

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 10 No. 3e

We are Westmount

March 29, 2016

Ping pong, chess tables coming to 2 parks

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Something new is coming to Westmount and King George (Murray) parks this spring: ping pong and chess tables.

Announced last week by Councillor Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Parks and Sustainability, the tables are to be year-round park fixtures, made for the purpose from a combination of cement and recycled plastic.

They are being ordered
with the intent of in- continued on p. 2

Westmount to Jupiter: 'Anyone there?'



Mia Gordon, 10, (centre) peers into Mark Milas' (right) 10-inch reflector telescope to view Jupiter and four of its moons, magnified 120 times, while 9-year-old Alexia Lyness Polson, left, gazes wistfully at the sky, a bright moon and many clearly visible stars that March 19 evening. For story on Earth Hour event, see p. 15.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

By-law could be adopted Apr. 4

PPCMOI meeting hears concerns, one revision request

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

More than 50 citizens attended a public consultation meeting March 22 on amendments to the "SCAOPI/PPCMOI" by-law, some challenging what they called vague, undefined and subjective criteria. Others expressed confusion over the permits approval process.

Still others asked for a review of the city's planning vision and for opening up all meetings of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) to the public.

But unlike a clear request for earlier public input expressed at the first public consultation
continued on p. 16



Westmount Page p. 14

Letters p. 6

Social Notes BY V. REDGRAVE p. 21

9 Lives BY L. FOWLER p. 13

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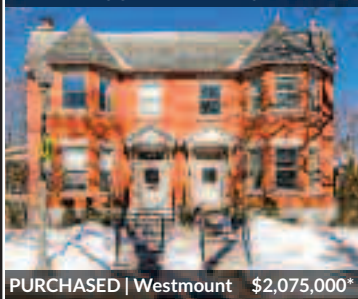
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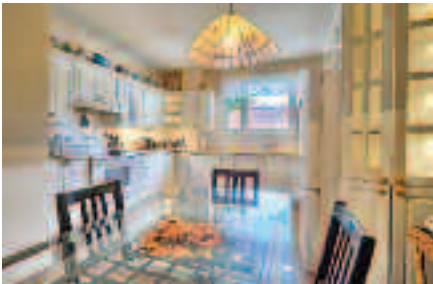
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Westmount hockey brothers



The four Macdougall brothers played what is expected to be their last game together as members of the Westmount Senior B Flyers March 18. Jonathan, right, has moved to Ottawa. His siblings – from left: Benjamin, Sebastian and Maxime – are advancing with the team in the play-offs. The four have played hockey together in the same league since 2010 (see story February 16, 2010, p. 24). All are the sons of Andrew Macdougall, long known for his role as a Scouter in Westmount.

Photo courtesy of Andrew Macdougall

Ping pong, chess cont'd. from p. 1

stalling them in May, one of each for each park. Users will be required to bring their own equipment for playing.

“We wanted to add something else for the kids to do,” explained parks superintendent Todd Seguin, who is in charge of the project. The two large parks were selected as having the space required for installing the ping pong tables in a large concrete base.

At Murray, the plan is to install a ping pong table in the level area just east of the wading pool. The chess table likely will go on the top floor of the comfort station. At Westmount Park, the tables are expected to be put in the concrete area east of the comfort station once used for shuffleboard.

The ping pong tables will cost \$3,000 each; the chess tables, \$1,300 each.

MLS 23555997 Open House April 2 & 3, 2-4 pm



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Road closes at start of Easter weekend



A water leak that occurred March 24 on Claremont just south of Sherbrooke resulted in water being shut off at 9 am the next day for repairs. The was considered urgent to prevent the street base being “eaten away,” said Public Works commissioner Patrick Martin. “More infrastructure breakdown,” he added. Homes and businesses affected by the closure were located on Claremont (Sherbrooke to de Maisonneuve), on Somerville (Prince Albert to Claremont) and Sherbrooke (Claremont to the west city limits). This photo was taken on March 25 at around noon.

Photo: Westmount Independent

Folklore I



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Loose dog leads officers to its home

A dog reported to have been running loose March 18 on Roxborough was tracked down by patrollers outside civic number 31, Public Security officials said. When a leash was fastened to the Nova Scotia duck-trawling retriever, the dog led them to its home nearby. Its owner was advised to obtain a current dog licence but replied she had already sent in a form.

Boston terrier taken to SPCA

A resident of The Boulevard near Belmont found a dog running loose in the street March 21, took it into the house and called Public Security, department officials said. The brown and white Boston terrier was held at the station on Stanton St. for two hours waiting for the owner to claim it. When this did not occur, the unidentified dog was taken to the SPCA.

Martin creates the Comfort Kit for cancer patients



Volunteers with the Bell Fund surround Westmounter Judy Martin, centre, at a packing warehouse in Lachine February 18.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

"Comfort Kits," the brainchild of Westmounter Judy Martin and her sister Sally Langan, is an initiative to create care packages containing items that provide comfort for cancer patients during treatments.

The kits are currently being distributed to cancer patients undergoing treatment at the Cedars Cancer Centre and the Montreal Children's Hospital. They contain a soft fleece blanket, a reusable water bottle, a magazine, a notepad and pen, and mints to deal with sore throats and unpleasant tastes that patients say can occur during treatment.

The idea for the fund and kits came from Martin, who was diagnosed with stage-three breast cancer in 2012 and underwent treatment for the next 455 days, coming out victorious in the end.

The first kits were distributed to patients this February 4, World Cancer Day.

Martin was also instrumental in bringing the bell-ringing tradition for cancer patients to the MUHC. She had heard that cancer patients at Toronto's Princess Margaret Hospital celebrated the end of their treatment by ringing a bell, so she bought a bell from an antique store in Knowlton in July 2013, and brought it to the then Royal Victoria Hospital, from where it has since been moved to the Glen site. On September 4, 2013, she became the first patient to ring the bell, and other patients now continue the tradition.

The Bell Fund, the fundraising body behind the kits, is looking for support from schools or community groups to create "get better" cards. Some 4,500 are needed each year, Martin said.

The fund continues to solicit donations to create the kits, which cost \$30. "We are thrilled with the community support behind the project to date," Martin said.

WESTMOUNT: ASKING 199,000!

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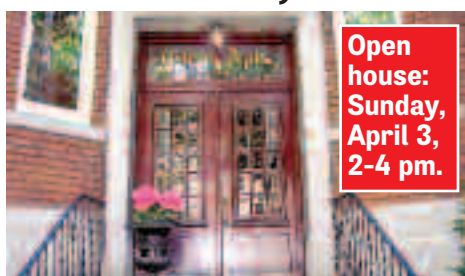
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Work begins in Nov.

Lulham asks MTQ for public consultation on 720 demo

BY ISAAC OLSON

Route 720, better known as the Ville Marie Expressway, runs right along Westmount's south border, and it will be coming down in November. Then, a new one will be built in its place – all within a stone's throw of Westmount homes.

Now Councillor Cynthia Lulham is asking Quebec's Transport ministry (MTQ) to host a public consultation meeting in Westmount in May and again in the fall before the work begins, so residents can be clear on what to expect from the demolition and reconstruction project.

"Our major concern is once they start demolishing and rebuilding the highway, it will be in very close proximity to homes along the southern border of Westmount, both in my ward and Councillor [Theodora] Samiotis's," began Lulham in a March 22 phone interview. She was speaking with the *Independent* the day after attending a NDG-Westmount Good Neighbourhood committee meeting designed to, every couple of months, update the public on upcoming Turcot Interchange work, while giving citizens a chance to express concerns.

"We are concerned about the impact this work will have, and we want to make sure that all that they promise is done. So far, with the demolition on Selby and the like, they did a very good job in terms of having sound and dust barriers etc. We hope that

continues, and we want to work with them to make sure it does."

Lulham attended the meeting and used the public question period to ask for clarification and more details on the upcoming demolition of the Ville Marie. She also asked representatives of the MTQ to host a public consultation meeting in Westmount.

Sylvie Gervais, the MTQ's team leader of maintaining traffic flow, explained plans to minimize the impact on the surrounding neighbourhood while agreeing to host a Westmount-based meeting to inform citizens about the planned work.

The 720 will be renamed route 136 when all the work is completed and, notes Lulham, the new highway will be located a bit further south. That, she adds, "will be a definite benefit to my ward. It's not changing in Councillor Samiotis's, but in mine it is, and that's a definite benefit. You know, it's going to be a long process. We have been waiting and waiting as they do all the

preparatory work, and last night was the first time I got an actual date."

Before, she said, the MTQ had been offering approximate start dates for the project, but now Gervais is making it clear that the work will begin in November. Lulham told the *Independent* that it still wasn't clear as to which direction the MTQ will be working, be it east or west, but those are the details, she said, that the director of Hydro Westmount, Benoit Hurtubise, will be following up on. He sits on the committee and is in regular contact with the MTQ.

The MTQ updated Westmount on the planned project sometime last year, Lulham noted, but it has been some time and that meeting wasn't specific to the 720's planned demolition.

When it comes

to the requested meetings this spring and fall that the MTQ appears open to, Lulham said, "I would like to give people fair warning so that the MTQ is able to address people's concerns. I would like our citizens to have the opportunity to hear and see the presentation. It's really up to the MTQ to tell the citizens what they will be doing to control the dust and the noise, etc. It's best that if comes from them."



The MTQ's Sylvie Gervais replies to Councillor Cynthia Lulham during the NDG-Westmount good neighbourhood committee meeting.



Councillor Cynthia Lulham addresses the NDG-Westmount good neighbourhood committee on NDG on March 21.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A LONE SPRUCE IN WESTMOUNT PARK: BREWER

There is quite a remarkable solitary spruce growing in Westmount Park near the lagoon's western portion. One can easily identify it as a spruce by its short, sharp needles that are not flat in appearance. Specifically, this is a Brewer spruce (*Picea breweriana*), also known as "weeping spruce," a name that describes its distinctive, beautiful drooping branches. It was first discovered by William Henry Brewer from Yale University in the late 1800s.

It has been described as "one of the most attractive conifers in the world." In fact, it is also one of the rarest spruces – its rarity makes for an interesting story.

The species (now termed a "relict") flourished in the Arcto-Tertiary forests that extended from the southwest coast of North America to the arctic regions. This massive forest began to retreat when tectonic plate movements and volcanic activity occurred during the Pliocene era (10 million years ago), forming the Sierra Nevada and Cascade mountain range. A further retreat of the forest occurred during the Pleistocene era (1 million years ago) when the glacial ice sheets covered most of



A Brewer spruce in Westmount Park February 8.
Photo courtesy of M. Walsh

North America.

One area, however, was unaffected by these massive geological and climatic

changes: the Siskiyou mountains within the current Klamath-Siskiyou region that today straddles the border between California and Oregon. It is within this protected region that the Brewer spruce and 30 other conifer species found nowhere else in this world still persist to this very day.

The next time you walk by this particular tree, think of the time span it represents and how that is currently measured in human terms. The best description I have found is by Rachel Sussman while describing her book *The Oldest Living Things in the World*: "One of my primary goals with this work was to create a little jolt of recognition at the shallowness of human timekeeping and the blink that is a human lifespan. Does our understanding of time have to be tethered to our physiological experience of it? I don't think so. Deep time is like deep water: We are constantly brought back to the surface, pulled by the wants and needs of the moment."

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HELLO? TRANSPORT QC?

Exactly when is Transport Quebec waiting until to notify us of the permanent closure of the Ville Marie until late 2019? Perhaps like the plans for the Turcot rebuild, they intend to keep us in the dark.

HWONG THAI NAN, WOOD AVE.

Editor's note: Please see our story "Lulham asks MTQ for public consultation on 720 demo," p. 5. – KM

LIBRARY SHOULD RE-INSTATE FORMER CATALOGUE SYSTEM

The Westmount Public Library has just taken a backward step at the taxpayers' expense by introducing a new catalogue system that makes it considerably more difficult to search and find what you are looking for.

The previous catalogue system, which worked well and was easy to navigate, should be restored ASAP to at least be available on an optional basis for those of us who shrink away from facing up to the challenge of conducting searches in the less well organized new catalogue system.

JOHN DOREY, VICTORIA AVE.

CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN SPRING

I saw this stuffed tiger abandoned on the sidewalk on a chilly March morning. It made me chuckle, but also a bit sad.

It's about time for some spring warmth!
OZGUR GURTUNA, CLAREMONT AVE.



Photo courtesy of O. Gurtuna

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Correction

The phone number published in the Councillor's Column "Bowser & Blue to perform at Vic hall in April" (March 22, p. 7) should have been 514.989.5226.

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Two arouse suspicions at SHS, found with graffiti paint, spring clean-up under way

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two men acting suspiciously were questioned for trespassing on private property at Selwyn House School March 19, a Saturday, Public Security officials said. Both wore school bags, one covered in paint spots and containing graffiti paraphernalia.

They were spotted at 4:42 pm dismounting from mountain bicycles. One entered the school ground behind buildings. The other was reported to have stood nearby appearing to act as a lookout.

When explained about trespassing, both insisted they were checking out the location for skateboarding, an explanation deemed “credible.” The names of a 24-year-old Westmount resident and a 28-year-old from Nova Scotia were recorded, but no tickets were issued.

It was the second week in a row that public safety officers checked out trespassers to find them in possession of graffiti-writing materials.

The proliferation of graffiti from the

winter is being documented by officers as it becomes exposed after the melting of snow. “We’re recording all the locations for our spring clean-up of graffiti,” said Public Security director Greg McBain. Some tags are on signs behind buildings in laneways.

Intoxicated women awakened, assisted

Two intoxicated women were assisted by Public Security March 17 and 21, officials said. In the first incident, an officer, assisted by the woman’s boyfriend, eventually succeeded in awakening her. She was walking away “under her own power” when Urgences Santé arrived. The second woman was found sleeping behind a cement wall at St. Catherine and Clarke where the source reported the woman was not moving at 8 pm. When she was found heavily intoxicated, Urgences Santé was called and transported her to the Mont-real General Hospital.

Bridge club’s top scorers, end of ’15, start of ’16

Westmount tally bridge winners with top accumulative scores for the four best sessions last October, November and December were, with their points:

- 1. Nida Koudsi, 17,260;
- 2. Sheila Notkin, 15,990;
- 3. Gerald Ratzer, 15,970;
- 4. Michel Blouin, 15,490;
- 5. Dael Perry, 14,950;
- 6. Donald Huffman, 14,790;
- 7. Sandra Meehan, 13,566;
- 8. Viviane Agia, 13,180.

For the three best sessions in January and February, they were:

- 1. Nida Koudsi, 15,860;
- 2. Jim Richards, 12,270 ;
- 3. Gerald Ratzer, 11,110;
- 4. Sandra Meehan, 11,090;
- 5. Dael Perry, 10,620.

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| • Love’s Histories: A Literary Archeology of Eros | • Canada on Screen |
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Upcoming Events

- | | |
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| • Evening with Clarence Epstein | • 70 th Anniversary celebration |

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Westmount faith groups to sponsor Syrian refugees

By JOANNE PENHALE

At least three Syrian families will be privately sponsored between two Westmount religious congregations.

Teams from Emmaus Anglican Church and Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom have each raised money and done paperwork to sponsor Syrian refugee families. And now, they are both waiting.

The temple is sponsoring at least two families – one family of six and one family of seven, living in Jordan and Lebanon, while Emmaus, which runs out of Westmount Park United Church, is sponsoring a family of six living in Lebanon.

“The government wants to make sure we will be able to sponsor and support this family,” said Ruth Bresnan, a congregant and member of the Emmaus team coordinating the sponsorship.

“There was a flurry of activity where we were getting everything (like paperwork) together,” Bresnan said, adding the Emmaus team now expects a lull while they wait for news from the government that the family can come.

“We’re more than prepared to support them for a year,” Bresnan said. Emmaus

congregants have already pledged more than \$20,000 to support the family, she said.

Rabbi Lisa Grushcow at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom said the synagogue’s members have raised \$69,000 to support two families, and hopes to sponsor a third family.

“It’s not just about raising the money,” Grushcow noted. Volunteers will meet the families at the airport, find housing, help the children settle in to school and help facilitate language learning, among other things, she said. “There’s really a lot that’s involved.”

Likewise, Bresnan said the Emmaus effort includes working groups that will manage things like furnishing an apartment, helping the family find appropriate healthcare and education, and adapt to life in Montreal.

Both groups expect that work to begin after their sponsorship applications are approved.

“We’re told it can take anywhere from eight to 24 months,” Bresnan said, adding the family Emmaus is sponsoring has had UN security clearance, which will speed up the process.

“This family has had refugee status in Lebanon for three years,” Bresnan said, and been without dental or medical help.

“From what we can understand, [the father] is an unskilled labourer,” Bresnan said. “He goes around looking for small jobs trying to support his family.”

The four kids are between the ages of eight and 16 and have probably not had schooling for three years, Bresnan said, so will have to adapt to school. Language will also be a challenge as they only speak Arabic, she noted.

Montrealer André Najem will be helping with communication, Bresnan said. His



Members of the Emmaus Anglican Church are sponsoring a Syrian family that has been in Lebanon for the past three years, said Ruth Bresnan, who is part of the team coordinating the sponsorship. Team members are, from left: interpreter André Najem, and congregants Josée de Billy, Westmounter Jane Allen, Jocelyn Dockerty, Ruth Bresnan and Jill Stafiej at the Westmount Park United Church, where Emmaus Anglican Church rents space, March 20.

family runs an organization in Beirut that is helping Syrian refugees. That organization, Oasis, put the church in contact with the family it is sponsoring, Bresnan said.

Originally Muslim, the mother in the family converted to Christianity, which puts family at greater risk if they return to Syria, Bresnan said.

Synagogue’s sponsored families include dentist, teacher

Grushcow said as soon as the synagogue’s sponsorship is approved, everyone will be eager to move ahead with flights to Montreal.

She said the parents in the two Muslim families her synagogue is sponsoring are professionals, including a dentist, pharmacist and French teacher.

“These are people who had a good standard of living before the war in Syria,” said Grushcow.

The team from Emmaus is following a guide for private sponsorship from Action Réfugiés Montréal, a downtown-based non-profit association that works with refugees.

“As much as people would love to give [the family a really, really good lifestyle,” Bresnan said, the guide recommends a sponsored family’s monthly budget be based on what their income would be on social assistance and the national child-care benefit. Bresnan explained, “If [after a year], they have to go on assistance, they will not have to go through another transition.”

Lauren Lallemand is the coordinator of refugee continued on p. 10



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– The Vendors of my most recent sale on
Montrose

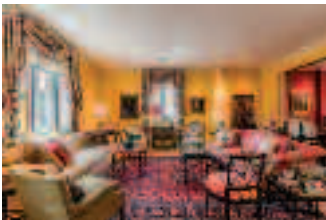
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Police Report

Westmounter hands over \$4,000 to ‘nephew’ in fraud call

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The following news story is based on information from police reports provided by a Station 12 constable in an interview with the reporter.

Despite efforts to inform the public about fraud schemes targeting senior citizens, police at Station 12 say a retired Westmount man recently became the target of a notorious telephone scam.

Around 9 am on March 23, the victim received a phone call from an individual claiming he was a nephew and that he immediately needed \$4,000 to bail him out of a legal problem he was involved in.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière, the victim immediately and unhesitatingly arranged to make the money available. An accomplice showed up at his door to pick it up, and only then did he bother to call his real-life nephew to check. It was then that he discovered he'd been taken.

"This comes under the 'grandson' fraud scheme that a lot of perpetrators have been using," added Laperrière. "It's not the first

one we've had: we've had others also in our area. These people are pushing hard to get people's money."

While the scheme might seem too simple for most people to fall for, he said the perpetrators' secret is in being "very convincing" while being able to persuade the victims that they truly are younger relatives in desperate need.

Man going to Westmount refuses to pay cab fare

On March 18 around 3 am, police from Station 12 were called upon to intervene after a taxi driver complained that a man he'd driven from downtown to an address in Westmount refused to pay the \$22 fare.

While the passenger initially told the driver to wait while he went into his home to get the fare, 15 minutes later he told the driver to leave and refused to pay.

The 22-year-old passenger was placed under arrest and was charged with a specific theft-related offence: fraudulently obtaining transportation (article 393.3 of the Criminal Code).

Armed robbery suspect arrested

Staff at Station 12 also report that a 25-year-old male suspect in several armed robberies in Westmount over the past few weeks has finally been arrested.

As previously reported in the *Independent*, an armed thief brandishing a handgun succeeded in robbing a St. Catherine St. dry cleaning outlet of an undisclosed amount of money around 6 pm on February 22 (see story March 15, p. 13). The police's records indicate that there were two other robberies in the area on March 3.

On March 18 around 9:45 pm, the suspect's luck ran out after he robbed a convenience store at 4421 St. Catherine St. near Metcalfe Ave. As in the earlier incidents, a handgun (either real or simulated) was used. This time he got away with \$140.

Laperrière could not confirm how police managed to track down the thief, only that later in the day he was located and arrested. But he said that the suspect now faces charges related to all the above incidents.

Syrian families cont'd. from p. 8

Grushcow said.

The Quebec government's Immigration ministry reported on March 21 that 5,330 Syrian refugees have been accepted into the province since January.

Of that, 4,443 are privately sponsored refugees, as opposed to government-assisted refugees.

Lallemand noted private sponsorships are more common in Quebec than in the rest of Canada, where there are caps on private sponsorships.

Emmanuel Anglican Church has about 150 congregants, Bresnan said, and rents its space from Westmount Park United Church at 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. Roughly 850 households attend Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom, Grushcow said, which is at 4100 Sherbrooke St.

Grushcow nor Bresnan disclosed the names of the family members their organizations were sponsoring as protective measures.



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From story to art



For the first time, the Atwater Library hosted two public media showcase events as part of Montreal's "Nuit Blanche" winter festival. The exhibitions took place from 5 pm to 1 am on February 27. The first of the displays, "Moving Pictures: Moving Histories out of the Attic and into the Public," involved a multi-media exhibition, created by seniors, of digitized and edited home movies from the 1940 to 1970s. The exhibition was shown downstairs. Meanwhile upstairs, the second display, "Seeing Red: Young People's Stories for the Eyes, From the Heart," showcased animated stories created by 21 Montreal children, some of whom are seen here. According to the Atwater Writers Exhibition (AWE) project coordinator Elise Moser, "the children participated in workshops with writers and media specialists" as part of AWE, an Atwater Library initiative. Authors involved include Raquel Ravera, Greg Santos and Canadian children's writer Marie-Louise Gay. Moser reported that the event was "a great success" and future Nuit Blanche events could be expected.

Photo: Matt Faigan

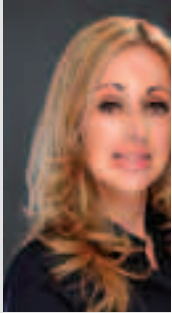
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Thankfully, he was taken in shortly after his abandonment, but he sustained light wounds that needed attention.

When he was hurt, he was exposed to the FIV virus and tested positive when he was vetted, but this condition does not affect his everyday health.

It would be best if he was adopted as a single cat in an indoor environment or brought into a family with another cat who is also FIV-positive.

If you would like more information about Caramel, please contact Gerdy's Rescue and Adoptions at the pager number 514.203.9180 or email info@gerdysrescue.org. You can also read up on this dedicated volunteer rescue group at their website www.gerdysrescue.org.

Your neighbour, Lysanne Fowler



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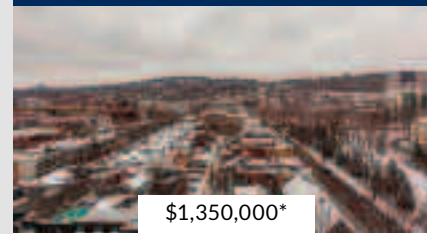
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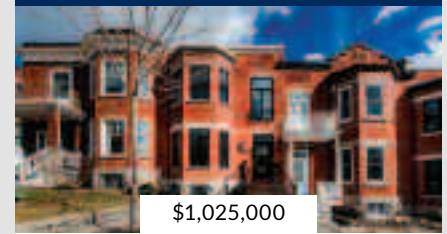


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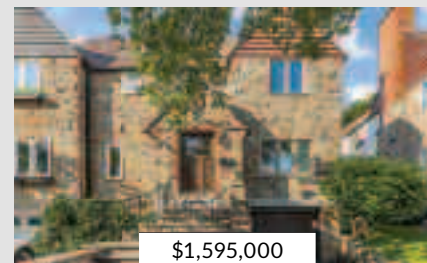
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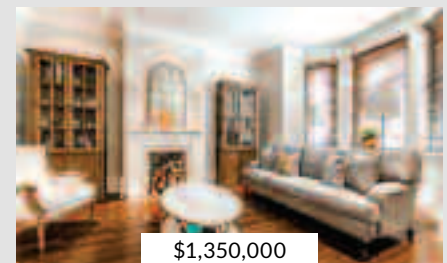
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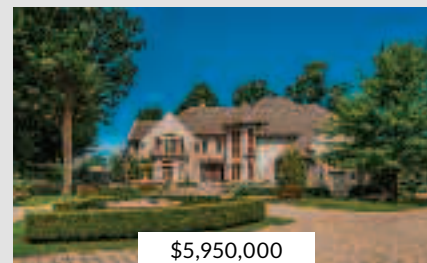
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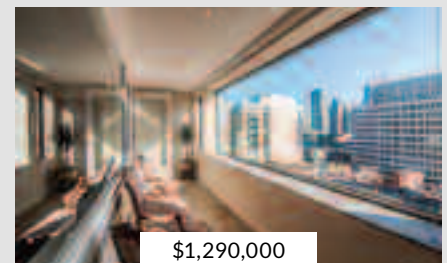
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BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Brochure printemps 2016 en ligne

Maintenant disponible! La brochure Bibliothèque, vie culturelle et communautaire au **westlib.org**.

Inscriptions jeunesse - session printemps

En cours au comptoir des enfants.

Club de lecture en anglais

Le mardi 29 mars, 19 h. Animé par Claire Holden Rothman. *Disgrace* de J.M. Coetzee. Info : 514 989-5299.

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Le mercredi 30 mars, 10 h 30. Le Groupe de poésie de Westmount compose des poèmes à partir de thèmes proposés par les membres. Bienvenue à tous. Info : 514-989-5299.

Série aptitudes financières

Le mercredi 30 mars, 14 h. *Market Update workshop: getting through difficult markets* avec Bob Spicer et Joe Catalano. Veuillez vous inscrire au comptoir des adultes. Info : 514 989-5299.



Rencontres d'auteurs

Le mercredi 30 mars, 19 h. Monique Proulx, auteure de *Ce qu'il reste de moi*. Billets gratuits disponibles à la bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5299.

Concours littéraire McEntyre 2016

Date limite : le vendredi 1^{er} avril à 21 h. Cette année, nous t'invitons à écrire sur le thème « construire des passerelles ». Visitez la page du concours au **westlib.org**.

Série aptitudes financières

Le mercredi 6 avril, 14 h. *Mobile Banking and Fraud Prevention Workshop* avec David Cristofaro et Fabrizio Piccinini. Veuillez vous inscrire au comptoir des adultes. Info : 514 989-5299.

Vente de livres des Amis de la Bibliothèque

Les samedi 9 avril et dimanche 10 avril de 10 h à 17 h, Victoria Hall. Tous les fonds recueillis seront consacrés à l'achat de nouveau matériel pour la Bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5299.

« Fairy Tale Magic Workshop » (7-12 ans)

Le mardi 12 avril, 16 h. Participez à un atelier ludique et amusant sur la magie des contes de fées avec l'auteure Lydia Lukidis. Plusieurs contes populaires seront étudiés, puis les enfants seront invités à rédiger leur propre conte de fées. En collaboration avec le Festival des enfants TD Metropolis bleu. Info : 514 989-5229.

« Forensics Camp Unleashed » (9-12 ans)

Le jeudi 14 avril, 10 h 30. Venez rencontrer l'auteure Monique Polak lors d'un atelier où elle partagera ses trucs et ses secrets pour aider les plus jeunes à créer leur propre histoire de détectives.

Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 4 avril

Les enfants pourront en apprendre davantage sur l'analyse criminelle, l'art de créer des fausses pistes, le suspense et les suspects... En collaboration avec le Festival des enfants TD Metropolis bleu. Info : 514 989-5229.

Représentation de *Magic Theatre* (4-10 ans)

Le dimanche 17 avril, 14 h. Pour toute la famille! Présentée par la Troupe *Teen Tour Theatre Junior Group*. Auteure : Sandra Matthews Deacon, mise en scène : Aviva Wolman-Wener. Info : 514 989-5229.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Collecte de sang d'Héma-Québec

Le mercredi 6 avril de 14 h 30 à 19 h 30. Victoria Hall. En avril, chacun est invité à donner du sang. Donnez du sang, donnez la vie. Info : 514 989-5226.

Bowser & Blue: Local, Organic & Sustainable

Le jeudi 7 avril à 20 h, Victoria Hall. Une soirée tout en chansons et en rire. Accès à 18 h 30. Bar payant. Billets (30 \$ pré-vente, 30 \$ + frais en ligne ; 35 \$ à la porte) disponibles au Victoria Hall, à la bibliothèque, et au bowserbluefr.eventbrite.ca. Info : 514 989-5226.

Galerie du Victoria Hall : appel de dossiers

Date limite : le 15 avril 2016. Les artistes émergents ou professionnels qui habitent Westmount sont invités à soumettre leur candidature pour la programmation 2016-2017 de la galerie. Info : 514 989-5521, westmount.org ou victoriahall@westmount.org.

Série de concerts d'été : soumissions

Date limite : le 29 avril. Le Service de la bibliothèque et des événements communautaires est à la recherche de groupes musicaux pour sa série de concerts d'été 2016 dans le parc. C'est une excellente opportunité pour les artistes de promouvoir leurs répertoires de musique jazz, classique, folk ou pop. Info : 514 989-5226, www.westmount.org, ou cproctor@westmount.org.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Entretien des rues à compter du 1^{er} avril

Du 1^{er} avril au 30 novembre, un horaire d'entretien des rues sera en vigueur. Assurez-vous de vérifier les panneaux de signalisation afin d'éviter une contravention. Info : 514 989-5222.

Bois-du-Summit : chiens en laisse

Du 16 avril au 15 juin. Pendant la migration printanière des oiseaux, les chiens doivent être tenus en laisse EN TOUT TEMPS au Bois-du-Summit. Les officiers de la Sécurité publique émettront des contraventions aux personnes qui ne respectent pas le règlement. Info : 514 989-5222.

LIBRARY

Spring 2016 brochure now online

Now available! The Library, Cultural & Community Events brochure at **westlib.org**.

Children's Spring Session : registration

Ongoing at the Children's Desk.

English Book Club

Tuesday, March 29, 7 p.m. Led by Claire Holden Rothman. J. M. Coetzee's *Disgrace*. Info: 514 989-5299.

Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Wednesday, March 30, 10:15 a.m. The Westmount Poetry Group meets to compose poetry together working with themes proposed by members. Welcome to all. Info: 514 989-5299.

Financial Literacy Series

Wednesday, March 30, 2 p.m. *Market Update workshop: getting through difficult markets* with Bob Spicer and Joe Catalano. Registration required. Info: 514 989-5299.

Author Lecture Series

Wednesday, March 30, 7 p.m. Monique Proulx, author of *Ce qu'il reste de moi*. Free tickets available at the Library. Info: 514 989-5299.

McEntyre Writing Competition 2016

Deadline: Friday, April 1, 9 p.m. This year, we would like you to write about "Building Bridges". Info: 514 989-5229. See the contest page at **westlib.org**.

Financial Literacy Series

Wednesday, April 6, 2 p.m. *Mobile Banking and Fraud Prevention Workshop* with David Cristofaro et Fabrizio Piccinini. Registration required. Info: 514 989-5299.

Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, April 9 and Sunday, April 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Victoria Hall. All proceeds from the sale go towards the purchase of new materials for the Library. Info: 514 989-5299.

Fairy Tale Magic Workshop (7-12 yrs.)

Tuesday, April 12, 4 p.m. Lydia Lukidis offers a fun workshop on the magic of fairy tales. After examining popular tales, students will write their own unique fairy tale. In collaboration with TD-Blue Metropolis Children's Festival. Info: 514 989-5229.

Forensics Camp Unleashed (9-12 yrs.)

Thursday, April 14, 10:30 a.m. In this workshop, author Monique Polak shares tips to help youngsters create their own detective stories. Participants can expect to learn about forensic science, red herrings, suspense and suspects! In collaboration with TD-Blue Metropolis Children's Festival. Info: 514 989-5229.

Performance of *Magic Theatre* (4-10 yrs.)

Sunday, April 17, 2 p.m. Presented by the Teen Tour

Next Council Meeting Monday, April 4

Theatre Junior Group. Written by Sandra Matthews Deacon and directed by Aviva Wolman-Wener. Fun for the entire family! Info: 514 989-5229.

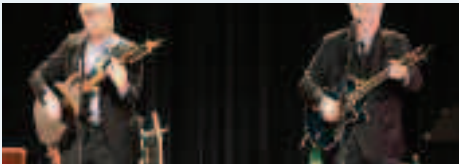
COMMUNITY EVENTS

Héma-Québec Blood Clinic

Wednesday, April 6 from 2:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. The public is invited to give the gift of life at the April Blood Drive. Info: 514 989-5226.

Bowser & Blue: Local, Organic & Sustainable

Thursday, April 7 at 7 p.m., Victoria Hall. An evening of song and laughter. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cash Bar. Tickets (\$30 in advance, \$30 + fees online and \$35 at the door) available at Victoria Hall, the Library and at bowserblueen.eventbrite.ca. Info: 514 989-5226.



Gallery at Victoria Hall: call for projects

Deadline: April 15, 2016. Emerging or professional artists residing in Westmount are invited to apply for the Gallery's 2016-2017 exhibition season. Info: 514 989-5521, westmount.org or victoriahall@westmount.org.

Summer Concert Series call for submissions

Deadline: April 29. The Library and Community Events Department is now accepting submissions for its 2016 Summer Concert Series in the park. These concerts provide wide exposure for live performance for emerging or professional small jazz ensembles, classical, folk and pop groups. Info: 514 989-5226, cproctor@westmount.org or www.westmount.org.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Street maintenance schedule from April 1st

From April 1st to November 30th, the street maintenance schedule will be in effect. When parking, please verify the signage to avoid tickets. Info: 514 989-5222.

Summit Woods: dogs on leash

From April 16 to June 15. During the spring bird migration period, dogs must be kept on leash AT ALL TIMES in Summit Woods. Public Security officers will patrol and may issue fines to those contravening the by-law. Info: 514 989-5222.



Residents turn out to celebrate Earth – and Healthy City Project

By RALPH THOMPSON

The evening of March 19 was bracing, with a clear sky, making it conducive for stargazing.

In and outside of Victoria Hall, people gathered for the Earth Hour celebrations

and the 25th anniversary of Westmount's Healthy City Project. Some 300 took part in many activities that included a family workshop on bees, honey and candles; the screening of *Landfill Harmonics* and *Watermark* and a Ted Talk about climate change.

Café Claire da Lune, run by Westmount's Simply Wonderful catering company, served soup and snacks, and Bird Protection Quebec answered questions about local avian activity.

The Rotary Club of Westmount was on hand to describe their community activities. So was provincial legislator for Westmount-St. Louis Jacques Chagnon. "I travel around Quebec a lot and have the opportunity to visit schools. Children understand the issues of climate change and global warming. They ask 'why, why, why?' I have confidence in our future in their hands."

Reverend Neil Whitehouse of Westmount Park United Church described three projects concerned with understanding nature and faith: a cooperative garden, a monthly "climate café" and nature walks.

Guest speaker was Westmounter and McGill emeritus professor of atmospheric and ocean studies at McGill Lawrence Mysak, who gave an in-depth presentation called "Outdoor Hockey Rinks and Climate Change."

Mysak presented a graph, resembling a hockey stick, which showed that for almost 1,000 years, average temperatures fluctuated around a similar mean until the past couple of decades where research shows a clear upturn and a mean temperature increase of about 1.5 degrees. "In 30 years, we may not see outdoor hockey rinks," he stated, showing a map of hockey rinks in Canada that are tracking the decreasing length of their skating season.

In the meantime, a small crowd gathered outside around the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, which offered an array of large telescopes.

Jupiter and four of its more than 40 moons were clearly visible. A close look at the Earth's moon showed a number of sharply defined craters. It was, in the eyes of those present, a perfect night for stargazing.

At 8:20 pm, Virginia Elliott of Westmount's department of Community Events, carried in a large cake to celebrating the 25th year of the Healthy City Project. Younger members of the audience appeared delighted. At just before 8:30 pm, the RCMP's Pipes and Drums, led by Sgt. Jonathan Verritt, marched into Victoria Hall and gave a short recital just before the start of Earth Hour's symbolic lights-out period between 8:30 and 9:30 pm.

In the hall, the lights in the hall were dimmed. The band then went outside.


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The RCMP Pipes and Drums led by Sgt. Jonathan Verritt piped in Earth Hour outside Victoria Hall under a clear moon lit night March 19.

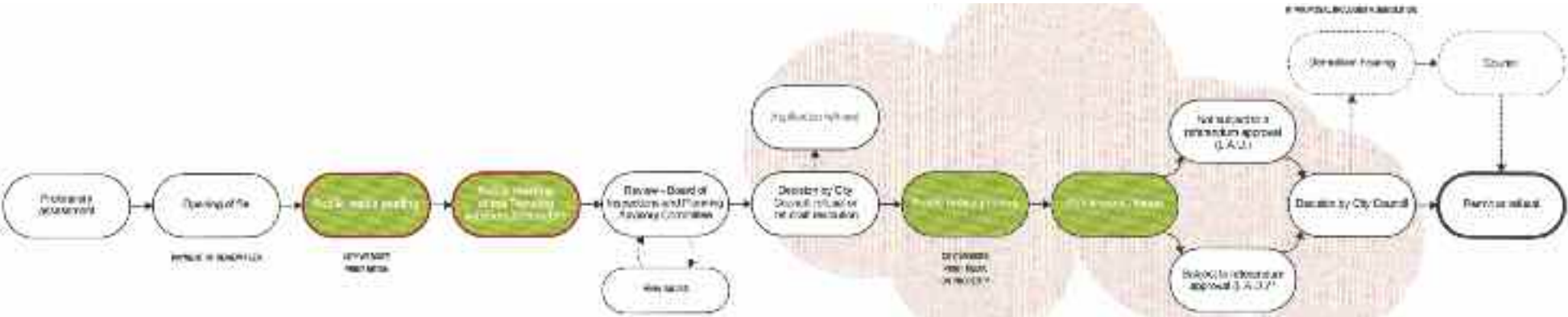

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City consults on SCAOPI/PPCMOI by-law amendments



The process for reviewing a SCAOPI/PPCMOI project shows the various phases of the approval procedure with opportunities (in green) for citizens to obtain information and make comments. Stages in the shaded pink area are defined by the Quebec Land Use and Planning Act. Image courtesy of the city of Westmount.

.....
cont'd. from p. 1
meeting five months ago, the only specific one last week directly related to the recent by-law amendments came from Marina Brzeski. The Grosvenor Ave. resident asked for longer than 30 days for residents to provide initial comments on a PPCMOI project.
In an impassioned plea, Brzeski related how volunteers had spent “a tremendous amount of time” to formulate their concerns over the draft by-law itself and en-

countered delays meeting with the city “over which we had no control.” She asked for three months of comment time.
“It’s the only concrete recommendation I would consider,” Councillor Theodora Samiotis told the *Independent* the next day. “I would love to bring the by-law forward for adoption April 4.”
Many of the 11 citizens – including one developer – who took the mic during the two-hour session, thanked the city for major changes already made in the by-law called “Specific Construction, Alteration

or Occupancy Proposals for an Immovable” (see story March 15, p. 1).
The changes provided for citizens to access development plans and attend a public meeting at an early stage of a major non-conforming project being evaluated under the by-law. Most “criteria” required of a developer on which a project would be evaluated remained unchanged.
Residents’ questions were answered by a panel of four: Samiotis, as commissioner of Urban Planning; architect Julia Gersovitz, who chairs the city’s Planning Advi-

sory Committee (PAC); Urban Planning department’s director Joanne Poirier and assistant director Tom Flies.
Exceptional cases
The proposed by-law, they explained, was intended for “exceptional cases” and would provide citizens more information and input than they might expect to have under existing approval processes. “It will be a planning tool to help us help you,” Poirier stated.
Its “demanding” criteria *continued on p. 17*

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The meeting's panel March 22 are, from left: Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier and assistant director Tom Flies; Julia Gersovitz, PAC chair; and Councillor Theodora Samiotis, commissioner of Urban Planning.

provide "a clear message for developers," she added.

Residents including Jeremy Cooperstock, however, questioned what weighting would be used to evaluate the impact of a PPCMOI proposal on neighbours versus others, for example. What role would subjectivity play in the PAC's assessment?

Westmount had been built on subjectivity, he was told, but the PAC tries to "balance everything we possibly can," Gersovitz explained.

John Fretz questioned the criteria that would be used to assess the impact on merchants. And who would determine what the benefits of a PPCMOI project are to the community?

Paul Marriott followed up on the issue of "vague criteria," such as the word "enhancement."

Lawrence Kryzanowski, a professor of

finance, stated that criteria as a means of evaluation needed to be defined. "I don't think PAC has the expertise to evaluate economic activity," he said.

Gersovitz explained that the various criteria are laid out in the city's many construction and planning by-laws, including the Site Planning and Architectural Integration Program (PIIA) and architectural guidelines. The city's planning program provides the development vision.

Mavis Young asked the city to open all PAC meetings to the public as is done in some communities. She was told that the sheer volume of files reviewed architecturally under Westmount's PIIA made this city's meetings different. "It's just that this is 2016!" Young countered.

Peter Smale, who introduced himself as co-developer of the site at de Maisonneuve and Prince Albert, said from the perspective of a developer, the PPCMOI by-law "pulls back the veil on the PAC" and he "thought it would be interesting if developers could waive their rights" and allow their plans to be published on the city's website. In this respect, the city must conform to rights concerning development plans, he was told.



Irma Alvarez speaks while Marina Brzeski waits her turn.



Lawrence Kryzanowski at the mic.



Developer Peter Smale speaks out.

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RECONDUCTION DE LA DIVISION DU TERRITOIRE
DE LA MUNICIPALITÉ EN DISTRICTS ÉLECTORAUX

À tous les électeurs de la Ville de Westmount.

AVIS PUBLIC est par la présente donné par le soussigné, greffier de la Ville de Westmount :

QUE le 10 mars 2016, la Commission de la représentation électorale (la « **CRE** ») a confirmé que la municipalité remplit les conditions pour reconduire la division du territoire de la municipalité en huit (8) districts électoraux représenté chacun par un conseiller municipal et délimité de façon à assurer un équilibre quant au nombre d'électeurs dans chacun d'eux et quant à leur homogénéité socio-économique.

QUE les limites des districts électoraux reconduits et le nombre d'électeurs compris dans chacun desdits districts sont comme suit :

DISTRICT ELECTORAL	NOMBRE D'ÉLECTEURS
1	1 586
2	1 576
3	1 868
4	1 802
5	1 839
6	1 958
7	1 933
8	1 839

MAINTAINING THE DIVISION OF THE TERRITORY
OF THE MUNICIPALITY INTO ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

To all electors of the City of Westmount.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Westmount :

THAT on March 10, 2016, the *Commission de la représentation électorale* (the « **CRE** ») confirmed that the municipality meets the conditions for maintaining the division of the territory of the municipality into eight (8) electoral districts, each one represented by a municipal councillor and bounded so as to ensure a balance in the number of electors in each one and a socio-economic homogeneity.

THAT the boundaries of the maintained electoral districts and the number of electors included in each district are as follows:

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	NUMBER OF ELECTORS
1	1 586
2	1 576
3	1 868
4	1 802
5	1 839
6	1 958
7	1 933
8	1 839



ON THE SHELVES

Among new arrivals at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

Magazines

“Tous menteurs?” par Valérie Borde in *L'actualité*, March 2016, p. 20-27. Athlètes dopés, sénateurs dépensiers, entrepreneurs malhonnêtes, scientifiques au CV gonflé...le mensonge est partout. Et si c'était dans la nature humaine?

“The Best Diet for Your Brain?” by Bret Stetka in *Scientific American Mind*, March-April 2016, p 26-33. The field of nutritional psychiatry is taking off as scientists home in on the ingredients for good mental health and cognitive staying power.

“Dissolving the dead” by Graeme Bayliss in *The Walrus*, March 2016, p. 30-32. Bio-cremation: The environmentally friendly, funeral industry-approved process of corpse disposal. This niche practice is found in only three facilities in our green-savvy country. Meet the Ontario entrepreneur who transformed his family business.

E-books

The Cellar by Minette Walters – On the day the Songoli's young son fails to come home from school, 14-year-old Muna's life

gets better. Until then, her bedroom was a dark windowless cellar, her activities confined to cooking and cleaning. She had grown used to being abused by the Songoli family – to being their slave. She's never been outside, doesn't know how to read or write and cannot speak English. At least that's what the Songolis believe. But Muna is far smarter and her plans for revenge are terrifying.

The Widow by Fiona Barton – When the police started asking questions, Jean Taylor turned into a different woman. One who enabled her and her husband to carry on when more bad things began to happen. But that woman's husband died last week. And Jean doesn't have to be her anymore.

Livres numériques

L'amie prodigieuse: enfance, adolescence by Elena Ferrante – In a poor, midcentury Italian neighbourhood, two girls, Elena and Lila, exhibit remarkable intelligence early in school. Only Elena is allowed to continue her studies, while Lila redirects her own talent toward her family's business. As they approach adolescence, their friendship is challenged by their changing bodies and attitudes toward the world.

Corps conducteurs by Sean Michaels – This novel was inspired by the true life and loves of the famed Russian scientist, inventor and spy Lev Termen, creator of the Theremin, an eerie musical instrument. Winner of the Giller Prize.

Adult English – Globalization past and present

Dark Money: The Hidden History of the Billionaires Behind the Rise of the Radical Right by Jane Mayer – An investigation into the growing radical right reveals a network of wealthy people with extreme libertarian views, led by the Koch brothers, that has been systematically influencing and controlling academic institutions, the courts and the US government.

The Silk Roads: A New History of the World by Peter Frankopan – In an increasingly globalized planet, where current events in Asia and the Middle East dominate the world's attention, Frankopan illuminates how the Silk Roads – the crossroads of the world, the meeting place of East and West – shaped global history over the past two millennia.

Adult French – Historical fiction

Entre rouge et noir by Jan Guillou – In the

third volume of the saga *Le siècle des grandes aventures*, we follow the lives of the three Lauritzen brothers. As Europe is mending the wounds of the Great War, subterranean forces are guiding it towards a new even bloodier conflict.

Le secret de l'empereur by Amélie de Bourbon Parme – In 1555, Emperor Charles V announces to Dutch dignitaries that he relinquishes power and retires to a monastery. Disappointed by ideals he could not realize, exhausted by incessant travels throughout his realm, he retires from the world to invest himself in his passion for time-keeping machines.

Biographical dramas on film

Pawn Sacrifice directed by Edward Zwick – In a story set during the height of the Cold War, this movie chronicles American chess prodigy Bobby Fischer's challenge of top Soviet grandmasters, culminating with the 1972 World Chess Championship match against Boris Spassky.

Steve Jobs directed by Danny Boyle – Based on the book by Walter Isaacson, this film portrays the mercurial founder of Apple. It fo- *continued on p. 20*



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AVIS est aussi donné que l'avis public de reconduction de la même division et la carte ci-haute sont disponibles, à des fins de consultation, au bureau du soussigné, à l'hôtel de ville, aux heures régulières de bureau, à l'adresse indiquée ci-dessous.

AVIS est également donné que tout électeur, conformément à l'article 40.4 de la *Loi sur les élections et les référendums dans les municipalités* (RLRQ, c. E-2.2) (la « **Loi** »), peut dans les quinze (15) jours de la publication du présent avis, faire connaître par écrit son opposition à la reconduction de la division du territoire de la municipalité en districts électoraux. Cette opposition doit être adressée comme suit :

Me Martin St-Jean
Greffier de la Ville de Westmount
4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest
Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1E2

AVIS est également donné que, conformément à l'article 40.5 de la Loi, le greffier doit informer la CRE si la municipalité reçoit, dans le délai fixé, un nombre d'opposants qui est égal ou supérieur à 100 électeurs. Dans ce cas, elle devra suivre la procédure de la division du territoire de la municipalité en districts électoraux prévue à la section III de la Loi.

DONNÉ à Westmount, le 29 mars 2016.

NOTICE is also given that the public notice for maintaining the existing division and the map shown above are available for consultation, at the office of the undersigned, at City Hall, during regular business hours, at the address indicated below.

NOTICE is also given that any elector, in accordance with section 40.4 of the *Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities* (CQLR, c. E-2.2) (the « **Act** »), may, within 15 days of the publication of this notice, file an objection in writing against maintaining the division of the territory into electoral districts. The objection must be addressed as follows:

NOTICE is also given that, in accordance with section 40.5 of the Act, the City Clerk must inform the CRE if the municipality receives, within the prescribed time, a number of objections that is equal to or exceeds 100 electors. In this case, the municipality will have to follow the procedure set forth in Section III of the Act for the division of a territory into electoral districts.

GIVEN at Westmount, this 29th day of March 2016.

Me Martin St-Jean
Greffier de la Ville/City Clerk

What the schools, their students are up to

By JOANNE PENHALE

St. George's student and two grads on Team Quebec

St. George's High School's Marina Vilanova, grade 11, is on Quebec's competitive ski team. In the spring of 2015, Vilanova, 17, was recruited to the team of nine women, and since December has competed in more than 30 races, mainly in Quebec. She said she is most proud of coming in second in three university races, and 12th in a Nor-Am giant slalom race, out of 60 skiers. Mikaela O'Brien and Rebecca Letourneau-Duynstee, 2014 graduates of St. George's, also represent Team Quebec: O'Brien for skiing, and Letourneau-Duynstee for snowboarding.

The Study cultivates Nicaraguan partnership

Eighteen Study students visited their sister school in rural Nicaragua in early March, bringing items including new shoes, eyeglasses and pens. The grade 10 and 11 students, many from Westmount, played sports with their counterparts, taught English, assisted a Study science teacher who ran experiments and led circuit-building. This is the fifth year The Study has coordinated the exchange. The school also annually awards a university scholarship to a graduate of Diriá Institute, the sister school.

Batshaw Children Needing Homes Alice loves animals and art

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres is in need of a two-parent foster family for 10-year-old Alice, who is a bright, inquisitive and sociable girl, with a love for animals and arts.

She is in good health, is well liked and interacts well with her peers. Academically, Alice struggles in almost all subjects and will need help with her homework, especially in French.

She has a diagnosis of ADHD, which impacts her learning in that her attention span is quite limited at school. However, her teachers are working with her in class and in an after-school program.

Caring for Alice will be challenging as her environmental experiences of chronic neglect and disappointments amongst oth-

ers have not provided her with the structure she needs on a daily basis. She would benefit from clear rules, limit-setting and boundaries.

Alice will benefit from foster parents having a set routine and schedule, who will engage her in community extra-curricular activities, as well as helping her with social skills, especially at meal times.

The ideal family will be that of a two-parent Caucasian family, centrally located in the downtown area, and that can make the commitment to her for as long as she needs.

For more information about Alice, call Batshaw Youth and Family Centres at 514.932.7161, ext. 1139.

Shelves cont'd. from p. 19

help. Follow along to see if Pat can get everything done in one day!

The Night Gardener by The Fan Brothers – Life on Grimlco Lane was pretty grim until one day William wakes up to discover something magical has happened: a tree has been turned into a wise owl. One night William discovers the mys-

terious night gardener who has been transforming their trees into works of art!

Reference

2016 Consumer Reports Kitchen Planning and Buying Guide.

2016 *Palmarès des carrières: pleins feux sur la formation professionnelle et technique.*

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Miami Beach art fair attracts Westmounters



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The annual bacchanalia-by-the-beach, Art Basel Miami Beach, attracts international art galleries, jet-setters, artists, art lovers...and Westmounters. Held this past December, the second through the fifth, the art fair full of parties was unlike other years: it was hit with monsoon-like rain. The epicentre was the massive Miami



Paul-Émile Rioux.



Antoine Ertaskiran.



Helen Bellefeuille.



Jeanie Riddle.



Heidi Spector.

Convention Centre in Miami Beach, the powerful pivot around which outlying art fairs were held. Despite the wind-broken umbrellas, it was a successful show and sell.

Local res **Helen Bellefeuille** showed the eponymous Westmount gallery's wares, with Montreal artist **Nicolas Ruel** "selling well." Westmount artist **Heidi Spector** presented at the PULSE Fair, where her shiny, striped shellacked works were at New York's Margaret Thatcher Gallery.

Galerie Art Mûr featured artists **Shayne Dark**, **King Holly** and **Venne Henri**.

Westmount-adjacent Parisian Laundry

presented work by BGL, the artist collective group that represented Canada at the 2015 Venice Biennale and the Sanchez brothers, Carlos and Jason, explained director **Jeanie Riddle**.

Antoine Ertaskiran of his Griffintown gallery, featured site-specific work by Montrealer **Dominique Pétrin**, whose perception-altering bright patterned installation caught my eye from corridors away.

Montreal artist **Paul Émile Rioux** showed plexiglass-encased cool-blue pieces (sold out!) at Digital Art Projects. At the SCOPE tent, Montreal's
Station 16 showed fabu- continued on p. 23

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TRENDSETTERS

RICHARD OUELLETTE AND MAXIME VANDAL

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

When I heard that Richard Ouellette, who was selected for the “Hot List” at the 18th Annual Toronto Interior Design Show, lived in Westmount with his life and business partner Maxime Vandal, I thought “What a perfect Trendsetter profile.” With Vandal, Ouellette directs Les Ensembliers, a design/architecture/construction firm. However, in speaking with them, I learnt they “don’t get dirty at work sites.” Life is in the details. Read and find out.

STYLE

How would you describe your personal style?

Layered dandy; we like to dress with simple lines and natural tones but with high-quality pieces. We love clothes by designer Jil Sander, for example. We often find things we love at Want Les essentiels de la vie.

What is your favourite way of dressing?

Maxime: I like to wear two-piece suits with a tie. Italian designers Canali and Ermenilio Zegna are my favourites. I always wear coloured shirts with cufflinks, a little detail I love. Classic black loafers are my favourite.

Richard: I am more a jacket, sweater, and large scarf kind of guy. My shirts are only white. My little *folie* is patterned and vivid non-matching socks that also don’t go with my outfit at all. My shoes are by Stubbs. I love comfy wool slippers in all colours!

On weekends, what do you like to wear?

We have a farm. It is an ongoing project. There it is all about comfort, but always with a bit of style, of course! We love fall clothing – leather boots, wool plaid and hunting clothing: the effortless way the British dress. I have many high rubber boots, which I also wear to shop at Holt Renfrew on Saturdays if we are in town.

You are involved in renovating, which is messy work. What are the best clothes to wear on site that can be cleaned afterwards?

We are “dandys.” We don’t really get dirty!

Do you have a favourite type of art or artists?

Conceptual art and contemporary art by emerging artists are our favourites. We

were privileged enough to acquire a Mel Bochner piece for Max’s birthday last year. Shayne Dark’s work is truly inspiring. Laurence Vallière street art is part of our signature in all our projects. And we love the photography of David Burdeny and Joshua Jensen Nagle. That being said, we also love Riopelle, Ferron and Tousignant, who are as current and contemporary as ever.

LIVING

If you had a choice, where would you live in the world, money being no object?

New York for the energy, London for the lifestyle, Belize for recharging, and Montreal for our projects and, of course, our farm.

What is your favourite flower? Do you have flowers in your home?

Peonies from the garden. Orchids in the city. We must live with fresh flowers – they are inexpensive, bring colour and are so full of life.

Who would you invite to a dinner party if you could invite anyone from any era?

Leonard da Vinci, Yves St-Laurent, Mies Van Der Rohe, Martin Luther King, Jackie Kennedy, Diane Vreeland, Claude Monet.

What are your favourite Montreal stores?

Holt’s, Want les Essentiels de la vie, Arthur Quentin, Michel Brisson, Milord Antiques, la quincaillerie Dante and Rooney.

What do you think of today’s fashions for women? For men?

We love that there are no boundaries between men’s and women’s fashions today. With accessories, textiles, lines and colours, both sexes can express their personal style in a similar way or parallel to one and other.



Photographed at Les Ensembliers on Notre Dame St. at 4 pm, March 16, were Richard Ouellette, left, and Maxime Vandal.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Curfew enforced after Earth Hour events

A Westmount woman and three Montreal men were found sitting on a bench in the comfort station of Westmount Park March 20 at 12:31 am after the midnight park curfew, according to Public Security officials. They said they had only been there to use the washroom and subsequently departed. The station had not been locked up as usual because of Earth Hour events that had taken place at Victoria Hall and in the park.

Cracking tree closes bike path

A branch crashed down near the bike path in Westmount Park March 21, closing a section to cyclists, Public Security officials said. Patrollers had met with a complainant at 4:23 pm, at which time they could hear the sound of the tree cracking in the wind. Barricades were set up, and the city's horticulturist was called to the scene to assess the tree's condition. City tree pruners arrived at 5:45 pm to remedy what was described as a dangerous situation.

Social Notes cont'd. from p. 21

lous pieces by street artists, including Stikki Peaches, whose work is in many Westmount homes.

Montreal's Landau Gallery showcased investor-attracting artists such as Francis Bacon (sold at US\$13.5 million) and Picasso (US\$10.5 million).

Stéphane Aquin, formerly with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and now chief curator at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, co-chaired a discussion about Cuban art – a hot topic at the fair.

Westmounters noted dashing out of the

rain included Julie Turcotte, Rhonda and Arthur Swift, Carmele McGeary and Reda Bedjaoui, as well as collectors Sarah and Raouf Greiche, artist John Schweitzer and Robert Poirier, Lynda Brault, Rossana Grande, Jeannot Painchaud (president, Cirque Éloize), Jean-François Belisle (director, Arsenal), Pierre Bellerose (Tourisme Montréal) and Debbie Zakaib and Alexandre Taillefer, board chair of the Musée d'art contemporain, who hosted a private cocktail with Agence Bob, represented by Claudéric St-Amand and Patrick Bibeau.

After all, "art" is part of the word "party."

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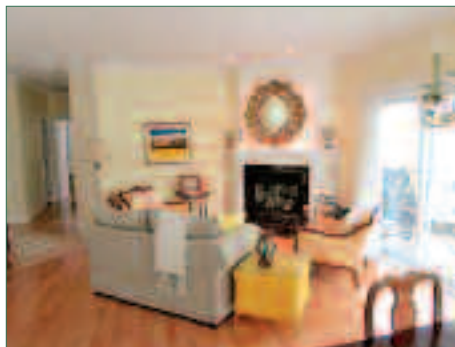
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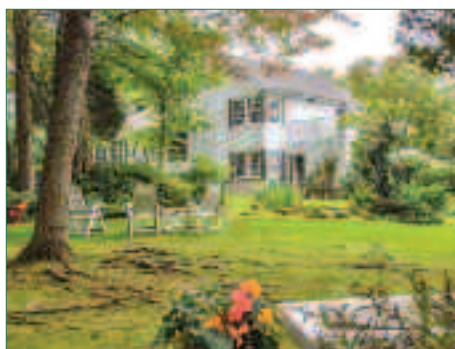
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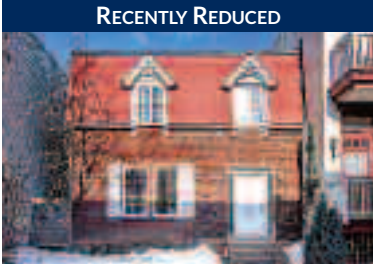
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