

City to conduct user-study on interest for indoor pool

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council at its general committee meeting May 15 decided to launch a “user-study” to assess demand for an indoor pool, Mayor Christina Smith announced last week.

Indoor pools are “very costly” to operate, she said, so the city wants to find out what facilities currently exist in and around Westmount, as well as partnership opportunities and user demand before it might consider conducting a feasibility study into costs and possible locations for building a pool.

continued on p. 18



PlantEx 2017

The city's perennial plant exchange took place the evening of May 18 outside the Westmount Public Library. Staff and volunteers had been working since about 4:30 pm to organize perennials brought in by residents and the city for the exchange. Over 30 people who had contributed plants were ready in line at 6 pm to choose their new plants. The forecasted rains never came, and instead gardeners at the city's annual event enjoyed the setting sun and warm temperatures.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Nominated for Coup de Coeur award

Residents urged to vote for Prince Albert square

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount residents were asked at the city council meeting May 1 to vote for Prince Albert square, the city's entry in this year's *Coup de Coeur* category of Montreal's annual Architectural Heritage Campaign (Opération patrimoine architectural de Montréal).

“This year the subject is integrity in public spaces,” and that is the reason the city

submitted Prince Albert square, said Councillor Theodora Samiotis, commissioner of Urban Planning.

Since the winner of the *Coup de Coeur* is chosen by the public at large, Samiotis urged residents to cast their votes. This can be done until the end of the day Friday, June 16 either on the city's website or at ville.montreal.qc.ca/operationpatrimoine/en/coup-de-coeur.

Prince Albert square is continued on p. 15



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Taking over Laurentian Bank space 'very much a possibility'

Metro's Vellucci finds clientele 'very accepting'

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Fiorelli Vellucci knew he had big shoes to fill when he replaced longtime franchisee Graham Fletcher at the Metro grocery store on Sherbrooke at Victoria, "but people have been very accommodating," he said last week.

Now after seven months in Westmount, he has found it to be "a very strong community. People are very friendly and accepting. I just want to say thanks to everyone for making me feel so welcome."

Vellucci, who came from the Metro store on Sherbrooke St. East in Longue Pointe, described his new clientele as very "refined" and discerning, and "expects to find

everything in the store." As a result, he has brought in "a lot of biological and natural products. One thing that's selling very well is the bio-chicken."

Coinciding with Vellucci's arrival was a restructuring of stores by Metro, which required some realignment of products, he explained. "Those changes were done for the whole banner, not just this store." More cheeses were introduced, for example. This required moving the milk across the aisle.

Major renos on the way

While major renovations will be taking place as part of Metro's investment in the store announced last spring when a new

long-term lease was signed, (see story April 5, 2016, p. 1), Vellucci said he won't likely see the plans for about six months.

Asked if they might include the now vacant adjacent building occupied until recently by the Laurentian Bank, he said: "That's definitely very much a possibility." As a Category I heritage-rated building, however, any renovation challenges due to that building that could be presented "would be up to the head office to work

out."

Of the 27 years Vellucci has been in the grocery business, 21 of them were with Loblaw Provigo. He has worked at the Provigo stores at Cavendish, Nuns' Island, St. Sauveur and Pierrefonds. He joined Metro six years ago when it offered him the franchise on its Longue Pointe store.

Vellucci lives in Laval and finds it takes about 45 minutes of travel time during both morning and afternoon rush hours.



Fiorelli Vellucci outside the Metro store at the Victoria Ave. entrance May 12.

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Lambert honoured for his cycling contributions



Photo: Ralph

Dan Lambert, centre, was the recipient of the Westmount Municipal Association's (WMA) 2017 Derek Walker Volunteer of the Year award for work in promoting bicycle use and safety. (See story, p. 5.) He is seen here with Patricia Dumais, WMA secretary, left, and Paul Marriott, its president at the May 10 event, which took place at Victoria Hall. It also included the WMA's annual general meeting. Lambert gave a short speech, which concluded with a call to action. "What can we as individuals do? We can buy an electric or hybrid car. We can buy a self-drive car to avoid deaths and injuries when they are available, but more importantly we can drive less. If we're going less than 2 kilometres, we can walk. If we're going less than 15 kilometres, we can cycle or take public transport where possible. If we live in upper Westmount, we can buy an electric bike to get us up the hill. The other day, I met a gentleman on the bike path with a really cool electric bike. He had just bought a Mercedes 500 series, and they threw in the electric bike for free, and he was using his bike rather than the Mercedes."



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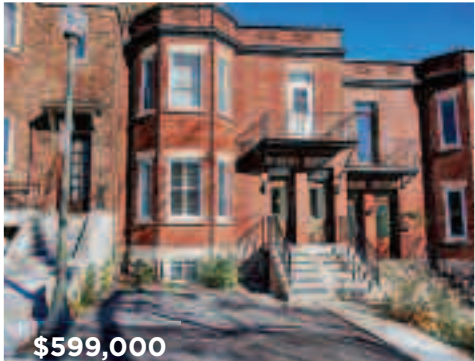
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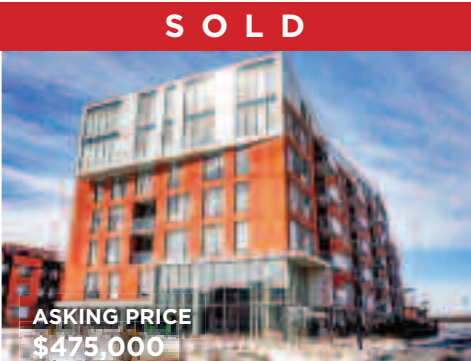
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Lambert wins WMA volunteer award

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As co-founder and president of the Association of Pedestrians and Cyclists of Westmount since 2009, Dan Lambert has spent many volunteer hours working at the community and political levels to promote bicycle use and safety as well as more bike lanes and greater awareness of active transportation.

Lambert was recognized for his efforts as this year's recipient of the Derek Walker Volunteer-of-the-Year Award presented by the Westmount Municipal Association at its annual general meeting May 10 at Victoria Hall. (See photo, p. 4.)

"I'm very honoured but a little embarrassed because there are a lot of others who deserved it," Lambert told the *Independent*. "My focus has been on the one issue."

"Dan has been, and continues to be, an engaged and active leader in Westmount," said Councillor Philip Cutler, commissioner of Public Security.

"Always eager to volunteer his time and share his experience and insight, he has helped the community progress in a positive and health-conscious manner, particularly around cycling and active trans-

portation."

And while Lambert is careful, by his own admission, not to take the credit for advances that have been made in cycling in Westmount, he admits the association was "kind of noisy" in "strongly urging" the city to improve the de Maisonneuve bike route for winter use, for example.

Like a bulldog

Personally, he said, "I can be like a bulldog that never lets go."

But "generally we work behind the scenes to try and come up with a very logical approach, but sometimes it doesn't work and you need to reach out for pressure on an issue – press coverage, for example."

On the other hand, he said, he has learned that achieving changes are always more complicated than they may appear "when you realize that engineering studies and tendering may be involved."

Through the years, Lambert has worked with city authorities, police and Public Security to educate cyclists as they go through Westmount that they are passing through not only a residential community but also a park. He was outspoken on wanting input into the city's Traffic Master

Plan and helped initiate and present an annual cycling course to educate children in safe riding and respect for other road users.

He is also a co-founder of the Association of Pedestrians and Cyclists of NDG and the spokesperson for the Montreal Bike Coalition.

A mechanical engineer from Concordia with an MBA in finance from McGill, Lambert spent many years working with Rio Tinto, travelling internationally and posted for several years in Tokyo and London before moving to Westmount in 1995. He now works as a consultant in the mining sector.

Third complaint in two weeks on Chesterfield

A teenaged resident of Chesterfield was issued a ticket May 6 after two calls had been received for a noisy party, Public Security officials said. The complaints at 10:19 pm and 11:43 pm followed a previous one April 23 (see story May 2, p. 40). Officers stayed on the scene until guests began leaving, and the noise was lowered.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CAN'T KIDS JUST PLAY
IN THE STREET?

[On a recent] Saturday night, my 14-year-old son and his friend went outside to play after I stopped them from playing too many video games. Being after dark, I didn't want them going far from home so they decided to toss a baseball in our quiet dead-end street for 10 minutes.

Within five minutes, Westmount Public Security came by, as they had received a complaint. A neighbour had called, worried they would hit a car.

I am writing this letter in the hope of reminding people of when they were 14 and full of energy. Maybe people grow older and forget that they used to run around outside, play ball, feel free.

It's these same people who tend to lament the fact that the streets are no longer full of children playing, as kids are only playing video games or doing organized activities planned by their "helicopter moms."

Are we living in a society where we are more concerned about our cars and material world than the healthy social development of our children? Are our children no longer allowed to play in the streets? Do our neighbours no longer speak to one another and prefer to waste Public Security's

time instead of just going outside and asking the kids to move further down the street away from their car?

What happened to the idea that it takes a village to raise a child?

This attitude is raising paranoid kids who are scared of their neighbours and who will be afraid of being stopped by police when doing innocuous things like tossing a ball quietly in the street.

With this attitude, our younger generation of children will decide it's safer to play inside in the digital world and leave the real world to their materialistic neighbours.

MIRA KATNICK, ABBOTT AVE.

MORE LEASH LAWS WOULD
THREATEN ENJOYMENT OF
WOODS FOR DOG OWNERS

In response to "Summit Woods users call for dog run to help leash problem" (May 9, p. 7), asking for the dogs to be on leash at all times or expecting Westmount Security to be immediately available or patrolling every hour on the hour are unreasonable demands and defeat the very purpose of Summit Woods.

We who use the Summit to exercise our dogs do so on a daily basis and for some of us, twice a day. I have seen very little abuse

of the leash laws but do acknowledge that there are always a few who try to spoil our enjoyment by not obeying these gentle laws.

I have never seen a runner or walker attacked but would suggest that if this has happened, it is the owner's fault for bringing an unsocialized dog to the [area]. I have narrowly avoided being knocked over myself by untrained dogs and also just missed being hit by mountain bikers. Rarely do you hear us complaining!

I believe if someone feels threatened they should immediately ask for the owner's name or ask another dog owner for help – and they will get it.

We do not want the actions of a very few to ruin the daily joy we feel by being out in nature each day – winter or summer.

May I add, "kudos" to whomever designed the Emili dog registration system. It is efficient, fast and supplies a very pretty dog tag to boot.

PAM MCENTEE, ADDINGTON AVE.

WHY LET A FEW SPOIL IT?

With regard to the article of keeping dogs on leash at all times (May 9, p. 7), I would like to share my experience of the Summit for the last 16 years.

Since pictures speak louder than words The photo (below) shows my dog Charley and friends enjoying themselves. It is the happiest place. When we, "the regulars," see anyone not "picking up" or encounter a misbehaved dog, we speak up, we confront, and we report.

Summit Woods means a lot to those of us who love "man's best friend," and we want to see them active and healthy. The regulars are friendly and cooperative. We take care of the property and we take care of our dogs. To say that "there are some



Dogs are allowed off leash at all times during winter months. Photo courtesy of E. Backler

dogs who are vicious and they are sometimes the ones whose owners let them off leash" [as quoted by Maureen Kiely, May 9, p. 7) is an exaggeration and misleading. To say that people feel that they are being attacked is incomprehensible. The optics of this statement is not the reality.

We are there to let our dogs off leash, to watch them play, [for us] to laugh and to enjoy ourselves. Occasionally there are accidents, unpleasant dogs and mean-spirited people. The regulars respect each other, support each other, and we make sure that we let visitors like this know that they are not welcome.

As far as I know, all the regular Summit Woods people have respected the two month period of no dogs off leash.

Summit Woods is a gift to us, a peaceful and uplifting place. Animals deserve a good life.

It is a shame that just a few people try to spoil it for us.

ESTHER BACKLER, CÔTE DES NEIGES RD.,
AND CAROLYN MANZER, DOMINION ST.

WOULD A DOG RUN IN HELP
OFF-LEASH PROBLEM?

Further to your article "Summit Woods users call for dog run to help leash problem" (May 9, p. 7), please note that we moved to Westmount in 1980, and since then we have tried to enjoy Summit Woods almost weekly. However, we do not remember a time when on our walks, we encountered no dogs.

While most people do leash their dogs as per the posted signage, there is always a percentage that feel that this does not apply to them. [Recently,] my wife and I were in the woods enjoying the trilliums that were coming out in force, and of course we encountered people with dogs. Most were on leash, but not all.

According to the article, it is proposed to make a large dog run in the area. This may attract a larger number of dog owners. And through some miracle, all of these dog owners will now always leash their dogs as per posted signage as they go traipsing through Summit Woods to enter and leave the dog run or just enjoy a walk through Summit Woods?

ALFRED EDEL, VICTORIA AVE.

OPEN LETTER
TO COUNCILLOR
ROSALIND DAVIS

I'm writing in reference to your letter published in the May 9 issue of the Independent (p. 6) regarding an indoor pool in West- continued on p. 7

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Letters cont'd. from p. 6

mount. I must say that the biggest mistake the city has done was not to integrate an indoor pool when rebuilding the new recreation centre – unbelievable!

The commissioner of Sports and Recreation of that time should maybe have used his power more intensely to avoid this big mistake.

You mention in your letter that you will work hard at all options to put an indoor pool in our city.

Some things must be done the right way, at the right place and at the right time, an opportunity the city missed out on by making the wrong decision, which looks quite irreversible.

Good luck, anyway. I hope I will live long enough to see and be able to swim in an our own indoor swimming pool.

LUCIE KIRMOYAN, UPPER BELMONT AVE.

NOW PARKING LOT WON'T FLOOD

Thanks to Robert Talarico, Public Works fleet superintendent; Elisa Gaetano, Public Works assistant director for engineering and infrastructure; and the crew preforming the site work, the municipal parking lot on Victoria Ave. will no longer fill up with water in the centre.

FRED GIRVAN, VICTORIA AVE.



The parking lot photographed May 12.

Photo courtesy of F. Girvan

Waiting to fall?

According to a Somerville Ave. resident, "this was the scene on Claremont near Somerville the morning of May 16 when a tree fell into the street. (See story, same page.) The only damage was to the windshield of a parked pick-up truck. A resident of the building said they've been asking the city to take it down for years, to avoid just this." The stump had already disappeared by May 19.

Photo courtesy of M. Cope

Tree crashes onto Claremont – Montreal keeps Westmount from cutting it up

A Montreal tree crashed onto Claremont at Winchester May 16 after it was cracked when hit by a cube truck around 4 pm, Public Security officials said. (See photo, same page.) No injuries were reported. The accident occurred as the northbound vehicle came upon an obstruction and was forced into the southbound lane causing the top to hit a large limb of the tree. The shock of the hit apparently caused the tree to crack. Because of the seriousness of the situation, officers called police as well as Westmount tree cutters who were denied permission by Montreal to cut it down.

While all awaited a tree crew from Montreal to do the work, the tree fell onto the roadway, which is located in Westmount. This enabled the city's workers to cut away the portion on the street. When the Montreal crew arrived, they removed remaining portion.

A damaged Dodge Dakota was believed to have been parked on the street at the time.



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First meeting of reshaped committee

475 Roslyn gets quick approval of demo request

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A hearing May 15 to consider a request to demolish a one-storey addition to 475 Roslyn took place before a special sitting of city council. The plan is to replace it by a two-storey extension with attic, also at the side of the Category I residence.

It was the first time the city’s Demolition committee had met since being restructured last June into a committee of the entire council rather than one of three councillors. And a decision to allow the demolition came shortly after the committee deliberated behind closed doors.

“We’ve heard all your comments, even those not related to the demolition,” said Mayor Christina Smith when the committee returned to the council chamber.

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Councillor Theodora Samiotis, Urban Planning commissioner, presented a resolution to permit the demolition. It also called for a monetary guarantee of \$15,043 (10 percent of the demo cost) and required completion of the work within six months and an approved construction management plan.

Comments from three Lansdowne residents living behind the large property were led off by Marcel Pinchevsky, who was concerned about the removal of trees and the impact of a driveway leading to a basement garage.

City Urban Planning director Tom Flies said that no trees would be removed during the demolition and all would be protected. Tree-cutting of any kind would require a permit as would a change to the driveway level. Blasting was not foreseen.



Marcel Pinchevsky.

Homeowner provides assurances

Homeowner Richard Yufe, who was present at the meeting with his wife Jacqueline Joza and their three-year-old daughter, added his own assurance that “no trees will be removed” because the footprint of the new higher extension is actually smaller than the lower addition it replaces.

At the start of the hearing, architect Eric Huot, accompanied by architectural advisor Bruce Anderson, said the 1963 addition to be demolished “does not particularly marry into the style of the original building,” which dates from 1904.



At the mic, homeowner Richard Yufe, left, and architect Eric Huot present the request for demolition at the hearing May 15. Seated behind at far left is Andrea Wolff, acting chair of the city’s Planning Advisory Committee.

Andrea Wolff explained that the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), of which she is acting chair, did not object to the demolition. It also had endorsed in principle the replacement proposal of the extension, which would be well recessed from the original house and replicate the style of the original building (see image p. 10).

She dwelt on the history of the original large property, which had been subdivided into three lots, including the large one occupied by the 1904 residence, which has come to be known as the Bronfman house after its longtime owners, Gerald and Marjorie (see story May 9, p. 4).

Eric Sutton of Lansdowne, whose house is “directly” behind it, said that the existing

lot was a lovely one that offers a lot of light and a feeling of space. He said it was “very nice to say” the new extension would be conforming but it would create “a massive structure” that was not in the public interest or that “of everyone who lives around it.”

Adam Daifallah, a resident of Columbia, however, called the comment



Adam Daifallah.

continued on p. 10



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VIEWS ON CITY AND LACHINE CANAL

“LOFTS REDPATH”, SOUTH WEST \$2,795,000

This two-storey unit with two balconies toward the south, oversized with spanning the Lachine Canal, two parking spots and two boat docks is the building's crowning jewel.



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“LOFTS REDPATH”, SOUTH WEST \$2,695,000

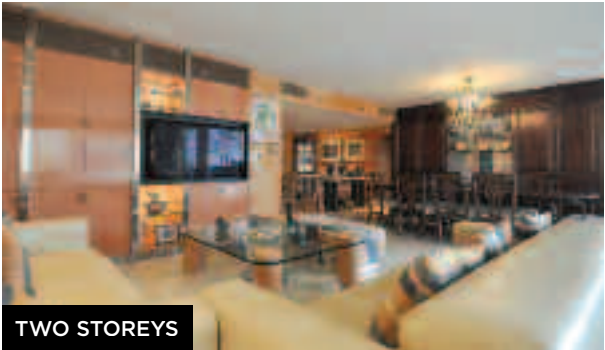
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Changing command



Incoming RMR commander Lieutenant-Colonel John Lindegaard Shone (centre left) receives the queens colours from outgoing commander Lieutenant-Colonel J-F Denis (centre right) during a formal handover of the Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) command that took place April 30. A small crowd lined the balcony during the afternoon ceremony at the regiment's headquarters on St. Catherine St. while dignitaries, including Mayor Christina Smith, sat on either side of a dais facing two long lines of uniformed RMR soldiers. Les Fusiliers Mont Royal Band played for the ceremony, and a number of awards and decorations were handed out. Colonel Christian Mercier, commander of the 34th Canadian Brigade Group, was the master of ceremonies.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Lansdowners voice concerns over trees, height of extension

cont'd. from p. 8

“very editorial” and said the community “should applaud” a young family willing to move into Westmount and undertake such a plan rather than “denounce” it.

Trying to reach out

Yufe told the meeting he had spoken to residents up and down Roslyn and found

they supported the project. “I’m trying to reach out and be a good neighbour,” he said, noting he had managed to speak with two of three Lansdowners who had sent in letters of opposition, but had not reached Sutton.

He was thanked for “reaching out” by Richard Bond of Lansdowne, who had expressed concerns about the project at the city council meeting May 1.



At left: Image as shown at the hearing May 15 illustrates the one-storey 1963 addition to be demolished on the right side of the building. At right: The proposed replacement extension of two storeys (in dotted line) with attic is to be recessed farther back from the street than the front façade of the 1904 house. Both have a gambrel roof.



Comin’ Up

SATURDAY, MAY 27

The city of Westmount’s Family Day event, 10 am to 4 pm, Westmount Park.

MONDAY, MAY 29

Pool opens for pre-season.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

“Patient Education in the 21st Century,” with speakers David Fleiszer and Nancy Posel, 7 pm in a new location than previ-

ously reported – the Lodge Room at Victoria Hall. Part of the Westmount Healthy City and MUHC Foundation’s spring joint lecture. Free. Register at www.muhcfoundation.com/whc/ or call 514.843.1543.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

Artists’ and curator’s talk on the exhibition Brown’s Hill – Sara Colby, Renée Duval, Holly King, Peter Krausz and Song Nan Zhang, 7 pm at the McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria Ave.

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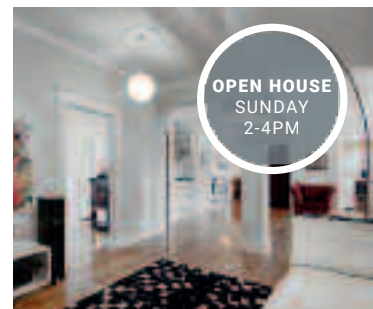
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infoWestmount

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HÔTEL DE VILLE



Livre : *Un portrait de la Ville de Westmount*

La photographe Jaroslava Miler a su capturer les parcs, les rues, les maisons et les bâtiments municipaux de Westmount dans toute leur splendeur et au fil des saisons. Le livre est en vente au prix de 15 \$ et est disponible au Victoria Hall, à la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount, ainsi qu'au bureau du maire à l'hôtel de ville.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Conférences de 14 heures : Lily Lam

Le mercredi 24 mai, 14 h, Bibliothèque. *Tai Chi Chuan, Its Ancient Roots and Current Relevance*. Billets requis. Info : 514 989-5299.

Série Récits de voyages

Les vendredis 26 mai et 2 juin, 10 h 30, Bibliothèque. Une activité hebdomadaire qui simule le fait de voyager dans un pays étranger pour les individus atteints de la maladie d'Alzheimer ou d'une autre forme de démence. Inscription requise. Info : dmiguez@westmount.org ou 514 989-5409.

Ciné-club

Le vendredi 26 mai, 14 h, Bibliothèque. *Lion*. Billets requis. Info : 514 989-5299.

Évènement spécial : *History of Lacrosse*

Le lundi 5 juin, 19 h, Bibliothèque. James Calder, l'auteur du livre *Lacrosse: the Ancient Game* parlera des origines et de l'importance de la crosse dans la culture amérindienne ainsi que de sa transformation en sport international. Info : 514 989-5299.

Conférences de 14 heures : Elaina Zuker

Le mercredi 7 juin, 14 h, Bibliothèque. *The Seven Secrets of Influence: Portable Power for the 21st Century*. Billets requis. Info : 514 989-5299.

Club de films documentaires

Le mercredi 7 juin, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *The Eagle Huntress* (2016). Billets requis. Info : 514 989-5299.

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Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 5 juin



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ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Galerie du Victoria Hall

Du 26 mai au 16 juin. La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter une **exposition jeunesse**. Horaire : lundi au vendredi 10 h à 21 h; samedi 10 h à 17 h. Info : 514 989-5521.

Festival Classica : Les rugissants

Le dimanche 28 mai, 15 h 30, Victoria Hall. Un concert humoristique avec des œuvres de Bach, Barber, Bizet, Beatles, Björk, Berio et Byrd. Billets : 32 \$, disponibles en ligne. Info : 514 989-5226.

Conférence : L'Éducation des patients au 21^e siècle

Le mardi 30 mai, 19 h, Bibliothèque. La présentation portera sur le rôle actuel de l'éducation des patients et de son impact sur l'engagement et les perceptions des patients et des familles. Présentée par le Projet Ville en santé Westmount et la Fondation du CUSM. Info : 514 843-1543.

Film : *In the Key of Claire A Story of Music and Healing*

Le mercredi 31 mai, 19 h, Victoria Hall. Un documentaire lyrique à propos de la musique et de la guérison, qui raconte l'histoire de la montréalaise Claire Duchesneau, travailleuse sociale. Billets requis. Info : 514 989-5299.

Mon Canada : Chanter l'âme d'un pays

Le samedi 3 juin, 19 h, Victoria Hall. En l'honneur des célébrations du 150^e anniversaire du Canada, la chanteuse Barbara Lewis propose un répertoire musical grandiose dans le cadre d'un projet bien personnel visant à faire l'éloge de la musique canadienne. Billets requis. Info : 514 989-5299.

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CITY HALL

Book: *A portrait of the City of Westmount*

From parks, streets, houses to civic buildings, Westmount is captured in all of its glory, throughout the seasons, by photographer Jaroslava Miler. The book is priced at \$15 and is available for purchase at Victoria Hall, Westmount Library, as well as the Mayor's Office at City Hall.

LIBRARY

2 O'Clock Conferences Series: Lily Lam

Wednesday, May 24, 2 p.m., Library. *Tai Chi Chuan, Its Ancient Roots and Current Relevance*. Tickets required. Info : 514 989-5299.

Tales and Travels Series

Fridays, May 26 and June 2, 10:30 a.m., Library. A weekly activity that simulates the act of travelling to a foreign country for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Registration required. Info : dmiguez@westmount.org or 514 989-5409.

Film Club

Friday, May 26, 2 p.m., Library. *Won*. Tickets required. Info : 514 989-5299.

Lecture: *History of Lacrosse*

Monday, June 5 at 7 p.m., Library. James Calder, author of *Lacrosse: the Ancient Game* will discuss lacrosse's origins and importance in First Nations culture and its transformation into a global sport. Info : 514 989-5299.

2 O'Clock Conferences Series: Elaina Zuker

Wednesday, June 7, 2 p.m., Library. *The Seven Secrets of Influence: Portable Power for the 21st Century*. Tickets required. Info : 514 989-5299.

Documentary Film Club

Wednesday, June 7, 7 p.m., Library. *The Eagle Huntress* (2016). Tickets required. Info : 514 989-5299.

Next Council Meeting Monday, June 5

Seed Lending Library

Ongoing. Library. Free seeds for members from more than 50 varieties of plants – including herbs, flowers, vegetables, fruits, beans, and heirloom varieties. Info : 514 989-5299.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Gallery at Victoria Hall

May 26 to June 16. The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present a youth art exhibition. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info : 514 989-5521.

Festival Classica: Les rugissants

Sunday, May 28, 3:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. A light-hearted concert featuring works by Bach, Barber, Bizet, Beatles, Björk, Berio and Byrd. Tickets: \$32, available online. Info : 514 989-5226.

Lecture : Patient Education in the 21st Century

Tuesday, May 30, 7 p.m., Library. The presentation will focus on the current role of patient education and its impact on patient and family engagement and perceptions. Westmount Healthy City Project and WUHC Foundation Joint Venture. Info : 514 843-1543.

Film: *In The Key of Claire A Story of Music and Healing*

Wednesday, May 31, 7 p.m., Victoria Hall. A lyrical documentary on music and healing that tells the story of Montreal social worker Claire Duchesneau. Tickets required. Info : 514 989-5299.

My Canada: Singing the Soul of a Country

Saturday, June 3 at 7 p.m., Victoria Hall. In honour of Canada's 150th birthday celebration, singer Barbara Lewis shares her very personal musical project that features the greatness & splendid variety of Canadian music. Tickets required. Info : 514 989-5299.



Westmounters relive Expo '67, share memories at film screening – 50 years later

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Fifty years and a day after Expo 67 opened in Montreal, around 250 Westmounters gathered at Victoria Hall to see the English-language premiere of a documentary on the world's fair, featuring a few current and former Westmounters.

Expo 67: Mission Impossible, which was screened on April 29, told the story of how the idea for Expo was first conceived and how the developers were in a frantic race to meet a deadline in less than four years – April 28, 1967.

The event was organized by the city's Community Events Advisory Committee.

One Westmounter who is prominent in the film, Philippe de Gaspé Beaubien, served as Expo 67's chief of operations. Diana Nicholson, a former Westmounter known with her husband David for their long-running Wednesday Night salons, was assistant director for public relations at Expo.

The film's producers, Guylaine Maroist and Eric Ruel of Productions de la ruelle, were able to make the film after accessing an archive in Ottawa containing some 80,000 documents and other materials left behind by Expo 67 organizers.

As the film's title suggests, building Expo 67 was a task that seemed impossible at first to many observers – including the media.

Because islands had to be enlarged or built from scratch, millions of tons of landfill had to be trucked and dumped into the river. Following this, the equivalent of a small city had to be built to facilitate the arrival of an estimated 200,000 visitors a day for Expo 67's six-month run.

As if that weren't enough, a tunnel also had to be built under the St. Lawrence river from Montreal to St. Helen's Island for the Metro that would be able to transport the highest number of people as possible to the site.

"There was nothing," Nicholson says at one point in the film, describing the initial barrenness of the islands created in the middle of the river. "It was difficult to imagine that in three years it would be nice."

During a show-and-tell session following the screening, audience members were asked to share their memories or personal experiences.

"Expo was one of the reasons I came to Canada," said Wanda Potrykus, who was 17 years old when she arrived from England



Former Westmounter Diana Nicholson, who served as assistant director for public relations at Expo 67, is seen here on April 29 at Victoria Hall with her former boss Yves Jasmin.

during Expo year to live in Montreal permanently.

"I lived at Expo – I actually seldom went home," added Carole Charnutzky, who worked at Expo 67, as well as at "Man and his World," the exhibition that succeeded Expo starting in 1968.

Although de Gaspé Beaubien was unable to attend the screening in person, he addressed and interacted with the audi-

ence through a cell phone connected to Victoria Hall's public address system.

"I want the people hearing me tonight to know that we didn't have much choice, because we had such a short time – three-and-a-half years – where normally it would take 10 years," he said. "I think Expo was extraordinary because it did extraordinary things with ordinary people just like us."

Water backs up in Manoir Westmount

A blocked drain was believed responsible for water that backed up in Manoir Westmount May 5, Public Security officials said. Patrolers were alerted at 4:09 am from the fire department. Water containing earth was found coming up from drains in the bathroom and covering the dining room area with about an inch of water. A pump was set up and the Gallery at Victoria Hall was temporarily closed as a precaution. The Manoir's dining room is located on the lower level of the building. A blockage in the drain was subsequently removed.

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The Underdog Club

JANE DAVEY

Wouldn't some kind of animal medicare be great? In fact, maybe our own collective healthcare should include a certain allotment for our pets' bobos. I mean, our animal companions are kind of like Prozac on a leash. They contribute so much to our emotional well-being, I bet they would keep the cost of mental health care down overall.

But all idealism aside, we're here to talk about what ails 6-year-old German shepherd Cara.

Two years ago, she was adopted by a couple after some kennel owners they knew shut down their business. To the delight of her new people, Cara turned out to be impeccably trained and obedient, in addition to being calm, sociable, affectionate,

and in perfect health.

Their son was one-year old, and they were initially skeptical about having a big dog around a baby, but Cara surprised them again. She is apparently just amazing with kids, and even gets along with their two cats.

But about four months ago, Cara started getting sick. She was diagnosed with anal fissures, a common problem of her breed. After many costly visits to different vets, they finally found a treatment that works. Unfortunately it's very pricey, and Cara now also needs special food.

At this point, Cara's medication bills are between \$300 to \$400 a month. The young family is operating on a very tight budget and couldn't afford this kind of long-term expense. They were heartbroken over the situation but felt they have no other option than to find Cara other loving adopters who could afford to sustain the cost of her care. And whoever that turns out to be will be "blessed in return with an amazing new companion."

Do you have the means to throw Cara a lifeline? If so, contact the Frontier Animal



Society at 819.876.7747 or frontieranimal-society@gmail.com.

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**NOTICE OF
A LICENCE
SUSPENSION**
File: 33-16-1954

NOTICE is hereby given that Tristan Pungartnik, real estate broker, licence No. E9091, whose establishment is located in Westmount, has been found guilty by the OACIQ Discipline Committee of the offences summarized below:

Count 2: On or about June 6, 2015, concerning an immovable, Defendant drafted or allowed a signature to be drafted in place of seller R.F. on the Amendments form.

Count 3: On or about April 5, 2016, during the investigation conducted by the assistant syndic concerning an immovable, Defendant made a false declaration stating that the client R.F. had signed the Amendments form.

On March 31, 2017, the Discipline Committee ordered the suspension of Tristan Pungartnik's licence No. E9091 for a period of 60 days, effective May 12, 2017.

This notice is given in accordance with section 98.1 of the *Real Estate Brokerage Act* (CQLR, c. C-73.2).

Brossard, May 12, 2017

Renée Dionne
Discipline Committee Secretary

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Prince Albert square: 'A refuge'

Two tickets for off-leash dogs in Woods

Two dog owners were ticketed \$77 recently for walking their dogs off leash in Summit Woods, Public Security officials said. The first one was issued to a Montrealer following a complaint from a Westmount resident at 4:47 pm.

Five days later on a regular foot patrol, officers saw a dog walking beside a woman who immediately leashed it on seeing them. The woman, later identified as a Westmount resident, was reported to have

initially refused to identify herself until informed she could be given a second ticket for obstructing the work of the officer. She also denied knowledge of the leash regulations, which officials said are not only signed at all entrances to the woods but have recently been posted on sandwich boards at various intersections of the paths, following recent complaints of off-leash dogs (see story May 9, p. 7).



Prince Albert square looking north to Sherbrooke, shown May 15.

cont'd. from p. 1

one of 13 choices. Others include NDG Park and Cabot Square – among entries from Montreal boroughs – as well as various parks and public spaces in Town of Mount Royal, Beaconsfield and Côte St. Luc.

A description on the two cities' websites of Prince Albert square as submitted by the city calls it a "refuge for relaxation" among an "abundance of plants."

It also states that after the square was created in 2015 "at the heart of a vibrant commercial district," Westmounters "quickly became attached" to it as an an-

chor of the Victoria village, "a busy area of shops, restaurants and cafés."

This year's focus on public spaces is a departure from the usual emphasis on efforts by the owners of houses and other buildings to preserve their architectural heritage. While other Westmount submissions have won awards over the years, the first to carry off the *Coup de Coeur* was 12 Aberdeen in 2009.

In 2006, before her election to council, Theodora Samiotis (now commissioner of Urban Planning) and her husband were nominated as a finalist for Westmount based on their efforts to restore their Category I house on Dorchester.



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Police Report

Woman with airgun arrested after Hillside Ave. disturbance

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.

In the early afternoon of April 25, up to a dozen Montreal Police officers were on the scene of a disturbance on Hillside Ave. after a woman was reported to be brandishing a firearm during a dispute with another person.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière, police received a call around 1 pm about a conflict between two tenants at 100 Hillside.

“One tenant came out of her dwelling waving what looked to be a handgun,” he said. Later, following her arrest and transportation to hospital to undergo a psychiatric assessment, the weapon in question was found to be an airgun, he added.

“It wasn’t a real handgun,” added Laperrière. “There was a conflict, and one of the tenants threatened the other tenant with it. What was said I cannot say because it still hasn’t gone to court.”

He said the suspect was kept overnight in the psychiatric ward at the Montreal General Hospital and was given a court arraignment later in the afternoon on the day of the incident through a telephone link-up.

She faces charges of uttering threats, possession of a weapon and assault with a weapon.

Computers paralyzed after company falls for offer to remove malware

Police at Station 12 on Stanton St. say a company with offices in Westmount recently caved in to online extortionists who demanded a ransom of several thousand dollars in exchange for removing “malware,” which had paralyzed the company’s computers.

Community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière said the company, which he could not identify for security reasons, had computers systems which were infected with a malicious virus.

After filing a complaint with the police on April 25, a technical specialist with the police found “ransom ware” on the com-



The scene on Hillside Ave. as it unfolded around 1 pm on April 25. Photo courtesy of Eric Diaz Bajart

pany’s computer system, Laperrière continued.

The suspects were demanding they be

paid in the internet currency known as “Bitcoins.” In exchange, added Laperrière, they continued on p. 19

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Flowers and food jump start spring



Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

A British spring brightened Montreal's ever-Arctic April 4, when the Batshaw Foundation hosted its annual Défi Canapé. The brick walls at Entrepôts Dominion

were the perfect rustic backdrop for the soon-to-be-flowering season minus the dandelions! Blue hydrangeas, fuchsia azaleas, whiter-than-white tulip spears and gleaming branches of yellow forsythia gladdened the spirits of arriving guests as they shed boots, scarves, mitts and parkas. The bouquets not only brightened the night, they were used to highlight the four restaurants competing in the canapé challenge. Grumman, Satay, Bishop and Baggy, and Tuck Shop provided the amazing *amuse-bouches*.

The winner – a difficult choice, by the way – was the Tuck Shop with co-chefs **Theo Therikos, Jon Bloom, Adam Shiller and Rebecca-Jane Wilson**.

Dressed in English-rose red, CTV's **Tarah Schwarz** was the emcee.

The evening's committee included Westmounters **Laura Lavy**, event co-chair with former local res **Tina Khan; Elizabeth Caddick, Janet Faith, Kata Endrodi, Liana Thibodeau and Hana Kim**.

Local residents enjoying the eve included Selwyn House headmaster **Hal Hannaford**, whose dapper attire also evoked spring. *À-la-Pierre Trudeau*, he sported a flower in his suit lapel.

Other Westmounters noted were **Karma**

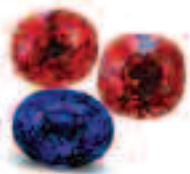


From left: **Laura Lavy, Elizabeth Caddick, Janet Faith, Tina Khan, Kata Endrodi and Liana Thibodeau**.

Hallward, Véronique Pourcelet, Shana Rotstein, Dawn "BD" Sigel, twin sisters Susan McKinnon Bell and Judy Martin, Lucy and Andrew continued on p. 18



Hana Kim and Richard Manchester.



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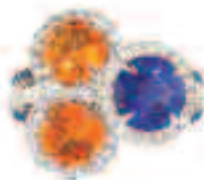
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Social Notes *cont'd. from p. 17*

Sofin and Richard Manchester and Andrea Buhl, whose on-trend pretty petal jacket echoed the florals throughout the room. Others enjoying the eve included PR guy Mark Lowe.

The fun night raised \$74,000, which will support programs of the Batshaw Centre.



From left: Andrea Buhl, Shana Rotstein and Dawn “BD” Sigel.

Pool user study *cont'd. from p. 1*

“If there is a demand, yes, okay where would it go and how much?” she said.

Smith said that Councillor Rosalind Davis had been building up a strong swimming program in Westmount through the Masters program at the Y and the summer one at the WRC’s outdoor pool. “I applaud her for her commitment to swimming programs in Westmount.”

Davis explained, “I’m interested in co-

Chesterfielder turned over wallet with \$350

A resident of Chesterfield called Public Security May 11 to report finding a wallet, which contained identification and \$350 in Canadian, US and Mexican currency. Patrolers picked it up and returned it to the owner, a resident of Belmont. It was not reported where the wallet had been found.



From left: Winners were Theo Therikos, Jon Bloom, Adam Shiller and Rebecca-Jane Wilson.

PSU vehicle protects car for two hours

Public Security patrolers stayed with a broken-down car at St. Catherine and Lansdowne May 5 until a tow truck could remove it two hours later, department officials said. Answering a call for the car at 3:44 pm, officers found three flares had been set up by police, who had already been there.

Considering the car was “in a very dangerous position” given rush hour traffic, a Public Security vehicle was positioned behind it, officials said. The driver, a woman from NDG, stated she had been going north up Glen Rd. and tried to turn west but the car would not turn. It hit the sidewalk and could not be moved.

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Police report cont'd. from p. 16

would release a password, which would be used to cancel the effects of the virus on the company's servers.

"The company ended up paying the amount," he said. "The exact amount ... was a bit under \$4,500. An investigation is ongoing."

Laperrière said it is possible there are other companies that have undergone a similar experience recently, "but they just haven't reported it."

He said the Montreal police department's computer-crimes division has the expertise to trace the malware back to its place of origin.

"When the investigators need to have something traced electronically or they need a forensic analysis of a computer, [they call] the computer crimes division."

Young woman calls police after witnessing disturbing behaviour

On May 4, officers at Station 12 received a report from a 17-year-old female complainant about a man who was masturbating in his car as she was waiting for the bus at the corner of Argyle Ave. and Sherbrooke St.

"She reported that while she was waiting

for the bus, there was a red Mazda 3 that came and stopped near her and then backed up," said Laperrière.

According to Laperrière, the complainant thought the driver was trying to draw her attention. "When she went to go and see, she saw that the driver was masturbating," he said.

Driver assaults other driver, then flees

On May 4 around 4:40 pm, the drivers of a Nissan Rogue and a Mazda 6 were involved in a minor collision on Dorchester Blvd. near Atwater Ave., leading to one of them assaulting the other.

According to Laperrière, both vehicles had been driving close to each other aggressively. At one point, they stopped, got out of their vehicles to confront each other, and one of the drivers struck the other in the face, knocking off his glasses, which fell to the ground and broke.

Although both drivers subsequently called 911 to summon the police, the driver who committed the assault left the scene of the incident before they arrived. However, the investigators knew where to find him since the other driver provided the plate number of his vehicle.

Emergency electrical work causes complaint at 4 am

A call for construction noise at 250 Kensington 4:07 am May 16 turned out to involve emergency electrical work, Public Security officials said. Responding patrollers were told that part of the apartment building was without electricity and that the work would be carried out quietly.

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Loose dog found when owner in hospital, neighbour helps out

A dog that was found running loose May 4 turned out to belong to an elderly person who was at a hospital, Public Security officials said.

The dog had been recognized by a public safety officer and taken to its home where a neighbour was found with keys. He knew of the circumstances, and the dog was let back in the house.

Assistance at WRC when mother delayed

A woman who was to pick up her daughters from the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) May 16 called Public Security at 7:33 pm to say her car had broken down on St. Jacques St., Public Security officials said. A patroller went to tell the girls, aged 12, 14 and 15 that she would be arriving as soon as possible. The trio had apparently been waiting an hour and had been unable to contact her on her phone.

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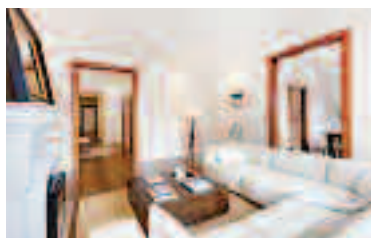
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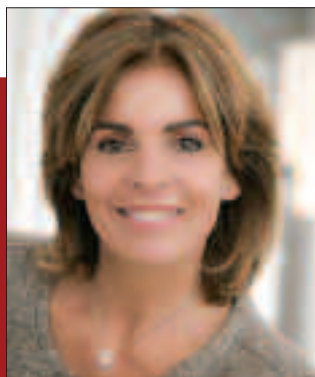
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