

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

June 17-18, 2008

We are Westmount

Vol. 2 No. 6b

Province crafts deal with Montreal, demerged mayors

One tax bill, less money to agglom

Roslyn closes English stream, teacher Rill retires



Westmount mayor Karin Marks (seated) flanked by provincial ministers Nathalie Normandeau and Raymond Bachand (left) and Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay (right). Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

NEWS & ANALYSIS BY DON WEDGE

Everyone seems to have come out a winner in the new pacts between the Quebec government, Montreal and the demerged cities. The average abused suburban taxpayer will get at least slight relief from subsidizing Big Montreal and there will be only one tax bill – from Westmount – in future.

For once, even Premier Jean Charest looks good with his municipal stewardship.

It was a moment of municipal political history as Westmount mayor Karin Marks president of the Association of Suburban Mayors signed the multi-partner agreement with Municipal Affairs Minister Nathalie Normandeau and Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay at Montreal city hall on June 12.

In a carefully choreographed ceremony, Marks was followed by all the other mayors of reconstituted cities. The point could not have been made more strongly that the government recognized reconstituted cities as enti- *continued on p. 5*



Arlene Rill is retiring after 17 years at Roslyn School. This year was also the final year of Roslyn's English stream (i.e. non-French immersion), in which she taught. Story on p. 17.

Mayor: Local control of security key

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount “absolutely” must retain local control of its Public Security Unit, Mayor Karin Marks said last week in reacting to a police plan for some form of integration of municipal and other security forces on Montreal Island.

While the subject of integrating Public Security into the police force has surfaced from time to time over the years, Westmount can be best served by being able to

hire and train its own personnel and direct their work according to local needs,” Marks told the *Westmount Independent*.

“It has to remain a local service,” she said.

Police to present new plan

Marks said Montreal police director Yvan Delorme is to make a presentation on the subject of a “global approach” to public security to the 15 demerged suburbs before the meeting of the agglomeration council June 19. “I’ll know more about it after that.” *continued on p. 15*

Profile: Men Who Read p. 18

ROYAL LEPAGE
HERITAGE
CTR BKR

VIVIAN & BRIAN GRANT
592-4636 • 249-1500
“Working hard to exceed you expectations.”

**Your Independent Choice
in Wealth Management**

For further information on our financial services, visit our website

www.3macs.com

150 years Proudly celebrating 150 years of client trust and service (1858-2008)



MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier Inc.

Service to investors since 1858

Place du Canada, Suite 2000, 1010 de la Gauchetière West
Montreal, Quebec H3B 4J1





BRIAN DUTCH

✓ Respected ✓ Recommended ✓ Results

SOLD!



Westmount - 61 Thornhill Ave.
A perfect package. Great house/great street!
\$895,000

SOLD!



Westmount - 3720 The Boulevard
THE most spacious, elegant, + exceptional home in its price range.
\$1,575,000

SOLD!



Westmount adj. - 3787 Grey Ave.
Totally renovated and extended. Breathtaking!
\$898,000

SOLD!



Westmount - 36 Anwoth Ave.
Handsome Percy Nobbs detached cottage. Park like views at rear!
\$1,498,000

SOLD!



Westmount - 84 Belvedere Rd.
Want it all? Won't compromise? I've got your house!
\$1,150,000

SOLD!



Westmount - 4287 Sherbrooke St. W
The jewel of Sherbrooke St. Extraordinarily beautiful!
\$1,785,000

SOLD BY BRIAN!



Westmount - 4400 Montrose Ave.
Gorgeous renovations! Incredibly bright. Best location.
\$1,450,000

NEW PRICE!



Westmount - 646 Lansdowne Ave.
Exquisite, totally renovated home. Beautiful woodwork and details.
\$1,259,000



Westmount - 379 Grosvenor Ave.
Desirable "Victoria Village" location. Move-in condition.
\$869,000



Westmount - 418 Wood Ave.
Stunning Victorian. Fabulous location facing Barat Park.
\$1,275,000



Westmount - 175 Cote St. Antoine
Gloriously sun filled 4+den det. home. Exceptionally lovely garden!
\$1,690,000



Westmount - 110 Upper Bellevue Ave.
THE BEST VIEW IN WESTMOUNT. Enormous potential.
\$1,995,000

WWW.BRIANDUTCH.COM

514 386 2902

Affiliated Real Estate Agent

RE/MAX WESTMOUNT Inc. Chartered Real Estate - Broker/Independently owned & operated

ECS sings at the Manoir



The ECS grade 4 class went to Manoir Westmount on June 9 to sing for residents. Pictured here, from left: Emily Simard, Jiasi Liu, Alice Lemay, Elizabeth Rohlicek, Alexandra Wechsler and Catherine Farmer.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

Police chief change

Natalia Shuster, the former police commander at Station 12, has been appointed to the newly created anti-gang squad, Eclipse, as one of its two commanders.

The appointment of her successor, Commander Michel Wilson, started on June 16. He comes from the SWAT team.

Peeing postman

A Prince Albert resident caught her mailman urinating in her driveway on June 6. She complained to Canada Post, pointing out, "There was no need. He was steps away from the Sherbrooke/Prince Albert post office!"

Going on vacation? PSU can check homes

With the approaching holiday period, Westmounters are being reminded that they may call the Public Security Unit to keep an eye on their property.

The program of Special Passing Attention (SPA) means that patrols will check out the exterior of homes for trouble, alerting police or residents' representatives.

Residents requesting SPA should call the Public Security dispatcher at 514.989.5222.

Last year, residents used it on 461 separate occasions.

Westmount



Superbly located on Renfrew, steps from Murray Park, gorgeous oak woodwork & floors, central air, nanny suite in basement, deck, garden & garage. Don't miss this one!

\$1,250,000.

Westmount: Victorian townhouse in secluded location, steps to Staynor Park & tennis courts. Renovate to your taste. **\$535,000.**

Le Plateau: Gorgeous loft, 1357 sq.ft. with 11 1/2 ft. ceilings. Central air, indoor garage. Reduced to **\$368,000.**



PEGGY McMULLAN
514 933-5800

Affiliated Real Estate Agent
Groupe Sutton Centre Ouest

526 CLARKE AVENUE



Spectacular bright home on large lot with city views is beautifully renovated. This family home has a new cook's kitchen, private master bedroom with sitting area and sunroom as well as six more bedrooms, central air and humidification, new Marvin windows, integrated 2 car garage, large deck, garden and many more features. Brand new slate roof. Beautiful new landscaping. A must see. Asking \$3,150,000.

NANCY TAUB

GRUPE SUTTON CENTRE OUEST

514 488 4689 / 514 933 5800

*Our focus is to manage
your wealth effectively.*

John H. Bridgman

Partner & Portfolio Manager

Robert A. McKenzie, C.A., CFA

Director & Portfolio Manager

514-394-3000



MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier Inc.

Service to investors since 1858

Place du Canada, Suite 2000, 1010 de la Gauchetière West
Montreal, Quebec H3B 4J1

www.3macs.com



Part One of Two

Our Health

BY EVE ASPINALL
MEMBER OF THE HEALTHY CITY PROJECT

If we are going to look after our environment effectively, we must be physically and mentally able to do so. We have to look after our health by taking care of ourselves and, when unwell, have access to good and continuing care.

As the need for health care increases with the aging of the population, health services are declining. Approximately two million Quebec residents do not have a family doctor.

Legacy of 1990s

This dates back to the mid 1990s when the federal government, in order to balance its budget, cut transfer payments to the provinces, drastically reducing the money available for health and education. Trade agreements (such as NAFTA, WTO, FTAA) continue to take precedence. These agreements and financial treaties are not required to be made public even to those who may be affected. These decisions are made by appointed politicians, and the decisions and expenditures come at the expense of services: our health, education, culture, etc.

Across Canada, smaller hospitals that served their communities well and efficiently (such as the Queen Elizabeth Hospital) were indiscriminately closed under what proved to be a false assumption of

cost savings. Moreover, governments began closing nursing schools and cutting enrolment at medical schools by 10 percent. The Quebec government further exacerbated the shortage of medical personnel by offering doctors and nurses "early retirement packages". This resulted in a huge loss of experienced personnel that left hospitals critically understaffed, as well as serious loss of the invaluable wisdom and experience of older medical and nursing professionals.

Restrictions on doctors

In recent years, Quebec has restricted new doctors' rights to practise in Montreal by forcing them to work in outer regions. (Many who were trained here in our universities and hospitals have left and are unlikely to return.) This translates into a deprivation of Montrealers' access to primary health care without any say on our part. "A quarter of Quebec's people have no regular physician. A third of people in Montreal have no physician," says Dr. Martin Dawes, director of Family Medicine at McGill University.

For continuity of health care, you need to have a family doctor who knows and understands you, who can diagnose what ails you, prescribe medication if needed, refer you to a specialist if required, keep chronic conditions under control, and generally keep you in optimum condition and out of hospitals. It is not known how many peo-

Hort. Society presents bird bath for 10th year



The Westmount Horticultural Society marked its 10th anniversary June 10 in the story garden of the Westmount Public Library with the presentation of a bird bath. The society's early days were recalled by co-founders Stuart Robertson and Cynthia Lulham, shown above at centre, flanked by co-president Gabrielle Pilot (left) and librarian Wendy Wayling; and co-president Brigitta Brittain and librarian Mai Jay (right).

ple have older doctors who may be retiring soon and will find themselves in the position of so many others with no family doctor to turn to. This is a frightening position, especially for the elderly.

Currently, family physicians, Dr. Dawes reported, are forced by the Quebec government to work 12 hours in other health areas, often in emergency rooms. This reduces their availability to the patients by well over 25 percent. He added, "There is overwhelming evidence that the lower the number of family physicians, the higher the number of avoidable admissions, the

higher number of adverse effects of disease such as strokes and heart attacks, as well as higher rates of death. Basically, your family physician, should you be so lucky as to have one, reduces your chance of having a severe disease, being hospitalized or dying. Unfortunately, your government is now playing Loto Quebec with your health and it is pure luck whether you have one or not."

This situation is critical, and measures have to be taken to remedy the situation.

These will be discussed in Part Two...

WESTMOUNT
INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

If you *don't want* to get our publication, Canada Post advises that you place a sticker on your mailbox that says, "No ad mail." *Si vous ne voulez pas recevoir notre publication:* Malheureusement, nous ne sommes pas capable de bloquer une adresse individuelle. Il faut mettre une étiquette près de votre boîte à lettres qui lit « Pas de média-poste ».

If you *do want* to receive our publication and you have a sticker on your mailbox (or are outside our distribution area), please send a cheque for \$1.50 times the number of issues left in the year. We will mail them to you for the rest of the current calendar year.

Most frequently restocked drop sites: Lobby of 310 Victoria Ave.; Sherbrooke St. exit to Metro grocery store at Victoria Ave. and Sherbrooke St.

Drop notice: Snow conditions may delay us getting around to all of our drop sites on Tuesday of publication week. Whatever the snow conditions, we still aim to reach our "most reliable" drops (Metro on Victoria, Westmount Square and 310 Victoria lobby) on Tuesdays.

EDITOR & PUBLISHER: David Price 514.935-4537

EDITORIAL COORDINATOR: Kristin McNeill
514.223.3578 - indie@westmountindependent.com

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney
laureen@westmountindependent.com

LAYOUT: Studio Melrose/Ted Sancton

LETTERS & COMMENTS: We welcome your letters, but reserve the right to choose and edit them.

Please email any letter and comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.

Every letter of support helps us with advertisers!

Three times monthly
(1st, 3rd and last Wednesday of the month),
next issue: June 25

Presstime: The Monday before - at 10:30 am
Westmount (H3Y and H3Z):
10,000 copies by Canada Post
1,000 copies distributed to over
40 waiting-room drops

ADVERTISING SALES:
Annika Melanson 514.223.3567

Published by Sherbrooke-Valois Inc.
310 Victoria Ave., Suite 105
Westmount, QC H3Z 2M9
Fax: 514.935.9241

Park coverage
increased

Stepping up patrols in major Westmount parks over the summer, eight cadets have been hired for two daytime shifts while auxiliary public safety officers will patrol at night. "This will allow us to provide full coverage, seven days a week, from 7 am to 10:30 pm at Westmount, King George (Murray) and Stayner parks," said Public Security director Blondin.

So far this year till June 1, 19 tickets have been issued to persons found violating the park curfew, he said. Each cost the offender \$37. The curfew is in effect from 12 midnight to 5 am. Being drunk in a park cost another person \$68.

During the first week of June, nine tickets were issued to people for having drunk alcoholic beverages or being in possession of them in Summit Park, King George Park and Westmount Park.

Westmount Square
blackout

A power outage at Westmount Square Saturday, June 7, raised concerns the entire complex might have to be evacuated in the midst of the heat wave, Public Security officials said.

Firefighters and public safety officers were called to the scene at 6:30 pm to assist residents, but as interior temperatures rose to 32°C, temporary repairs to defective cables in the building were made by 10:25 pm. No evacuation was required.

Heavy storm, light damage

Westmount was lightly affected by the severe storm that hit Montreal on June 10. No trees were lost, but ones on Grenville Ave., Rosemont Cres. and Gordon Cres. were substantially damaged. City workers picked up branches felled by the storm in about 30 other locations.

Demerged cities get back their roads

Don Wedge... continued from p. 1

ties, and not just as tax fodder for the centre city.

To emphasize the harmony that the province wants to prevail over island affairs, the female mayors and minister all received two-cheek kisses from the male signatories – who had to make do with multiple handshakes!

As the smiles evaporate, what we are left with is Westmount and the other independent suburbs having to subsidize fewer Montreal facilities like the Claude Robillard Arena or Angrignon Park. That will save a few million on the approximately \$2 billion agglom budget.

The biggest visible change is that ownership of arterial roads will revert to local cities. They will again assume the cost of maintenance. “The difference is that necessary work will be done on them,” explained Mayor Marks. “Until now Montreal has spent the agglom money, but not much of it on suburban roads.”

Still to fight for

- The agglom remains undemocratic and unfair to the suburbs and to some of those trapped in the big city. Reforms are still needed so that the name of the agglom is Montreal island, rather than Montreal city. That would reflect the reality.
- The agglom council remains a rubber-stamping body. The rules exclude meaningful debates and votes. All the Montreal councillors, or at least every borough mayor, should have a seat and a meaningful vote.
- With the Montreal executive committee controlling every decision, it is important that the suburbs have representation on it for all the issues affecting the agglom.
- The June 12 pact acknowledges that there are issues to be resolved. Very difficult is to define which of the downtown core's operating costs should be subsidized. The Quebec civil servants who brokered the agreement have much work to do! DW

Tremblay had held out for a fiscally neutral solution as a prerequisite for any support to reforms. He got his wish: the Quebec government will give Montreal \$34 million annually to make up for the lost income from the suburbs.

Quebec subsidizes Tremblay

There always has to be some losers, and Quebec's taxpayers, generally, will have to pay for that subsidy.

The agglom budget will drop by approximately \$250 million with some responsibilities redirected to the cities. For instance, at present, Westmount clears snow from its arterial streets, but sends the bill to Montreal for settlement on the agglom account. Under the new deal, Westmount will have to pay the whole cost.

There could be a net saving of \$4.5 million, but Marks warns that it may not transfer into tax relief.

“We have been left with enormous debts after the forced merger and we will need funds for rebuilding roads. Council wants to avoid adding to debts, and again get close to pay-as-you-go,” she told me.

The ability of the suburban mayors to intervene in agglom affairs has been increased, although the undemocratic structure of agglom council, with its Tremblay-nominated Montreal members and pre-determined voting, is unchanged.

A new law governing the agglom is expected to clear the provincial legislature this week with ADQ support.

Among other things, it will create an audit committee with two seats for suburban members. There will also be an independent secretariat to provide information to the suburbs about Montreal's proposals.

Earlier intervention – Marks

It was an unmentioned, forbidden, subject, but everyone at the ceremony – packed with Tremblay employees and supporters – knew that the deal would not have been reached without the intervention of Raymond Bachand, the minister responsible for Montreal.

He recognized that the suburbs had to

Study alumna talks to future alumnae



Study alumna Reverend Patricia Kirkpatrick, '72, addressing the 36 members of The Study's class of 2008, their families, teachers and classmates at the school's annual service of thanksgiving, at St Matthias' Church on June 5. Study head girl Lara De Stefano (centre) looks on.

be helped, and spoke out forcibly at Tremblay's intransigence to change.

While losing a few plumes, two of the Montreal mayor's major wishes were granted: recognition by the Quebec government that Montreal is the metropolis of Quebec, not just another municipality like a country town, and the ability to levy taxes in addition to those on property.

Tremblay wanted parity with Toronto in this regard and the government gave him similar scope. He also got control of Ville Marie and, in emergencies, any of the 18 other boroughs.

Surprisingly, Premier Charest's name was hardly mentioned, if at all, at the ceremony. The man who had caused so much difficulty by reneging on the demerger promise and foisting the undemocratic referendum is also the person who triggered the new agreement.

Faced with troubling election results last year, particularly on the West Island, he included the agglom as one of the eight issues to be resolved by this summer. Bachand, Normandeau and some smart civil servants delivered for him.

“It does feel good,” Marks said the next morning when she called from a conference on sustainable transport. “Not all the

problems are solved, but the stage has been set for a better cooperation. Such an attitude could, in itself, lead to a better agglom.”

After the Normandeau ceremony, Marks had met Tremblay at an evening cultural event. “As he spoke about his day, I was very pleased to note his generosity of spirit toward the other mayors,” she said. “I am very hopeful about the future.”

Citizen activist Don Wedge's email address is calert@web.net.

Crime Watch

Pickpockets on the prowl in Westmount

Police Station 12 has noticed an increase in purse and wallet theft in the neighbourhood, especially on Sherbrooke St. and Greene Ave. Constable Caroline Gauthier warns residents not to hang purses on the backs of chairs or to leave handbags in carts while grocery shopping.

Scrap metal a “hot” commodity

Station 12 has had three reports of metal floor-level grills being stolen from the foyers of apartment buildings. Apparently, the metal is then melted down and sold, or used for scrap metal.

RE/MAX WESTMOUNT INC.

CHARTERED REAL ESTATE BROKER
Independently owned and operated

1330 Greene Ave.
Westmount
514 **933-6781**



RE/MAX WESTMOUNT INC.

CHARTERED REAL ESTATE BROKER
Independently owned and operated

5673 Monkland
N.D.G.
514 **482-3347**

Letters to the Editor

A FINAL BIRTHDAY WISH

Your first year was coincident with our first year in Westmount, and the *Independent* helped us learn our way around.

Congratulations!

GILL & DAN SULLIVAN, ROSEMOUNT AVE.

SAVE THE PARK! TOLD NO "TALES"

I would like to comment on the letter to the editor by Jessica Weisel: "Save The Park's Mesmerizing Tales" (*Westmount Independent*, May 27).

I was present at the May 2007 open meeting on Westmount Park's lower fields. After reading Ms. Weisel's letter a couple of times, I had to wonder whether we had been at the same gathering. I refer to her comment that this meeting had "sadly been hijacked by the aforementioned *fanatical group*," referring to members of Save the Park!

This meeting was carefully arranged by the city and moderated by Roderick McDonald, a McGill law professor. A review panel of consultants spoke at some length

and 18 individual briefs were presented by citizens including individuals from Narnia Daycare, Westmount Park School, the WMA, two physicians speaking to safety issues and several others, including five people representing Save The Park! Questions from the audience addressed a wide spectrum of issues ranging from esthetics to possible parking problems. The meeting more or less concluded with a show of hands from the approximately 400 people in the audience who overwhelmingly rejected the synthetic turf proposal.

The suggestion by Ms. Weisel that the meeting was effectively co-opted and manipulated by a small "fanatical" group of Save the Parkers is ridiculous and, frankly, insulting to the large number of concerned and responsible citizens who found the time to attend and participate. Her reference to Save the Park! as a group that "essentially consists of about four people who seem to have a lot of time on their hands" is arrogant, mean-spirited, childish and as far as I know, not at all accurate. Or has Ms. Weisel privately investigated their employment records?

I'm not a member of Save the Park!, but



Westmount Park's lower fields, looking west. Artificial turf - rejected. Fenced field - in the works.

I have had my own concerns. I spent a lot of time doing my own research and expressing my opinions. I suppose that from Ms. Weisel's perspective that this behaviour would qualify me as "fanatic" as well.

Finally, I might as well take the opportunity to repeat my view that the prospect of a metal fence around two thirds of the lower field is rather sad. I've always loved the feeling of that big open space available to the public.

PETER WELDON, ACADEMY RD.

The water slides at Piedmont will be open on June 21. For more information, call 450.227.4671. From Montreal, take the Laurentians autoroute 15 and exit 58 for both water parks.



St-Anne-des-Lacs

Peaceful refuge surrounded by nature and less than 7 km from Autoroute 15. Soothing pine and slate interior. Visit MLs #1456471. You will be charmed! \$339,000

Johanne Leduc

Affiliated real estate agent - Groupe Sutton Laurentides

Off: 450.227.2611 Cell: 450.275.2754

Mtl: 514.990.0370 jleduc@sutton.com



Riding candidates follow-up

Candidates readying for upcoming by-election

The Westmount-Ville Marie federal by-election must be announced no later than July 26, and the three candidates interviewed by the *Westmount Independent* (Marc Garneau, Guy Dufort and Claude Genest) are already working hard.

Contrary to other press reports, a fourth candidate, McGill University political science student Charles Larivée, was acclaimed by the Bloc Québécois on April 3. He was out of the city for the week prior to presstime and was not able to comment on his efforts.

The NDP has a candidate search in progress and hopes to set a date for its nomination meeting in the next two weeks. Several people have expressed an interest in running.

Westmount forms about one fifth of the riding. All three interviewed candidates showed their interest in Westmount voters by attending the annual meeting of the WMA on May 5, but that's not all they've been up to...

Garneau hits the ground running

Former astronaut and federal Liberal Marc Garneau has been longest in the undeclared race (since October 19, 2007) and has been active at many Westmount events, including speeches at the Westmount High Old Boys' Association, Place Kensington, the Rotary Club of Westmount and Selwyn House's career day. He counted 89 such events in the riding, including 16 in Westmount. Among the visits outside Westmount were to the Old Brewery Mission and to Accueil Bonneau.

Relating his impressions to date at the *Independent's* offices on June 3 - in keeping with his proactive campaign style, an interview he requested - Garneau sees Westmounters as very concerned with national-level issues, including the environment and the perception of Canada in the world.

In one such area, the environment, he explained that the federal Liberals would be presenting a new "carbon tax" plan (with other aspects) over the coming months. Garneau also feels that Westmounters care about how the perception of Canada has suffered, in his view, from episodes like the Bernier affair and from the Harper government's stance at international conferences like the one in Bali.

Within Canada, Garneau also took exception to what he sees as Harper's confrontational approach with the provinces.

He also declared his support for federal involvement in combating homelessness via an infrastructure program called the Homeless Partnering Strategy, which he pointed out is the renamed version of a Liberal program called Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative.

Dufort focused on whole riding, issues that "overflow"

Reached by phone at his downtown office, Conservative Party candidate and lawyer Guy Dufort explained how he has been active with fundraisers, reviewing the issues and activities within the riding, including two in Westmount. He has also started a door-to-door riding-wide campaign, beginning in eastern NDG, which has reached western Westmount.

Dufort was reluctant to identify issues specific to Westmount or of special interest to Westmounters, stating that "Westmount is not an island."

He did point out a number of "overflow" issues that affect all corners of the riding, including public safety and homelessness, affordable housing, municipal infrastructure, education and the economy.

He is proud of the Conservatives' economic record, especially the repayment of federal debt. "If the debt is reduced by 13 percent, we will need 13 percent fewer taxpayers [to support the current level of social programs]."

Dufort has been surprised at how often education has been mentioned to him by riding residents, given that it is primarily a provincial jurisdiction. He agrees that the federal government has a role in shaping an "economy of knowledge" and points to the success of RIM/BlackBerry as a company that benefited from government R&D support.

On homelessness, he underlined the importance of moving individuals towards autonomy and supports federal funds going directly to frontline groups that actually interact with the homeless.

Genest: Westmount can be "conscience of Canada"

Broadcaster, teacher and Green Party candidate Claude Genest visited the *Independent's* offices on June 3 exuding enthusiasm and energy. Locally, he planned to attend the June Westmount Horticultural Society meeting, as well as film Westmounters for his *continued on p. 7*

THE WESTMOUNT LAURENTIDER

Tremblant Film Festival

The third annual edition of the Tremblant Film Festival will take place from June 18 to 22. The festival includes 29 feature films from Quebec, Canada, Europe and the Americas: eight short films, eight outdoor screenings of film classics films, six children's films and an animation workshop for students. Admission is \$12 (except for the outdoor films, which are free). Everything takes place at Mont Tremblant. For more information call 819.681.3000 or visit www.tremblant.ca.

Splashing around in the Laurentians

The Mont St. Sauveur water park is open for the season. In addition to the slides and pools, magic shows will entertain young and old. For more information, call 450.227.4671.

Priory field day



Grade six student Liam Reckziegal gets soaked during water games at The Priory's annual Field Day and Spring Fair.

Parenting Picks

Sunday, June 22 "Families at Play" (\$10 per family, ages 4 to 12 – strictly enforced, reservations necessary) – 10:15 am or 2 pm at the Canadian Centre for Architecture (1920 Baille St., 514.939.7026, www.cca.qc.ca).

Starting Wed. June 25 "Stories in the Park" by the Montreal Children's Library (free, ages 6 to 12) – different times of day on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (plus special events) at Cabot Square Park (info: 1200 Atwater Ave., 514.931.2304, www.mcl-bjm.ca).

June 26 to July 6 – Jazz Fest The Jazz Fest's enclosed Parc Musical for kids. Place des Arts noon to 10 pm daily during Jazz Fest.

"The Little School of Jazz" show is presented from Thursday, June 26 to Wed-

continued from previous page

nesday July 2 at the Grande Place du Complexe Desjardins (150 St. Catherine St. W) at 11 am and at 1:30 pm.

Also: Stroller rentals & diaper tables at Complexe Desjardins' bathrooms. · Face-painting · Outdoor concerts. For more info, call 514.871.1881 or go to www.montrealjazzfest.com.

Ongoing Lachine Canal with Jet Boat Tours (47 de la Commune West, 514.284.9607, www.jetboatingmontreal.com). Rain gear supplied, but bring change of clothes. (Ages 6 and up, \$42 to \$62, depending on age).

"Busy Bodies" (\$2 to \$13.50, depending on age) Tuesdays to Sundays, 9 am to 5 pm at the Montreal Insectarium (4581 Sherbrooke St. East, 514.872.1400, www.museumsnature.ca).

Genest turned the well-known dictum "all politics is local" on its head: "all politics is global, too." He went on to draw links between environmental issues and a host of other concerns, including health, the economy and infrastructure.

He contends that what he characterizes as investing in solutions will not make the economy suffer, as many worry. Green policies make economic sense, according to him, since costs like pollution should be charged back to polluters so that good decisions (e.g. less polluting) can be made.

Election rules

Elections Canada explained to the *Independent* that the election can be held 36 days after announcement and there is no maximum period between announcement and election. The most recent by-elections took place 87 days after announcement.

As one of 200 Canadians trained to be Al Gore's "climate-change messengers", he said he was "always ready to speak."

He went on to say, "This is my fifth or sixth election with the Green Party. It has always been on my own dime, but now there is momentum, volunteers and resources... And in a by-election Westmounters can vote their conscience without worrying about strategy."

Genest calculates that if the Green Party's nine to 10 percent general-election support stays numerically constant in a weak-turnout by-election, the Green Party could win the seat, which would be a historical first and assure Green Party leader Elizabeth May a place in the leaders' debate during the next general election.

Pied-à-Terre closing soon

BY ANNIKA MELANSON

Local gift and home decoration shop, Pied-à-Terre, which has been in business for almost 15 years, will close its doors at 4909 Sherbrooke St. on June 29.

"It will be strange not to be here," said Lori McGuigan, who has managed the store for 10 years. The store, which is owned by Accent de Ville, a large Montreal wholesale company, has decided to close and not renew the lease. It was then that McGuigan thought about taking over the business herself.

She approached the landlord of the building, but was dismayed to discover that "the rent has increased by over 30 percent, which makes it impossible for me to do so. Retail is difficult and we are all just trying to survive. The only ones that seem to be able to afford it are the big stores like American Apparel," said McGuigan. "It's sad for the neighbourhood," she added and "residents are really disappointed." McGuigan has started a memory book, in which "people have written lovely things."

The owner of the building, Nerra Khanna, said that the owners of the boutique "were very good tenants" and that the shop was "a favourite for many people." When asked about the rental increase, Khanna responded that "it's a business" and "my rents are confidential."

Other local merchants are also feeling the squeeze. Nearby at 4919A Sherbrooke, LMNOP co-owner Shelly Kerman – who does not have rent issues – is concerned about the local shopping scene, "When we opened 17 years ago, there were no big box stores. If this happens, we are going to lose the charm and personalized service of

owner-operated stores."

Another local merchant, who wishes to remain anonymous, informed the *Independent* that rents have increased by at least 30 percent since 2002.

Westmount landmark Folklore at 4879 Sherbrooke has been owned and operated by Gail and Gerard Fellerath since 1974. They have noticed a large municipal tax increase, especially over the past few years. "We wouldn't have survived if we didn't own the building," said Gail. "Whether you own or rent, the tax increase has made a difference. It is a dangerous situation in terms of survival of local shops." "The city has been supportive of our needs," added Gerard. A local commercial building owner, who wished to remain unidentified, informed the *Independent* that taxes have increased by 40 percent since 2002.

At the time of the interview with the Felleraths, Rita Stafford, the owner of Café Gourmet, which used to be on Sherbrooke St., happened to be in the store. Stafford closed the store in 2003. "Rent became a big issue, as did high taxes, and it just wasn't viable," said Stafford, who has since moved her coffee merchant business to Verdun. "We decided to give up the retail store," added Stafford, who now conducts most of her business over the internet and by telephone.

Stafford still sells coffee to her faithful Westmount clientele, who can pick it up at Folklore. In Pied-à-Terre's case, the closure will be final.



Lori McGuigan.



Foot Care Clinics

Initial Visit: \$30

Additional Visits: \$25

Queen Elizabeth Health Complex

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Call: 514 866-6801

Griffith McConnell Residence

Fridays

Call: 514 482-0590



Notaries

Durso & Toone

Andrea F. Durso • Phillip Toone

4635 Sherbrooke West
Westmount, Quebec

T. 514.931.2531

F. 514.931.2534



Westmount vous informe...

Westmount Page

Vol. 2/12
Publié par Westmount • Published by Westmount

SERVICES MUNICIPAUX

Fête de la St Jean / Fête du Canada

Les bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront fermés les mardis 24 juin et 1^{er} juillet. De plus, la Bibliothèque sera aussi fermée les 24 juin et 1^{er} juillet, ainsi que tous les dimanches pendant la période estivale, soit jusqu'au 31 août inclusivement. Veuillez noter qu'il n'y a aucun changement quant à la collecte des ordures qui s'effectuera à l'horaire normal. ♻️



ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Fête de la Saint-Jean**Les Vieux Métiers, les métiers vivants, un événement unique à ne pas manquer !**

Savez-vous comment confectionner une ceinture fléchée ou un sifflet en bois? Assistez aux célébrations de la Saint-Jean le 23 juin au parc Westmount et joignez-vous aux artisans qui vous initieront, par des démonstrations et des animations, à la fabrication du papier, tapis natté, crème glacée et autres confections d'antan. Apportez-vous un pique-nique à partir de 16 h et soyez des nôtres pour une soirée de musique, danse, feu de joie et dégustation du traditionnel gâteau de la Saint-Jean. En cas de pluie : Aréna de Westmount. Info : 514 989-5226.

Art Westmount 2008 Appel de soumissions

La Ville de Westmount invite les peintres et les sculpteurs westmountais à participer à la 2^e édition d'Art Westmount. Cet événement aura lieu le samedi 18 octobre et le dimanche 19 octobre prochain. Les formulaires de participation sont disponibles au Victoria Hall et sur notre site Web. Date limite d'inscription : le lundi 30 juin. Info : 514 989-5265. ♻️



SPORTS ET LOISIRS

Activités de la Fête du Canada

Familles, amis et voisins! Soyez de la partie pour une nuit de camping dans le parc Westmount le 30 juin. Pour réserver votre site, composez le 514 989-5323 d'ici le 27 juin. Participez également aux activités

DATES À RETENIR

Le 20 juin - 14 h

Club d'échecs et de Scrabble
Bibliothèque

Le 23 juin - à compter de 16 h

Activités de la Fête de la Saint-Jean
Parc Westmount

Le 30 juin et le 1^{er} juillet

Activités de la Fête du Canada
Parc Westmount



MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Saint-Jean / Canada Day Holidays

All administrative offices of the City will be closed on Tuesday, June 24 and Tuesday, July 1st for the Saint-Jean and Canada Day holidays. The Library will also be closed on both days, and every Sunday until August 31, inclusively. Please note that garbage collection is unaffected, and will take place according to the regular schedule. ♻️



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fête de la Saint-Jean**Les Vieux Métiers, les métiers vivants, a unique experience not to be missed!**

Ever wanted to know how to weave an Assomption sash or carve a whistle out of wood? Join the Saint-Jean celebration on June 23 in Westmount Park and meet artisans who will show you their skills in papermaking, rug weaving, ice-cream making and much more. Bring a picnic anytime from 4 p.m. (BBQ, etc. on site with TAG and Scouts) and join in an evening of music, games, Saint-Jean cake and a big bonfire to finish the evening. Rain location: Westmount Arena. Info: 514 989-5226.

Art Westmount 2008 Call for Artists

Westmount painters and sculptors are invited to participate in the 2nd edition of Art Westmount. The event will be held Saturday October 18 and Sunday, October 19. Participation forms are available at Victoria Hall and on our Web site. Deadline to register: June 30. Info: 514 989-5265. ♻️



SPORTS AND RECREATION

Canada Day Festivities

Join friends and neighbours on the night of June 30 when Westmount Park becomes a campground. Reserve your tent site by phoning 514 989-5323 by June 27. On July 1, enjoy the Toonie Pancake Breakfast from 8 a.m. in the park, the BBQ lunch at noon on Academy Road, and the annual Splash Bash from 2 p.m. at the pool. Info: 514 989-5353.



BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Club de lecture vacances 2008

Cet été, nous invitons les jeunes à découvrir les mystères enfouis au creux de la Bibliothèque! Demandez la trousse de détective au comptoir des enfants! Info : 514 989-5229. ♻️



HYDRO WESTMOUNT

Vous déménagez ?

Veuillez nous aviser de votre déménagement au moins **sept** jours précédant celui-ci en composant le 514 925-1414. Vous éviterez ainsi de payer l'électricité consommée à votre ancienne résidence après votre départ. **Payez-vous votre compte à la banque?** N'oubliez pas d'aviser cette dernière que le numéro de votre compte a été modifié. Ceci vous évitera des ennuis inutiles. ♻️

DATEBOOK

June 20 - 2 p.m.

Chess & Scrabble Club
Library

June 23 - as of 4 p.m.

Saint-Jean Festivities
Westmount Park

June 30 and July 1

Canada Day Festivities
Westmount Park/Pool

Changes in Pool Schedule

Please note that on June 23, the schedule for general swim and adult swim will change. Keep up-to-date by checking the schedule online. ♻️



LIBRARY

Summer Reading Club 2008

Explore the mysteries hidden at the Westmount Library this summer! Ask for your Detective Kit at the Children's Desk. Info: 514 989-5229. ♻️



HYDRO WESTMOUNT

Moving?

Please call us at 514 925-1414 at least **seven** 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. ♻️

PAPARAZZI PAGE

Spring Soirée



From left: City Councillor Patrick Martin, City Councillor Nicole Forbes, Jane Martin and Jean-Pierre Goyer.



From left: Mary Gallery and Timon Deichmann.



From left: Patricia Dumais and Andrew Burlone.

Attendees at Westmount's 6th Spring Soirée enjoyed great weather for the cocktail hour on the grass between Victoria Hall and the Westmount Public Library.

Soccer enters its final week



Westmount intramural PeeWee soccer: "Scotland" scoring against "Venezuela". Final score was 2-0.

PHOTO AND STORY
BY ROBERT J. GALBRAITH

Westmount's soccer season winds down this week with the last games on Friday, June 20. The eight-week-long season has been a success, according to sports coordinator Stephen Robaire.

"We've been lucky with the weather and only had to cancel two games due to lightning, which is great compared to other years."

The fields held up well with only the usual wear and tear at the east field in front of Westmount Park School. The main field was in extremely good shape.

Now is the season of summer camps, swimming and tennis lessons, all of which have some openings still available for those still wishing to register for these activities. The summer camps are based in the arena.

Team sports start up again in September. There will be a sports banquet held in September where medals will be handed out to the soccer champs in each group for this season.

For more information on summer activities, please contact Westmount Cultural, Sports and Recreation Activities at 514.989.5353 or log on to www.westmount.org

The June 5 event continued inside Victoria Hall with dinner and dancing to Joseph Segreti's live band, before wrapping up at "midnight plus". 200 people attended the event (up from 180 in previous years), which was sold out. Organizers were once encouraged to buy whole tables, but demand is so strong that they are now unable to do so.

CLASSIFIED

Lost cat. One-year-old male marmalade tabby cat, "Charlie". Lost in lower/Clarke Ave. Westmount. Please call 514.935.6767.

[Tip 4]
Storing your clothes by colour
can save you 7½ minutes a day.
And it makes accessorizing so simple.

Invest in time
and space! Call
SimpleSpace,
your Montreal
closet specialist
or visit our
showroom.



simpleSpace

Love your closet!



Weekdays 8:30 – 5. Evenings and weekends, by appointment
210 Bridge Street (next to Costco)
514 363-7467 | simplespace.ca | Free parking

The Inventory: Houses on the market

The Inventory is content provided by the Westmount Independent, and is compiled from public sources, listing agents and parties that contact us. To find a brokered property's listing agent and additional information, please go to MLS.ca. Both listing agents and agents working with buyers have more information (including the address of all listed houses) available to them on a private network.

\$369,000**	Address unavailable	\$575,000	71 Columbia Ave.	\$699,000	59 Columbia Ave.	\$1,175,000	address unavailable
\$399,000**	104 Abbott Ave.	\$585,000*	468 Grosvenor Ave.	\$699,000	4614-16 St. Catherine St.	\$1,195,000††	4306 Montrose Ave.
\$429,000*	52 Columbia Ave.	\$619,000**	322 Prince Albert	\$699,000**	Address unavailable		
\$454,000	4866 St. Catherine St.	\$639,000*	36 York St.	\$700,000*	Address unavailable		
\$469,000**	136 Irvine Ave.	\$649,000	address unavailable	\$759,000	337 Metcalfe Ave.		
\$474,900*	112 Abbott Ave.	\$651,000*	41 Burton Ave.	\$789,000	439 Elm Ave.		
\$535,000*	2 Prospect St.	\$665,000	306 Roslyn Ave.	\$789,000*	382-382A Metcalfe Ave.		
\$539,000	4840 St. Catherine St.	\$669,000	57 Columbia Ave.	\$799,000	9-11 Parkman Place		
\$558,000**	address unavailable	\$679,000	60-62 Columbia	\$809,000	588 Lansdowne Ave.		
\$573,000*	50 Bruce Ave.	\$699,000**	4104 Dorchester Blvd.	\$839,000*	328-330 Grosvenor Ave.		

Continued: for the most expensive listings in Westmount at the moment, please turn to p. 14.

*New since May 20 Inventory.
** New price since May 20 Inventory.
† Private sale
†† Also for rent.

Built around 1914, this beautiful large family residence sits on approx. 15,000 sq ft of land. The lvrn has lovely oak paneling, beamed ceiling, fireplace & a sun room. The dining rm has its own fireplace & sits off a large kitchen. On second fl, there is the master bdrm w/ensuite and 3 other bdrms. The 3rd floor has the possibility of 2 more bedrms. In addition, there is also a maid's rm and a 5-6 car garage. **\$2,100,000** MLS#1365171



JANE ALLAN
Affiliated real estate agent
Cell 514 943-1529
Office 514 933-5800

Lynda Taylor - 514-937-3406

Affiliated real estate agent



Westmount - Cedar Avenue.
Spectacular 3-storey renovated stone residence in most desirable, mid-level location. 4+ bedrooms. Elegant & spacious entertaining rooms. Gorgeous oak floors. MBR ensuite is unparalleled in luxury & design. Two large playrms/entertainment rooms. Sunny S/W exp. 2-car garage. Garden. Asking **\$1,529,000.**

\$849,000*	Address unavailable	\$909,000*	460 Lansdowne Ave.
\$855,000*	310 Grosvenor Ave.	\$915,000*	334 Grosvenor Ave.
\$869,000*	379 Grosvenor Ave.	\$939,000	4293 de Maisonneuve Blvd.
\$875,000	Metcalfe		
\$885,000	486 Argyle Ave.	\$969,000**	address unavailable
\$895,000	657 Lansdowne Ave.	\$975,000**	464 Victoria Ave.
\$895,000	612 Grosvenor Ave.	\$975,000	415 Mount Pleasant Ave.
\$895,000	717 Upper Roslyn Ave.	\$989,000	611 Victoria Ave.
\$899,000*	4385 de Maisonneuve Blvd.	\$995,000**	4350 Westmount Ave.
		\$998,000**	address unavailable
		\$1,075,000	318 Côte St. Antoine Rd.
		\$1,089,000**	address unavailable
		\$1,095,000	4308 Montrose Ave.
		\$1,095,000*	address unavailable
		\$1,098,000	628 Victoria Ave.
		\$1,155,000	490 Argyle Ave.
		\$1,159,000**	address unavailable
		\$1,175,000**	636 Murray Hill Ave.
		\$1,175,000**	629 Belmont Ave.

Timothy GELFAND
Affiliated Real Estate Agent
Bcomm Finance

Personal Attention, Professional Results

Please Call Me For a Free, Confidential Evaluation of Your Home

Off.: (514) 482-3347
Cell: (514) 807-2269
timothy.gelfand@remax.net

RE/MAX®
Westmount Inc.

Live your dream.

Your Local, Independent
Retirement Planning & Wealth
Management Professional

Anthony J. Zitzmann

Branch Manager

Tel: (514) 855-0505

www.ipcmontreal.ca

CARPI Recommended

Investment
Planning Counsel™
IPC INVESTMENT CORPORATION

2 Place Alexis Nihon, 3500de Maisonneuve West, Suite 1750
Westmount, Quebec, H3Z3C1

MELDRUM
UNITED VAN LINES
ENTREPOSAGE

Meldrum The Mover Inc.

6645 Sherbrooke St. West

Tel: 514 481-1122 • Fax: 514 488-5305

Email: info@meldrumthemover.com



TRUST | REACH | RESULTS

CHARTERED REAL ESTATE BROKER

WESTMOUNT

**MOUNT PLEASANT**

Near Montrose - 1st time on the market in 43 years! Awesome views from every level of this 5 bedrooms elegant extra spacious 2 story semi detached. with ground floor den, sunroom, garage and garden. **Asking \$1,300,000**
Virtual tour: mcguiganpepin.com/1427564

WESTMOUNT

**COLUMBIA**

Bright English style cottage renovated with taste, on quiet cul de sac, 3 bedrooms, MBDR+++ , wood floor, fire place, playroom, bedroom + bathroom in basement. Extended kitchen w/dinette, pkg for one car. **Asking \$575,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1395608

LE SUD OUEST

**DU CANAL**

Great loft with wall to wall windows with city views. 11-ft ceilings, originals beams, brick wall. Huge windows on this corner unit, overlooking the canal, bike path, walk to Old MtL, downtown. Garage, gym locker. **Asking \$299,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1407510

WESTMOUNT

**METCALFE**

Minty-built A/C townhouse in 'mint' condition. Not ready for a condo? Here's a perfect downsizer in prime location on the flat. Luxurious and affordable with every comfort and convenience. 3 bdrm, 2 f/p, 2 car integrated garage. **Asking: \$875,000**
Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1432521

WESTMOUNT

**COLUMBIA - DUPLEX**

Beautiful duplex in lower Westmount, steps to Greene Ave. In both units 3 bedrooms, finished basements, independent parking, outdoor area and balconies. Upper unit has been upgraded. Stone walls, wood floor. Occupancy 01 Sept. **Asking \$679,000**
Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1342727

N.D.G.

**GRAND BL**

Open concept kitchen/dining/family room in well maintained, updated 4+1 home. Very convenient location to transport and Sherbrooke St and amenities. Ideal, spacious & bright home. **Asking \$419,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1454648

LE SUD OUEST

**DOMINION ST.**

Immaculate & very bright 2 bdrms, open concept, condo with lots of storage, parking and terrace. Quiet dead-end street, surrounded by charming homes, one block from Georges Vanier Metro, short walk to Atwater Market/canal/bike path, downtown and three parks... can't ask for a better location! **Asking \$219,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1455100

VILLE-MARIE

**VERSAILLES ST.**

On a quiet street & ideally located in Downtown Montreal, this renovated cottage with separate 4 1/2 apartment is near the bell Center, metro, Old Montreal and shops. In great condition, offering large family room, 2 fireplaces, gorgeous exterior, large deck and secluded landscaped garden. Easy to park (sticker). **Asking \$550,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1454927

WESTMOUNT

**STE CATHERINE O. #709**

Westmount Park towers, close to Victoria village and Westmount Park. This 2 bdrms condo has a fireplace and wood floors in the large living/dining room in an open area. In the solarium, you will enjoy the river views. There is one garage space. The building offers a pool, exercise room, 24 hours door man. **Asking \$440,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1453740

christina miller 514.933.6781

#1 Agent RE/MAX Westmount 2007

Affiliated Real Estate Agent – RE/MAX Westmount Broker

The most important work we will ever do will be within the walls of our own homes.



Nifty Nest



461 av Grosvenor

asking \$469,000

Adorable and spacious, this 2 bedroom renovated lower with open plan has many desirable features. High ceilings, lovely mouldings, finished basement and storage, garden, parking and so much more. Located in the heart of Victoria Village, this fantastic condo won't last long!



Handsome Home

628 av Murray Hill
Fully detached 4 bdrm home 2 car garage in prime location asking \$1,400,000



Terrific Townhouse

488 av Elm
Restored & renovated 3 storey 5 bdrm townhouse in A+ location. Finest living! asking \$1,495,000



Spectacular Semi

488 av Mountain
Beautiful semi 4 bdrm home w/ the finest finishings Seeing is believing! asking \$1,495,000 or \$7,750/MO



Reduced

Move-In Masterpiece

455 av Roslyn
Spectacular 5+1 bdrm home w/ 2 car garage on excellent block! asking \$2,475,000



Negotiable

Majestic Mansion

3262 av Cedar
Wonderful 3 storey stone manor on 13,000 SF asking \$2,995,000



Delightful Dwelling

337 av Metcalfe
4 bdrm 2 car incorporated garage, low maintenance townhouse asking \$759,000

THE WESTMOUNT TOWNSHIPPER

Bromont art fair

The annual Bromont art fair is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year from July 4 to 6. Rain or shine, more than 90 painters and sculptors will show off their diverse work. For more information, call 450.534.1344 or go to www.bromontenart-societe.com.

Tour des Arts

Tour des Arts is in its 20th year. From

July 12 to 20, the non-profit body made up of 38 artists and craftspeople from the region, who have been welcoming the public in their studios each year since 1988, will be showing their work.

There will be studio tour as well as a sale every day from 10 am to 5 pm. Workshops for children ages 3 to 12 will also be available.

For more information, go to tourdesarts.com.

TOWNSHIP TREASURES

Royal LePage Action Broker. Visit these and other great listings at my website.

KNOWLTON



Imagine summer here! Deluxe 12 room lakefront home with mountain vistas, triple garage. **\$759,000**

CENTURY AUBERGE



Restaurant, bar, terrace, bistro, 10 bedrooms. A rare jewel. Equipped. **\$675,000**

FRELIGHSBURG



Working farm, 360 acres with house, barns, meadows, forests, streams. A rare find! **\$850,000**

SUTTON BEAUTY



Light-filled contemporary home on double lot. Village setting with mountain views. **\$259,000**

SHARYL THOMPSON 450 266-6888 www.sharyl.com

In appreciation of your patronage, I am pleased to donate a portion of my commission to your favourite charity. Diamond Award (top 3% of Quebec Royal LePage agents)

ROYAL LEPAGE
ACTION
COURTIER IMMOBILIER AGREÉ
Franchisé indépendant et autonome de Royal LePage

Lois Hardacker
KNOWLTON – 3 Victoria
450 242-2000
lois@royalpage.ca



PLAYROOM, inside and out, for everyone. Set on 40,000 square feet of grounds with a super sand box and a delightful inground pool. 4 bedrooms, finished basement with an atelier, wood and ceramic floor finishes, garage. Brome Lake evaluation \$296,000. **Asking \$310,000.**



ROOM TO GROW and put down roots. Just 2 km from Knowlton's downtown, the perfect country house on a 1.5 acre site splendid with mature trees, a winter view of the mountains. Cherry flooring throughout, custom kitchen, buried power line, and more! **\$334,000**



EXPLORE YOUR POTENTIAL and continue to develop the enormous revenue potential here. A solid structure with revenue from apartments, a store front and an inspiring loft to design. Another structure of storage units yields more income. 1.5 acre, Knowlton. **\$375,000**



DISCOVER NATURE in this park-like setting on the edge of Knowlton. 4 acres abounding with life, 2 lovely ponds, flowering shrubs, berries, birds, deer. Imagine yourself here in this solid century home. Garage and quaint small barn. **\$319,000**

Eastern Townships Living by Lois Hardacker
Chartered Real Estate Agent



A toast of pedometers: Among the Westmount library workers who contributed to the walking win are, from left: David Pickup, Wendy Wayling, Antonella Ferraro, Odette Nadeau, Helen Jay, Mai Jay, Caroline Proctor, Colette Connors, Benoit Morin, Janette Bruce, Laura Beauchamp, Catherine Swift and Dawna Hobbs.

Library team victorious in walk-off

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A team of 30 from the Westmount Public Library has won a national walking competition for library workers, clocking a total of 8,268 km in a cross-Canada challenge.

The local team was so motivated to win against 12 other participating libraries from St. John's to Vancouver, that 45 percent of their score was chalked up in a three-week tie-breaker with the Kingston Public Library.

"It was a huge bonding experience," said circulation clerk Caroline Proctor, the Westmount team's co-captain. "I knew we had team spirit, but I never realized we had that much. We really have created our own little family."

At lunch, they walked with each other sharing experiences and learning more about each other.

Not really so far

Individually, they took advantage of every opportunity to walk, forsaking their cars and even public transportation whenever possible, handing in their distances on a regular basis. "It made us realize how close the grocery store really was," added co-captain Wendy Wayling, children's librarian.

It was Wayling, in fact, who spearheaded Westmount's participation after attending a library workshop of the Ontario Library Association in Toronto. It was an easy sell to the Westmount staff as a physical fitness program and team building experience.

Called "Canucks Run Amok", the 2008 challenge was organized by the Hamilton Public Library, which tallied all scores

weekly based on a handicap system and posted them for all to follow at canuck-srunamok.blogspot.com.

Off to a cold start

"When we started out at the beginning of March in the bad weather, it required a lot of motivation," Proctor said.

But enthusiasm caught on quickly. And when she and co-worker Gayle White spent a weekend in New York City, they took their pedometers with them and chalked up another 25 km each by walking everywhere, she said.

When the winning libraries were announced May 22, Westmount and Kingston placed first and second, with third place going to the public library in Richmond, BC.

Individually, Westmount "bragging rights" went to librarian Donna Lach, who walked a total of 800 km, followed closely by Gayle White with 720 km.

Other top walkers included Colette Connors (578 km), library director Ann Moffat (380 km), and Caroline Proctor with 370 km. In the final tally, A/V clerk Janette Bruce was named "most-improved".

Regardless of individual scores, Proctor said, "every little bit helped."

And, said Wayling, "I hope we do it again next year."

PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

You can help by donating USED BOOKS to KIDZSAFE FOUNDATION, to fund our educational programmes for kids.

Call for pick-up 514.702.4930

The Green Patrol on duty this summer



Two Lauras, lots of green(e): From right: Laura Newman, Westmount's friendly "Green Patroller" with Laura Alward, Centre Greene's summer day camp director.

Concordia student Laura Newman will be patrolling Westmount this summer, educating and issuing friendly reminders to residents about being eco-conscious. Information leaflets will be left on blue boxes regarding proper recycling practices and drivers will be reminded not to keep their cars idling.

Headquarters are at the Centre Greene

(1090 Greene Ave., 514.931.4505, www.centregreene.org). Tours to the St. Michel Complex, where there is a recycling plant, will be organized for the Centre Greene Day Camp as well as for Westmount residents.

For more information, contact the Westmount Environmental Coordinator Marina Peter at 514.989.5390.

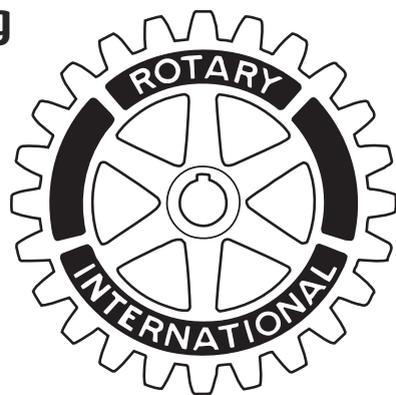
Thank You!

for Supporting our Auction & Garage Sale

You made this year's event a great success... with your generous donations, volunteering, advertising support and attendance.

You have helped Rotary help others. Thank you.

The Rotary Club of Westmount



continued from p. 10

- \$1,195,000 †4258 Dorchester Blvd.
- \$1,198,000** 105 Sunnyside Ave.
- \$1,199,000 667 Belmont Ave.
- \$1,250,000* 25 Renfrew Ave.
- \$1,275,000 754 Upper Lansdowne
- \$1,275,000* 418 Wood Ave.
- \$1,279,000 377-379-381 Clarke Ave.
- \$1,279,000* 621 Victoria Ave
- \$1,295,000 356A/B Olivier Ave.
- \$1,298,000* 646 Lansdowne Ave.
- \$1,299,000 address unavailable
- \$1,299,000 782 Upper Belmont
- \$1,300,000 528 Mount Pleasant Ave.
- \$1,325,000* 628 Murray Hill
- \$1,350,000 22 Arlington Ave.
- \$1,389,000 address unavailable
- \$1,395,000** 631 Roslyn Ave.
- \$1,398,000 786 Upper Belmont Ave.
- \$1,475,000 54 Aberdeen Ave.
- \$1,495,000** 488 Elm Ave.
- \$1,495,000**/†† 488 Mountain Ave.
- \$1,529,000** 3249 Cedar Ave.
- \$1,550,000 561 Grosvenor Ave.
- \$1,550,000* address unavailable
- \$1,575,000 10 Willow Ave.
- \$1,575,000* 344 Redfern Ave.
- \$1,595,000 359 Redfern Ave.
- \$1,690,000 175 Cote St. Antoine Rd.
- \$1,695,000 320 Côte St. Antoine Rd.
- \$1,750,000 352-354 Elm Ave.
- \$1,750,000 467 Strathcona Ave.
- \$1,785,000 740 Upper Lansdowne Ave.
- \$1,790,000†† 3284 Cedar Ave.
- \$1,799,000 311 Kensington Ave.
- \$1,799,000** address unavailable
- \$1,825,000 25 Oakland Ave.
- \$1,850,000 757 Upper Belmont
- \$1,950,000**/†† 365 Redfern Ave.
- \$1,995,000 110 Upper Bellevue Ave.

- \$1,995,000 29 Bellevue Ave.
- \$1,999,000 30 Surrey Gdns
- \$2,095,000* 516 Argyle Ave.
- \$2,100,000** The Boulevard
- \$2,390,000†† address unavailable
- \$2,399,000 74 Gordon Cres.
- \$2,400,000 address unavailable
- \$2,400,000 3255 Cedar Ave
- \$2,448,000 address unavailable
- \$2,475,000 Roslyn Ave.
- \$2,499,000 4354 Westmount Ave.
- \$2,675,000 3745 The Boulevard
- \$2,800,000 address unavailable
- \$2,850,000 4455 Montrose Ave.
- \$2,898,000** 38 Belvedere Ave.
- \$2,995,000 736 Lexington Ave.
- \$2,995,000 3262 Cedar Ave.
- \$3,095,000 3 Murray Ave.
- \$3,150,000 526 Clarke Ave.
- \$3,150,000 3223 Trafalgar Ave.
- \$3,155,000 4302 Montrose Ave.
- \$3,199,000 109 Upper Bellevue Ave.
- \$3,250,000 630 Clarke Ave.
- \$3,475,000 address unavailable
- \$3,750,000 77 Sunnyside Ave.
- \$3,850,000* 30 Sunnyside Ave.
- \$4,250,000 address unavailable
- \$4,495,000 address unavailable
- \$4,985,000* address unavailable

*New since May 20 Inventory.
 ** New price since May 20 Inventory.
 † Private sale
 †† Also for rent.

Electronic Independents available

Enjoy the Indie at supper time on Tuesdays!

PDF version sent free to your email address by 5 pm on Tuesday.

All the news. All the pictures. All the listings. All the advertisements. In colour.

Sign up by writing us: indie@westmountindependent.com



Renovation and Construction Manager

Professional Project Planning and Management. Permits, Hiring and Supervision. Thirty Years Experience in Westmount. Impeccable References.

George Syrovatka, Civil Engineer
 514 935-7278 • 514 712-7101

Salon Sophie
 HAIR STYLING FOR MEN
514.484.5987
 4970 Sherbrooke Street West

ESTATE and MOVING SALES
 House Content Clearance
RONDA
514 236-4159



Mayor supports local control of Public Security

continued from p. 1

Meanwhile, Marks said the subject has been raised at a meeting of Montreal's public safety committee and she has discussed it with the chairman Claude Dauphin.

"I made our position absolutely clear to him." And while he understood that an integrated approach is of importance to the police department, "he understands that to us it is not acceptable."

A different Westmount operation

For the city of Westmount, Marks said, Public Security is a unique operation. In carrying out its main mandate to enforce municipal bylaws, its personnel have police technology training and are city employees who answer directly to the city rather than to private security companies. Many have worked their entire careers in the city and have clearly defined roles.

"Should there be exceptionally close cooperation between police and Public Security? Absolutely. But this can be achieved by working together as a partnership of equal partners."

Marks pointed to the close working relationship that exists between Public Security and the police. Westmount has

always treated the local police chief as a Westmount "department head" and encouraged communication.

At the work level, because PSU shifts parallel police ones, personnel have developed working relationships.

Montreal inherits borough forces

Interestingly, while municipal public security forces originated in the suburbs after the creation of the island-wide police forces, Montreal has inherited at least three through the mergers of St. Laurent, Verdun and Outremont, now "boroughs" of Montreal. Marks said she did not know whether or not this may be a factor in the latest integration issue.

Westmount's PSU, founded in January 1980 shortly after Hampstead's, consists of 55 personnel including public safety officers and auxiliaries, parking inspectors, park cadets, dispatchers, office and parking permits staff. All are governed by a code of ethics adopted by the city in 1992.

The force has the flexibility to restructure as recently required to meet evolving needs, said its director, Richard Blondin. A minimum of five cars now patrol day and night, an increase in overnight coverage.

Foster Search

BY RENA RUBIN,
FOSTER CARE & RECRUITMENT WORKER,
BATSHAW YOUTH & FAMILY CENTRES

There are children, 0 to 17 years, who need to count on a family who will make them feel safe and will care, listen to and support them. As the children have experienced difficulties in their families, whether it is negligence, rejection, or abuse, they may have special needs. They may present with emotional or social difficulties, exhibit developmental delays, or have medical problems and behavioural issues.

Attention and care are important, as is nurturing, stability, stimulation and structure whether it be for one or two weekends per month, or for the short, medium or long term. Here are some of them.

The children

Saysha, 6, Alyssa, 8, and Tommy, 10, are siblings who would be a delightful addition to an energetic family two weekends a month. The girls are sociable and outgo-

ing, love music and dancing. Tommy is gifted at drawing and into computer games.

Nick, 11, has ADHD. He is industrious and has already earned money shovelling and salting walkways and driveways this winter. In grade 5, he is academically at the grade 1 level at best. He has the emotional ability to attach and needs a foster family.

Dimitri, 11, lives in a group home, "All I have is a roof over my head." Having suffered many losses, he wants and needs to have his own family who will work with educators who understand his special needs. He will take time to trust, but he is compassionate and kind-hearted.

If you are single or a couple, with or without children, working outside the home or not, you can offer your services. Professional support and a tax-free stipend to cover the cost of caring for a child are provided.

For further information, please call Batshaw Foster Homes for Children, 514.932.7161 x1169.

How?

Can you know anything about life after death?

See for yourself.

Get a free book,

"You Can Believe!"

Call toll-free

1-877-774-7775

or e-mail information@swedenborg.ca

Swedenborg.ca,

and mention this ad.



Sharing ideas
for a better life

The finest
retirement lifestyle
is available at...

Westmount's



Good living comes with age. Why not retire in perfect elegance and ultimate comfort? Our caring staff will tend to all your needs 24 hours every single day.

Please call us regarding our affordable rentals:

4430 St. Catherine West

935-1212

www.placekensington.com

A DIVISION OF THE FAIRWAY GROUP

DAWSON
COLLEGE

Centre for Training & Development



D Discover Dawson

Register now for intensive courses

OPENING HOURS:

Monday – Friday

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tel:

(514) 933-0047

Fax:

(514) 937-3832

ctd@dawsoncollege.qc.ca

- French
- English

Intensive courses
(Monday to Thursday)

For a complete list of courses offered this summer, please check our website:

www.dawsoncollege.qc.ca/ctd

4001 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West
Suite 2G.1
Montreal QC H3Z 3G4



Westmount Art Scene

Chris Mangiaracina and Anne-Sophie Morelle

BY HEATHER BLACK

“We had the experience but missed the meaning.”

The words of T. S. Elliot’s “The Dry Salvages” are recalled in the paintings of American Christopher Mangiaracina at Collins Lefebvre Stoneberger and in the patina-rich bronzes of Belgium sculpture Anne-Sophie Morelle at Han Art. Although working in different mediums, each artist challenges the viewer to consider past experiences.

Chris Mangiaracina at Collins, Lefebvre, Stoneberger

Christopher Mangiaracina paints his experiences and his surroundings – a seascape where a beach umbrella rests unopened on a deck chair, green fields where bagpipers practise, or the African terrain of lions or elephants. Painted vigorously on aluminum or panel, robust swathes of colour create bold, almost carefree or playful, designs. Yet each is a carefully con-

structed image, one pose is selected over another, a new reality compiled from endless drawings.

In “The Dry Salvages” – the artist’s response to T. S. Elliot’s poem – an elephant’s heavy mass is juxtaposed against a fragile, propped-up tree. In “Pyre”, wisps of smoke swirl around kilted musicians like the strains of piped music. In “Key Biscayne” storm skies, fluid seas and two empty deck chairs create an ominous atmosphere. Questions arise: Who were the two occupants and where did they go? The scenes are personal, but strangely familiar, as if from a film or from past experience.

The artist paints using an extended brush. Extraneous elements disappear to reveal only an essential form or colour. Capturing our attention, with the vitality of generously applied paint, he creates a dynamic mood. Here pigment is three dimensional, almost sculptural, and definitely memorable.

Anne-Sophie Morelle at Han Art

Sculptor Anne-Sophie Morelle captures the human figure in bronze – a young girl sits forward, shoulders hunched, a child sits cocoonlike in a blanket, or a child huddles next to an oversized cat. Initially created in clay, the patina greens, blues and brown casts retain a fragile clay-like texture that conveys a tenderness and protective intimacy.

In “La guépard”, a child peers out from behind an enormous cat – perhaps the Egyptian deity Bast, protector of children. In “Ici et ailleurs”, a young girl leans forward, arms braced and shoulders hunched, also conveying vulnerability; while in “Grace”, a child emerges butterfly-like from a swaddling blanket. Almost life-size, the poses are not grand gestures, but gentle reminders of childhood fear, doubt and hope.

The sitter is pensive or playful and oblivious to the viewer. These poses are singular – the artist’s own four children are models – yet capture our common ex-

perience of childhood. Through the portrayal of a fragile spirit, a gentle modesty, and triumphant unveiling, we are transported to the time of our own metamorphosis.

Experience revisited

Painter Chris Mangiaracina recalls in robust strokes of coloured pigment, stories of adventure, while Anne-Sophie Morelle revisits childhood where rich patinas suggest clarity in time’s wake. But through their selection of precise moments, each artist evokes a common narrative. And by observing their work, the viewer is transported – like T. S. Elliot’s seafarers of “The Dry Salvages”.

The paintings of Chris Mangiaracina are on exhibit until June 28 at Collins Lefebvre Stoneberger, 4928 Sherbrooke. The work of Anne-Sophie Morelle continues to September 28 at Han Art, 4209 St. Catherine.

Westmount Street Festival @ Roslyn Ave. sale escape the rain



Vic Village, June 13. From left, Ellwyn Wuethrich, with David O’Brien and Emilie Caron of Avenue des Arts.



Vic Village, June 13. Peter Brown stops for a hot dog at the Royal Bank barbeque. Proceeds will go to the Westmount YMCA’s after school program.



Roslyn Ave. sale, June 14. Mary Brierley (right) poses with two of Roslyn Ave.’s temporary merchants – Catherine and Philippe – in front of their wares, while her son, Leo Chadwick (left), investigates closer up.



Vic Village, June 13. Shoppers Yola Moride and Linda Banks check out the sale rack at Maska.

It was supposed to rain on Saturday, June 14, so some Vic Villagers made sure to get out to the Westmount Street Festival on opening-day Friday.

It turned out not be necessary, as Saturday shoppers at the festival and the nearby Roslyn Ave. garage sale discovered.

The festival continued on a sunny Sunday. Proceeds from the Roslyn Ave. sale benefited Westmounter Keith Martin’s “Moving Muscles” cross-Canada bike ride

to support research into muscular dystrophy (www.movingmusclesride.ca) and the women’s shelter of the Old Brewery Mission.

Electronic Independents available

Enjoy the Indie at supper time on Tuesdays! Sign up by writing us: indie@westmountindependent.com.

End of an era at Roslyn

BY KRISTIN MCNEILL

“What are they going to do without me?” said Arlene Rill, jokingly, as our interview on the front steps of Roslyn School kept getting interrupted by staff members stopping to ask her questions. Rill, who retires this summer after 17 years as a teacher at Roslyn, will also preside over the last graduating class (and other classes) from the English (i.e. non-French immersion) stream. *For photo of Rill see p. 1.*

History at Roslyn

Her roots at the school run deep. Rill is a Roslyn alumna herself, as is her daughter, now graduating from high school, who was in the now phased-out English stream. Rill previously worked at Hampstead and Bancroft, for a total of 35 years in teaching.

Rill said although she has never had much time for herself (she brought up her daughter on her own and taught school full time), she will continue to work either with kids or older people. She suspects she will be busier than ever.

The decision to close down the English stream, also known as the Core Program (distinct from Quebec's Bilingual and French Immersion programs) was taken in 2005 by the English Montreal School Board (EMSB), phased in so grades 3 and up could graduate at Roslyn.

According to Rill, there were many benefits for both teacher and student in the English stream. Not only was her graduating class small (it numbered 14 versus a norm of 25 to 30), but the same students had her through grades 3 to 6.

“At the beginning year, there is none of the trivialities. We start instantly. I know them like the palm of my hand,” she said. In answer to what attracted her to the program, she said “It's not usually people's

first choice, but it was mine. I get to be with the kids. I get to know them better – inside and out.” Teachers in the program have their students all day long, whereas in French immersion, teachers have two classes, morning and afternoon.

Although the EMSB commissioner for Westmount, Ginette Sauvé-Frankel, dissented on the vote to close the English stream, she explained “what was happening at Roslyn was that there was no demand... And we got to the point where the program is not viable.”

At the time of the decision, only 62 of 644 students were in the program.

Core Program thrives in other schools

Sauvé-Frankel said that future students wishing to remain in the English stream can enroll in other schools (subject to transportation boundaries).

She also said they could benefit from being in a school with large enrolments because of the resources allocated to these schools.

For her part, Rill stated one sad reason that the English stream is no longer offered is that kids who are having difficulty in French can no longer switch out of immersion.

“Every child has a gift and if you can recognize that gift, and you can elicit the best from the child, you are doing some good, and that can be anywhere. I just feel that in the English stream, you have more time, it's more relaxed. You own your time more.

9 Lives

BY LYZANNE

This 9 Lives column is different. It has to be. This is an urgent appeal to everyone in Westmount on behalf of all the cats and dogs that have been and will be left behind by their families in the summer moving shuffle. The reality is stark: our shelters are already full to capacity and resources are severely limited.

You can make a huge difference: Please help in any way you can by adopting, fostering, volunteering and donating to the SPCA, which is the main drop-off centre for pets in need. This is the time to help in providing the basics for homeless pets: food, shelter, immunization, treatment. Please make your donation to the SPCA and mail it to 5202 Jean-Talon St. West, Montreal, QC H4P 1X4. Its telephone number is 514-735-2711 and its website is www.spcamontreal.com.

Rotary sale



Retired Public Security captain John Everatt (left) shopping at the Rotary sale on June 7. He is pictured passing his payment to Rotarian John Donovan (centre right) and with volunteers Ghislaine Vincelli (centre left) and Mike Blackman. Sales results were not made public this year.

Bridge for Bright Brains:

A matter of honour

BY GEORGE RETEK

All bridge players have been conditioned from the early days to cover an honour card with another honour card (when they have it) nevertheless general rules should never eliminate the need for thinking. Let's look at the following deal from a recent Florida tournament (some cards have been rearranged for illustration). Put yourself in North's seat. You opened undisciplined 2 Spades weak, your left hand opponent bid 2NT, his partner bid 3 Clubs (Stayman) lefty bid 3 Hearts and was raised to four Hearts. Your partner led the Spade 4 and this is what you see:

YOU

♠ A 9 7 6 2
♥ K 6
♦ K 5
♣ 8 6 3 2

DUMMY

♠ 5
♥ J 8 5 4
♦ A 9 6 2
♣ A J 7 4

You win the Ace. Obviously partner can't have much. Even if lefty overcalled 2 NT or 14 or 15 points only, how can your side come to four tricks? If partner has a Club honour, it is finessable. If partner can play a Diamond, you will have a Diamond trick. Declarer doesn't have any more Spade losers, when you played a Spade at trick two, declarer's Jack was covered by the Queen and ruffed in dummy. Are you ready now at trick three when dummy plays the Jack of Heart? You must play partner holding the Ace of Heart and continue with a diamond. Forget about cover-

ing an honour with another honour. Let partner win with his presumed Ace of heart and shift to a Diamond. Otherwise declarer can drive out your King of heart and discard his Diamond losers on dummy's Clubs.

The remaining hands were:

DECLARER

♠ K J 3
♥ Q 10 9 7 2
♦ Q J 3
♣ K Q

PARTNER

♠ Q 10 8 4
♥ A 3
♦ 10 8 7 4
♣ 10 9 5

One needs to admire declarer's farsighted play of the Jack of Heart tempting you to cover, as his only chance to make the contract since you cannot switch profitably to Diamonds.

Correction: during layout, an error crept into the hand for The Three D's (May 6, p. 17). Here is the correct hand:

NORTH

♠ K 8 7 4
♥ A K 3
♦ A 10 6 5
♣ A Q

WEST

♠ 5 3 2
♥ 7 5
♦ J 9 4
♣ J 10 7 6 2

EAST

♠ 10 9
♥ J 8 6 4
♦ K Q 2
♣ 9 8 5 4

SOUTH

♠ A Q J 6
♥ Q 10 9 2
♦ 8 7 3
♣ K 3

Comin' Up...

Monday, June 23: St. Jean Baptiste Party – 4 pm at Westmount Park.

Tuesday, June 24: The Gainey Foundation hosts a fundraising concert at the Metropolis, featuring Great Big Sea, Sam Roberts. The Foundation, established in the memory of Cathy and Laura Gainey, supports Canadian charitable organizations that offer environmental education and arts education programs for youth. Info: www.gaineyfoundation.com

Monday, June 30: Camping in the Park – 4 pm at Westmount Park.

Westmount group profile: Men Who Read

Men, beer and heated debate

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

A unique all-men's book club in Westmount will hold its 20th anniversary meeting this fall as a thriving group that makes a point of really getting down to the meat of the matter.

Characterized by lively and often heavy debate, the group prides itself in its keeping of copious records, ratings of books, spontaneous approach to book selection and strict adherence to its code of discussion.

"None of this talk about the kids and the family that the women get into in their book clubs," said Bill Smith jestingly to a chorus of laughter and nodding heads at the May meeting. "We usually get into a real heated debate and discussion on the book."

But make no mistake: There is a time and a place for the socializing. That's during a relaxed hour at the start of the evening when members pick up on the latest gossip and other worthwhile topics. And it picks up again during a late supper as members take turns hosting the monthly meetings.

Lucky to join

"This is a very exclusive club," says David Taylor, noting that membership is kept to 10 in accordance to the number of meetings per year. "Yes," added Antoine Maloney. "I consider myself lucky to have joined six months ago."

Among some of the former members whose workload conflicted with the meetings are entertainer and Westmount city councillor George Bowser and brewer Peter McAuslan.

What's the group's drawing card? "The beer," someone answers, to more guffaws. "This is like an old-fashioned tavern where men-talk predominates," stated one. "That's the fascination."

But getting back to the reading, books offer an opportunity to satisfy the curiosity that all the members have in common, they explain. And the link is friendship. It's a men's night out with an intellectual focus. They all love to read.

No real name

Despite the group's long history, they've actually managed to exist without an official name, which they consider to be of little consequence. When asked to come up with one for an event last year at the Westmount Public Library, they used "Men Who Read". And they still agree that name

pretty much describes who they are and what they're about.

Members represent a cross-section of professions from CEGEP and university professors to accountants and engineers, "except for doctors – and no lawyers allowed!"

The rules and policies they follow often have ulterior motives. The choice of the next book goes to the host of the next meeting. "That way we're sure he shows up!" Smith says.

Rating the books

The group takes its discussions so seriously that they rate each book, explains investment advisor Christopher West, a former Westmount resident who drives back from Kingston for each meeting. "We have a very elegant scoring system," he points out.

With "years of data in spreadsheets," adds Smith, who recently retired from Dawson College as IT coordinator. "We rate each book on many aspects such as its literary impact. Is this a book for the ages? Or a hot novel today that no one will know about tomorrow?"

Not surprisingly, he and Clive Brewer – the two original members and both systems analysts – also produce lists of almost 200 books that have been read and discussed organized by title, author and selector. The first was *Red Wolf, Red Wolf* by W.P. Kinsella, dating back to the meeting of October 26, 1988.

Since then, selections have included such classics as *Paradise Lost*, *The Odyssey*, *Ulysses* and *Wuthering Heights* as well as more recent picks such as *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini and the May book *Young Trudeau* by Max & Monique Nemni.

From class to trash

The range of material is broad: poetry, plays, classic, eclectic "and even trashy fiction." Among the more memorable books discussed were *Nice Work* (David Lodge), which captured the angst of the middle aged man in London, and *The Remains of the Day* (Kazuo Ishiguro) for sheer enjoyment. The group took two months to read and discuss *Ulysses*, West points out. "That



Did you know Westmount's
**CONTACTIVITY
SENIORS' CENTRE**
has outdoor Craft Sales Mondays
& Wednesdays, weather permitting?
For information call
514 932-2326
4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West
(at Lansdowne)



At the May meeting, from left: (front row) Chris West with "Rex", Don Lewis and Milo Shemie; (middle row) Antoine Maloney, François Leroux, David Taylor, John Preston and Robert Bishin; (back) Bill Smith.

was our crowning glory." But they lost a member over it.

Nevertheless, while members have come and gone, a core group of about a half a dozen have remained together for

many years. They look forward to their night out together, the opportunity to indulge in the true meaning of "argument" and the intellectual satisfaction it provides for "Men Who Read".

Boutique

Exceptional, Customized Investment Service — Blackmont is a new kind of full service independent investment firm.

Our established team of seasoned wealth management experts creates individual solutions for their clients in an entrepreneurial culture where people are given the freedom to do their very best work.

Contact Sylvie Bernier to discover the benefits of working with a Blackmont Investment Advisor — an industry-leading professional who is dedicated to setting the new benchmark for excellence.

Sylvie Bernier, BAA, MBA

Investment Advisor

1250 René Lévesque West, 42nd Fl.

T: 514.937.3184

E: sbernier@blackmont.com



BLACKMONT
CAPITAL*

Blackmont Capital Inc. — Member CIPF & IDA

Properties to love



Groupe Sutton
centre-ouest inc.
courtier immobilier agréé
www.suttonquebec.com



WESTMOUNT

Sunnyside

Million dollar views!!
Contemporary residence unique for its setting. Built against the mountain, this property offers amazing views from all rooms and terraces. Ideal for entertaining & superb alternative to condo living. Price upon request.



WESTMOUNT Murray Hill

Beautiful 4 bedroom semi-detached located on one of Westmount most desirable street. Beautiful floor plan, 3 fireplaces, deck and garden.
New price \$1,175,000



WESTMOUNT Lansdowne

Beautiful, quaint 4 bdrm semi-detached with garage. All renovated and beautifully located.
New price \$895,000



WESTMOUNT ADJ. Trafalgar Place

Rarely on the market!
Charming 3 bdrm townhouse situated on heritage garden steps to Beaver Lake and Downtown. Unique opportunity!
Asking \$549,000



NUN'S ISLAND Sax Phase I

Great unit in the famous SAX project. Two bedroom converted into one makes this condo very spacious. Great alternative to downtown living, close to transit transportation, shopping and cycling paths. Outdoor pool. Must be seen!! Asking \$379,000



DOWNTOWN LA CLOSERIE

Beautiful spacious and newly renovated, 2 bedroom condo located downtown steps to Westmount amenities. Panoramic views from 2 balconies on the 16th floor. Complex offers gym and 24 security and valet.
New price: \$765,000

and live

Deeply rooted value



Marie Sicotte

Affiliated Real Estate Agent Groupe Sutton Centre-Ouest BKR

514.953.9808 msicotte@sutton.com

JOAN & JILL PRÉVOST

Affiliated Real Estate Agents

TOP 1% ACROSS CANADA*



Joan Prévost

Cell: 591-0804



Office: 514 934-1818
www.joanprevost.com



Chartered Real Estate Broker

Heritage

4 Westmount SQ., #110
 Westmount

Cell: 915-1696 Jill Prévost, BComm



WHETHER BUYING OR SELLING, OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU IS...RESULTS!

WESTMOUNT FEATURED PROPERTIES



UPPER LANSDOWNE: Lovely 4+1 bdrm home located across from Devon Park with wonderful double living room, garage, garden, 2 wall-mounted a/c units and fabulous western views! Filled with beautiful detailing and superbly bright, come and see how you can transform this home into the one of your dreams! Asking **\$1,095,000.**



MONTROSE: Wow! Something different in mid-level Westmount! One step into this one-of-a-kind detached 5 bdrm home & you will be impressed at how it unfolds into 3000+sq.ft of gracious living space! W/central air, granite eat-in kit, 2-car garage 4 baths & views you must see to believe! Asking **\$1,095,000.**



RENFREW: Handsome sun-filled tudor 4 bedroom home with a cross hall plan located on a wonderful family street in mid-level Westmount. With its large master bedroom with walk-in and ensuite, 2 skylights, semi-finished basement ready for a fabulous playroom & bedroom, 2-car integrated garage + 4 car parking and a small garden, this home is waiting for your special touch! Asking **\$998,000**



DRUMMOND: Looking for space? How about approx. 5000 sq.ft. on the 12th floor in Downtown Montreal? Come and see how you can transform this 12 room apartment into the fabulous entertaining/living space you've dreamed of! Priced well under evaluation and including 2 garage spaces, 3 balconies, indoor pool, gym, sauna and 24 hour doorman, this condo is the best value in town! Asking **\$899,000**



STE CATHERINE O. Wonderful 3 bdrm renovated Victorian townhouse w/central air, new roof and windows, Jatoba floors, granite kitchen, master ensuite, 3-car parking and a SECOND ADDRESS/ENTRANCE FOR OFFICE ETC...! Asking **\$699,000****



36 YORK: Location! Location! Adorable 4+1 bedroom s/d turn of the century home in the Victoria village! Loaded with charm and light and offering a granite kitchen, finished basement w/bedroom and bathroom, 1 exterior parking*, a wonderful private garden with southern exposure and many improvements throughout. Asking **\$639,000**



EDGEHILL: Spectacular, elegant and meticulously maintained 4-storey stone residence offering views, central air conditioning, granite kitchen, incredible woodwork, 5+1 bedrooms, master ensuite, amazing lower level den ++. This home is for the most discriminating family who enjoy entertaining on a grand scale! Asking **\$3,275,000**



HOLTON: Wow! The 3-storey home you've been waiting for on the flat! A traditional English style home featuring 5+1 bedrooms, large eat-in kitchen, master with ensuite, finished basement, 2 fireplaces, 4 skylights, central air/vacuum, double garage + 2 ext., 2 large terraces ++ Simply move-in! A pleasure to show! Asking **\$1,550,000.**



KITCHENER: AT LAST! The perfect 4+1 bedroom renovated family home on the flat with a cross hall plan, central air, garage, garden & lovely detailing throughout. Situated in a prime location and fabulous for entertaining; you have been waiting for this one! Asking **\$1,395,000.**

OUR SUCCESS IS MEASURED... ONE FAMILY AT A TIME