in 2005 and as their Centennial Project the Westmount Rotary members chose promoting fire safety.

They bought several hundred smoke detectors and accompanied fire inspectors on some of their rounds. "The fire inspectors can inspect buildings but they don't have a budget for alarms," explained Westmount Rotary President **Ted Sanction**, who with his fellow Rotarians ..... put in a good two hours *continued on page 15*



## WESTMOUNT

Generously proportioned rooms and lots of light are the hallmarks of this circa 1912 home with updates that include a kitchen and family room.

The house, in sought after mid-level location, features four bedrooms, high ceilings, garage and small garden.

**\$1,250,000**

**Julie Bourne**  
**514-933-5800**

groupe sutton – centre-ouest



## The Westmount Parent

# Strolling, shopping and swimming

ANNIKA MELANSON



Let's get physical! For expecting mums who want to stay in shape during pregnancy and new mummies wanting to regain their pre-pregnancy bodies post-partum, Copines et Poussettes is now offering classes in Westmount Park. The name says it all: friends and strollers...but it sounds so much nicer in French. So grab your buggy, your baby, some good workout gear and a bottle of water and go! Two different classes will be offered beginning on July 2: Walking Bellies and Power-Stroll.

### **Exercise for mums**

*Walking Bellies* is a class designed for expecting mothers who want to maintain a healthy body during pregnancy through low-impact exercise. What better way to stay fit, increase strength and flexibility, both which will be needed during delivery, while enjoying the great outdoors in our fantastic local park?

Classes are held on Tuesdays from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm and the session costs \$160. *Power-Stroll* is a class designed for new mums to get back into shape while enjoying the company of their babies. Added bonus: no babysitting hassles or costs! For this class there is the option to bring your own two to five pound weights and an exercise mat. The class is offered on Tuesdays from 10 am to 11:15 am and Thursdays from 10:30 am to 11:15 am. The session costs \$195 whether you attend one or two classes a week.

All classes are taught by certified group fitness instructors who are trained in CPR.

Make sure that you and your baby are protected from the sun by using sun block and a hat. It is not advised for babies under the age of six months to use sunscreen so ensure that your little one is properly shaded from the sun. This is a great way to get out and have fun and a great idea to give as a gift certificate for the mum who has everything! Copines et Poussettes, 514.688.2878, [www.copinesetpoussettes.com](http://www.copinesetpoussettes.com).

### **Westmount retail news**

Pom'Cannelle has temporarily moved to 386 Victoria Ave., across from Metro Fletcher.

## **Wine: What's In Store?**

# **Cono Sur Reserve and Monkey Bay**

BY CAROLA PRICE



With rows of shelves brimming with bottles from around the globe how are you ever supposed to choose a wine for your evening meal or festivity? Your personal sommelier is here to tell you what to buy at the Westmount SAQs.

It's all about screw caps this summer and the listings are becoming plentiful here in Quebec. I will now share important information. Only 10 percent of the world's wine is meant to be drunk after ten years. While most of the wine we consume is meant for early consumption, say less than five years, why on earth should we use an unsustainable product like cork? Embrace the newest in Stelvin enclosure and drink what the winemaker wanted us to taste, without cork taint. Put your notions about the

days of the fellow on the park bench sipping bad *dep* wine. Very reputable houses are now offering this enclosure for their premium offerings, with Australia leading the way. Cheers and happy sipping.

Cono Sur Reserve Pinot Noir from Chile is a good match to BBQ salmon and even sirloin burgers. The slightly smokey nose led to a black cherry and earthy flavour. While it is a bit high in alcohol for my liking it matched with the food and at \$16.70 it is a Pinot bargain. Serve it slightly chilled so it can open in the glass. SAQ#00874891. Available at Westmount Square, Atwater and Victoria outlets.

Monkey Bay Rose from New Zealand was a delicious way to start the evening meal. The nose of strawberry and pepper gave way to a medium bodied finish with great acid to match with food. At \$16.20 it can be your apero. SAQ#10769921. Available at Westmount Square, Atwater and Victoria/Sherbrooke outlets.



Pom'Cannelle's temporary Victoria Ave. location

The store is getting a complete facelift and will re-open at its usual location, 4860 Sherbrooke St. West, on July 15.

Speaking of retail therapy, Oink! Oink! Offers a 15-percent discount to grandparents on the first Tuesday of every month. As if any granny needs an excuse to indulge their little treasures! I always buy Amel's sunhats there as they carry hats made from SPF fabrics. The hats are called Solarweave II and offer UV protection and are UPF (Ultra Violet Protection) factor 40 to 50+. They wash well and have wide rims to shade the face. They cost about \$35. Oink! Oink!, 1343 Greene Ave., [www.oinkoink.com](http://www.oinkoink.com).

### **Pool party**

The yearly Splash Bash is happening on Sunday, July 1 at the Westmount Pool. Starting at 12 pm, there will be a barbecue with hotdogs, hamburgers and drinks served. All of the food costs \$1 to \$2.

At 2 pm the real party begins: games, races and contests galore. I remember one of the big treats of the yearly pool party was that one didn't have to wear the normally mandatory unattractive bathing caps...when I was a child the rubber caps were all that was available and as well as being ugly, they also pulled my hair! Starting this year, the Westmount Pool will no longer enforce the bathing cap rule, although people with long hair are advised to tie hair back.

For little swimmers who love the water but need the extra confidence boost, I have found a great product: Floatations Swimsuits. Okay, I know that bathing suits with incorporated flotation devices have been around for a while, but I have never seen ones that also have a floatation panel at the chest level (front and back) which definitely make a difference in stability and keeping your child's head above water.

My four-year-old daughter, Amel loves the water and has the right idea, but this suit gives her the extra confidence that she needs to develop her swimming and coordination. These suits are difficult to find but are available at [www.mypoolpal.com](http://www.mypoolpal.com). There are many styles for boys and girls in an assortment of colours and cost about US \$55.

Have fun in the sun and see you at the pool!

### **The Westmounters... continued on page 15**

in Point St. Charles on June 12.

They installed detectors and, when needed, replaced batteries. At their June 13 meeting, the Rotarians discussed their annual garage sale and auction, which was well attended, to say the least, June 1 and 2.

The Rotary meets at 12:30 pm every Wednesday at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W.

For more information, please contact 514.935.3344 or [info@rotarywestmount.org](mailto:info@rotarywestmount.org).



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## WESTMOUNT FEATURED PROPERTIES



**UPPER CLARKE** – Unsurpassed southern views are offered throughout this unique detached 5 bedroom home. With central air, 2-car garage and renovated kitchen opening onto an intimate garden complete with waterfall, this home is truly unique! **ASKING \$2,975,000**



**UPPER LANSDOWNE** – With its fabulous kitchen, wonderfully designed master suite, 5 fireplaces, terraces and wine cellar, this house is perfect for a couple who love quality, distinction and sophistication! **ASKING \$1,895,000**



**BOULEVARD** – Private setting, breathtaking views, Italian design! Beautiful modern residence with private terrace and landscaped garden. Exquisite living room with fireplace, state of the art kitchen, beautiful master suite with doubleface fireplace, 2-car garage++ **ASKING \$889,000**



**RAMEZAY** – 1st Time Offered In Over 50 Years! – Superb, detached, stone 5-bdrm property magnificently perched on a wonderful corner lot. This home is filled with incredible charm and offers a 2-car garage with large deck, and great light throughout. **ASKING \$1,998,000**



**FORDEN** – Spectacular and most elegant bungalow featuring an incredible master suite, exquisite paneled den leading to a private garden, granite kitchen, 2-car garage, large lower level with 2 add. suites + so much more! **ASKING \$1,695,000**



**GROSVENOR** – Wonderfully bright and fully renovated 3-storey, 7 bedroom home with granite eat-in kitchen, beautiful detailing throughout, master ensuite, fabulous finished basement, small garden, garage and 2-car ext. parking. **ASKING \$1,269,000**



**MONTROSE** – Elegant and sun-filled 4+1 bedroom home featuring large principle rooms, fireplaces, finished basement, master ensuite, central air, 2 decks, integrated garage and great views! **ASKING \$895,000**



**PRINCE ALBERT** – WOW! Superb sun-filled corner 4 bedroom townhouse featuring 17' windows, master w/ensuite, 2 fireplaces, beautiful deck/garden off living room, central air, 2 garages++ Simply move right in! **ASKING \$889,000**



**WOOD AVE.** – Perfect opportunity to live in the most desired condo building in Westmount which offers 2 bedrooms, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, master with ensuite, terrace, all day sunshine, 2 garages and great storage. **ASKING \$659,000**



Jill Prévost, BComm

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