# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

October 7-8, 2008

We are Westmount

New Anglican congregation

## Quebec's only Reformed Episcopal Church forms here

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A new congregation has opened its doors in Westmount to provide traditional Anglican worship in affiliation with the Reformed Episcopal Church in North America.

St. Andrew's Anglican Church, which held its third weekly service October I in the sanctuary of Westmount Baptist Church, is the only so-called "break-away" congregation from the Anglican Church of Canada to operate in Quebec.

"We're not here to sheep-steal or knock other churches, but to provide a traditional service," said Rev. John Smith, the retired rector of St. George's Reformed Episcopal Church in Hamilton, Ont., who came to officiate at last week's celebration of Holy Communion.

Active in the founding of the new congregation, Rev. Smith was replacing the new church's founding vicar, Rev. Matthew P. Harrington, who was out of town on a family emergency.

Rev. Harrington, a Montrealer, is the rector of the First Reformed Episcopal

Church of New York City, which dates to 1886. "That's why we're meeting on Wednesdays, because he is in New York on weekends," Rev. Smith explained.

The new church, which has been advertising in newspapers, provides lunch and Bible study after the weekly communion service, which starts at 12:15 pm.

#### Response 'encouraging'

Initial response has been "very encouraging," Rev. Smith said. A dozen worshippers attended the first gathering followed by 15 the next week, including most of the original 12.

"We've also heard that people in the Eastern Townships have expressed interest." Many Anglicans, he added, "are not attending services because they feel the church has left them."

## **Fire Prevention Week:**

## Flammables and flash fires

With "Fire Destroys Life" as the Quebec theme of Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11), local fire officials are asking Westmounters to take special care when filling gas-powered appliances and working with other flammable liquids.

Flash fires can happen so quickly, causing severe burns and fatalities, said Westmount Fire Prevention Chief Daniel De Vries. "It's not the liquid that causes the fire, it's the vapours."

As a result, always ensure that lawn mowers and other garden equipment as well as saws and snowblowers are already cold and turned off before filling.

It's also time to start replacing smoke detector batteries as the heating season approaches. Detectors should be cleaned and replaced after several years.

Further information on their care as well as other safety measures will be available at the prevention kiosk being staffed this week at Alexis Nihon, De Vries said.

#### **Don't Miss It**

Photographer Gabor Szilasi shares family photographs with "Famille" exhibition. Vernissage: Thursday, October 9. See Comin' Up on p. 8 for details.



The smoke alarm... an effective watchman !



### Federal election Candidates' last leg

Federal Liberal candidate Marc Garneau got ready for the last week of the election with the same proactive approach that has characterized his whole campaign.

At his team's invitation, two Westmount newspapers (including the *Independent*) spent an hour and a half over breakfast on October 2 hearing him sum up his point of view and answer questions.

Garneau seemed most proud of being the Liberal spokesman for August 13 comments in support of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) and the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP). He credits that announcement with the Conservatives' decision to extend their fund- *continued on p. 3* 

## Residents or city? Who's responsible for 172 'orphan' sidewalk trees?

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Who owns 172 trees located on city of Westmount property near the sidewalk, but which the city claims it never planted and therefore bears no responsibility for?

That's the question that dogs a Prince Albert Ave. resident in a legal dispute with the city concerning damages from a giant maple and the liability its remaining stump now poses. The remains of the tree are squeezed between the public sidewalk and the front steps of her small yard.

#### Rooted in law?

"In any legal system that I know of, if a

tree is on your property then it belongs to you because the roots are immoveable and follow the owner of the land," said Nanette Neuwahl, a law professor at the University of Montreal.

"In fact, the city very clearly states in its tree brochure that any tree on a neighbour's property is the responsibility of that neighbour," she said. "What makes one neighbour different from another?"

Neuwahl said that while she did cut down the tree "on the city's advice," she felt she could not dig up the stump that is causing further damage. "I could not dig into city property without taking responsibility for *continued on p. 2* 

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## Resident: city owns trees

#### continued from p. 1

damage to city infrastructure and the neighbour's property. Now I cannot repair my steps until the stump is removed."

#### Seeking punitive damages

As a result, she is seeking punitive damages against the city in Small Claims Court in a bid to establish city responsibility.

In the absence of an applicable city bylaw, city clerk Mario Gerbeau explained to the *Independent*, the city's position is that any tree it did not plant is considered to be a "private" tree, even if located on city property.

He did confirm that this runs contrary to the position long held by Outremont when it was city, as well as the city of Montreal.

The tree has been a thorn in Neuwahl's side from the day after she purchased the house in 2004 - when the main drain "collapsed." Its roots, she said, were the size of an arm. Damage to the plumbing and house ensued, along with many complications.

"I contacted the city because the tree

Ø Desjardins

was on their territory and I was told do the repairs first and then pursue the previous owner because it was not a city tree. I was new to Westmount and I believed what I was told."

Still believing the city bore responsibility, however, Neuwahl launched an initial action against the city and the previous owner in Small Claims Court. By then, the 15-day prescription period had long lapsed for filing a claim against the city. The judge rejected the claim against the previous owner, as well, who said he had no knowledge of who planted the tree. It had been on the property before his arrival 20 years earlier.

Undaunted by the judgment in May, however, Neuwahl has launched a new action claiming punitive damages against the city. She has also been to the Access to Information Commission seeking other related information the city might have on hand, including the list of 172 similar trees.

"What I'm actually doing is establishing liability," she said, adding: "Interestingly, the city's own insurer has been out to look at the situation."

She said she plans to use the experience in her teachings. Neuwahl, who formerly taught law at the University of Liverpool for seven years, holds the Chair in European Union Law at the U of M.

#### Praises Building & Planning

Neuwahl was quick to praise the city's Building & Planning department for assistance it has given her in approving a large roof deck and for the immediate attention she received from Public Works when a city vehicle damaged a corner of her house. She simply wants

the city to now take responsibility for what she believes to be its rightful property.

"This is a problem that 172 residents may face some day," she said. "What if such a tree should cause personal injury? Here I am a lawyer who, as a new resident, believed what the city told me until it was too late.

"I don't know how many other people have already felt pressured into assuming



Nanette Neuwahl with the stump that remains at the city sidewalk outside her home at 390 Prince Albert.

responsibility themselves when they may not have needed to because I don't believe the city's position is well founded in law."

"Besides, the tree registry shows it has about 6,659 city trees. Do 172 more make that much difference?"



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## Federal election...

#### continued from p. 1

ing. He also reiterated his party's support for the arts, the environment and matters of "social conscience" – all the while staying fiscally responsible – versus an NDP approach that he characterized as "19th century socialism."

When matters turned to Quebec's linguistic policies, he affirmed "The application of [Bill] 101 was the right thing to do in Quebec" – comparing the relative peace of the last three decades with the turbulent and violent FLQ era – but opposed moves to make it apply to federal institutions.

What's changed most over his one-year quest to become an MP? The economy has risen in importance, but most importantly Garneau sees this election as the first that has had the environment as so important an issue.

#### Round-up

The *Independent* contacted the candidates of the other major national parties by email to find out what their final thoughts were:

#### Guy Dufort, Conservative Party:

"This has been a long campaign. .. Some local issues that were at the forefront during the by-election, such as homelessness and lack of sufficient affordable housing, became secondary issues during the general campaign.

"... the economy has increasingly become the paramount concern ... But we have not been following the same policies as the US. We are in surplus, not adding to our debt. We are creating jobs. We aren't bailing out large companies. Our banks have stronger liquidity and tighter restric-

## Past Indie coverage of federal candidates

For in-depth interviews of Guy Dufort (Conservative), Marc Garneau (Liberal) and Anne Lagacé Dowson (NDP), go to www.westmountindependent. com.

For Dufort, click on the March 26 issue, p. 1; for Garneau, click on the Nov. 7 issue, p. 22 and for Lagacé Dowson, click on the August 26 issue, p. 13. A shorter Genest interview can be found in the Jan. 30 issue, p. 13 and a pre-campaign roundup in the June 17 issue, p. 6.

A summary of the all-candidates' meeting and past election results can be found in the September 2 edition (p. 1 & 16/17).

tions. We implemented our plan progressively over 30 months: balanced budgets, low taxes, protecting jobs and keeping inflation low.

"But I am still concerned by the numbers of homeless people ... we should be focusing on a "housing-first" approach to homelessness in Westmount-Ville Marie by working with partners in the private and not-for-profit sectors . ..there are surplus federal properties in Westmount-Ville Marie which are presently unused ...The use of such surplus federal properties can range from residential and non-residential emergency services to permanent affordable housing."

#### Anne Lagacé Dowson, NDP:

"From the top at the Westmount summit, to the bottom at the old port, we have walked the walk, reaching out, shaking hands and even giving a Montreal kiss, to a multitude of voters ...

"As far as talking the talk, we had one or two good debates, and then last week, our Liberal opponent disappeared. He missed four debates in a row. They seem to be hiding him, and we are not sure why...

"To the loyal Liberal voters of Westmount-Ville Marie, we say a vote for the Liberals means you get a Conservative government. The NDP has picked up the fallen flag of the "just society." It is the party that will fight Harper's right-wing plans. And that may be why the polls point to a Conservative minority, with the NDP leading the opposition. And I will never take you, or your vote, for granted."

#### **Claude Genest, Green Party:**

"Do you believe in miracles? Seems like our campaign has been full of them... Obviously, Elizabeth May's triumphant debut has laid to rest the naive notion that we were ever a "one issue party." ...Another huge turning point was after Jack Layton incredibly showed himself willing to work with Harper to derail democracy and keep Elizabeth May out of the debates. We began to receive waves of disaffected ex-NDPers, particularly among those who really care about feminist and social justice issues."

#### More election facts

According to Elections Canada, the following candidates are running in Westmount-Ville Marie: Guy Dufort (Conservative), Marc Garneau (Liberal), Claude Genest (Green), Anne Lagacé Dowson (NDP), Charles Larivée (Bloc Québécois), David Rovins (Independent), Bill Sloan (Communist), Linda Sullivan (Marxist-Leninist) and Judith Vienneau (neorhino.



A Royal "marriage"

From left: Karin Cizmeciyan (Private Banking), Veronique Monet (Private Banking), Ed Bloemendaal (Private Banking), Marsha Lloyd (RBC DS), Mark Jennings (Private Banking), Willem Westenberg (RBC DS), Ben Klamph (RBC DS), Pia Landolfi (Private Banking) and John Archer (RBC DS).

The Royal Bank's Private Banking and RBC Dominion Securities divisions recently merged their local offices into one Westmount location. Both units are now housed at the new premises built for them at 4 Westmount Square (suite 120), upstairs from the Westmount Square branch of the Royal Bank.

RBC DS is the traditional retail brokerage arm of the bank and manages portfolios with a minimum starting value of

ca).

The election takes place on Tuesday, October 14. Elections Canada maintains an excellent site for finding local polling stations. Go to www.electionscanada.ca, then "Electoral Districts" (towards top left of the page), then "Voter Information Service" (towards the centre middle).

If you have not received a voter registration card in the mail, it is best to check with the local returning officer to see if you are on the list. The advanced polls were run on October 3, 4 and 6. Applications for voting by mail are due by Tuesday, October 7 at 6 pm.

The returning officer for Westmount-Ville Marie is Robert Koffend. His office's coordinates are as follows: 1002 Sherbrooke St. West, suite 1000, Montreal, Quebec H<sub>3</sub>A 0A6 – 1.8666.234.2463.



\$500,000. Private Banking is a service offered to high net worth clients that gives them one "relationship manager" at the bank. From there, private bankers can access any number of services and products for clients, including wealth management by their new cohabitant, RBC DS.

One of the RBC DS team members, Willem Westenberg, had some good news recently: he was named a vice-president.

### Westmount's 'world café'

The city of Westmount's second sustainable development visioning session will take place on Thursday, October 16 at Victoria Hall at 7 pm. The event will be held in the world café format, which sustainability coordinator Joshua Wolfe, characterizes as akin to "musical chairs, or musical tables at least."

A sustainable development vision statement for Westmount will again be the focus, with what should be included being the principal topic for discussion. At the first session on September 16, three alternate statements were worked on. Residents can attend any session without having been at a previous one.



## At Second Glance Canada 2008: fact-checking Harper

#### By Heather Black



"Leader! Not a leader!" Are you influenced by these words? That's what Prime Minister Stephen Harper is counting on. Like it or not, *ad hominem* fallacies – where an idea is rejected or advanced not

on merit, but on the originator's character – are effective.

But, according to Yvonne Raley writing in *Scientific American Mind*, "Putting the focus on the arguer or person being discussed can distract us from issues that matter." South of the border, a candidate's misinformation is posted at factcheck.org, but here citizens are on their own.

#### What's the rhetoric?

Harper tells us he represents strong leadership, but is that world leadership? Following the 2007 G8 meeting, singeractivist Bono accused Harper of "blocking progress" in the fight against global poverty. When asked, 48 percent of Canadians agreed with Bono. Only 28 percent believed Harper that the allegations were "completely false" (Angus Reid, June 15, 2007).

Does strong leadership, include consensus-building? 55 percent agree with the statement "Stephen Harper may be a strong leader, but he's not the kind of leader that I'm comfortable with" (Ipos, Sept 20). When Conservative Party legislators sent out flyers in advance of an election call, only 27 percent of those polled considered the mailouts acceptable, while 49 percent said that, as campaign material, they were inadmissable.

Harper insists that Canadians are leaning centre right. The truth is 41 percent of Canadians believe that "no current federal political party truly represents conservatism in Canada" (Angus Reid, May 30, 2007). Furthermore, 50 percent say that "electing Stephen Harper and the Conservatives to a majority government would be like electing US President George Bush as our prime minister" (Ipsos, September 18).

*Ad hominem* fallacies, clearly, underestimate the intelligence of Canadians.

#### What's the record?

Recently Dr. Paul Hébert, editor of the *CMAJ*, criticized Harper's policy of government deregulation for the listeriosis outbreak: "The Harper government has reversed much of the progress that previous governments made on governing for public health." According to Hébert, the government also tried to convince American regulators to lower US standards to accept

Presstime: Monday before, at 10:30 am

## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

#### We are Westmount.

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

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

Editor & Publisher: David Price 514.935.4537

Editorial coordinator: Kristin McNeill 514.223.3578 indie@westmountindependent.com

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney laureen@westmountindependent.com LAYOUT: Studio Melrose/Ted Sancton Advertising sales: Annika Melanson 514.223.3567

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On questions of global warming at the 2008 G8 meeting, Harper argued that "there is no point in the G8 acting if other big emitters don't" (*Toronto Star*). When G8 countries – emitters of 62 percent of the world's greenhouse gases – are reducing their emissions to 20 percent of 1990 levels, the Conservative plan calls for a reduction of 20 percent from 2006 levels or no decrease from 1990.

And when it comes to the economy, Harper refers to a "Liberal tax and spend" government. In fact, from 1997 on – with Paul Martin and Ralph Goodale as finance ministers – Canada had a total of \$77.4 billion in budget surpluses including \$13.2 billion when the Conservatives took office. In the years 1961 to 1997, there were only two budget surpluses, while this year's projected budget of \$1 billion is doubtful. And *ad hominem* attacks cannot conceal a lack of progressive legislation and leadership?

#### A local hero?

But such character attacks also misrepresents our parliamentary system. Unlike the presidential system, Canadians vote not for the leader, but for a local hero who will advance our interests at home and abroad. Think of Tommy Douglas, Lester B. Pearson or Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

When we send our best representative to Ottawa, we ensure representation for Westmount and we establish Canada's next generation of leaders. So go vote. But get the facts!

> Heather Black is a Westmount communication designer. Contact her: atcitizen@gmail.com

## Selwyn House holds global responsibility conference



From left: Dario Iezzoni (Brulerie Santropol), Joelle Berdugo Adler (One X One) and Jennifer Heil (Plan, Kids Kottage and "Because I am a girl").

#### Photo & story by Isaac Olson

Highlighted by a long list of guests that work to better the world, a Selwyn House School-sponsored conference on global responsibility drew in hundreds of students from several area schools.

Held on October 2 at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom on Sherbrooke St., the conference, entitled "Educating Youth for Global Responsibility," was part of Selwyn's year-long centennial celebration. Panelists and speakers included Jennifer Heil (2006 Olympic champion and humanitarian), Alusine Bah (former child soldier and human rights activist) and Bob Rae (member of parliament and Ontario's 21st premier). Four Selwyn alumni – Daniel Wilner, Justin Tan (Students for Global Health), Gabriel Maldoff (Highlands of Hope) and Andy Rosenhek (The \$5 Philanthropist) also spoke about their work in the world.

## Civic Alert It might as well be spring!

#### By Don Wedge



Spring in October? It seems a little like that, but not for everyone! Some are "feeling

vaguely discontented." Certainly Councillor Patrick Martin isn't the only one concerned about Westmount's planning proce-

dures and the right to views, particularly from high on the mountain.

Lower down, the neighbours of the new arena await the opportunity to defend their right to peaceful nights.

It may be fall, but the inspiring Rodgers and Hammerstein song "It Might as Well be Spring" has repeatedly run through my head as I have watched events the last few days.

Work on the new playing fields is nearing completion, as is the renewal of Westmount Ave. – the city's biggest construction job.

There is even going to be a concert of Elizabethan lute songs in Vic Hall.

Mayor Karin Marks was called to chair the agglom council for the first time, approached it with trepidation and carried it through with aplomb!

Marianopolis College said its DG, Françoise Boisvert, will step down next summer and, of course, new DG Duncan Campbell moved into city hall.

#### First lunch in 15 years!

One beneficiary of the latter move was Eileen St. Louis of Beaconsfield. For the first time since he became Westmount's top civil servant 15 years ago, her husband Bruce took her to lunch on an office day!

The DG-emeritus has relocated his office to another floor of city hall until he leaves at the end of next week. Even then, he will not be finished with municipal affairs. The Association of Suburban Mayors has retained him as a consultant – agglom battles are not over and his knowledge will be needed. The organization, which Mayor Marks chairs, has for some time wanted to recruit a staff official to research and present its dossiers to the government and others.

Given his vast experience in dealing with Montreal and Quebec City, St. Louis might seem to be the obvious candidate, but such a role is not foreseen.

#### St. Louis' recruiting mandate

However, the mayors have retained him to define a job description and mandate for the new position. He will begin that task once he has finally left Westmount's staff.

Meantime, St. Louis will continue to provide the mayors with the detailed briefing on the agglom council agenda that he has prepared since the dawn of the agglom system.

This highly confidential document leads the elected officials through the mountainous agenda and points to the suspect items – and there are many – where Big Montreal may be over-ambitiously loading costs onto the suburbs.

He has provided the mayors' group with this guide and many other services as part of his Westmount duties. He was also nominated by the other cities to represent them in the negotiations with the Quebec government and Big Montreal that led to June's three-way agreements (Bill 22) to reform the agglom.

In recognition of his help, the association last year presented him with a wine refrigerator – filled with his favourite wines!

This month, St Louis has spent much of his time with the new DG.

#### Small problems matter

"It's not the broad issues that take the most time," St. Louis said. "They are similar in most cities, so Duncan is familiar with them.

"More important are the cases where, for instance, Mrs. So-and-So has a problem that we have been working on for years. I want my successor to be briefed so that he can put his own thumbprint on them."

Meantime, in the main floor DG's office, Campbell has been meeting one-onone with mayor, councillors and his staff.

For his last week on the Big Montreal staff, Campbell was in Richmond, VA, attending the annual conference of the International City Management Association. Both he and St. Louis are long-term members.

"Besides its educational aspect, Montreal will be hosting the 4,000 delegates next year and we want it to be a very appealing event," he said.

At this year's conference, Campbell was attracted by evolving computer technology, such as blogs and Facebook, rather than a "static" website. He was impressed by "reverse-911 where, when we have information to disseminate, we can send out phone messages and emails." He also understands the need for electronic registration for recreational and other events.

"I suspect we are technologically advanced enough to handle that and I will be talking to the IT staff about it," he promised.

It's fall and the evenings get dark earlier. But there are new faces, names and thoughts – and, that means changes. It just might as well be spring!

> Citizen activist Don Wedge's e-mail address is calert@web.net.



## Lépine recognized as Hudon expert

Westmounter Denis Lépine has accepted an invitation to attend Le Balcon D'Art's upcoming exhibition of Normand Hudon's art and act as "un spécialiste sur place."

Hudon was a versatile artist best known for his caricatures and cartoons in *La Presse, Le Petit Journal* and *Le Devoir*. He was born in Montreal in 1929 and died in 1997.

Lépine is an important collector of Hudon's, with a collection of approximately 200 pieces, including rare books and record covers. The exhibition is a sales-oriented event, so none of Lépine's pieces will be on display.

The exhibition takes place at Le Balcon D'Art (650 Notre Dame in St. Lambert, 450.466.8920) from Sunday, October 19 – starting at 1 am – to Wednesday, October 29. Hours are 9:30 am to 5 pm on weekdays, 10 am to 5 pm on Saturdays and 11 am to 5 pm on Sundays. Lépine will be present on October 19 only.

According to Lépine, a 16-by-20 inch piece went for approximately \$3,000 to \$4,000 only a few years ago. Today's price? \$15,000 to \$16,000.

Other art collectors have good naturedly teased Lépine about publicizing Hudon and driving up the market.

Retorts Lépine wistfully, "It's my own fault I can't buy anymore."



### Letters to the editor

#### CITIZEN PRESSES FOR ACCURACY

Regarding Laureen Sweeney's article ("Citizens press for action on rail line", September 23 *Independent*, p. 1) on the recent meeting between residents, the mayor, three city councillors, AMT and CP Rail on September 9: is it not the job of a newspaper reporter to listen and take correct notes of the meeting they are attending?

It was made very clear by AMT and CP Rail who owns and operates what equipment. AMT (i.e. the Quebec government) owns the locomotives and passenger railcars, and CP Rail owns the tracks. CP Rail operates and maintains the locomotives and railcars under a contractual agreement with AMT. CP Rail maintain the tracks, crossover switches and bridges with funding provided by AMT.

Regarding the quote from Peter Howlett "whatever the decisions, we need solutions in the short term." This issue was raised by Sandor Klein, not by Peter Howlett, who did not stay for the duration of the meeting and was his first time involvement in the railway issues that have been ongoing for over ten years with concerned Westmount residents.

Perhaps Laureen Sweeney should give more attention to detail before she reports on such a serious issue, and get the facts rights before publication.

IAN BIDGOOD, LEWIS AVE. *Editor's note:* The *Independent* only learned about this meeting after it had taken place, but felt it was an important one that should be brought to the attention of readers. As a result, our reporter did not attend the meeting in person, but managed to speak to city officials who did and spoke with Peter Howlett at deadline. His quote was his own and an opinion long shared by many residents and one we understood was expressed at the meeting.

We do, however, thank you for clarify-

ing and further underlining the complexity of the respective entities involved and would like to take this occasion to correct the spelling of Michel Spénard's name.

#### LIGHTS NEEDED ON BIKE PATH

While I appreciate the beauty (and maybe even the necessity) of the new playing field that is being installed in Westmount Park, the construction has caused the following problem: none of the lights along the bike path are presently working. As shorter days are fast approaching, and the bike path continues to be used by hundreds of people each day, I hope that Westmount will ensure that all of the lights are working as soon as possible in order to make the path safe for everyone.

> CATHERINE MCKENZIE PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

#### Another side of Sunnyside issue

As most of our fellow Westmount citizens know by now, we are still hoping to preserve our local heritage from the impact of a roof-raising project for an already large Category 1 home in the Sunnyside/ Bellevue area. This effort included a fourday trial that required we re-mortgage our house to be able to afford our small legal team, which sat across the aisle from the daunting dual legal team composed of the city's lawyers (that we are ironically also funding through our taxes) and those of the roof-raising property owners.

We took no solace in hearing the city officials and employees proudly defending the way the city had granted this particular permit. An unheeded alarm bell sounded when concerned councillors, having by then fully assessed the impact of the project, overturned the city's first attempt to make the required adjustments to the project in an attempt to render the permit legal.



Apparently, this was the first time that a number of brave councillors dared to challenge the Mayor Karin Marks' edict that council's role was simply to ratify all of the recommendations of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) of the Urban Planning department.

During the trial, we heard the PAC chair admit that there was no interest, ability or need to carry out a formal impact study on the neighbouring homes before her committee unilaterally decided that they no longer considered the roof of this Category I house as a relevant feature, despite that it was conceived by the famous architect Nobbs and Hyde IOO years earlier specifically to not obstruct the neighbours' precious views.

This approach raised the full ire of Beaupré and Michaud, our architectural experts, who wrote the "bible" regarding Westmount homes. They stated that this roof did indeed constitute a defining feature, and professed that it had to be preserved to maintain the character of the home, which was more important than trying to match it with the house next door.

Our biggest disappointment was to hear from Mayor Marks, who after sitting on five city councils continues to endorse the very process that led to all this anguish, while all this time only wondering if her citizens might want a better one (see the Mayor's Column, "Managing Change in Westmount", October 1 Independent p. 4). Her persistent claims that our heritage is best protected by leaving the permitrelated decisions to PAC flies in the face of the very legislation passed six years ago recognizing that a well-informed and elected council, the only accountable body knowledgeable in all the by-laws, must make the final decision regarding building permits.

Voting a list of 40 permits *en bloc* might be more efficient, but does not respect the spirit of law, nor protect citizens.

Until this last check is fully activated, we suggest that our fellow home owners be extra-vigilant since they could, at any time, find themselves in the same predicament as us.

Mireille Raymond & John Keyserlingk, Sunnyside Ave.

#### Unfortunately, Whisky not alone

I am writing in regards to the Underdog article featuring Whisky in the September 23 edition of the *Westmount Independent* (p. 16).

While it is positive to see your publication seeking homes for dogs in need, the article is another sad reminder on an endless list that Quebec is lacking the proper legislation against people who abuse, neglect and abandon animals.

As a former BC resident, I am disgusted at the lack of public regard, education and legislation in support of animal welfare in this province. It is a fact that in all of Canada, Quebec is the only province that continues to have puppy mill operations.

What is wrong with people in this province?

This past September 26, the Canadian SPCA, the Sûreté du Québec and Humane Society International raided a puppy mill in Rawdon, where they seized 109 dogs, several cats and a rabbit. The conditions were, by far, the worst they have ever encountered.

For generations my family has been going to Rawdon and my parents have been there permanently for four years. When I was living there last year, I saw many dogs chained outside in freezing temperatures without adequate shelter or food.

On several occasions I have contacted the municipalities and Sûreté du Québec in Chertsey/Rawdon/St. Julianne to find the appropriate animal control officers who handle these matters and was told that only one person works for the entire Lanaudière region! If you look at a map, you will see how large Lanaudière is!!

The government must take the first step. It must not only pass tougher legislation, but also ensure it is followed through. Seriously, in this day and age, people MUST be held accountable for their despicable actions.

So I ask you, what of the previous owners of Whisky? Has anything been done or is anything being done to hold these people responsible for their actions? Is anything being done to ensure they will never be able to own an animal again? I think it's only fair for your publication to take responsibility too.

ALIX CHODKOWSKI, STANTON ST.

*Editor's note:* In terms of the paper "taking responsibility," Underdog is a separate organization from the *Independent*. It has taken on the task of publicizing the plight of hard-to-place dogs currently housed at various animal shelters, all of which are separate from Underdog.

The shelters, in their turn, are often called separately from any law enforcement measures against former or current owners.

From what we know, all the groups involved are relatively small and just trying to do the best they can with the resources that they have. To our knowledge, none have police or judicial powers, or large budgets to pursue civil cases.

In this instance, we do not know of any legal measures taken against Whisky's former owner, who moved without leaving any contact information.

## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

### 1234 5678 9012 3456

Nаме:	Member since:	Nаме:	Member since:	
Joan & Jill Prévost	June 20, 2007	BUNNY BERKE	May 20, 2008	
BRIAN DUTCH	<b>September 5, 2007</b>	Joyce Faughnan	August 26, 2008	
MARIE SICOTTE	Максн 19, 2008	<b>Christopher Gardiner</b>	August 26, 2008	
CHRISTINA MILLER	April 16, 2008	Tania Kalecheff	September 9, 2008	

## Joan & Jill Prévost

Affiliated Real Estate Agents, Royal LePage Heritage 514.591.0804 www.joanprevost.com

Member since June 20, 2007

Joan and Jill Prévost are the most dynamic duo (mother-daughter) to appear on the real estate scene in a long time.

While enjoying great success and awards as being among the top realtors in Canada, they have a work ethic that challenges most. Their motto – "Our success is measured...one family at a time!" – is exactly how they operate. All the clients who they work with are dealing only with Jill and/or Joan – no assistants.

Each step of the way, whether clients are buying or selling, is handled by Jill and/or Joan – and NO ONE ELSE! With the most valuable asset you are either buying or selling, how comforting to know that every door is opened by only Jill or Joan, and every step of the way from there on in will be handled in a most professional, honest and stress-free manner.

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## **Marie Sicotte**

Affiliated Real Estate Agent, Groupe Sutton-Centre-Ouest 514.953.9808



Member since March 19, 2008

Marie Sicotte has all the right qualities to understand your needs. Her passion extends beyond simply searching for the property you want to buy or sell. She understands that for some, a property is a dream to attain, or a legacy and a history to pass on; while for others, it is an investment choice. Still others seek an environment, a sense of well-being and warmth that a place can provide, or the possibility for change that it can offer. Regardless of the value that her clients attach to a property, Marie Sicotte and her team make that their guiding principle. Simplicity, Respect, Well-Being.

More profiles of Gold Club (full-page advertisers) to come...

### Comin' Up...

**Tuesday, Oct. 7**: The Westmount Municipal Association presents guest speaker Richard Blondin, the director of Westmount Public Security, at 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library.

Wednesday, October 8: regular mid-month special city council meeting at city hall at 12 noon.

Thursday, October 9 (vernissage): 'Famille' by Gabor Szilasi at 6 pm. Roundtable: Thursday, October 23 at 7 pm. Exhibition runs from October 10 to November 1. Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 12 noon to 6 pm; Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm. All events: Visual Arts Centre (350 Victoria Ave., 514.488.9558).

**Saturday, October 11** Vernissage from 1 to 5 pm, then October 7 to 19 (Tuesday to Friday 11 am to 6 pm, and Saturday and Sunday 11 am to 5 pm). Westmounter Lynn Dufour has joined a group of artists who will exhibit paintings at Galerie Ame-Art, 5345 Park Ave., Info: 514.271.3383.

**Wednesday, Oct. 15:** David Solway discusses his book *Big Lie: On Terror, Anti Semitism and Identity* at Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom at 10 am. All welcome. Cost: \$8. Info: 514.937.3575.

Thursday, October 16: Westmount's second sustainable development visioning session at Victoria Hall at 7 pm. **Saturday, Oct. 18**: Safely dispose of leftover paints, batteries, pesticides and electronics, etc. at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection in the parking lot of Westmount Library between 9 am and 5 pm.

**Saturday, Oct. 18** and **Sunday Oct. 19**: Art Westmount, throughout Westmount, including Victoria Hall and the Gallery.

**Saturday, October 18:** the St. Matthias' Church Annual Fall Rummage Sale, from 10 am to 1 pm in the Lower Hall (131 Côte St. Antoine Rd., corner Metcalfe). Great fall and winter clothing plus lots more. For more information, call 514.933.4295.

Wednesday, October 22 (until October 25): "L'or du bleu": works made from or about recycled materials. Gallery at Victoria Hall. Info: 514.989.5226.

Saturday, October 25: Westmount's first used bicycle collection, Victoria Hall, from 10 am until 1 pm. Organized by Cyclo Nord-Sud with the Healthy City Project. Info: Richard Aylett 514.486.7686. ● Live Smart, Live Green – the Healthy City Project's daylong Victoria Hall event featuring community information and an ideas-exchange on sustainable living and ways to make life greener. 10 am to 4 pm. Info: Barbara Moore, Community Life 514.937. 0721; Richard Aylett, Environment 514. 486.7686.

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### Heritage open house day a success



Christina Miller with Claude Fréchette of the Pointe Claire, who was looking for a house for his relatives.

The annual Heritage Open House Day, organized by the Greater Montreal Real Estate Board and the city of Montreal on September 28 was an opportunity for potential home buyers and heritage enthusiasts interested to sneak a peek at 14 older property interiors in Westmount.

Christina Miller of RE/MAX Westmount showed a late-Victorian townhouse with three floors at 488 Elm Ave. When asked about this year's turnout, Miller replied: "The whole project is picking up steam. Each house (on the island of Montreal) had about an average of 75 visitors. I had 151 visitors on Sunday. About 80 percent of the people were just looking for something to do on a Sunday afternoon, and about 20 percent were either Westmounters or people interested in buying a house in Westmount."

Miller even had a visitor from Belgium, who loves architecture and had read about the event in the newspaper. Another visitor, a Dollard resident, commented that she would trade in her pool, garden and all of the conveniences of suburbia for a house with the *cachet* of the one on Elm.

Terry Evans of Groupe Sutton-Centre-Ouest, whose listing at 365 Redfern Ave. received "tons of people," said that "people were generally fascinated by the architecture of the house, which used to be the Japanese consulate. The publicity for this event was fantastic and every year there is a good turnout." Evans estimates that about 50 groups visited the property, who were mostly "gawkers" from outside of the area.

Alexey Fanin, an agent with Proprio Direct, showed an 1896 terraced Victorian house at 59 Columbia Ave., which received about 75 visitors. "The house is beautiful and the feedback was very positive," said Fanin. He felt that most of the visitors were visiting out of curiosity or potential house sellers that were trying to get a feel for the price of their own house.



Westmourt aqualis, Tower Liture 470 oth flood 514 937,5000

## **Reform Anglicans land in Westmount**

continued from p. 1

pressions of Anglicanism in Canada."

It further describes the new church as Biblical, evangelical, liturgical and Episcopal.

"I would like to say how Christian it is of the Westmount Baptist Church to open



its doors to us," Rev. Smith said. "It's so central and quite a landmark in Montreal." The church is at Sherbrooke and Roslyn.

#### **REC** re-established

Interestingly, he said, St. Andrew's is really "re-establishing" the Reformed Epis-

copal Church in Montreal. It was once represented in the late 19th century by a church using the name St. Bartholomew's under the ministry of one Brandram B. Usher.

Rev. Smith was the rector of St. George's Reformed Episcopal Church in Hamilton for many years before his retirement. A former teacher, he served as a cabinet minister of correctional services for William Davis (Ontario premier from 1971 to 1985) before receiving "the calling." He said he plans to assist Harrington as needed.

The church's website (www. saintandrews.qc.ca) was expected to be up and running any day, ac-

With his wife, Judy, Rev. John Smith came from Hamilton to cording to Judy Smith, Rev. replace St. Andrew's vicar, Rev. Matthew Harrington, at last Smith's wife. Wednesday's service.



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## 4066 Gage Road

This renovated house is truly the best buy presently on the market. On quiet Gage Road, this detached property is in move-in condition. It consists of a cross hall living room, dining



room, kitchen, powder room, 3 plus one bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, plus door to private sundeck. A superb basement with lovely dark flooring, bathroom, large walkin cedar cupboard, 2 large rooms, electric heating throughout the house. Single garage.

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## On October 14<sup>th</sup>, Vote for Anne Lagacé Dowson in Westmount—Ville-Marie.

### Change you can **count** on.



## Stage-directing for Opera McGill From Iowa, to Juilliard, to Montreal

#### By Kristin McNeill

Victoria Ave. resident Patrick Hansen is stage-directing Opera McGill's upcoming performance of Lully's *Thésée* on November 14, 15 and 16, accompanied by the McGill Baroque Orchestra.

A relative newcomer to Montreal and Canada, Hansen moved his family herel in August 2007 from Miami where he was working for the Florida Grand Opera. "We went from hurricanes to blizzards, but we had lived in upstate New York, so we know snow," he said.

Having grown up in Iowa, Hansen obtained his music degrees in that state and started his career as a tap and jazz dancer. (He wanted to be on Broadway, he recalls.)

Due to an injury that prevented him from auditioning, he concentrated on the piano. He eventually worked for the Juilliard School in New York where he played for voice lessons and was a vocal coach. He has also worked in Chicago, Memphis, Nashville and Ithaca, NY.

Hansen currently works as Director of Opera Studies at McGill's Schulich School of Music. He is also a stage director for



Patrick Hansen

Opera McGill and is an associate professor in the department of Performance. In January 2009, Hansen will direct of Benjamin Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia*.

For change, social progress and the protection of our environment



# On October 14th, 2008



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## LifeSpeak teaches workplace balance

#### By Annika Melanson

Westmounters Angela Lehrer and Anna Mittag, along with colleague Tanya Narang, run the Montreal office of Life-Speak (www.lifespeak.ca), an organization dedicated to bringing in Canadian parenting, eldercare, health and well-being experts to their clients' workplaces.

Given the demanding requirements of today's corporate environment, the Parents At Work, Generations At Work, and Vitality At Work programs provide employees with valuable information, tips and strategies to improve their work-life balance by addressing the "life" part of the equation. Topics include balancing work, parenting and play; raising responsible children; creating conversations that matter; debunking the myths behind popular diet plans and planning and caring for aging parents.

#### **Retention and burnout**

Lehrer, Mittag and Narang are professional women and mothers of young children. After having children, they were

ready to get back in the work force, but wanted to have the flexibility to balance work and family. LifeSpeak was something that "spoke" to them and allowed them to do this. Between them, they recruit and screen speakers and organize all the events. "The two hot topics these days at work are the retention of employees and burnout," said Lehrer. "If, through dynamic speakers, we can help an employee to make their life easier, it will make a huge difference to that person," said Mittag.

LifeSpeak was created in Toronto four and a half years ago by two lawyers. The Montreal chapter was launched in 2006.

"We pride ourselves in the quality of our speakers, who are known in their fields," said Lehrer.



From left: Angela Lehrer, Tanya Narang and Anna Mittag run the Montreal chapter of LifeSpeak.



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### Dr. Coopersmith moves dental practice here

Retail Watch

**BY ANNIKA MELANSON** 

Dr. Allan Coopersmith is a dental surgeon who moved his 32-year-old practice from Decelles Ave. to Westmount (245 Victoria Ave, suite 620, 514.731.3308) at the end of May. He was forced to move when St. Justine Hospital bought the building that his practice was in. "I am an ex-Westmounter and many of my patients are in Westmount. I am delighted to be here," said Coopersmith.

The office is modern and bright, with breathtaking views of the mountain. It benefits from an

onsite laboratory, two autoclave sterilizers and state-of-the art equipment, such as an

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**For rent:** 2 bedrooms 51/2 apt on Clarke ave Westmount available November 1st 1288/m negotiable heating and appliances included, balcony (514) 934 2578. \$80,000 digital Panorex X-ray machine (which emits 90 percent less radiation that traditional ones) and a \$20,000 Sapphire tooth-whitening machine, that whitens teeth in one hour. Another perk is that each patient chair is equipped with a flat screen TV for patients to tune in to a show or even to watch their dental procedure being performed.

Coopersmith performs everything from traditional to preventative and cosmetic dentistry, "The idea is to prevent things be-

fore they happen. But if they do happen, we are able to fix them," said Cooper-

PREVENT CHILD ABUSE You can help by donating USED BOOKS to KIDZSAFE FOUNDATION, to fund our educational programmes for kids. Call for pick-up 514.702.4930

### The Westmount Parent BY ANNIKA MELANSON

#### Ride the rails at Art-Enfant

Art-Enfant (4968 Sherbrooke St., 514. 488.1022, www.art-enfant.ca) will host a Thomas & Friends Playday on October 11, from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. Kids will have a chance to ride a giant battery-operated Thomas and play with tons of trains. Participants can even paint their own Thomas engine. This activity is free of charge.

#### Creative Sundays at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

One Sunday a month, from I pm to 4 pm, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (Jean-Noël Desmarais Pavilion, 1380 Sherbrooke St., 514.285.1600, www.mmfa.qc. ca) hosts free activities for families. This fall's theme is Spotlight on Mythical Objects, where children will create their own amulet or pendant from inspiration from the Museum's Collection of Mediterranean Archaeology. Admission is free and on a first-come, first-serve basis, so it is suggested to arrive a little early. The activity takes place on the following dates: October 19, November 9 and December 7.

#### Something sweet at the Canadian Centre for Architecture

The Canadian Centre for Architecture (1920 Baille St., 514.939.7000, www.cca. qc.ca) is cooking up something sweet this month for their October Families at Play Sunday session. Inspired by the white-cube minimalism of architect Ryue Nishizawa, on October 19 kids are invited to experience the concept of micro-architecture through a modular element: sugar cubes. This activity is suitable for children ages 4 to 12, accompanied by an adult. Sessions are offered at 10:15 am and at 2 pm. Admission is \$10 per family. Reservations are required: 514.939.7026.

smith. "There is nothing that I do to my patients that I won't have done to myself or to my family."

"Dentistry has been revolutionized," said Coopersmith, "People used to only visit a dentist when things hurt. Now they come because they want a nicer smile." Coopersmith taught cosmetic dentistry at McGill from 1977 to 1997 and gets many referrals from plastic surgeons.

Coopersmith is very busy, but he is accepting new patients. By mid-October, an associate, Zoey Rabinovitz, will have joined the practice. Emergencies are also accepted.



Dr. Allan Coopersmith

## We want to serve you better!

We would love to get comments about our newspaper. If you'd like to have us hear from you, please take a minute to answer the following questionnaire. We will use the information to gear content towards you and to help us sell advertisements. More advertisers means more pages of Westmount Independent.

We want your information, not your name.

#### Where do you live?

- Above The Boulevard (incl. north side)
- Between The Boulevard (incl. south side) and Sherbrooke St. (incl. north side)
- Below Sherbrooke St. (incl. south side)
- Don't live, but work, in Westmount
- □ Neither work nor live in Wesmount

#### Do you live in:

🗌 a house

□ a duplex

 $\Box$  a multi-unit building?

**Do you own your home?**  $\Box$  Yes  $\Box$  No

**Do you own a second home?** Yes No

#### Which of the following newspapers do you receive at home?

- □ Actualités Westmount
- $\square$  The Suburban
- Westmount Examiner
- U Westmount Independent
- Westmount Times

#### Which of the following newspapers do you see around town?

- □ Actualités Westmount
- $\square$  The Suburban
- □ Westmount Examiner
- Westmount Independent
- Westmount Times

#### How many readers are you responding for?

\_\_\_\_ men \_\_\_\_ women \_\_\_\_ total \_\_\_\_\_ unen \_\_\_\_\_ total \_\_\_\_\_ total ages \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favourite Westmount newspaper?

How much time do you spend with an average issue of the Westmount Independent?

Please reply once only. Please rate the following features and columns (1 to 5, 5 is highest) \_\_\_\_\_ 9 Lives by Lyzanne \_\_\_\_\_ Arts Scene by Heather Black \_\_\_\_\_ At Second Glance by Heather Black \_\_\_\_\_ Bridge for Bright Brains by George Retek \_\_\_\_\_ Building permits \_\_\_\_\_ City council & affairs coverage by Laureen Sweeney \_\_\_\_\_ Civic Alert by Don Wedge \_\_\_\_\_ Colourfully Yours by Aurelien Guillory \_\_\_\_ Comin' Up \_\_\_\_\_ On the Shelves \_\_\_\_\_ Profiles by Laureen Sweeney \_\_\_\_\_ Retail & Trend Watch by Annika Melanson \_\_\_\_\_ Underdog by Fern Breslaw \_\_\_\_\_ Westmount Today, Yesterday and Before by Doreen Lindsay \_\_\_\_\_ What's Cooking in Westmount by Anthea Dawson \_\_\_\_\_ What's in Store by Carola Price Real estate \_\_\_\_ The Inventory (condos) \_\_\_\_ The Inventory (houses) \_\_\_\_\_ Bought & Sold (house transfers) \_\_\_\_ On the Market What do you like most about the Westmount Independent? What do you like least about the Westmount Independent? What should we do differently? Other comments? Thank you.

## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

#### We are Westmount.

Please return to 310 Victoria, #105, Westmount, QC H3Z 2M9 indie@westmountindependent.com Fax: 514.935.9241

## **Bach to Montreal**

#### BY KRISTIN MCNEILL

Westmount now boasts its own resident Johann Sebastian Bach connoisseur, Alexandra Scheibler, who founded the Bach-Académie de Montréal. The group organizes the Montreal Bach Festival. Two festivals have taken place under Scheibler's leadership, the first in 2005, and again in 2007.

Scheibler came to Montreal in 2002 with her husband who was doing his doc-



Alexandra Scheibler poses with 2008 gala concert program.

torate at McGill. "I didn't know anyone in the city," she recalls. "I found that Montreal had a lot of music going on, but there was not enough Bach."

Scheibler, who has a PhD in musicology from the University of Hamburg, went on to found Bach-Académie de Montréal. As president and executive director, she coordinates the biennial Montreal Bach Festival which brings musicians and scholars to Montreal from around the world to perform and explore classical music with particular emphasis on the work of Bach. She describes Bach-Académie as an umbrella organization that coordinates concerts from its various partners, including the OSM, and provides both paid and free concerts, lectures and master classes all over the city for Montrealers. Her vision is "to have the best musicians come to Montreal...it's always interesting to have variety in interpretation [of the music], and that's what we want in Montreal."

Fluent in German (her native tongue), English and French, Scheibler and her husband have two children. Her son attends Selwyn House and her daughter is at Miss Vicky's. She also plays the viola in various ensembles.

A gala concert featuring pianist David Fray takes place on October 22 at Pollack Hall, McGill University, followed by a Baroque Cabaret evening with Quebec soprano Natalie Choquette on October 23 to raise money for Bach Académie. The next Montreal Bach Festival is slated for the fall of 2009. For more information, see www.bach-academie-montreal.com or call 514.843.3414.

## 'Offensive' posters removed

Posters described as "offensive" were discovered on lamp posts on Greene Ave. September 28, public safety officers report.

The large plastic signs resembling electoral ones bore messages of "End Canadian support to apartheid Israel" and "Canada hors d'Afghanistan". Both types displayed the inscription: "Authorized by the regional agent of the communist party of Canada."

City Public Works crews were re-

## Electronic *Independents* available

Enjoy the Indie at supper time on Tuesdays! Sign up by writing us: indie@westmountindependent.com. quested to remove the posters, which they did soon after and the matter was turned over to police for investigation.







#### **Développement durable** Forger une vision pour l'avenir

Le développement durable est un élément essentiel pour assurer le dynamisme de la Ville de Westmount. Prenez part à un atelier de discussion qui s'adresse à toute la communauté. Cet énoncé de vision pour le développement durable deviendra source d'inspiration afin d'orienter et de soutenir les politiques et les actions futures de la Ville.

#### Trois projets, un énoncé de vision

Trois différents énoncés de vision, maintenant disponibles sur le site Web de la Ville, ont été préparés en prévision de ces ateliers de discussion. À partir de ceux-ci, la Ville rédigera un texte final, reflet des aspirations de ses résidents.

#### Partagez vos idées avec nous :

- Soumettez vos commentaires sur notre site Web;
- Collaborez par l'intermédiaire d'une affiliation à un groupe communautaire de Westmount;
- Participez à une séance publique organisée au Victoria Hall :
  - le jeudi 16 octobre à 19 h
  - $\circ$  le dimanche 16 novembre à 14 h

#### Sustainable Development Building a new vision for the future

Sustainable development is essential to keeping Westmount vibrant. Take part in a community-wide discussion on a new sustainability vision for the City that will inspire and guide future actions and policies.

#### Three drafts, one vision

Three different vision statements have been drafted for discussion, and made available on the City's Web site. From these ideas, the City will craft a final text that reflects input from members of the community like you.

#### Share your thoughts with us:

- Submit your comments electronically through our Web site;
- Collaborate through your preferred Westmount community group;
- Participate in a public meeting at Victoria Hall:
  - <sup>o</sup> Thursday, October 16 at 7 p.m.
  - <sup>o</sup> Sunday, November 16 at 2 p.m.

WWW.WESTMOUNT.ORG

## 9 Lives: Please help pets from SPCA raid

#### By Lyzanne

It was a victory, yet a heartwrenching one. We all saw the newscasts and the newsclips

with the SPCA and the Humane Society of the United States working together to raid a home in Rawdon where II8 animals were seized under charges of animal cruelty.

We all saw these poor neglected pets being brought out of the house and the barn, in the arms of volunteers and employees who would help in their care. We all heard Alanna Devine, acting director of the SPCA, on site, asking us to help the SPCA in ensuring that they are fed, cared for, vetted and groomed. The shelter is overwhelmed by the arrival of these pets who need so much help.

So, it's our turn now. Donations to the SPCA, and donations of blankets and towels are needed right now. Please help by dropping by to assist in any way you can as a volunteer, a foster or a member. The SPCA is located at 5215 Jean Talon St. West and their telephone number is 514.735. 2711. You can also refer to their website, www.spcamontreal.com. Your contribution will make a huge difference.

Your neighbour, Lyzanne

Artwork by Laura S. Cohendet



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

#### Magazines

"Book of nature", *Lapham's Quarterly*, Summer 2008. Selection of new and past literature on the theme of nature including: William Blake, Novalis, John Milton, Johann von Goethe and Al Gore.

"The new nature writing issue", *Granta*, Summer 2008. Special issue on new nature writing including authors: Philip Marsen, Seamus Heaney, Paul Farley, plus a graphic story by David Heatley.

"La politique de la division selon Harper" by Alec Castonguay in *L'Actualité*, Ier Octobre, 2008, p. 28.

"Le Québec, à l'avant-garde de la lutte contre la pauvrété au Canada" by Marie-Renée Roy, Guy Fréchet et Frédéric Savard in *Policy Options Politiques,* Sept. 2008, p. 57.

#### **English Adult**

*The Retreat* by David Bergen who follows *The Time in Between* with a haunting novel about the clash of generations and cultures. Set during the summer of the Ojibway occupation of Anicinabe Park in Kenora 1973, this is a finely nuanced, deeply felt novel that tells the story of the complicated love between a white girl and a native boy and of a family on the verge of splintering forever.

A Fair Country: Telling Truths about Canada by John Ralston Saul. In his vision of Canada, Saul urges us to think about three founding myths in order to rethink Canada's future.

#### Adult French

*Ce que le jour doit à la nuit* by Yasmina Khadra. A work of fiction about colonial Algeria set on the eve of independence and

told through the lives of a few individuals, from childhood through maturity. The main character is Younes, a child raised in poverty in the city of Oran.

Les espions: réalités et fantasmes by Constantin Melnik, a highly ranked officer in the French intelligence services, who after the fall of communism in Russia, struck up friendships with some of the top Soviet spies. He offers here a chronicle of espionage in the 20th century, enriched by portrayals of colourful individuals and their daring adventures.

#### Children's Fiction for 9-year-olds and up

The Princess and the Peabodys by Betty G. Birney. When a medieval princess appears out of a rusty box bought at a yard sale, 14year-old tomboy Casey Peabody and her family are stuck with her royal snobbiness until the young wizard who had trapped her there figures out the spell to send her home.

La prophétie d'Ophélia by Elaine Arsenault. One morning, Ophélia, a beautiful gypsy, uncovers a bizarre prophecy while reading her tea leaves. This is the first volume of the *L'or des Gitans* series by Montreal author Elaine Arsenault.

#### Reference

Dictionnaire de l'Afrique: histoire, civilisation, actualité by Bernard Nantet.

International Literary Market Place 2009 **DVDs** 

*Cranford.* The small town gossip, secrets, and romance of Elizabeth Gaskell's popular series of novels comes to the small screen in this BBC drama.

*Sunflower* (in Mandarin with English or French subtitles). A moving story of an urban family living in Beijing, and the battle of wills between father and son to do what's right or what the heart wants.

## Underdog

By Fern Breslaw

Yougie was set to be put down the day that we took her picture. The volunteers at the SPCA have begged to buy her a little more



Yougie Photo: Johnny Sahame



time, but there isn't much in the way of hope for this girl unless it so

happens that her fairy godmother is reading this column.

So here here is the unfortunate reality: Yougie needs an operation for a serious yet curable hip problem. It will cost \$9,000. Otherwise she will go to dog heaven. Period.

Of course, it would happen that she is a LOVELY dog in all other ways. Big and mellow and a snuggle bug. She has had a terrible life full of abuse and she truly, truly deserves a miracle in her life.

Unfortunately, there is no Make-A-Wish Foundation for dogs. There are just people who love them. If you are Glenda the good witch or would like to help in any way at all; be it by fostering her, sponsoring or holding a garage sale fundraiser ....we would love to hear from you. Please, please call us at 514.969.3376 or visit Yougie at the Montreal SPCA.

#### BUILDING PROJECTS: WHAT'S PERMITTED

# Major projects finally receive council's blessing

The following seven permits for major construction were approved by Westmount city council at its meeting September 22. All had initially appeared on the agenda for September 10, but were deferred by council for further study.

**60 Oakland:** to build a two-storey addition on the south of the building;

**511 Roslyn:** to demolish an existing solarium and build a rear extension to include a kitchen and bedrooms:

736 Belmont: to build an extension at

the rear;

**483 Elm:** to build a deck on top of the garage of the Category I house;

**659 Murray Hill:** to add a second storey on the south solarium and add an extension on the existing east extension and change some windows;

**328-330 Wood:** to add a sunroom to the category I building;

**455 Claremont:** to build an extension at the back.

Dr. Gaëtan Goneau, general dentist, and his team are pleased to welcome general dentist Dr. Teresa
Oi Yu Lo into their dental practice. This new addition will allow us to offer greater availabilities to meet all of your family's dental needs.

We are looking forward to meeting you.

Dr. Gaëtan Goneau, DMD Medical Arts Building 1538 Sherbrooke St. West (corner Guy St.) #203 514.933.3222

### Mourning a tragic loss

The Jewish General has expressed "deepest condolences" to the family of radiologist Dr. Brahm Hyams and his wife Rachel, on the couple's death Oct. 2. Dr. Hyams, "a fixture at the JGH" for more than four decades, was described as "dedicated, hardworking ... and a loyal friend." The couple was reportedly found in the garage at their home on Westmount Ave. at Roslyn. Police said the cause of death would be determined but that carbon monoxide was involved. "There are no words to describe this tragedy," stated Dr. Joseph Portnoy, director of Professional Services. The couple is survived by a son, a daughter and four grandchildren.

## 2008

Collecte des résidus domestiques dangereux

#### LE SAMEDI 18 OCTOBRE 2008 DE 9 H À 17 H \*

**Bibliothèque publique** 4574, rue Sherbrooke Ouest

\* AUCUNE COLLECTE DES RÉSIDUS AVANT OU APRÈS CES HEURES

#### Résidus dangereux (RDD)

Peintures, solvants, nettoyants, pesticides, médicaments, piles sèches, batteries d'auto, antigel, huile à moteur, bonbonnes à propane et tout materiel toxique, corrosif, réactif ou inflammable.



**Non accepté** : Appareils électroménagers, moteurs, pneus, CFCs et tout déchet d'origine commerciale.

#### Équipement électronique usagé

Ordinateurs, portables, photocopieurs, téléphones cellulaires, téléviseurs, magnétoscopes, caméscopes, appareils photo, écrans, imprimantes, cartouches, équipements de jeu vidéo, télécopieurs, scanneurs, modems et baladeurs / baladeurs CD.

#### Vêtements usagés

Vêtements, sous-vêtements, bas, gants, chapeaux, linges, rideaux, chaussures, bottes, sacs à main, valises, et autres.



Non accepté : Tapis avec fond de caoutchouc ou collant et sacs de couchage.

Prochaine collecte à Westmount Printemps 2009



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2008 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.\*

**Westmount Public Library** 4574 Sherbrooke Street West

\* NO MATERIALS ACCEPTED OUTSIDE OF THESE HOURS

#### Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Paint, solvents, cleaners, pesticides, medication, batteries (including car batteries), antifreeze, motor oil, propane tanks or anything marked corrosive, reactive or flammable.

> Not accepted: Appliances, engines, tires, CFCs and all commercial waste.

#### **Used Electronics**

Computers, laptops, photo copiers, cellular phones, television sets, VCRs, camcorders, cameras, printers, printer cartridges, monitors, video game systems, fax machines, scanners, modems and walkmans / discmans.

#### Used Clothing

Clothing, underwear, socks, hats, gloves, linens, draperies, shoes, purses, luggage, etc.



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