

## Minimum fines doubled for all dog owners

# By-law to have sharp teeth for 'dangerous dogs'

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Any dog found to have bitten a person or another animal in Westmount "without provocation or malice" will be "presumed dangerous," under a revamped draft dog by-law tabled April 3. Previously, a dog that bit a person was considered "a nuisance."

A dangerous dog would be required to be muzzled at all times in a public space, could not be taken into a dog run or other dog-designated area including Summit Woods, and might be eligible to be euthanized immediately if caught running loose without a muzzle.

As well, it could only be walked by someone aged at least 18, unaccompanied by another dog and must never be allowed to escape from its yard or home.

It would be possible to adopt the by-law at the May 7 council meeting, city clerk Martin St-Jean said. There were no concerns voiced about its content.

While Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who has been leading the changes as part of her commissionership that includes dogs, did not attend the council meeting, dog owners Cynthia Grahame and Paul Marriott thanked the council.

A resident of Chesterfield, who rarely attends the council meetings, did not speak publicly but told the *Independent* he came out to ensure the by-law was not breed-specific legislation (BSL).

Other new provisions include a requirement that the guardian of a dog that bites in a public place ..... must report the incident *continued on p. 8*

## 720's Glen overpass coming down



The Glen Rd. was completely closed all weekend for the demolition of the Ville Marie expressway above the roadway. Pictured is a view from under the railway bridge south towards St. Henri and the Home Depot on April 7 at 3 pm. Excavators equipped with hydraulic hammers and shears chewed away at concrete and reinforcing bars, one bite at a time, as water sprayers dowsed the clouds of dust and dirt, and large chunks of concrete crashed down.

Photo: Ralph Thompson.

## Residents complain to council about speeding

# Car crashes into parked SUV, porch on Claremont

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It was around 10:45 pm Friday, March 30, just after Kirk Polymenakos and his family had returned home that they heard a huge crash. A car had plowed into their concrete porch on Claremont at the south-east corner of Willow.

"It's a strange feeling to be in a house

and feel such a vibration," he said.

It turns out that four young men aged about 20 to 22 were riding in a white Hyundai that hit the front of his wife's SUV parked on the street in front of the house, he explained. It then careened into the porch with such impact that it shifted the four lower steps – "a ..... whole block of concrete" – *continued on p. 8*

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## McKenzie launches The Good Liar



Westmounter Catherine McKenzie, right, launched her seventh novel, *The Good Liar*, published by Simon & Schuster Canada, at Indigo downtown on April 3. Westmount is one of the settings of the book. She is pictured at the event with former Westmounter Isabelle Laflèche, also an author, who will be coming out with her novel *Bonjour Girl* in both languages later this year. McKenzie is the wife of the Independent's editor.

Photo courtesy of I. Laflèche.

## Friends of Library raise \$17k

The Friends of the Library book sale held April 7 and 8 at Victoria Hall raised at least \$16,925, organizer Carolyn O'Neill informed volunteers by email on April 9.

The official tally will likely be a bit higher and will be announced by treasurer David Gawley.

Letters to the Editor p. 6

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Dodge's History by the House  
(Westmount Square) p. 18

Classifieds p. 20

Social Notes (Tuques Bleus) p. 21

Comin' Up p. 22



Westmount Page p. 16

## Vic village merchants incorporate

The Westmount Victoria Village Merchants association has officially incorporated, members were informed by email on April 7.

"That means we're eligible for grants, sponsorships and services to put towards revitalizing our brand, website, events and promotion for all of our members," the email concluded. The group has existed "unofficially" for many years. It is a non-profit.

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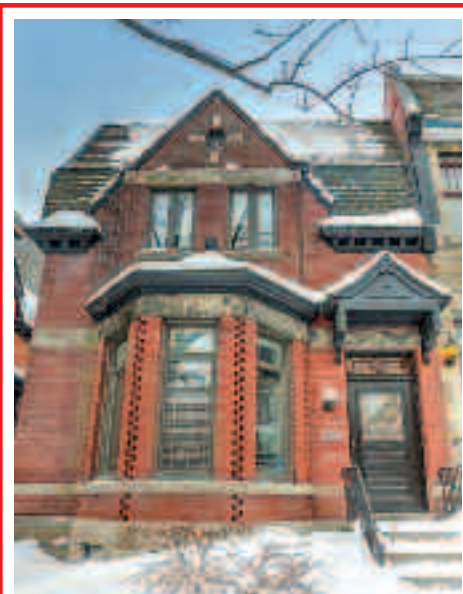
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## 1100 Atwater to be more ‘humane’: developer



1100 Atwater, located between Tupper and Dorchester, and photographed here on March 23, is being renovated in order to make it more “humane” by adding windows, developer Richard Hylands of Atwater Investments and Kevric told the Independent March 27. It will remain an office building. “There weren’t many people working there originally,” he continued, explaining it was a data centre and “a bit of a bunker.” Work is expected to continue until the end of the year, he said. Atwater Investments is currently negotiating with new tenants.

Photo: Independent.

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## Meetings for Roslyn, Argyle, Burton, Clandeboye Reconstruction contracts awarded for road projects



Looking northwest on Burton (above) from Prince Albert and looking north on Roslyn (right) from de Maisonneuve on April 6. Photos: Independent.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Contracts for three major road reconstruction projects on Argyle, Roslyn and Burton were awarded by council April 3 along with dates for residents' information meetings.

The work on the streets will provide "a much-needed facelift to make them more usable and practical," said Councillor Philip Cutler, commissioner for Infrastructure and Innovation.

The residents' meeting for Roslyn took place April 4, followed by one the next evening for Argyle with another set for Burton on April 17 at 6:30 pm at the Westmount recreation centre (WRC).



A meeting date for Clandeboye residents was also announced for April 18 at 6:30 pm at city hall, though this will take place before the contract is awarded, according to District 8 councillor Kathleen Kez.

The city will be posting reconstruction details on its website, Mayor Christina Smith said. "We think that's going to make a huge improvement... You will

## WMA plans indoor pool meeting April 16

Under the theme "Your Pool – Your Voice," the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) plans to hold a special meeting Monday, April 16 to hear people's comments on a possible indoor municipal pool. The meeting is set for 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library.

The session will have an open format, where those attending will be invited to give their opinions, which the WMA board will convert into "a memoir" to send the city, president Paul Marriott said last week. "The meeting won't be a debate about whether to have an indoor pool or not. That's already settled by the election essentially, but what do people want, where do they want it?"

He said the WMA board had had such an interesting discussion on the topic at its last meeting "that we thought we should broaden it to include the public."

learn all about the work so you don't have to attend these meetings."

Council awarded reconstruction of the roadway on Argyle between Thornhill and The Boulevard to Cojalac Inc. for \$1,422,568. It was the lowest conforming bid of six; the highest, \$2,268,158.

### Roslyn, quality concerns raised

The reconstruction of Roslyn (de Maisonneuve to Sherbrooke) went to CMS Entrepreneurs Généraux Inc. for \$1,821,635. This was the lowest conforming bid of five, whose highest was \$2,100,863. This is the same firm that rebuilt the same block on Grosvenor last summer generating a question from Paul Marriott who lives in a higher block on Grosvenor.

"Grosvenor has already failed," he alleged, citing cracks found there as well as on other newly completed roads including Prince Albert and Westmount Ave.

City director general Benoit Hurtubise

said the city had hired a quality control firm that was analyzing the asphalt and when results are known, "all the cracks will be filled."

### Burton work

A contract to reconstruct the roadway, sidewalks and street lights on Burton (Claremont to Prince Albert) went to Les Pavages D'Amour Inc. for \$497,328. This was the lowest conforming bid received of six. The highest was \$948,187.

Denis Biron, a resident of the street, asked how residents would find out about their meeting scheduled for April 17. Many did not know the street was designated for work and he knew of one person who had already scheduled foundation work on the house.

District 5 councillor Marina Brzeski said she had only found out about the meeting that day herself and would work immediately to ensure residents were informed.

## Community Events position up in the air

# Elliott resigns after 15 years, won't accept latest cuts

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After 15 years, Westmount resident Virginia Elliott resigned March 29 as the city's Community Events project manager, saying that continued cuts and reduced hours would have made her job "impossible to do effectively." She is eligible to "officially" retire.

She said she gave the city her decision in February when told her job would be further reduced from three full days a week to three and a half hours, five days a week (10 am to 1:30 pm), which, she said, "I refused because I wouldn't be able to do the job that way."

Rather than leave at the end of February, however, Elliott said she had decided to stay on until the end of March to continue the planning for Earth Hour on March 24, which she considered "an im-

portant event."

Elliott said the latest cuts continued a trend in the position she had worked going from five full days a week, down to four and then three. The Community Events office was folded into the library operation in 2014, after being a subdivision of Sports and Recreation. In her very public role, Elliott coordinated the many city events at Victoria Hall.

At the city council meeting April 3, while Elliott was thanked as an employee along with the volunteer members of the Earth Hour organizing committee, no mention was made of her departure until it was raised during question period.

### Dedicated service

Maureen Kiely, past co-president of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), described Elliott as "a beloved and

respected member of our community." She wanted to thank Elliott on behalf of the WMA for her "many years of dedicated service."

She asked if Elliott would be replaced and, if so, that it be done quickly. "Westmount will be fortunate if we are able to find someone who is even half as effective."

### 'Great addition'

Elliott had been "a great addition," said Mayor Christina Smith, adding she couldn't comment on how she might be replaced or "how to move forward with that position." She said, "We would love to have had a party for her, but she doesn't want one."

Elliott told the *Independent* one of her biggest regrets is that it leaves the office without an employee who is a Westmount

resident to liaise with the many community volunteers on whom the numerous city events at Victoria Hall depend. The head of this office has been a local resident since it was created in 1997.

"Being a local resident and having been a volunteer," she said, "I know that volunteerism is the essence of Community Events."

A resident of Hillside Ave., Elliott, whose profile appeared in the *Independent* October 17, 2007, p. 7, is well known in the community for her volunteer and environmental work. This includes her long standing role as a leader in Westmount Scouting, events at St. Matthias' Church and 20 years as a judge for the McEntyre Writing Competition.

She said it would be nice to know who will be replacing her, "but I have no answer."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A FOND FAREWELL  
FOR VIRGINIA ELLIOTT

Virginia Elliott, as project manager for Community Events, will be greatly missed after serving Westmount for many years.

Many have enjoyed and benefited from her superb management of her portfolio. We have witnessed her friendly and top-notch handling of community affairs. We have witnessed Virginia on the job in early mornings, late at night and often on weekends.

The ensuing words can only mildly outline her outstanding service to our community: dedication, efficiency, friendliness, competence

I believe I speak for many citizens when I request that our city arrange a farewell affair\* at which we may be able to convey our gratitude to Virginia and wish her well.

STAN GROSSMAN, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

*\*Editor's note:* It is our understanding that she does not want a party. Please see story, p. 5. – DP

THANK YOU, GOOD SAMARITAN

As a newcomer to Westmount, I cannot imagine a better, more inspiring welcome than we had last Easter weekend. During a busy Friday of chores and shopping, I must have inadvertently left my wallet on a counter at the local bank machine. On Saturday, we discovered that the wallet was missing and we looked all over for it, from the local Metro, to the pharmacy, to the car, throughout the house, and beyond, without success.

While the wallet did not have credit cards, it did contain some \$40 in cash and some personal papers, which included my new Westmount address. On Sunday, with delight, we found my wallet in our mailbox, with all of its contents right as I had left them. Westmounters should be proud, that they can count in their numbers such a truly good Samaritan.

Thank you to the wonderful person who returned my wallet. If you would like to leave your name and phone number with the *Independent* newspaper office, I would welcome calling and thanking you for your kindness.

CÉLINE LAFERRIÈRE, CHESTERFIELD AVE.

POLICE STOP CAMERA OWNER

On April 5, after having attended a lecture at the Atwater Library, I was stopped by the police at the corner of St. Catherine and Greene. The police officer politely asked me why I had a camera by my side as well as what I was doing in the area. I told him that I was a photographer (some of my work has been published in the *Westmount Independent*) and that I live in the area and was on my way home. When I asked him why I was stopped, his response was that some people in the area were nervous about people with cameras. He then asked me for some ID. I showed him my driver's license. He thanked me and off I went.

I think it's interesting to note that upon describing the encounter to others, the opinions ranged from profiling to "they are there to protect us."

SAM BEITEL, ABBOTT AVE.

WHO TURNS THE LIGHTS  
ON AND OFF?

Westmount Hydro seems to have a problem with controlling its lights. When the streetlights go out, the lights in Westmount Park stay on. The lights in the tennis court on Academy come on at random when the courts are closed for the winter and stay on for days at a time. As these lights shine directly into my apartment, this is an issue. Also, lights that should be on don't come on for months. Not sure who is supposed to report these things, but they are not doing a very good job. Please get your act together.

BELINDA BOWES, ACADEMY RD.

COUNCIL WATCHING  
OUR BACK RE 4898

In a March 27 *Independent* letter, Westmount resident Mr. Carsley (p. 6) questioned why city council had not approved the development proposal for 4898 de Maisonneuve. The short answer is council was being responsive to the needs of the community and, most importantly, was observing the law. Two specific laws were at play here, the zoning by-law for that particular site and the SCAOPI by-law introduced two years ago. The zoning restrictions were updated about 30 years ago to enhance the quality of life in the neighbourhood by requiring all new construction to integrate fully with the existing built environment of two- and three-storey row houses. One objective behind the recent SCAOPI by-law was to bring more easily to fruition those major projects that presented some complexities to the site but basically were in conformity with the city's planning programme. The 4898 proposal, however, egregiously violated virtually all the site zoning requirements and SCAOPI assessment criteria including key ones as height, density, volume. Council recognized this and concurred with the recommendation of the Planning and Advisory Committee by denying the application. If council had overruled the by-laws and approved the project, what would then prevent council from permitting any future non-conforming project in Westmount, like a four- or five-floor condo behind Mr. Carsley's home on Barat Rd., currently zoned only for two-story residential

Correction:  
EHL finals April 14-15

Our p. 1 "overline" headline on April 3 was incorrect. As stated correctly in the body of the story, the Eastern Hockey League finals will take place April 14 and 15 at the Westmount recreation centre.

housing? To us in Vic village, it is very reassuring that council is watching our back. All Westmount residents should be encouraged with council's demonstrated commitment to hear our concerns and to focus on improving our quality of life.

This is what a model community looks like.

DENIS BIRO, BURTON AVE.

PLANTE HEADED RIGHT WAY  
ON CAMILLIEN HOUDE

It is satisfying to see Montreal mayor Valérie Plante following in the footsteps of Westmount's last council led by Mayor Trent. They took the decision to truncate vehicular traffic around Summit Circle and thus allow the northern flank of Westmount's mountain to join its summit. This northern flank, being greater in area than the summit itself, will in time prove to be a wonderful extension of the more travelled summit pathways. Mayor Plante is taking a much more conservative approach. She is not actually truncating vehicular traffic but simply disallowing transit traffic that so powerfully severs Mount Royal from the Outremont summit with its wonderful new set of walking trails. She is reducing the effect of a harmful cut that should never have severed Mount Royal from Outremont. In fact the roadway "Camillien Houde" is named after the Montreal mayor who said that cars "would have to pass over my dead body" before they could drive on the mountain.

In opposition to her action, there has been discussion of how Central Park in New York is crossed by a few vehicular roads. The discussion may not have mentioned that they are known as "traverses." This means that they ..... have been sunken below *continued on p. 7*

Clarification: Greene,  
Vic village to be  
branded separately

In "Stakeholders discuss future of city's key retail areas" (April 3, p. 18), we wrote that Pierre Boudreault of Artères said that the city's two retail areas (Greene Ave. and Victoria village) "should be promoted as a single entity," basing our observation on a remark by him. Upon further discussion, it is now clear that the idea is to promote the two areas as separate entities. As he summarized to us in an email on April 4, "Both sectors may have common promotion projects in the future (merchants' associations will have to decide), but they will be, and have to be, branded individually because the needs are not the same."

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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## CAs win Executive A, twice



From left: back row, John Antoniou, Mark Shalhoub, Colin Trestan, Gilles Mosseri, Neil Hopley, Perry Catellier, Franco San Gregorio and Sean Hurlburt; front row, Greg Dunning, Warren Garfield, Howard Gross, Steven Sager; and goalie Yann Jodoin. Absent from picture: Tim Anderson and Dany Filion.

Photo courtesy of G. Dunning.

The CAs of Westmount's Executive A league won the final game of the play-offs 5-4 in overtime April 2, after coming first in the league during regular season play. After winning the first game of the series, the CAs were down 3-1 in game 2, until Warren Garfield and John Antoniou each

scored, tying it up. A penalty shot for the opposing PhDs put them ahead with five minutes to go.

Franco San Gregorio tied it up again to force an overtime period, when Sean Hurlburt scored the game and play-off winner.

### Letters, cont'd. from p. 6

ground in trenches with shrubbery and trees cultivated at its edges to hide their existence. The park actually spans these tra-

## Noise by-law changes adopted for leaf blowers

City council April 3 adopted changes in the noise by-law to reduce the number of hours when leaf blowers may be used but extending the fall clean-up period.

As outlined in the draft version March 19, hours of use will now be permitted from 8 am to 4 pm, Monday to Saturday during the spring clean-up period April 1 to May 1 and during the fall one from October 1 to December 1 (see story March 27, p. 1).

Previously, leaf blowers could be operated between 8 am and 6 pm and in the fall only until November 15. The adoption went without comment.

verses with very wide bridges. The idea is to completely hide these roads from view as if they did not exist. This very idea might well be used as an inspiration for redesigning Côte des Neiges that severs Westmount summit from Mount Royal. The concrete spaghetti of ramps and bridges should be removed. Côte des Neiges should be recessed somewhat into the ground and a wide land bridge join Westmount summit's northern flank to the beloved Mount Royal. It should be a width approaching 100 meters.

If a similar land bridge could span Camillien Houde in the direction of the Outremont summit, we would have a necklace of summits that would be one of the great natural urban parklands. Mayor Valérie Plante needs our support to create this lasting natural legacy. There will be opposition from some citizens. The comment that the loss of life of a young athlete, a cyclist, because of an illegal u-turn by a vehicle is a "one-off" betrays an attitude that is more than worrisome.

ROGER JOCHYM,  
LEWIS AVE.



## Your Pool - Your Voice!

### Public Meeting April 16 Westmount Library 19h00 / 7:00pm

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**Claremont, cont'd. from p. 1**

out of line.

"I'm just glad no one was hurt," he said. "The rest will be covered by insurance."

Polymenakos said there were long brake marks on the street and he suspects the car was speeding south on Claremont and going so fast it failed to make a left turn onto Willow.

"I've lived on Claremont for 15 years and there's always been lots of traffic," he told city council April 3 displaying photos of the crash. He said he had never complained about the speeding but now, after the accident, "I want to find out if there are any plans for slowing down the traffic."

**Speed limitation**

Fabrice Weill, who lives across the street, said he came to the meeting to support his neighbour's request to slow traffic. He said he had called 9-1-1 a couple of times for cars going at excessive speeds. He suggested making southbound traffic into one lane.

Mayor Christina Smith said the prob-

lem had been looked at by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) but an incident like this provides increased pressure to look again at speed limitation. "We'll make sure it gets on the TAC agenda."

Polymenakos told the *Independent* that when he heard the crash, he went outside, checked to see that no one was hurt and then called police. Public Security was first on the scene, followed by two fire trucks, an ambulance and three police cars.

He said there seemed to be some debate among the four occupants of the car as to what had happened. "When I asked the police officer who had been driving, he told me: 'It's complicated.'"

Polymenakos also said that speeding had become a problem ever since the move of Marianopolis onto Westmount Ave., near

Claremont. "After school's over, the cars just come barreling down the hill. It's a good wide street."

See p. 10 for the police's information on the incident.



Fabrice Weill of Claremont joined Kirk Polymenakos in asking for speed controls on the street.



This car that crashed into the front of a house on Claremont March 30 caused resident Kirk Polymenakos and neighbour Fabrice Weill, who took the photo from his home across the street, to call for speed control on the hill.

Photo courtesy of F. Weill.

**25 sign up for new youth ultimate Frisbee**

# Soccer season to start April 30 – weather permitting

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With 32 girls' teams signed up for the city's spring soccer program and 42 boys' teams, Sports and Recreation operations manager Andrew Maislin said last week he's hoping the playing fields have a chance to dry out in time for a start on April 30.

"The weather is one of the big questions," he said, noting storm predictions last week.

While the boys' teams are two shy of

last year's registration, he said, he expects the numbers to be the same as last year by start time.

This is the city's spring youth program that continues until June 22 before the start of the inter-city competitive season run by the independent Westmount Soccer Club but under auspices of Sports and Recreation.

For the second consecutive year, the city's field maintenance will be mainly undertaken by the department personnel and Public Works personnel rather than mostly by contract. "It was extremely effective last year because it gave us more control over the fields by helping us enforce overuse by piracy," Maislin said.

By "piracy," he referred to rogue players using the fields without permission. While Public Security continues to look out for unapproved field use, the city's own maintenance staff were able to add to the monitoring during their hourly work on the fields.

Meanwhile, this year for the first time, a total of some 25 boys and girls aged 8 to 12 have registered for ultimate Frisbee, Maislin said. "We're always looking around to introduce something new."

**By-law, cont'd. from p. 1**

within 12 hours to a "competent authority" and produce a veterinary certificate attesting the bite does not endanger the health of the victim.

Just who would constitute the "competent authority" would require a separate council resolution expected to be adopted at the same time as the by-law, according to St-Jean.

Distinct from dangerous dog provisions, the new by-law sets higher fines for any dog owner found violating any aspect of the by-law, such as failing to obtain a current dog licence or walking a dog with-

out a leash. These will rise to \$150-300 (from \$75-300) for a first offence and to \$300-600 (from \$150-600) for subsequent ones. Fines related to dangerous dogs range from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

A copy of the draft by-law had already been sent to the commission on proposed Quebec government legislation on so-called dangerous dogs, Lulham told the *Independent*.

The by-law comes in response to a commitment made by the previous council last summer based on Calgary legislation rather than breed specificity (see story August 15, p. 7).



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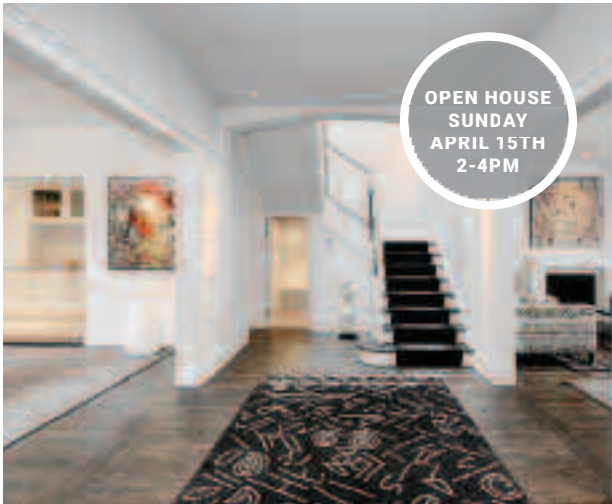




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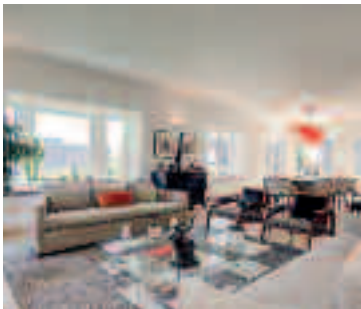
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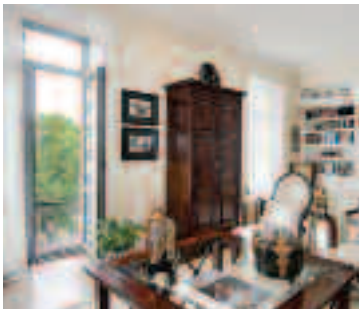
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## Police report SUVs, laptop and smartphone versus rosary and socks

By MARTIN C. BARRY

A hit-and-run incident involving two SUVs during the late evening of March 30 began in NDG and ended in Westmount when the driver of one of the vehicles lost control and slammed into the front entrance steps of a house on Claremont Ave.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière, the two vehicles were travelling closely while southbound on Decarie Blvd. in NDG when they had a small collision.

After both vehicles turned left onto NDG Ave., it became clear that one of the drivers had no intention of stopping to survey the damage and fill out an accident report. The other driver sped up and tried to intercept him.

The driver trying to stop the other vehicle ended up losing control and struck a parked car, following which the vehicle continued up the front walk and collided with the steps of a house on Claremont.

“There were no major injuries,” Laperrière continued. “No one was transported to the hospital. Westmount Public Security was on the scene. The fire department was also there.”

The driver who caused the minor collision left the scene after the second vehicle crashed. Citing the incident report, Laperrière said the steps of the home sustained up to \$1,000 in damage. There was also an unspecified amount of damage to the remaining vehicle, in which three people were riding.

He said an investigation is under way to trace the driver of the vehicle who fled the scene of the accident, as well as to determine whether the driver who remained might also face charges.

For the house owner’s view, see p. 1.

### Laptop stolen

The owners of a car who had parked on March 29 around 7:30 pm on Grosvenor Ave. while staying at a nearby home realized later that a laptop computer that had been left leaning against the vehicle while moving luggage was probably stolen during a distracted moment.

Said Laperrière: “It was only the next day that they realized that a bag containing a laptop was missing.”

### Cell phone left a scene

The owner of a cell phone found inside a Mini Cooper that was parked on Greene Ave. and broken into between April 2 at 8 pm and April 3 at 9 am may have some explaining to do to Station 12 investigators.

Although the investigators concluded that the perpetrator searched the car and found nothing worth stealing, “a cell phone was found inside the car that does not belong to the owner,” said Laperrière.

“Now does it really belong to the person who stole it?” he added. “Or was it a phone that was stolen somewhere else?” An investigation is ongoing.

### Rosary, socks stolen

A thief who entered a possibly unlocked car that was parked on Upper Lansdowne Ave. from 11 pm on March 14 to 7:30 am on March 15 got away with the following items for all his trouble: a pair of socks and a rosary.

“Since there was no trace of infraction, it’s possible the vehicle was unlocked,” said Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, noting that car break-in thieves will rummage through almost any car if they find ..... one that’s open.

continued on p. 11

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**Police, cont'd. from p. 10**

"I've got to tell you it's the first time I've seen a rosary stolen," he added. "I also can't remember a pair of socks ever being stolen from inside a vehicle."

**Phone owner robbed in Westmount Park**

A recent smartphone theft in Westmount Park that saw the teenaged victim robbed by two suspects, who are also minors, illustrates why smartphone users should learn how to disable their phones, making them useless to thieves, says a police spokesman at Station 12.

A robbery, according to community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, took place on March 26 around 4:15 pm. "[The non-Westmount plaintiff] was walking with his friend through the park, and two

individuals, suspects, apparently minors too, accosted them and said to the victims, 'Give the phone or something bad will happen,'" said Pimentel. The plaintiff didn't resist and immediately surrendered his phone. However, that turned out not to be enough for the suspects, who ended up relieving the victim of \$10 too. According to the incident report, the suspects fled towards Sherbrooke St. The victim and his friend then went to the Westmount recreation centre, where they asked an employee for permission to call to 9-1-1.

The victim was able to identify the suspect as someone he knew.

Pimentel said the victim and his companion "acted as they should have. They didn't resist. Not worth it. A phone can be replaced. You think of your safety first and

call 9-1-1 for help." He pointed out that when a smartphone is stolen, a unique number, the International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI), contained in the phone should be used to disable it.

Pimentel suggests phone owners should write down this information and keep it in a safe place. Police should be provided with information to identify suspects, following which the service provider should be contacted and provided with a police incident report number, as well as the IMEI. "If more people were to be aware of this, and they were to apply it every time a phone is lost, it would pretty much render stealing smartphones pretty useless."

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Photo: Ralph Thompson.

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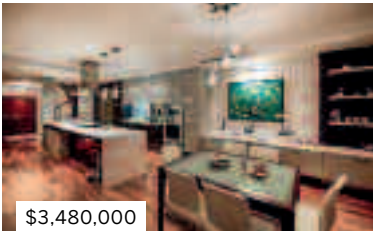






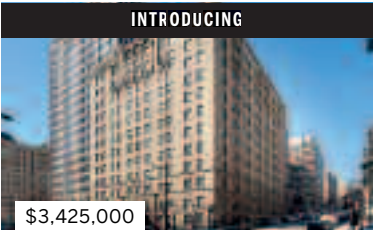
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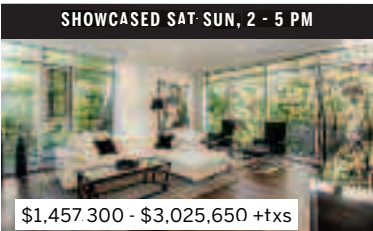
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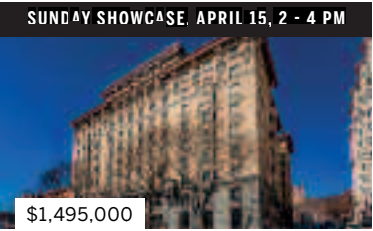
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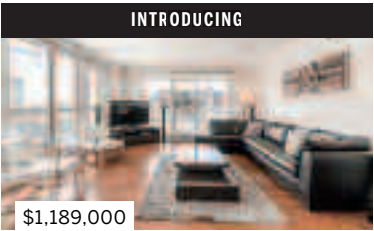
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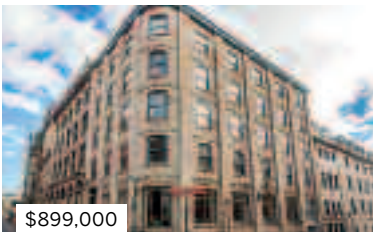
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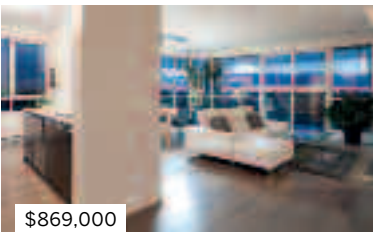
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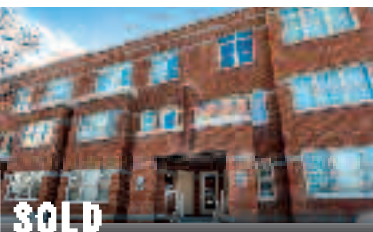
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# Brzeski addresses Rotarians on 'commitment and community'



District 5 city councillor Marina Brzeski told the Westmount Rotary Club on March 28 about the importance she accords to a strong sense of commitment and community.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Westmount city councillor for District 5 Marina Brzeski provided members of the Rotary Club of Westmount on March 28 with some insight into what first motivated her to enter municipal politics, while sharing some of her beliefs on “strong commitments, strong communities.”

A resident of Westmount for more than a decade, Brzeski joined council five months ago after winning her seat in the November 5 elections. With a professional background in corporate communications, Brzeski was appointed commissioner of Sustainability and Accessibility.

“My fundamental belief is that cultivating a strong sense of community and civic engagement through various community

organizations is a priority,” she said. “In my idea, local government is a platform for citizens to collaboratively build a prosperous and liveable place.”

Brzeski said she first started to become involved in the community after reading coverage three years ago in the *Westmount Independent* about a developer’s plans to build condos in the Metro grocery store’s parking lot on Victoria Ave.

“Together with my neighbours, we started to do a bit of research to see what were the reasons that would be beneficial or not beneficial,” she continued.

“We found some NIMBY, as you call it, Not In My Back Yard, reasons that this wouldn’t work, and non-NIMBY also for the general community. .... And like any good mayor, *continued on p. 17*

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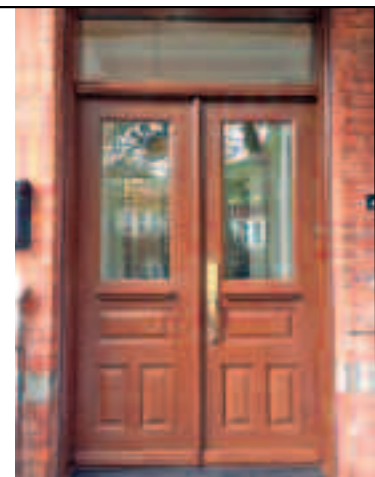
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## Abonnez-vous À L'INFOLETTRE DE WESTMOUNT

Visitez le [westmount.org/ewestmount](http://westmount.org/ewestmount) pour vous abonner et recevez les dernières nouvelles de votre Ville par courriel!

### HÔTEL DE VILLE

**Avis public**  
La Ville de Westmount a reçu une demande pour un permis de démolition et un programme de remplacement pour le bâtiment situé au 51, chemin de Lavigne. **Consultez les avis publics à [westmount.org](http://westmount.org)**

### BIBLIOTHÈQUE

**Brochure printemps 2018 en ligne**  
Consultez la brochure *Bibliothèque, vie culturelle et communautaire* à [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

**Rencontres d'auteurs : Carolyn Marie Souaid**  
**Le mercredi 11 avril, 19 h**, Bibliothèque. Rencontrez Carolyn Marie Souaid, auteure de *Yasmeen Haddad Loves Joanasi Maqaittik*. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

**Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd**  
**Le mercredi 18 avril, 10 h 15**, Bibliothèque. Le Groupe de poésie de Westmount compose des poèmes à partir de thèmes proposés par les membres. Bienvenue à tous. 514 989-5299.

**Cercle de lecture *Finnegans Wake* de Joyce : The Boaters and Sifters of ALP**  
**Le mercredi 18 avril, 19 h**, Bibliothèque. Joignez-vous au groupe de lecture et plongez tête première dans une discussion passionnée sur l'œuvre magistrale de James Joyce, *Finnegans Wake*. Apportez votre exemplaire du livre. 514 989-5299.

**Journée mondiale du livre**  
**Le lundi 23 avril, 10 h 15**, Bibliothèque. Une session spéciale de « readers to readers » lors de laquelle le personnel de la Bibliothèque partagera ses coups de cœur parmi les livres récents. Café et croissants seront offerts. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

### ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

**Série concerts d'été : appel de candidatures**  
**Date limite : le 13 avril.** Le Service de la Bibliothèque et des événements communautaires est à la recherche de groupes musicaux pour sa série de concerts d'été 2018. Consultez le [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) pour plus de détails. 514 989-5226.

**Galerie du Victoria Hall : appel de dossiers**  
**Date limite : le 15 avril.** La galerie du Victoria Hall

### Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 7 mai

lance un appel de dossiers pour sa programmation de la saison 2018-2019 (septembre 2018 à août 2019). Ce concours s'adresse aux artistes émergents ou professionnels qui habitent Westmount. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) / 514 989-5521.

**La journée du cinéma canadien**  
**Le mercredi 18 avril, 14 h**, Victoria Hall. Joignez-vous à nous pour du maïs soufflé et le film canadien *Meditation Park* (2017). Billets requis. 514 989-5226.

**Ciné-Expo 67**  
**Le mercredi 18 avril, 19 h**, Victoria Hall. L'historien Bruno Paul Stenson partagera des histoires étonnantes sur les coulisses de l'Expo 67 et présentera une partie de sa collection impressionnante d'objets de Terre des Hommes. 514 989-5226.

**Exposition de Gabriel Safdie**  
**Du 18 avril au 17 mai**, galerie du Victoria Hall. La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter les œuvres de Gabriel Safdie. Venez rencontrer l'artiste et la conservatrice Victoria LeBlanc **le mardi 24 avril à 19 h**. Horaire : lundi au vendredi 10 h à 21 h, samedi et dimanche 10 h à 17 h. 514 989-5521.

**Ciné-club**  
**Le mardi 24 avril, 14 h**, Victoria Hall. *The Florida Project*. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

**Soirée de danse Ballroom Blitz**  
**Le samedi 28 avril, 20 h**, Victoria Hall. Un orchestre live vous fera danser toute la soirée. 25 \$ à la porte, 20 \$ en avance. Billets disponibles au Victoria Hall, à la Bibliothèque et à [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com). 514 989-5226.

### TRAVAUX PUBLICS

**Collecte de résidus domestiques dangereux**  
**Le samedi 28 avril, 9 h à 17 h.** Venez déposer vos restes de peinture, solvant, pesticide, piles, etc., dans le stationnement de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount. Les vêtements et produits électroniques usagés seront également collectés. 514 989-5390.

### SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

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

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### CITY HALL

**Public notice**  
The City of Westmount has received an application for a demolition permit, and for a replacement program for the building located at 51 de Lavigne Road. Consult the public notices at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

### LIBRARY

**Spring 2018 brochure online**  
Consult the Library, Cultural and Community Events brochure at [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

**Author Lecture Series: Carolyn Marie Souaid**  
**Wednesday, April 11, 7 p.m.**, Library. Come meet Carolyn Marie Souaid, author of *Yasmeen Haddad Loves Joanasi Maqaittik*. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

**Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd**  
**Wednesday, April 18, 10:15 a.m.**, Library. The Westmount Poetry Group meets to compose poetry together working with themes proposed by members. Welcome to all. 514 989-5299.

**Reading group for Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*: The Boaters and Sifters of ALP**  
**Wednesday, April 18, 7 p.m.**, Library. Join the circle skimming the surface or sifting through the layers of Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*. Bring an open mind and a copy of the book. 514 989-5299.

**World Book Day**  
**Monday, April 23, 10:15 a.m.**, Library. Join us for a special "readers to readers" session in which library staff will share their favourite new books with you over coffee and croissants. Tickets Required. 514 989-5299.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Summer concert series: call for submissions**  
**Deadline April 13.** The Library and Community Events Department of the City of Westmount is now accepting submissions for the 2018 Summer Concert Series. Details at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

**Gallery at Victoria Hall: call for projects**  
**Deadline: April 15.** The Gallery at Victoria Hall announces a call for projects for its 2018-2019 exhibition season (September 2018 to August

### Next Council Meeting Monday, May 7

2019). Emerging or professional artists residing in Westmount are invited to apply. Details at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) or 514 989-5521.

**National Film Day**  
**Wednesday, April 18, 2 p.m.**, Victoria Hall. Join us for some popcorn and Canadian film *Meditation Park* (2017). Tickets required. 514 989-5226.

**Ciné-Expo 67**  
**Wednesday, April 18, 7 p.m.**, Victoria Hall. Historian Bruno Paul Stenson will share amazing behind-the-scenes stories on Expo 67 as well as displaying part of his impressive collection of items from *Man & His World*. 514 989-5226.

**Exhibition featuring Gabriel Safdie**  
**April 19 – May 17.** The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present an exhibition featuring artist Gabriel Safdie. Come meet the artist and Gallery Curator Victoria LeBlanc on Tuesday, April 24 at 7 p.m. Gallery hours Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat & Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 514 989-5521.

**Film Club**  
**Tuesday, April 24, at 2 p.m.**, Victoria Hall. *The Florida Project*. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

**Ballroom Blitz Big Band Dance**  
**Saturday, April 28, 8 p.m.**, Victoria Hall. Dance the night away with a live band. \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance. Tickets available at the Library, Victoria Hall, and [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com). 514 989-5226.

### PUBLIC WORKS

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection**  
**Saturday, April 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Safely dispose of your leftover paints, solvents, used batteries, pesticides etc., in the parking lot off the Westmount Public Library. Used clothing and electronics will also be collected the same day. 514 989-5390.

### PUBLIC SECURITY

**Summit Woods: dogs on leash at all times**  
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 bylaw. 514 989-5222.





## Remembering George and Shirley Brickenden

# Globe and Mail covers doctor-assisted deaths of former Westmounters, co-founder of Brickpoint needlepoint

National newspaper *The Globe and Mail* gave p. 1 coverage April 2 to the doctor-assisted deaths of George and Shirley Brickenden, aged 95 and 94 respectively. The former Wood Ave. residents died on March 27 after 73 of marriage. The paper described them as “one of the few couples in Canada to receive a doctor-assisted death together.” Her body was “wracked by rheumatoid arthritis and her heart was failing,” and his heart was “faltering,” the *Globe* reported.

The couple moved to Westmount from London, Ontario in 1961 and moved to Toronto in 1982. She was predeceased in 2014 by her brother, A. J. Dalzell “Dal” Browne, who lived in Westmount (on Hallowell) before also moving to Toronto in that period.

Westmounter Michael Price was a good friend of Browne and stayed with the Brickendens in London in 1952, last seeing them in Metis in the early 2000s. “Shirley was vivacious, and fun, and always well dressed,” he told the *Independent*. “Dal would play piano at her parties,

where she was one of those people who, when she greeted you, you could tell it was cozy.

“George was very charming, but had to work to make an impression when Shirley was in full flight. He had a dry wit. After they became grandparents, he told me ‘I can’t believe that I’m now going to bed with a grandmother.’”

Shirley and daughter Pamela co-founded, with Helen Boulton, the Brickpoint needlepoint shop in 1966. After being founded downtown and operating in three Westmount locations, it operated for 15 years on Victoria above de Maisonneuve, where Leonidas Culture Chocolate is now.

The *Independent’s* second edition (June 6, 2007, p. 1) carried news that the shop would remain open, despite a planned closing. It had been acquired by Penelope Papineau in 1983 and her daughter, Belinda Fox, took over to keep it open. She closed the physical store in 2013 (see May 21, 2013, p. 3). Brickpoint continues as a website, brickpointneedlework.com.

Fox explained to the *Independent* on

April 6 that the idea for the business arose from a project for kneelers at Christ Church Cathedral on St. Catherine St. downtown and that, of all the owners, Shirley had owned the store for the least amount of time. Two other groups owned the business in the years before her mother purchased it, including one that included Nancy Gallop (see her reminiscences, June 11, 2013, p. 6). Fox continues to offer

custom canvasses for needlepointing, which, when finished, can be turned into cushions, wall hangings or stockings.

George fought in World War II in the Royal Canadian Navy aboard the *HMCS Oakville*, the first Canadian ship to capture a U-94 submarine in the Caribbean. He was a founding partner of the Meyer Brickenden Lyons Insurance Brokerage.

– DP

## Brzeski, cont'd. from p. 15

Mayor Peter Trent at the time kept his ear to the ground and considered all the research and input. In the end, it didn’t happen. Great success.”

Some other efforts by Brzeski, with the support of others to stimulate involvement by Westmounters, included organizing block parties with help from merchants, as well as getting residents together to scrutinize the city’s plans for the reconstruction of Grosvenor Ave.

“What these experiences all did communicate to me is that when you do bring together a community, there is so much talent, pooled talent, that you can put together,” she said. “And when you combine that talent with a commitment, a lot of good things can happen and ripple off to do beneficial things for the rest of the community.”

Brzeski said neighbours asked her to run for city council by the time the election came around last fall. Many of them also decided to join the team for her campaign, which centered on communication, accessibility, street safety and the environment.

According to Brzeski, the concepts of sustainability and accessibility “continue to be a lens through which all of council looks” and which “should be considered

by every single department of the city.” She said her next effort will be to “build a little bit more of that community engagement phase and build a stronger advisory role” within the committees on which she also sits.

“I do believe a stronger community engagement around issues of sustainability and accessibility will be key to my success as commissioner,” she added. “There’s a great deal of untapped potential from very committed, talented and knowledgeable residents, and I will be seeking the collaboration of community organizations to help cultivate that broader engagement.”

## Visual Arts exhibition now selling student work

BY HEATHER BLACK

The vernissage of the Annual Student Exhibition took place at the McClure Gallery on March 29. A mix of paintings, photography, prints, jewellery, and ceramics, the well-attended exhibition included the work of 224 students or workshop participants who attended the school’s winter program. Although the Visual Arts Centre has offered art instruction to all age

groups for over 70 years, this is the first year that some student works are available for sale as part of the exhibition. Director Natasha Reid said “the exhibition and sale gives students an opportunity to participate within the context of a professional gallery and for the school to showcase its diverse selection of courses.” Art prices range from \$50 to \$1,500 and the exhibition and sale continues until April 21 at the McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria Ave.



Exhibiting artist Emily Kaplan at the vernissage.



Westmounter Maxine Cuttler with her work (top centre).

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History by  
the House

ANDY DODGE

## 244 Elm Ave.: now a tower

Company, developing the telegraph system both in New York City and upstate. He was recruited to become the first president of the Montreal Telegraph Company in 1847 and worked there until 1866. Though ownership records are sketchy, it appears Wood owned the entire Lot 375, stretching between what are now Greene and Wood avenues, Sherbrooke St. and St. Catherine St., as early as 1872, though he lived at 764 Sherbrooke St., downtown, for at least a decade before building a mansion at the corner of McTavish St. and Pine Ave. downtown, now known as Duggan House.

Some time between 1872 and 1881, Wood (apparently) sold the land to a company called Montreal West End Building Society Inc., which subdivided the entire lot for development – including the creation of Elm and Wood Aves. – but then was unable to pay the taxes (this was toward the end of the Long Depression, as it was known, so interest in expanding Montreal westward was dwindling).

For the price of the unpaid taxes, Wood took back most of the land (except for individual lots that had been sold off) in 1881 and immediately sold the land to Jackson Rae, who described himself at the time as a “general financial, investment and commission agent.” He also owned land on the western side of Côte St. Antoine near Victoria Ave. (see September 22, 2015, p. 16).

In 1889, Rae died and the land was turned over to William Rae, presumably his son. By this time, several stores on St. Catherine St. and Greene Ave. had been constructed along with various residences much closer to Sherbrooke St., according to Goad’s Atlas of 1890. St. Luke St. was being planned to extend from downtown Montreal and connect to Western Ave. at Greene Ave. There was a large building known as “Elm Hall” at 220 Elm Ave., which was used for various community purposes, a precursor to Victoria Hall, which opened in 1899. In 1905 the build-



The area on April 3.

ing was taken over by the fledgling École St. Léon.

A few residential addresses started to appear on the lower section of Elm Ave. in the early 1890s, and in 1893 all of the still-undeveloped lots between Wood and Greene Aves. were sold to Rev. Robert H. Warden, D.D., for 60 cents per square foot or just under \$44,000. He is described in Lovell’s Directory of the time as “agent, Presbyterian Church of Canada,” but his connection to Westmount Presbyterian churches is not clear.

### Built in 1897

It appears that 244 Elm was built in 1897, and the next year its resident was listed in Lovell’s Directory as W.F. Fairman, who worked at Dominion Wire Co. (It is, perhaps, significant that a Mrs. F. Fairman lived next door to Rev. Warden on Macgregor St. in Montreal).

Rev. Warden died in 1905 and his widow sold the house to Ethel Raeburn McIntyre, wife of Walter Hamilton Ewing. Apparently W.F. Fairman remained as a tenant until 1924, when Ms. McIntyre sold to Jackson Thomson Hammond for \$10,800, taking over loans on the property totalling \$7,800, as well as several loan extensions. Hammond owned the property for less than four months before turning it over to Eléonore Prévost, wife of notary Joseph Wenceslas Lévesque, for \$13,100.

The Lévesques lived there happily for about 30 years until Lévesque died in the mid-1950s and his widow died soon afterward, leaving 244 Elm to their son, Yves, also a notary, to sell. Léopold Oigny, who owned a restaurant in Old Montreal (originally Broker’s Restaurant, but eventually Au Vieux Carrefour), turned the single-

family dwelling into a rooming house, a change that was happening to numerous Westmount houses at the time (in our series, we have seen such transformations on Rosemount Ave., Holton Ave. and Dorchester St.).

In 1960, the city became concerned about the general deterioration of neighbourhoods in Westmount and commissioned a study by John Bland, who essentially recommended demolition and high-rise reconstruction as the answer for “urban renewal” in southeast Westmount.

Enter I. Rocke Ransen, a real estate developer who happened to live in Westmount and who had connections with famed architect Mies Van der Rohe. Using the name of David & Merrill Enterprises Ltd. (a name whose source remains a mystery, but Ransen was its president), he began buying up the properties between Wood and Greene avenues, St. Catherine St. and what was now de Maisonneuve Blvd. In 1963, David & Merrill paid \$75,000 to Oigny to purchase the rooming house, then a year later sold it, along with a commercial property on St. Catherine St., to Westmount Centre, Inc., which eventually became Westmount Square, Inc.

The rest of the story is history. The addition of the Montreal Metro and Ville Marie expressway launched Westmount toward the 21st century; unfortunately the election of the Parti Québécois government and the notion that Quebec might separate from Canada took the city in the opposite direction. Now, 40 years later, redevelopment of the Montreal Children’s Hospital site is under way while townhouses on Wood and Elm Aves. above de Maisonneuve ..... continued on p. 19



decade earlier, could not land or keep a job, but were desperate to rent minimal accommodation in their old home town.

One of these was an attached brownstone at 244 Elm Ave., a few doors south of de Maisonneuve Blvd., probably in what is now the outdoor parking area for 3 Westmount Square, which opens onto de Maisonneuve.

Orrin Squire Wood was an American who became involved with Samuel Morse in the development of the telegraph industry, and in fact was his first student and co-founder of the Magnetic Telegraph

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**House history, cont'd. from p. 18**

neuve are selling in the \$1-million to \$2-million range.

And Westmount Square, including all four of the original buildings, has a 2017 valuation of \$121.5 million.

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**HISTORY OF 244 ELM AVE.  
(since construction)**

Date	Buyer	Price
April 17, 1907	Ethel Raeburn McIntyre	\$12,500
January 23, 1924	Jackson Thomson Hammond	\$10,800
May 3, 1924	Eléonore Prévost	\$13,100
October 31, 1958	Leopold Oigny	\$24,000
July 23, 1963	David & Merrill Enterprises Ltd.	\$75,000
February 11, 1964	Westmount Centre Inc.	\$130,000*

\*Combined price of two properties

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# Still learning the ropes



Tipping the scales at 91 pounds, Lisbeth may seem to put the “giant” in giant schnauzer, yet she is not dauntingly large. Although she could stand to lose around 10 pounds in due course, a slimming-down regimen is not the priority. Lisbeth was a puppy-producing machine for years, made to churn out litter after litter until, having reached the end of her “useful” life, she was discarded at the age of eight. Fortunately for this sweet girl, Frontier Animal Society opened its doors to her and entrusted her to a loving foster home, where things are looking up quite spectacularly.

Technically, Lisbeth may not have been mistreated by her former owners, but she was certainly deprived. When she joined her foster family (two adults, two children and one dog), she had to learn everything from scratch. On the one hand, she was unfamiliar with some of the mundane, everyday features like stairs and cars. On the other, she lacked emotional connection because she had never been loved or given any meaningful attention by human beings.

Playing with another dog was an entirely novel concept and going on walks presented a bit of a challenge. She was nervous of traffic and strangers. Lisbeth's current existence is far richer than her previous one, but don't we all need time to adjust to change? With the help of her foster

family, she is overcoming her fears and gaining confidence. She is fine with cats and is enjoying the companionship of her current dog pal, so she does not need to be the sole animal in the household.

Lisbeth will need a peaceful home with gentle, patient people who don't expect her to go from life-in-a-cage to life-of-the-party.

Behind the shaggy eyebrows and soup-strainer moustache is a lovely dog who is learning to enjoy life. If you think you can give her the comforts she deserves (and



she does, after all those breeding years), please contact Frontier Animal Society at 819.876.7747 or [frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com).

By the way, if you love schnauzers and Lisbeth is snapped up before you can apply for her, you may be interested to know that her two sisters will shortly be arriving at Frontier Animal Society.

**Dr Souzi Mhanna** has stopped practicing dentistry. She has transferred all her patients' files to Dr. Bernard Mayantz at Clinique Dentaire Regency located at 3545 Cotes des Neiges, suite 107, in Montreal. Phone: 514-935-1809.

## Classifieds in the *Independent*

Why list your goods (or services) on fly-by-night, who-knows-who-is-replying websites when you can list (and sell) locally?

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# Greene merchants concerned about panhandlers, for clients

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Up to \$100 a day. That's how much begging on Greene Ave. can pay, according to at least one panhandler who regularly stakes out a spot on the sidewalk on Greene opposite the entrance to Westmount Square. But from the point of view of some merchants, aggressive soliciting by certain panhandlers could end up driving store customers away.

Panhandlers are more frequently seen along some parts of Greene – just outside the 5 Saisons supermarket at the corner of de Maisonneuve, for example, or near the Greene Ave. entrance to Westmount Square. They tend to be more visible there because there's more pedestrian traffic.

"Definitely it's more of a problem down that way," said Rob Callard, owner of Nick's Restaurant near the corner of Sherbrooke. "I hear a lot of my customers saying they will cross the street to avoid being confronted – because some of the panhandlers tend to be a bit aggressive.

"I try to be accepting of them to a certain degree," he continued. "I just don't like it when they get aggressive. But for the most part they tend to be quite friendly."

Brigitte Gasparyan, who owns women's wear boutique Le Boudoir right across the street from Westmount Square, had a somewhat different take. She told the *Independent* that the flagship store she's owned on Laurier Ave. in Outremont since

1985 also suffers from panhandlers – although "they're less aggressive," she said.

Six months after opening on Greene, Gasparyan said she's now "really unhappy" that her customers have to put up with panhandlers, while adding that there was at least one recent incident on Greene that would meet almost anyone's definition of unacceptable.

"If you spit on someone, I think it's really aggressive," she said. "I've only been here since last October, but from what I've seen, they're always out there and moving around, and it's nothing to be happy about." If she had her wish, it would be for Westmount Public Security to provide more surveillance on Greene so that the merchants and clients could feel more secure.

### 'Only some a problem'

At one of Greene Ave.'s most venerable retail establishments, Tony's Shoes, longtime owner Tony Fagnoli maintained it's only some panhandlers who behave aggressively. Overall, though, he feels that having panhandlers at all on Greene isn't good for the business climate.

"When you come into someone's space, then you tend to scare them or drive them away," he said. "Consequently, as merchants, we're on the side of the client, the consumer. We're trying to make Greene Ave. a place that is inviting for people, rather than a place that discourages them



Seen on April 4, a panhandler calmly soliciting outside the main entrance of the 5 Saisons supermarket at Greene and de Maisonneuve receives a donation from a customer after she has exited the store.

or makes them feel uncomfortable."

Apart from that, Fagnoli said he realizes there isn't much that can be done legally. "But at the same time, I think security has to be vigilant about it and make sure these people are not aggressive, and also to make sure that you don't have a bunch of them congregating in one area. That happens, it seems sometimes, where you can have a couple of them around certain stores – like 5 Seasons, like Westmount Square."

With a spot on the sidewalk near the Greene Ave. entrance to Westmount Square, Danielle (as she wanted to be called, although that wasn't her real name) said in an interview that Greene Ave. is one of the most lucrative places in Montreal to work as a panhandler.

"The people here are conservative and they give you money if you're careful not to bother them," she said. "The people here are respectful, as long as you are also respectful towards them."

While a growing number of panhandlers in Montreal have been issued hundreds of dollars in tickets by the Montreal police, Danielle claimed she's been able to avoid this by systematically following certain ground rules and by always being on good terms with law enforcers.

Among the rules, which were explained to her by Westmount Public Security, she added, are to never leave the sidewalk to cross over the line onto private property, such as Westmount Square.

So how much does Danielle make?

"Here, if you're polite and you follow the regulations, I do quite well," she said. "You can reach \$100 in a day. But it depends on the people you meet."

According to the Montreal police's Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière, Westmount by-laws allow beggars to go about their business normally, as long as they do so without becoming aggressive and without blocking the public right of way.

"You have to remember the panhandlers also have rights like every human being," he said. "We can't illegally detain them. They have the same rights as everybody else."

Laperrière said a Station 12 task force for panhandling and other problems has been going about streets like Greene and Victoria every week to identify potential offenders and remind them of the rules.

Asked what the police consider to be aggressive behaviour, he replied, "If you stand there, you're not blocking anybody, that's okay. But if you're constantly asking the same person over and over, or you're yelling because they haven't given you any money, that becomes aggressive."

Westmount director general Benoit Hurtubise said Public Security has recently stepped up patrols along Victoria and Greene. "When we see panhandlers, we invite them to move along," he said. "We get the police involved if there is an infraction, such as their being rude to residents or any form of violence or unacceptable behaviour."



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
**WESTMOUNT**



### IMPORTANT NOTICE

#### Demolition Application

1. The City of Westmount has received an application for a demolition permit, and for a replacement program for the building located at **51 de Lavigne Road**;
2. A public sitting of the Demolition Committee will take place on **May 7, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.** in the Council Chamber of City Hall, located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, in Westmount;
3. The legal notice relating to the foregoing is available at: <https://westmount.org/en/resident-zone/legal-services-city-clerks-office/public-notice/>

**Me Martin St-Jean, City Clerk**

**[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)**



## Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

## Tuques Bleues: Another uber-cool event



Benoît Chartier, Jeffrey Drummond, Robert Tellier, Peter Howlett, Michel Leblanc and Sylvie Guilbault.

While snow still sparkled, Mount Royal was the site of a meta-moment. No. Not the traffic debacle/debate: Tuques Bleues!

The benefit for Les Amis de la montagne attracted 400 guests, some of whom raced (and won!) while others simply enjoyed the fun night. Presented by Manulife, Tubbs Snowshoes and Atlas Snowshoes, partners of the event since the beginning, drew prizes along with Kiehl's.

Honorary co-presidents of the 21st annual eve were Westmounters **Peter Howlett**, president/founder Les Amis de la montagne (there with his wife **Morag Howlett**), and Les amis governors **Michel Leblanc**, president/CEO, Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal, and **Robert Tellier**, regional vice-president, group benefits and retirement solutions at Manulife.

Members of the hard-working organizing committee were Westmounters **Jeffrey**

**Drummond**, managing director DNA Capital and co-president of the fundraising committee (with **Kathryn Lund Drummond**), **Érik Moisan**, vp Raymond James, and Les amis' governors **Sam Scalia**, president Samcon, and his wife **Diana Ferrara Scalia**.

(Fund-raising committee co-pres **Philip Belec**, president Ben-Jac Capital Inc., and his wife **Anna Belec**, were stuck on a plane so were unable to attend.)

Warmly-clad guests enjoyed Java U's quickly disappearing gas-t .....  
tronomic buffet. Local res continued on p. 22



Antoine Sébastien Plamondon R.C.A., oil on canvas, framed, signed and dated 1868, 39 x 29 inches.

Pridham's International Fine & Decorative Arts Auction

**Saturday, April 14 at 10 am**

PREVIEW: Friday, April 13 from 3-6 pm & Saturday from 8-10 am

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Guillaume Laganière, Clément Coste and Chris Blanchard.



Lindsay Slater, Sarah Christiani and Melanie Meslin.

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**Social notes, cont'd. from p. 21**

noted included **Rick Hart**, **Matthew Price-Gallagher**, **Eleanor Hew-Roper** and **Mark Roper**, **Daphne** and **Jeff Shamie**, **Andrew Lutfy**, **Pierre Lutfy** and **Nancy** and **Anthony Zitmann**.

Cocktails, Prosecco, wine and beer were offered by Bierbrier Brewing, Coureur des bois and Zonin Prosecco Cuvée 1821.

Echoing the Winter Olympics overseas, the competition was keen. Ladies snowshoe race winners were **Sarah Christiani** (gold), **Lindsay Slater** (silver) and **Melanie Meslin** (bronze). Men's snowshoe race winners were **Clément Coste** (gold), **Guillaume Laganière** (silver) and **Chris Blanchard**

(bronze).

Many institutions competed for the Tuques Bleues trophy: MacDougall, MacDougall and MacTier, a division of Raymond James; Ben-Jac Capital Inc; the city of Montreal; Fednav Limited; Manulife; Pembroke Management; Presima; Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton; Revision Military; Roma Foods; Samcon; TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and Woods LLP. Presima won for the third consecutive year.

The cool – yes, in the sense of chilly, but also very hip! – night raised \$150,000 in support of Les amis de la montagne's environmental conservation programs on Mount Royal.



John Kehoe.



Rick Hart and Peter Letko.



Enhancing the lives of everyone touched by Alzheimer's and related dementias

AGI Spring Conference

**"Now I Don't Have to Guess"  
Activating Early Conversations about End of Life in Long-Term Care**

**Wednesday, April 25, 2018  
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Hôtel Ruby Foo's  
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Limited seating.  
Registration necessary.  
\$15.  
Lunch included.



**Dr. Tamara Sussman**  
Associate Professor, McGill School of Social Work

Dr. Sussman completed a Ph.D. in Social Work, from the University of Toronto in 2006 and a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Murray Alzheimer Research and Education Program at the University of Waterloo in 2007. Drawing on over ten years of experience working with adults and families managing health related issues in both hospital and community settings, Dr. Sussman's program of research focuses on how health services and systems impact older adults and their family members.

To register, or for more information call 514.485.7233 or email [linda@agiteam.org](mailto:linda@agiteam.org)



[www.agiteam.org](http://www.agiteam.org)



**Comin' Up**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 10**

Westmount Horticultural Society presents "Secrets of Our Wild Orchids" by Dr. Marilyn Light. Westmount Public Library. \$5. 7 to 9 pm.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 12**

Atwater Library Lunchtime Series presents Donald J. Johnston on his book, *Missing the Tide: Global Governments in Retreat*. Free, donations requested. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

**MONDAY, APRIL 16**

Westmount Municipal Association's public meeting on "Your Pool, Your Voice." Westmount Public Library. 7 pm.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 17**

Westmount Healthy City Project presents *Animal Smarts*, a PBS documentary and a short TED Talk on the many forms of intelligence of other species. Free. Westmount Public Library. 7 pm.

Burton Ave. reconstruction meeting. Westmount recreation centre. 6:30 pm.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18**

Clandeboyne Ave. reconstruction meeting. City hall. 6:30 pm.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 19**

Westmount Historical Association presents "In the dark shadow of Montreal: Westmount and the Metropolitan Challenge (1880-1939)," with Professor Harold Bérubé. \$5. Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library. 7 pm.

**SUNDAY, 22 APRIL**

An Earth Day Service on "The Community of Nature." Westmount Park United Church. 4:30 pm.

**MONDAY, APRIL 30**

The Westmount Municipal Association is looking for nominations for the Derek Walker Volunteer of the Year Award up to Monday, April 30. Send nominations to [chrissycardinal@gmail.com](mailto:chrissycardinal@gmail.com) or [wallacejoannemtl@gmail.com](mailto:wallacejoannemtl@gmail.com). Info: [www.wma-amw.org](http://www.wma-amw.org).

**To BE LISTED IN Comin' Up**

Please send your Westmount event, to: [cu@westmountindependent.com](mailto:cu@westmountindependent.com)

Be sure to write by Friday at 10 am for inclusion the next week.

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*5:00 - 6:30 pm daily.*





# Welcome to the *right* address

**NEW**


**Westmount** | \$1,895,000 | 334 Av. Grosvenor, MLS: 20570539 | Best location in the heart of Victoria Village. 4 Bdr, completely renovated w/ lovely garden+++

**EXCLUSIVE**


**Westmount** | \$1,295,000 | Million dollar view! Unique opportunity to buy a 1645 SF corner unit. North/East view. Renovators dream!

**NEW**
**CONDITIONAL OFFER**


**WESTMOUNT** **\$1,925,000**  
3 Av. Hudson MLS: 12185382  
Spacious and bright property in Westmount's best location with large garden & garage.



**WESTMOUNT** **\$2,675,000**  
3206 Boul. The Boulevard MLS: 10313661  
Sumptuous details & Breathtaking views. Perfectly located close to Westmount's best schools.



**DOWNTOWN** **\$2,250,000**  
2 Chelsea Place MLS: 26576267  
The most sought after townhouse in the Golden Square Mile. 5 bdrm with amazing rooftop terrace.

**NEW**


**WESTMOUNT** **\$1,950,000**  
1 Av. Wood #1702 MLS: 15873664  
2056 SF condo, panoramic views, 2 car garage +++

**CONDITIONAL OFFER**


**WESTMOUNT** **\$1,095,000**  
1 Parkman Place MLS: 9566079  
WOW! Fully renovated 3 bedrooms in Victoria village.



**MONT-TREMBLANT AREA** **\$1,795,000**  
257 Route de Crystal Falls MLS: 11141055  
One of the most amazing farm now on the market!



**LAC XAVIER** **\$1,450,000+GST/QST**  
8 Route des Érables MLS: 22610281  
With turnkey option



**TREMBLANT AREA, FROM \$249,000**  
2150 La Conception MLS: 11902891  
Integrated project of micro-houses in the Laurentians on 1200 acres! Organic farms, hiking trails & more.

**SOLD**


**WESTMOUNT** **\$2,795,000**  
68 Crois. Forden MLS: 19289530  
Our STAR property! Number 1 Location next to Murray Park! RENOVATED from A to Z... Embellished with the 'WOW' factor.

**SOLD**


**WESTMOUNT** **\$1,595,000**  
372 Av. Kitchener MLS: 20858821  
Unique opportunity! Perfectly located semi detached with garden and garage.



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