WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

November 4-5, 2008 Vol. 2 No. 11a

11,000 copies per week delivered to all of Westmount's mailboxes and best drop points.

INSIDE



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Don't Miss It

Contactivity's Bazaar Thursday, November 6 See Comin' Up on p. 18 for details.

Senior Safety Issue

See p. 10 for tips and p. 11 for flu vaccine schedule

Travis on child-raising

Westmounter, home decorating entrepreneur and TV producer/host Debbie Travis has just published her new book: Not Guilty: My Guide to Working Hard, Raising Kids and Laughing through the



What's the book about? What are her qualifications? She explains on the back cover: "I have absolutely no right to do this book. I'm not a child psychologist, a top pediatrician or a marriage counselor. Even worse, I do not have the answers to being a perfect parent... What I am is a survivor..."

Local taxes likely to stay at par

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

In an uncertain economic environment, Westmount taxpayers received what may be a measure of good news in the annual state-of-the union address delivered by Mayor Marks at the October 25 council

"Barring any unforeseen problems at this point, it is council's intention to keep 2009 local tax bills at roughly the same level as those in 2008," she said.

revealed

This means holding City's 2009 the line on the Westmount portion of exprojection penditures, she later clarified to the Independent. In 2008, some 40 percent of West-

mounters' municipal taxes went to the city of Westmount. The remainder went to the Agglomeration Council.

Starting in 2009, taxpayers will receive only one tax bill - from Westmount. The city will collect, along with its own local taxes, the shared costs of the Agglom. This means that any increased tax burden from the island-wide body could boost the overall tax bill from the city.

Surplus in jeopardy?

While the city expects to finish the current year with a surplus of \$500,000, Marks said, several factors could make a significant impact. These are year-end

Pirates and devils invade the Manoir



From left: Alexandra Neumann, Micaela Ostry, Liv Stein-Andersen, Lauren Esquilant, Camille Joli-Coeur and Grace Theoharis.

Grade 4 ECS students accompanied their teacher, Mary Sue Gibson, to Manoir Westmount on October 29. The purpose of the trip? To show off their

costs of snow removal, the conclusion of new collective agreements with unionized personnel and an \$800,000 revenue shortfall in transfer payments from the agglomeration over arterial roads.

Westmount, with the 14 other reconstituted cities will, however, continue efforts

Halloween costumes and to recite two stories (one English, one French) to residents of the seniors' home, whom they later joined for tea.

"to monitor the activities and expenditures of the island-wide council," she stated.

In an effort to upgrade city infrastructure, Marks singled out the arena renewal project and the impact of its projected costs. While it is expected that financing would be continued on p. 22

Waiting for technology to catch up

New hydro van won't be electric

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

While Westmount has begun purchasing hybrid or other environmentally friendlier vehicles when possible, the newest member of its hydro fleet will be a Dodge Grand Caravan.

The reason, said Councillor Patrick Martin at the city council meeting Monday, October 25, is that Hydro Westmount needs a vehicle that can carry more personnel as well as heavier equipment than an electric hybrid (such as Public Security's Toyota Highlander) can handle. As well, Westmount's hills add an additional burden on heavy vehicles.

Mayor Karin Marks said she was surprised that nothing else was available on the market.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham added that at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities "we hear about" replacing Public Works trucks with electric-type vehicles.

Since the new vehicle was needed right away, however, it was decided to purchase it in the hopes that technology would catch up soon in the manufacture of heavier electric vehicles.

The purchase from Boulevard Dodge Chrysler Jeep (2000) will cost a total of \$21,600, including the value of trading in the previous vehicle.

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William Biron, 9, shoots hole in-one!

Westmounter William Biron – age 9 – shot a hole-in-one at the Shawbridge Golf Club on October 5.

Biron accomplished this feat on a 110yard, par-3 hole with water hazards. The weather that morning was a chilly 8°C.

Biron chose his Callaway fairway wood to reach the green. The ball bounced twice before falling into the hole.

Biron's parents, Daniel Biron and Maria De Rosa, have lived on Victoria Ave. since 1993.

Daniel related the moment of realization to the *Independent*, "I was so happy for William that I took him in my arms and went 360 degrees a few times, congratulating him for what he had just accomplished. Both our eyes became watery as we enjoyed this special fatherand-son moment."

Biron ended up shooting 55 on the front nine and 52 on the back nine for a total of 107 for the day. He is already a tournament player, and recently finished second at a tournament held at the Royal Bromont Golf Club.

Daniel had chosen to

Halloween haunted house



Virginia Elliott, the city's assistant community events coordinator, hands out candy and souvenirs October 31 to kindergarten and grade 1 students from Roslyn at the Lawn Bowling Clubhouse.

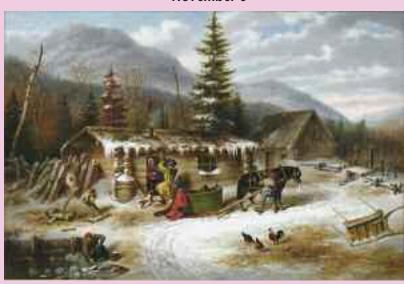
show Biron the Shawbridge Golf Club, after being introduced to it by Westmount Sports and Recreation. Each year, the department thanks its volunteers by hosting a best ball tournament there. Daniel has volunteered as a Westmount soccer and hockey coach for the last four years.



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WESTMOUNT ARTISANS' FESTIVAL





Survey round-up

Send us your thoughts, send us your letters

By David Price, Editor

We've received many survey responses so far. Thank you to everyone who has replied – and we'd love to hear from more of you (see p. 8 for your last chance this quarter). In general, the Independent continues to be well received – which is gratifying, but several misconceptions are worth replying to.

Reply to the replies

Among the suggestions that we have received from survey respondents was:

Teach everyone on the non-political staff about journalistic integrity. Have them write with objectivity and not be tempted to do puff pieces or advertorials. Let's see some critique along with the plaudits. Why is the advertising manager writing the retail articles?

To answer the last question first: limited resources.

Some of us have to wear many hats in order to make the Independent function. Rest assured, though, that journalistic integrity is a must for all writers.

No reporting whatsoever is tied to advertising and all potential advertisers are told that repeatedly (when it's relevant).

Nevertheless, please remember that we live in the real world and Westmount is not a huge place. So: do we find stories as we try to sell ads? Yes. Do we get story ideas from our advertisers? Yes.

And we absolutely do cover the news of non-advertisers.

The criterion for publication is simple: will readers be interested? I have the same high confidence in the integrity of my less experienced, "two-hatted" journalists that I have in the more senior ones who may be better known to Westmounters.

(Please also note that we don't currently do any reviews, and "critiques" usually don't fit into news stories.)

Send us your left-wing letters!

Another survey respondent wrote in Other Comments: "Too right wing - medical articles."

No columnist has been vetted to conform to a place on the right-left spectrum and we are happy to publish any good and relevant letters, no matter what their ideological point of view.

On the synthetic turf and arena issues, we've been the happy recipient of good letters from both sides of the debate. As a locally focused newspaper, we don't dive into many of the national and provincial right-left (or other) questions of the day, but when a local issues touches on that divide, all sides are welcome.

(By the way, in not-for-publication letters, verbal comments and one anonymous phone call, we've also been accused of being pro-Liberal, pro-NDP, not pro-NDP enough and anti-Conservative in our news coverage, so at least the public is accusing us of bias across the political spectrum. The goal in news coverage is similar to opinion and comment: report the news that we think Westmounters will be interested in.)

Thanks again for your comments.

Westmount Hydro steps into the future

Westmount Hydro meter readers will soon be stepping into the future by monitoring electrical consumption from the sidewalk or even a car.

City council approved the purchase of two ITRON handheld computers and software at a cost of \$20,317.50 at the October 25 council meeting.

The new device means that meter readers will not have to gain access to homes, Councillor Patrick Martin said.

He explained that only newly installed interior and exterior meters will be equipped with the new technology that will allow them to be read from afar. At the moment, only 70 are in service. Eventually, as meters are replaced on a rotating basis, the new system will increase efficiency, reduce the inconvenience to residents and even help with the reading of exterior meters in the winter.

Similar technology is now being used in the reading of gas meters and may also extend to water meters."It's the way of the future," he said.

Marks presents less political side of city

What is Westmount really about? Agglom budgets, arena discussions, view lawsuits – or something else?

To answer some of those questions, Mayor Karin Marks held an informal lunch at city hall with the local press on

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Presstime: Monday before, at 10:30 am

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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

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Letters & Comments: We welcome your letters, but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please email any letter and comments to indie@westmountindependent.com. Every letter of support helps us with advertisers!

October 30. The intent was to present the less political side of Westmount. Two major themes developed.

Marks and head of communications Brigitte Stock underlined the uniqueness of Westmount's many resident-focused community events including Family Day and the new-residents cocktail. Marks is also proud of Westmount's low user fees for recreation activities. According to her, they are the lowest on the island, but may be increased if a new arena is built.

She also commented that the diversity of land uses was unique to Westmount, including two military facilities, and many schools, churches and synagogues.

What others see

Viewed from the outside, Marks related how Westmount continues to be seen as an anglo or elite bastion, or both. At one large external event, Marks was repeatedly complimented on how well she spoke French – and that she spoke French at all. Marks was surprised "in this day and age," that people were surprised.

Both Marks and Stock notice how people and some reporters give their Westmount stories a certain dismissive slant, the recent Sunnyside/Bellevue controversy over residents' views being an example.

Marks' response? To be unashamed of Westmount's economically successful residents, to underline their contribution to Montreal and beyond, and to point out that Westmount has many other groups, including renters, fixed-income pensioners, academics and artists, and non-anglophones.

Tender document now online

The specifications document for tender number PW-2008-841 called "Professional Services - Architecture and engineering (for the arena-pool renewal project) of the City of Westmount" is now available on the city's website. From the home page, click on "Arena-pool renewal project", then from left hand navigation, select "Tender process." This document is available in French only.

According to the city's communications department, council "decided that it was better to post the original document in its entirety on the city's web site." There was no comment as to the city's original intention of providing an executive summary or a translation into English of the tender specifications.

At Second Glance

Remember...by supporting peacekeeping

BY HEATHER BLACK



Mention Veterans' Week to Westmounters and the topic of Canada's Afghan mission arises. Not surprisingly, our veterans are increasingly those who served in peacekeeping or peace support missions in

Bosnia, Rwanda or Afghanistan. This fact necessitates a new approach to "remembrance": we must champion a respect for the international system.

The international system

Canadians are proud of their peace-keeping record and proud of the initiative of Lester B. Pearson. But peacekeeping missions are different from war. Most (82 percent) are intra-state interventions rather than conflicts between states. They are more difficult to understand and – as we put our soldiers in harm's way – more difficult to support. However post-Cold War events – particularly the genocide of 800,000 Rwandans in 1994-5 or the 1995 Srebrenica massacre of 7,000 Muslims –

Car break-in arrest

A man aged about 20 was arrested by police for breaking into cars early Monday, October 27, Westmount Public Security officials report. He was found hiding in a yard at the rear of a home on Columbia. A black backpack was found at the scene.

Public safety officers Steve Payne and Tina Lanzon initially spotted a man acting suspiciously while walking in a laneway about 1:10 am behind 4262 Dorchester Blvd.

Keeping him under surveillance, they followed him on foot as he reportedly tried the door handles of several cars parked on Bruce Ave., managing to enter two. Police were called to the scene and arrived soon after.

necessitated new practices and a new doctrine: the responsibility to protect.

In 2005, when the United Nations' World Summit adopted this doctrine, Canadians were justifiably proud. Promoted by Lloyd Axworthy, the goal was to achieve a consensus on intervention. But according to the Global Policy Forum, the Security Council vetoed 279 peacekeeping missions and ignored over 100 global conflicts that by 1990 had killed 20 million people. China, for example, vetoed a Haitian mission to protest its government's Taiwan sympathies in 1993.

In Afghanistan, security is needed to rebuild institutions and to prevent an al-Qaida resurgence. But in the West, missions are considered successful only if conflict is contained within a specific time-frame and casualties are limited. As deaths mount, public support decreases. Yet there are still important reasons to support UN missions.

United Nations missions

First, the United Nations has financial resources and coordination expertise. Second, UN missions are considered legitimate, and, third, are perceived as more impartial than regional organizations. That said, criticism of policies is warranted. Westmounters are proud of the contribution of UN Declaration of Human Rights drafter, John Humphrey. Post-war Japan and West Germany serve as models for peace support – US General Douglas MacArthur initiated a constitutional monarchy in Japan, while British and French administrators endorsed a German constitutional court. In Afghanistan, a 2004 constitution established civil law

Alert to civic affairs readers

Don Wedge has been suffering from pneumonia and continues to recover. He will be back soon.

and guaranteed women's rights. But as journalist Kambakhs is sentenced to 20 years for "blasphemy," the West must pressure governments to support human rights and press freedom.

The fact is many interventions reveal weaknesses that subsequent missions resolve, and the Afghan one is no exception. But wavering public support does not devalue UN missions or the Afghan intervention in particular. Nor does criticism of the mission detract from the respect for our soldiers and an acknowledgement of their bravery and commitment.

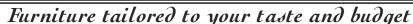
60 years of peacekeeping

This year marks the 6oth anniversary of UN peacekeeping. In a public-service spot "Peace Is Hard", actor George Clooney praised the work of peacekeepers everywhere:

"Peace is protecting civilians, overseeing elections and disarming ex-combatants... in places others can't or won't go."



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



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ARENA NUMBERS

December 31, 2008:

Cost of new building

the tender document)

pay for the building.

*Assuming no money is coming from

any other sources than a new loan to

Forecast debt at

and pool:

Opinion

Is a second NHL-sized rink necessary?

By GARY IKEMAN, WAMCAM SPOKESPERSON

As many readers know, there is debate on the city's plan to demolish and rebuild the arena and pool. This is a very large project (perhaps the largest in the history of the city), and I would like to explain some of the serious reservations that we have, and why we have established a website called www.wamcam.org (Westmount Arena Moderation Campaign).

Three issues dominate the discussion:

- Need for all of the planned facilities:
- Location of the project and impact on the neighbourhood;
- Cost impact on city (\$20.6 million plus taxes, debt and citizen tax infrastructure etc. as per increases.

We wholeheartedly agree that the arena and pool need modernizing and improvement. Citizens should have excellent sports facilities available to them.

The most critical issue is whether or not to build a second NHL-size hockey rink. Some argue that the city does not have sufficient capacity for its current hockey program. Others believe that we now have at least similar, if not superior ice capacity compared to many other municipalities.

Location

If it is true that the city needs, and wants to finance a new arena containing two full-size rinks, then the city should at least build such a large structure where there is adequate land and parking space.

It is on this point that we find the city's position to be very disappointing. The city has ruled out situating the new arena in a location where there is adequate space for a larger building and more parking. Instead, it wants to build on the current site, which is very small, lacks parking and is surrounded by a densely populated residential community. The impact on the local community will be to commercialize it and to substantially reduce its quality.

Westmount has a strict policy of pro-

\$37.1 million

\$25 million*

\$62.1 million

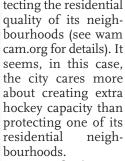
tecting the residential residential bourhoods.

As a final note, every taxpayer and rent-payer should realize that the city debt could be increased by

over 60 percent up to \$62 million dollars. (And with that will come tax and rent increases.) With the current economic crisis, there is even more need for financial prudence and moderation in spending.

We believe a fine new arena and pool could be built for \$10 to \$12 million, instead of the planned \$25 million currently on the table.

sive and extravagant. Is the city oblivious to the financial situation of its citizens? We should not leave future generations with a debt so large and taxes so high that we suf-



The current plan is enormously expenfocate them.





Lansdowne/St. Catherine dog run on October 31. Exploratory bore holes are being used to assess ground under and around arena.

Letters to the editor

I'M DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS

Here are some ideas to prepare for the holiday season. You can give to friends and help the community without spending lots of money and in an environmentally friendly way.

- Use LED Christmas lights. They use less energy, stay cool to the touch and last
- Purchase reusable packaging to mix in with your wrapping paper, such as bags of various sizes that can be reused next time, or cloth bags for wine.
- Holiday cards: Send on-line cards or purchase cards that have been made with recycled material, or reused cards. For example, St. Mary's Hospital sells them as part of their way to raise funds.
- Wish lists: Consult your favourite nonprofit's wish list, which is likely located on the organization's website. Many organizations need items, not just donations, to carry out the good work they do in the community (e.g. www.spcamonteregie.com/donate.html). might be able to help.
- When purchasing gifts, it is not what you give but the thought that counts. Purchase something you know the person will like. Don't buy just to purchase

something. Put some thought into it. CYNTHIA GRAHAME, GROSVENOR AVE.

WESTMOUNTERS LOVE THEIR DOGS

I just moved to the Imperial Carrement Lofts on St. Antoine and I go to the doggy park in Westmount every day. I am a volunteer for Animatch, SPCA and DMV. I love dogs, and I do all I can to support them, so congratulations on your newspaper! I love to see that people in Westmount love their dogs!

About your article "What can we do as citizens?" (October 21 Independent, p. 6), I emailed Mr. Charest, but the email address is not correct, so we found out the correct address, which is commentaires pm@mce.gouv.qc.ca. I think it is very important to motivate people to write to him, so that we put an end to puppy mills. Thanks again and good job. Love your newspaper!

> GABRIELA GARNICA, St. Antoine St.

Editor's note: The email for Jean Charest is as written in the above letter and not as was written in the October 21 edition. We apologize for the error.

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- 2 Red Cross certif First Aid traini courses



WMA at 100

What a great first century it's been

By Paul Billette, WMA Board Member

The WMA's centennial year will be marked by a gala on Saturday, November 15, starting at 6 pm at Victoria Hall. Following cocktails and dinner, there will be entertainment by Bowser and Blue. Dress is black tie optional. Tickets are \$90 and can be ordered by phone at 514.846.8464 or email gala@wma-amw.org, or purchased at Victoria Hall on November 4, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Here are some facts highlighting the role the WMA plays for Westmount citizens.

Did you know that ...

- In January 1908, the WMA was formed? (Westmount became a city in April of that year.)
- the WMA lobbies city council for more parklands?
- the WMA has often been a training ground for Westmount's elected officials?
- the WMA provides a forum for citizens to raise community issues?
- the WMA donated the service honour roll at the entrance to Victoria Hall?
- the WMA constantly monitors the level and use of municipal taxes?
- Westmount was successful in the fight against former Montreal mayor Drapeau's "One Island, One City" proposal?
- the WMA once reached a height of 2,000 members and 63 executive members?
- the WMA vigorously led the losing fight against the merger with the city of Montreal in the 1990s?
- the WMA kept the demerger issue alive during the period of the Westmount "borough"?
- the WMA led the successful referendum campaign for demerger?

A brief history

In the period after its incorporation, the city of Westmount developed its administration and gradually took over some of the work originally done by WMA committees. While the WMA officially maintained a policy of being non-political, some citizens thought otherwise and felt ill-represented by the WMA.

A first successful splinter group, the Business Association, appeared in the late 1930s. In a short period, its membership

grew to over 2,000 people. For a few years, it overshadowed the WMA and was extremely active in lobbying for issues pertinent to its membership. Its success in achieving its objectives eventually led to its disappearance.

Single-issue groups thrive

The perceived failure of the WMA to adequately represent some issues to the satisfaction of small groups of citizens led to the formation of single-issue associations. This phenomenon persists to this day: recent examples being the Save the Park! and the arena-information groups.

In the late 50s and early 60s, challenges to the WMA slates for election to municipal offices became more frequent. The WMA seemed to have lost its winning ways as some challengers were successful.

Coincidentally in the same period, the idea of area representation surfaced as a democratic issue. It culminated in the division of the city into eight electoral wards.

Virtually instantly, the WMA lost the moral authority to endorse candidates for election. The electorate viewed contests where issues were debated to be the preferred mode of gaining electoral success for municipal office.

Ready for merger battle

It is fortunate that the citizenry of Westmount had the foresight to keep the WMA alive. When the merger crisis came about, the WMA rose to the defense of its fellow citizens. In what may arguably be its finest hour, it first led an unsuccessful, but spirited fight against the merger with the city of Montreal.

In the years under the merger, it continued to form alliances with the other cities forced to merge, in order to lobby opposition politicians with a view to reversing the forced merger policy once they became elected. Upon election of a friendly provincial government, the WMA continued, with the support of its allies, to lobby the politicians to keep their demerger promises. When the demerger law was passed, the referendum to demerge was successfully fought.

The WMA has now reverted back to its primary role of being the voice of the citizenry and bringing to council issues of concern that are not addressed by the city administration so that the best decision can be reached to the benefit of all.





Stratégie verte **Westmount** Green Strategy

NOUVEAU

Résidents des secteurs 6, 7, 9 et 10 : Le lundi, c'est le bac vert!

La collecte hebdomadaire des résidus alimentaires et de jardinage a maintenant lieu le lundi pour toutes les maisons unifamiliales et les immeubles de huit logements ou moins de votre secteur.

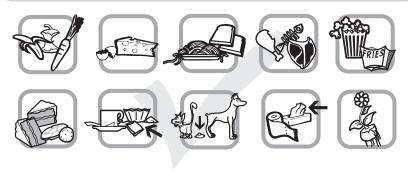
NEW

Residents of sectors 6, 7, 9 and 10: Monday is Green Bin Day

Weekly kitchen and garden waste collection now takes place every Monday for all single-family homes and buildings of eight dwellings or fewer in your sector.

DÉPOSEZ DANS VOTRE BAC VERT

PUT IT IN YOUR GREEN BIN



JAMAIS DANS VOTRE BAC VERT

NEVER IN YOUR GREEN BIN



Pour les rues suivantes, et jusqu'au printemps 2009, seules les résidences situées sur le côté indiqué ci-dessous seront desservies lors de cette collecte :

- Côte St-Antoine (entre Lansdowne et Murray) : côté sud SEULEMENT
- Clarke (entre Ste-Catherine et De Maisonneuve) : côté est SEULEMENT
- De Maisonneuve (entre Lansdowne et Clarke) : côté nord SEULEMENT
- Lansdowne (entre De Maisonneuve et Côte St-Antoine) : côté est SEULEMENT

On the following streets, the collection will take place on one side of the street ONLY until Spring 2009:

- Côte St-Antoine (Between Lansdowne and Murray): south side ONLY
- Clarke (Between St. Catherine and De Maisonneuve): east side ONLY
- De Maisonneuve (Between Lansdowne and Clarke): north side ONLY
- Lansdowne (Between De Maisonneuve and Côte St-Antoine): east side ONLY



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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 a multi-unit building? Do you own your home? Yes No Do you own a second home? Yes No	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
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One hydro pole too many

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

How many hydro poles are too many? For one Westmount resident who already has two in his backyard feeding power to the neighbours, another proposed for the front – also to supply neighbours – is the last straw.

"I can't find out why there aren't alternatives," said Paul Glassman. "All I've been told for more than a year now by Westmount Hydro is that they need to upgrade the lines and this is what they're going to do.

"I've been driving around and haven't been able to see any poles at the front of people's homes."

When asked about the work, customer service manager Tony Forchilli of Westmount Hydro explained that the wires now servicing east-side Lansdowne homes are strung from house to house at the back

In order for one resident to undertake repairs, however, the wires have to be removed and a new line fed down the west side of Glassman's property.

This would, however, be a permanent arrangement.

While work to plant the new pole was reported to be undertaken any day, things are starting to look up for Glassman. After contacting the commissioner for utilities, Councillor Patrick Martin, he now has a meeting scheduled for Wednesday with Pierre Dube, the director of Westmount Hydro.

The whole matter is now under review, Martin said, adding, "This is the first I had heard of the situation. Generally speaking, Hydro avoids placing poles in front of the building line. Personally, I'm in favour of burying lines, however there can be a high cost involved."

Paul Glassman and Barbara Houghton stand in front of their house on Côte St. Antoine Rd. beside the tree and garden seat, the area where a hydro pole has been slated to be installed.

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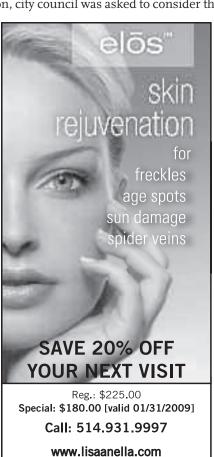


Info: 514 989-5226 www.westmount.org

Residents ask for snow removal crackdown, parking review Snow clearing should be clear to all

By Laureen Sweeney

On the eve of the first snow of the season, city council was asked to consider the



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efforts of citizens who shovel their own driveways as well as others who have to grapple with contractors who disregard Westmount's snow removal by-laws.

Grosvenor Ave. is especially hard hit by contractors "dumping snow on sidewalks" after they have been plowed by the city, resident Cynthia Grahame said at the last council meeting Monday, October 25.

"People don't know what the by-laws are," she stated. "You have to tell them."

City director general Duncan Campbell said the matter was timely because he would be chairing a meeting with Public Security and Public Works regarding snow clearing and leaf blowing.

Mayor Karin Marks said the city had started a policy last year to increase the enforcement of the snow removal by-laws but "it's difficult because Public Security has to be there [at the time of the violation]." Nevertheless, residents should know they share responsibility in ensuring that their contractors abide by the bylaws," she added.

Cllr. John de Castell said he hopes residents would call Public Security even if the perpetrators "make a clean getaway."

Resident Paul Marriott said "unlicensed contractors don't care if they get a ticket because they get so much money [for the work]." He also asked that the city revisit its parking regulations for consistency. Why on Grosvenor, he said, was there no parking from 9 to 10 am and then a separate time for no parking during street maintenance?

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Senior Safety has many facets

November 6 to 12 is National Senior Safety Week. The following are some safety tips for seniors, adapted from the Canada Safety Council website (www. safety-council.org).

How to prevent falls in the home

- Take prescription and over-the-counter medications correctly. Tell your doctor if your medication makes you dizzy or lightheaded.
- Install proper lighting throughout your home. Pay special attention to stairs. Use nightlights.
- Keep your floor and stairs free of clutter.
- Be sure to have at least one handrail on all stairways and steps in your home.
- Take the same precautions for outdoor steps. In addition, arrange to have leaves, snow and ice removed on a regular basis. Use salt or sand throughout the winter months.
- Wear proper footwear. Shoes, boots and slippers should provide good support and have good soles. Avoid loose slippers or stocking feet.
- Install grab bars in all bathrooms, by the toilet and in the bathtub or shower. If you need extra support, consider a bath seat or bench so you can have a shower sit-

ting down.

- Use a rubber mat along the full length in your tub and a non-skid bath mat beside the tub.
- Use walking aids and other safety devices for extra safety. If you use a cane or a walker, check that it is the right height and that the rubber tips are not worn. Install stainless steel prongs (ice picks) on canes for safe walking in the winter.

Safety in the sunny south for snowbirds

Soon, 1.5 million snowbirds will leave on their annual migration to the sunny south. If you drive, travel during the daylight hours and avoid rush hour traffic. Older drivers have more collisions per kilometer driven, so make sure you are ready for the driving task. Also, medications can affect your driving skills. Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking any medication if you will be driving.

Safety tips for winter walking

Choose a good pair of winter boots. For warmth and stability look for these features:

- well insulated and waterproof;
- thick, non-slip tread sole;
- wide, low heels; and
- lightweight.

Ice grippers on footwear can help you walk on hard packed snow and ice. But be careful. Grippers become dangerously slippery and must be removed before walking on smooth surfaces such as stone, tile and ceramic. Before buying the grippers, be sure that you are able to attach and remove them from your boots. This is best done sitting down.

Use a cane to help with balance. Have it fitted to the right height for you. When your cane is held upside down, the end

should be at wrist level. Speak to your doctor, pharmacist or local public health department about how to use your cane properly.

Attach an ice pick at the end of your cane. Cane picks will be slippery on hard surfaces so be sure to flip it back as you get indoors. Picks are available at most drug stores

Help other road users see you by wearing bright colors or adding reflective material to clothing.

Keep entranceways and sidewalks clear of ice and snow. Report hazards on sidewalks or pathways to your landlord or the city.

Carry a small bag of sand or salt to sprinkle when you are confronted with icy sidewalks, steps, bus stops, etc.

Ask a passer-by to help you cross the icy surface.

In addition to physical safety, seniors are targets of fraud

Mass marketing scams often target the elderly as potential victims since they are often lonely, more vulnerable and eager for someone's company. Scammers put on a friendly front in an effort to establish a relationship of trust with victims, then mislead them and take their money. Beware of telephone scams asking for personal information, such as a credit card number or bank account details.

Never open the door to a stranger.

Adapted from the RCMP website (www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca).

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Flu vaccine schedule

CLSC Metro will be offering free flu vaccines to the people residing in its territory. For additional information, call 514.934.0354. • People aged 60 and older

- Babies aged 6 to 23 months
- People with a chronic illness
- People who have frequent contact with the above-mentioned individuals.

Dates and locations:

CLSC Metro

(1801 de Maisonneuve, 5th floor)

- Wednesday, November 5, from 12 to 7 pm (adults only)
- Saturday, November 8, from 9 am to 3 pm (all ages)
- Monday, November 24, from 12 to 7 pm (all ages)

Contactivity Centre

(4695 de Maisonneuve)

• Tuesday, November 18, from 9 am to 4

Victoria Hall (4626 Sherbrooke St.)

• Friday, November 14, from 9 am to 3 pm (adults) and from 1 to 6 pm (chil-

Milton Park Recreative Association (3555 St. Urbain St.)

• Friday, November 28, from 9 am to 3 pm (adults only).



Selwyn House to host Vimy presentation

Selwyn House will host a presentation on November 11 about the Vimy Foundation (www.vimyfoundation.ca), a nonprofit organization founded in 2006 by Westmounter Andrew Powell.

The foundation was inspired by Canada's victory at Vimy Ridge, where Canadian forces were the first to break the German line, which the British and French forces had been unable to do. The capture of Vimy Ridge is one of the reasons why Canada was granted signing rights at the Treaty of Versailles, a giant step towards Canada moving from a colony to an independent nation.

The goal of the presentation is to make Canadians more aware of Canadian history and the events that helped to form their country. Members of the Royal Montreal Regiment will be in attendance. This event is by invitation only. Anyone interested in attending should contact Nicholas Powell: nicholaspowell@sympatico.ca.

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Bought & Sold: Real estate transferred since April 1, 2008

Address	Price	Evaluation	Buyer	Seller	Date
815 Upper Lansdowne Ave.	\$3,275,000	\$2,750,000	Robert Sebag	Giuseppe (Joe) Reda	13-Jun
30 Sunnyside Ave.	\$3,250,000	\$1,769,600	Anne-Marie Boucher	133449 Canada Inc.	26-Sep
4278 Sherbrooke St.	\$2,650,000	\$2,119,800	4438663 Canada Inc.	Construction Hodge-Montpellier Inc.	14-Oct
4355 Westmount Ave.	\$2,025,000	\$1,423,500	Pagona Essaris	Stephen Sager & Adrienne Kardos	3-Apr
3755 The Boulevard	\$1,950,000	\$1,745,400	Mark Poulin & Carole Havelka	Gail Loretta Tolhurst	6-Oct
29 Forden Ave.	\$1,775,000	\$1,390,400	Dominique Anglade & Helge Seetzen	Martine Guyot & Michael Ferris	25-Jun
28 Edgehill Rd.	\$1,680,000	\$1,105,800	Liana Guizzetti & Louis Gendron	David McLernon	1-Apr
740 Upper Lansdowne Ave.	\$1,530,000	\$1,600,000	* please consult the paper archive	4170326 Canada Inc.	14-Oct
3656 The Boulevard	\$1,350,000	\$1,138,400	Guy Paquette & Julie Tremblay	Lillette Charlotte Jarvis	23-Jun
322 Elm Ave.	\$1,290,000	\$790,000	Patrice Marc Pelletier &		·
			Manon Chouinard	Madelen Kismet Politi	27-Jun
671 Roslyn Ave.	\$1,212,500	\$798,400	9184-9950 Quebec Inc.	John Thompson	16-Oct
4259, 4261, 4263 & 4265 St. Catherine	\$1,160,000	\$992,900	ACEM Limitée	9170-1649 Québec Inc.	25-Jun
576 Côte St. Antoine Rd.	\$1,100,000	\$873,300	Andreas Soupliotis	Rolf Loertscher & Ziba Aalamian	26-Jun
646 Lansdowne Ave.	\$1,070,000	\$802,600	Daryl Erickson Holdings Inc.	Élise Dubé & Robert Hogan	27-Oct
366 Kensington Ave.	\$1,055,000	\$903,600	Wayne Sossin & Emma Saffman	Succession Paul Vaughan Latour & Donna Stern	26-Jun
598 Victoria Ave.	\$950,000	\$566,700	Jean-Hugues Brossard & Josée Chantal	Sharon Lynne Sparling	27-Jun
4350 Westmount Ave.	\$927,000	\$992,900	Bill Kyres	Rolland Yee	28-Oct
557 Roslyn Ave.	\$900,000	\$755,600	Pierre Houde	Mary Jane Miles	23-Jun
4450 De Maisonneuve Blvd.	\$900,000	\$702,600	Audrey Edelstein	Lisette Abdelnour	27-Jun
4385 De Maisonneuve Blvd.	\$845,000	\$864,000	Luc Poirier & Violaine Boucher	John Smyth & Janice Wang	1-Oct
149 Côte St. Antoine Rd.	\$805,000	\$1,006,500	Alberto Galeone	Daisy Victoria Lawson	13-Jun
518 Victoria Ave.	\$770,000	\$650,000	Éric St-Pierre, Louis Poliquin & Pierre		
			Catellier (all Fuduciaires à la Fiducie Gaer)	Guy Paquette & Julie Tremblay	23-Jun
200 Lansdowne #801 & garage space	\$769,500	\$588,800	Lisa Laing & Pierre Goyette	Marie-Claire Garneau	30-Sep
382 & 382A Metcalfe Ave.	\$720,000	\$529,600	Laurence Drouin	Lise Sanfaçon Dumas	24-Oct
437 & 439 Elm Ave.	\$672,500	\$601,000	Maria Colfer	Otto Heindorf & Carol Chriasty	16-Oct
570 Claremont Ave.	\$650,000	\$540,700	Katarzyna (Kate) Bohdanowicz &	•	
			Piotr (Peter) Nowacki	Carol Usher	26-Sep
			•		continued on p. 20

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What's Cooking in Westmount?

An apple a day...

By Anthea Dawson



The tell-tale signs of fall are making it hard to deny the fact that summer is officially over for the year. The gorgeous turning leaves holding onto their branches for dear life, the cold crisp nights and the serious

abundance of pumpkins at all the local markets make it pretty hard to ignore the fact that November is here.

Autumn is actually my favourite season for these very reasons, my concern is that it is just way too short and inevitably leads to scary days of winter. But it is definitely the time to be taking advantage of Quebec's most exciting season for produce, from the beautiful squashes, to local mushrooms and tart cranberries, and especially our famous apples.

Varieties

Staring at the various bins of overflowing apples at the Atwater Market can be a bit overwhelming to know exactly what you are looking at. We are so lucky in Quebec to have so many different varietals, but too many choices can sometimes be a bad thing. Cortland, McIntosh, Royal Gala, Lobo, Spartan, and Empire are probably the most common local apples to choose from, but it is hard to know how they differ from one another and which kind is the best for your quick snack or for mashing up in to applesauce.

Choose carefully

As far as snacking goes, your best bet (depending, of course, on your taste) would be the McIntosh or the Empire, both with firm red skin, full of juice and excellent sweet and sourness. McIntosh also work well for cooking and especially juicing. Spartan apples are also very versatile (known as the all-purpose apple), as they are very crisp and tart. According to apple specialists, the ratio between sweetness and tartness (called the brix/acid ratio amongst those in the apple world) is the key determining factor in rating an apple. Just like a fine white wine, a "good" tasting apple should be very well balanced in both regards. Apples lose sweetness and tartness in storage, so it is very important to keep them in the fridge to preserve this for as long as possible.

Dessert apples

Lobos are great for making applesauce,

and when it comes to desserts, picking the right kind of apple is key. Red Delicious, a great sweet snack and probably one of the most famous apples (from the US and available all throughout the year) is terrible in pies, but crisp and tart Granny Smiths and McIntosh are excellent choices (the combo of both is actually ideal) as they retain their texture and can stand up to the sweetness of the other ingredients. Generally speaking, apples that are more tart fare better in desserts for that reason - sometimes being too sweet can overwhelm a delicious recipe. Bencroft is probably the sourest of all the local apples and may be a bit too much for your palate, but the best way to know for sure is to have a little bite before cooking.

Sweet is good, too

But sweet apples aren't necessarily a bad thing, as they are great for packing in to lunches and mid-afternoon snacks. Yellow-skinned Ginger Golds are a real treat right now (and are only around for another month), as are the Royal Galas, which will be around a few months longer. Cortland apples are ideal for slicing in to salads (or any recipe that calls for raw apples), as they do not turn brown once exposed to the air. They also retain their shape and texture making them perfect for baking.

With so many varieties of apples, hopefully now you can narrow down your choice a little bit, depending on what sort of a dish you are planning.

Please take advantage of this gorgeous fall season and all it has to offer!

St. Matthias' Christmas pudding production



From left to right: Loy Denis, Sally Stephenson, Margaret Nicolai, Paula Gillett.

Every year around this time, the kitchen at St. Matthias' Church steams with the smells of traditional Christmas pudding. This year is no exception. Eleven volunteers work on the preparation and steaming of the puddings, using the recipe from Betty Doidge (wife of the church's past rector, Archdeacon Jack Doidge.) According to the group, there is much demand for their puddings. In fact, in order to fill their orders, there are seven baking sessions, each making 36 pounds. They say they hear that many families today don't like plum puddings, but they venture "What is Christmas without the brandy-soaked flaming pudding? Fortunately for us, many are of the same opinion!" The hard work pays pays off in the kitchen fun.

The St. Matthias' Church annual Christmas Fair takes place on Saturday, November 8 from 10 am to 2 pm at the church (10 Church Hill). Among the items sold are attic treasures including china, crystal and silver, gifts, jewellery, linens, books, baked goods, Christmas cakes and more. Lunch will be served. Proceeds go to the church as well as the other outreach programs that the parish supports. For more information, call 514.933.4295.



named 'great Montrealers' The Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal recognized Westmount residents Heather Munroe-Blum and Peter

Howlett as great Montrealers at a lunch on October 29.

Munroe-Blum is a psychiatric epidemiologist and the principal of McGill University. She was recognized for her role "advising governments and other organizations on the role that universities and research play in advancing international competitiveness and enriching societies."

Investor, environmentalist and former Alouette Howlett was recognized for his "strong commitment to the community," including his work with Les Amis de la Montagne and addiction charity Portage Canada, which he founded. Howlett has also raised money for The Priory and Centre Greene.

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New medical director moves in at Westmount Square health complex

By Annika Melanson

Dr. Henry Coopersmith, who has been the new medical director of Groupe Santé Westmount Square for six months, moved into the building on October 6. Coopersmith is a family practitioner who had a practice on Descelles for 30 years (in the same building as his twin brother, Dr. Allan Coopersmith, a dentist who has also recently moved his practice to Westmount).

In addition to his new position, Coopersmith is a lawyer and a medical-legal expert, the director of professional services at the Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital in Laval, an assistant professor at McGill and a staff member at the Jewish General Hospital as well as at St. Mary's Hospital.

Groupe Santé Westmount Square services

The health complex at Westmount

Square provides comprehensive health care, including services covered by Medicare (regular check-ups, doctor visits, walk-in clinic and emergency services) as well as services not covered (executive healthcare evaluations, women's and men's health evaluations, preventive care, consultations with a nutritionist, etc.).

Other services include suturing, x-rays, MRIs, CT scans and ultrasounds. "We have the provisions here to be a mini-hospital," said Coopersmith. "We are equipped with two operating theatres (mainly for orthopedic work), colonoscopy suites, and three full-time labs providing all types of medical testing."

The centre has 40 physicians, including family physicians and specialists, 15 allied health professionals, physiotherapists, nutritionists and nurses.



Dr. Henry Coopersmith

Doctors are taking new patients. For more information, call 514. 934.2334 or go to www.medwestmountsquare.com.

Wine: What's In Store... Niagara wines to enjoy

By Carola Price



When I see all the beautiful oranges and reds in the market and an abundance of root vegetables, I think about the harvest that I like best and that is grape season in Niagara.

All the luscious grapes have been hanging on the vine becoming fatter with sugar, while hopefully maintaining their acidity, helping the grape become great wine. Harvesting begins when the sugars and the pH are at the peak level for each type of grape. Imagine: it is actually a science!

The vines are then picked clean, except

for the grapes that will hang around for the ice wine harvest in January. The only question is what to drink from the Niagara region for the long winter ahead.

There are finally more bottles from Ontario on the shelves here, however inventory can be somewhat low at times. While we can't always drink locally, we can be a bit patriotic and sip wines from a region that deserves a great deal of attention.

Cabernet/Merlot, Dan Akroyd Discovery Series, Diamond Estates, Niagara SAQ#10967426. \$16.95

No longer just a *Saturday Night Live* alumnus, this man is now making good quaffable wine. The rich Cabernet is mellowed by the plumy soft Merlot. It is

medium bodied and offers a lot of ripe berry in the mouth with some cedar and vanilla notes. Great for grilled meat, pasta with tomato sauce or the Sunday roast.

Available at press time: Pepsi Forum, Victoria Ave., Across from Atwater Market.

Chardonnay, Colio Estate, Niagara SAQ#10846245. \$10.90

Colio was the first to receive a winery license in the area in 1980 and has been making easy-drinking fruity wines ever since. This white is dry, yet full of peach and citrus in the mouth and matches well with light fish, havarti and provolone cheese, cured meats and vegetable pasta in olive oil.

Available at press time: Pepsi Forum, Victoria Ave., Atwater Market, Across from Atwater Market.

Baco Noir, Henry of Pelham, Niagara SAQ#270926. \$14.85

This dry red is not like other wines and from the first sip you may love it or hate it. Give it a chance, because it is a wine made for game meats and the grill. I have enjoyed bison burgers and deer tartare with the Baco and both food and wine went beautifully together. It is rich yet not cloying and tannic. The taste is unique as Baco Noir is a hybrid grape that grows in Niagara and New York State.

Available at press time: Pepsi Forum, Westmount Square, Victoria Ave., Across from Atwater Market.



Sustainable trilogy, part two



Angèle Martineau and Cynthia Grahame discuss public health initiatives for Westmount.

Westmount residents participated in the second of three meetings on the subject of creating a more sustainable community. The event took place at Victoria Hall on October 16.

Joshua Wolfe, Westmount's sustainable development coordinator, began the meeting with a presentation entitled "Sustainable Development: Why It's important for Westmount and Why Westmount is Important for Sustainable Development."

Following Wolfe's introduction, the assembled group took part in world café-



style discussions, during which participants move from one small group to another in order to exchange ideas. Each table was given a visioning topic to discuss, such as "public health," "climate change" or "cultural heritage."

Students from the McGill and Concordia environmental programs joined the nearly 50 interested Westmounters who attended the event. Among the more novel proposals discussed was a weekly public market.

At the previous meeting, participants developed a vision statement to be included in the action plan that Westmount will present in 2009. Residents can still view and comment on the proposals by visiting www.westmount.org and clicking on the "sustainable development" tab.

The final visioning meeting will be held at Victoria Hall on Sunday, November 16 at 2 pm.

ON THE SHELVES

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

Magazines

"Canada's looming real estate crisis: why house prices may soon fall through the floor" by Jason Kirby in *Maclean's Magazine*, October 6, 2008, p. 52.

"Palin fire: Alaska's governor inspires conservatives; but can she lead them?" by Ross Douthat in *National Review,* September 29, 2008, p. 38.

"Des pneus d'hiver pour tous: evaluation 80 modèles en lice" in *Protégez-Vous*, octobre 2008, p. 9.

DVDs

I'm Not There – Six characters recreate different stages in Bob Dylan's career, from Greenwich Village folk singer to electric guitar trailblazer to born-again preacher.

The Business of Being Born – Inspired by their own unique birth experiences, producer Ricki Lake and director Abby Epstein team up to provide mothers-to-be with insight into the process of childbirth and the various options available when preparing for this special event.

Adult English

More by Austin Clarke. A Barbadian domestic worker abandoned by her husband and son for a life of crime looks back over her life and ends with the realization that "My God!... I love this country."

The Great Karoo by Fred Stenson. The book weaves together the stories of several Alberta volunteers from various backgrounds who travelled to South Africa to fight in the Boer War.

Adult French

Un chasseur de lions by Olivier Rolin. Currently nominated for several awards,

including the Goncourt, this novel's starting point is a painting by Manet of Eugène Pertuiset, an adventurer and arms trafficker who was one of the first to explore Tierra del Fuego. This story is told from the viewpoint of the narrator who is trying to trace Pertuiset's steps and gives insight into Manet's life at the time that the painting was done.

Pourquoi nos enfants sortent-ils de l'école ignorants? by Patrick Moreau. The author, a CEGEP teacher, does not mince his words as he wonders how it can be that, year after year, quasi-illiterate students end up in his class. A hard-hitting look at the failings of our education system.

Reference

Le Guide de l'auto 2009 by Denis Duquet et al.

Consumer Reports new car buying guide, Fall 2008.

Maclean's guide to Canadian universities

Picture books for 3-6 year olds

How do Dinosaurs go to School? by Jane Yolen and Mark Teague. Award-winning Jane Yolen and Mark Teague pair up again for another great read-aloud. This time we learn how little dinosaurs should behave during a typical school day.

Chez la sorcière by Bénédicte Guettier. At the witch's house there are all sorts of strange creatures! A fun book to celebrate Hallowe'en with the little ones.

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Victorian tea time

Two dozen children and teens braved the first snowy evening of the year to enjoy tea in Victoria Hall on the evening of October 29. The occasion was one installment of a semester-long etiquette and manners course given by the city of Westmount. The evening introduced the youngsters to the world of saucers, pastries and polite drawing-room conversation

Jeremy Serle, co-owner of the newly opened London Bus Café, was a great hit with the group. After explaining the history and customs of teatime in England, he demonstrated the difference between high and low tea by attempting to juggle the teacups, with delightfully noisy results. Serle's business partner Jeannie Oh was on hand as well, handing out the delicious cookies, scones and crustless cucumber sandwiches that the café is sure to become known for.

The children, who ranged from 8 to 10 years of age, peppered Serle with questions about proper etiquette, including whether it was proper to dip one's cookie into the tea (possibly at home, but never in polite company), and whether it is allowed to drink one's tea with the teaspoon or leave the spoon in the cup (certainly not). They also learned why the pinky is held out when lifting a china teacup, why the milk is to be poured into the cup before the tea, and that quiet conversation is the greatest part of the pleasure of afternoon teatime.

From introducing themselves to their guests to thanking everyone on the way out, the young participants are already clearly benefitting from their etiquette training. In the coming weeks, they'll be heading around the world, learning the proper ways to eat sushi and, trickiest of all, spaghetti.

Jeremy Serle serves up a fresh cup of tea to course attendees.

Comin' Up...

Tuesday, Nov. 4: This is the last day to purchase your tickets for the Westmount Municipal Association 100th Anniversary Gala. Tickets are available on November 4 from 6:30 to 8 pm at the WMA table in the lobby of Victoria Hall, by phone at 514. 846.8464 or email gala@wma-amw.org. The gala itself takes place on Saturday, November 15 at Victoria Hall starting at 6 pm. Tickets are \$90. In the October 28 Independent, we erroneously wrote tickets were available between Oct. 28 and Nov. 4 at Victoria Hall from 6:30 to 8 pm, whereas to purchase them in person, they are only available on those two days. We apologize for the confusion.

Wednesday, Nov. 5: A benefit concert for and at Église St-Léon at 7:30 pm, preceded by cocktails at 6 pm. Featuring organist and harpsichordist Luc Beauséjour, soprano Samantha Louis-Jean and MSO trumpet player Paul Merkelo. Tickets \$100 (\$75 charitable donation receipt on request). Call 514.935.4950.

Thursday, Nov. 6: Contactivity Centre's Craft Sale & Bazaar takes place between 10:30 am and 3:30 pm at 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd (corner Lansdowne). Handknit children's outfits, other knitwear, handmade Christmas gifts and wreaths, homemade baked goods and preserves, and other items will be on sale. Light lunch. Info: 514.932.2326. St. Margaret Day Centre for Seniors will host an art exhibition of works by participants of the weekly art therapy class at a vernissage and bake sale from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm. Images of the paintings have been reproduced on greeting cards and are available for purchase. Proceeds go to the day centre. Info: 514.932.3630. Annual Fall Flower Show's first day of operation (until November 30) at the Conservatory and Greenhouses (4626 Sherbrooke St.). Mondays to Fridays from 10 am to 7:45 pm; Saturdays and Sundays – 10 am to 4:45 pm.

Saturday, Nov. 8: Join Westmount author Anne Renaud and illustrator Geneviève Côté for a reading of the newly published *Missuk's Snow Geese* at Babar en Ville followed by craft activities from 3 to 4:30 pm. The event is free of charge and is geared for children between the ages of 4 to 8. For information, call 514.931.0606. Renaud's book for children *Pier 21: Stories from Near and Far* was also published this year.

Sunday, November 9: at 1:30 pm (formal ceremony starts at 2 pm). Remembrance Day at the cenotaph (Argyle Ave. & Sherbrooke St.).

Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 8 and 9: Westmount Artisans' Festival from 10 am to 6 pm at Victoria Hall. Info: 514.934.0294 or 514.484.1974.

Saturday, Nov. 8: St. Matthias' Church Christmas Fair takes place between 10 am and 2 pm (10 Church Hill), featuring attic treasures including china, crystal and silver, plus gifts, jewelry, linens, books, baked goods, Christmas cakes and more. Lunch will be served. Info: 514.933.4295.

Monday, Nov. 10: Trio Fibonacci by the Theatre of Early Music at Victoria Hall. Doors open at 7 pm (find your own seats) and concert starts at 7:30 pm. Admission: \$15 (general), \$10 (students and seniors). Tickets now available. Info: 514.925.1403.

Tuesday, November II: Westmount Horticultural Society's annual general meeting takes place in the Westmount Room of Westmount Public Library at 7 pm followed by the guest speaker Nicholas Hoare on "Gardening books for holiday giving." Free for members. Visitors, \$5 at the door.

Not easy being Green on Greene



Green Party signs at Greene and Sherbrooke, October 29.

There are a few federal elections signs still around and Westmounters have noticed the irony that the most numerous are those of the *Green* Party.

Green candidate Claude Genest explained that it is a "SNAFU" of the group paid to put them up and take them down. He is working to remove them down be-

fore city fines kick in. He offers his "sincerest apologies to residents" and ask for their indulgence of the fact that he is "totally alone, cashed-out, burned-out and was misled as to the execution of the [sign-distribution] contract." He concludes, "Just 'cause the election's over doesn't mean it gets any easier being green."

November at the Galleries

Collins Lefebvre Stoneberger: France Jodoin, paintings. Exhibit continues to November 15. "Small Works", paintings. Exhibit: mid-November. 4928 Sherbrooke St. 514.481.2111.

Gallery at Victoria Hall: Jane Desjardins, paintings; Gabriel Safdie, photographs. Exhibit continues to November 22. Pierre Desjardins, paintings; Claire Salzburg, ceramics. Exhibit: November 26 to December 18. 4626 Sherbrooke St.

Galerie de Bellefeuille: Jacques Payette, paintings. Exhibit continues to November 3. Kevin Sonmor, paintings. Vernissage: November 6 at 6 pm. Exhibit continues to November 17. Andrew Rucklidge, paintings. Vernissage: November 20 at 6 pm. Exhibit continues to December 1. 1367 Greene Ave. 514.933.4406.

Galerie D'Este: Zhang He, paintings. Exhibit continues to November 2.1329 Greene Ave. 514.846.1515.

Galerie Sandra Goldie: Simon Andrew, paintings. Exhibit continues to November 7. Adria Collins, paintings. Vernissage: November 27 at 5:30 pm. Exhibit: November 25 to December 5. 4898 de Maisonneuve, suite 100. 514.670.8327.

La Galerie sur Greene: Talia Shipman

"Exodus: The Ten Plagues", photographs; Vincent Lafrance, photographs; Sylvie Bouchard's paintings. 1368 Greene Ave. 514.938.3863.

Han Art: Leopold Plotek, paintings. Exhibit continues to November 16. 4209 St. Catherine St. 514.876.9278.

McClure Gallery – Visual Arts Centre: "Collective Visions", group fundraiser. Vernissage and sale: November 6 at 6 pm (tickets \$30). Exhibit: November 5 to 15. Kay Aubanel and Elisabeth Galante. Vernissage: November 27 at 6 pm. Exhibit: November 28 to December 20. 350 Victoria Ave. 514.488.9558.

Parisian Laundry: Valérie Blass and David Humphrey, sculpture and paintings. Exhibit continues to December 6. 3550 St. Antoine. 514.989.1056.

The Emporium Gallery: Hayden Menzies "Things Change", artworks. November 6 to 13. Julia Deakin "Ex Oh", artworks. November 20 to 26. 3035 St. Antoine St. W, #74. 514.510.1547.

West End Gallery: Lynda Schneider Granatstein, paintings. Vernissage: November 8 at 1-5 pm. Exhibit: November 8 to 18. 1358 Greene Ave. 514.933.4314.



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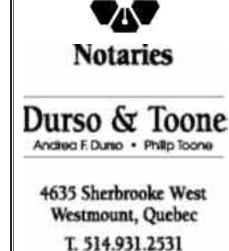
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Bought & Sold: Real estate transferred continued from p. 12

60 & 62 Columbia Ave.	¢642,000	¢522 600	Lauren Vata	Wan Sana Chauna	7	20 Can
	\$642,000	\$523,600	Lauren Katz	Won Sang Cheung		30-Sep
8 Burton Ave.	\$635,000	\$538,900	Dominique Kennan & Alexander Eberts	Anik Michaud Ahmed & John Gocek	2	25-Jun
491 Victoria Ave.	\$630,000	\$568,000	Brigitte Fortier	Chantal Déry	3	3-Apr
383 Claremont Ave.	\$627,000	\$626,200	Muhieddine Sinno & Rima Tabbara	Daniel Schwartz & Zainab Ahmed	2	27-Jun
41 Burton Ave.	\$623,500	\$483,100	Charles Flicker & Tegan R. Webster	Pierre Latraverse	7	7-Oct
427 Grosvenor Ave.	\$615,000	\$477,900	Chester Chi Wa Lo & Jennifer Keav Taing	Marie-Claire Blais	2	22-Oct
322 Prince Albert Ave.	\$475,000	\$648,400	Nirmala Ann Menon	John A. Archer & Héléne P. Hamel	2	2-Oct
4458 Sherbrooke St.	\$470,000	\$330,500	9171-1648 Quebec Inc.	Matthew Alexander Reutcky	1	17-Oct
461 Grosvenor Ave.	\$460,000	\$379,300	Carol Usher	Erik Ross & Belinda Hatherall	2	29-Sep
399 Clarke Ave. Apt. 3B	\$325,000	\$300,900	Gueorgui Pipkov & Maria Popova	Catherine Wells & John Wells	2	2-Apr
464,466 & 468 Victoria Ave.	\$305,000	\$598,100	Michael Bélanger & Marie-Claude Simarc	Bartholomew Crago & Martha Borgmann	2	28-Oct
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88 Somerville Ave	\$275,000	\$502,400	Liam Whitty & Mary MacGillivray	Zoé Tsakonas	1	17-Apr
399 Clarke Ave. Apt. 1B	\$200,000	\$171,000	Cornelia Dove	Leonard Hortick	2	25-Apr
4055 St. Catherine St.	\$27,126	\$55,000	Cédent: Les Entreprises Shanny B. Inc.			3-Oct
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WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Pet Expert

What can we do as consumers?

BY LYZANNI

In the October 21 edition of the *Independent*, we looked at what we can do as citizens to help stop puppy mills in Quebec. This week, Pet Expert asks Rebecca Aldworth, Humane Society International/Canada, what we, as consumers can do.

Rebecca Aldworth, **HSI/Canada**: It has happened to all of us. You pass by the window of a pet store. You see that adorable



Patches was rescued from a Quebec puppy mill in October. He is now living in a loving home.

puppy looking up at you, chewing on a toy, wanting nothing more than to be in your arms. Before you know it, you are inside, ready to buy that too-cute-for-words puppy.

But if you are a person who cares about animals, you need to stop and reconsider. Because behind the friendly façade of the pet store often lies a terrible secret – horrific mass-breeding facilities that keep the parents of the puppies in cages for life.

In October, HSI Canada partnered with the Montreal SPCA to raid two puppy mills in Quebec – and we know of hundreds more. The conditions in these puppy factories were shocking.

An estimated 400,000 puppies are produced each year in Quebec puppy mills. Those puppies are sold directly from the mills, over the internet and at pet stores throughout the country.

Puppy mills thrive one puppy at a time – so one of the most important things you can do as a consumer is avoid financing them.

The next time you choose a family pet, consider adopting from a reputable local animal shelter or rescue group. There, dogs of every breed, age, size and colour are waiting desperately for loving homes. Never buy a puppy over the internet or from a newspaper ad. Avoid buying puppies from pet stores, especially if they refuse to allow you to personally inspect the breeding facility that supplied it. If you really must buy from a breeder, visit the facility yourself to ensure it is not a puppy mill. Amongst other things, responsible breeders can be recognized in that they do not sell through pet stores (they want to meet you in person).

As a consumer, you can stop the cycle of puppy mills by refusing to buy the puppies that keep these cruel facilities in business. Please take the HSI pledge to stop puppy mills at www.hsicanada.ca/puppymills.

Toile celebrates 10 years in business



The Toile team (from left): Ginny Nelles-Tétrault, Liz Séguin, Peggy Daigle with owner Ingrid Bryson.

Toile Sur Rendez-Vous (326 Victoria Ave, 514.486.2424, www.toilesurrendez vous.com) celebrated its 10-year anniversary in October. A representative from Or-

ganic Sleep gave an information session about organic mattresses and sleep. The talk was followed by cocktails in Toile's newly-renovated showroom.

Underdog

By Fern Breslaw

In the 70s, a girl named Genie who had spent her entire child-hood locked inside a room was discovered. When she was rescued,

the world heard about it.

Everyone knew her name. Everyone cared. Unfortunately, feral dogs don't appear to be quite as popular as feral children but maybe Flora will be the exception.

This dog spent two years chained up in the woods, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Winters must not have been fun. She grew up all alone, scared and covered in bites and cuts.

She never got to play, to beg for table scraps or steal shoes. When it was concluded that animal services couldn't do anything, a brave lady took matters into her own hands and took her. Just like that.

Flora is part-golden retriever, part something else and loves attention. She has never had a family and desperately needs a good one.

After everything she has been through, she shouldn't have to go to the SPCA; it would break her heart. Find out more about adopting Flora by calling Joni at 514.939.2548.

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Flora Photo: Jaime Leblar

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Westmount Profile: Bruce Anderson

With a lens on Westmount

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

step inside architect Bruce Anderson's office becomes a snapshot in time that exposes his design models of numerous Westmount houses interspersed with a sparkling collection of 500 cameras, drawing instruments and clocks from the past.

Showcased from floor to ceiling, all speak volumes to the way this Westmounter's life and work have focused on marrying heritage with today's reality.

"I'm very proud of this camera," Anderson says, stepping behind a large wooden portrait model from the 19th century made by T.H. Hogg and Co. He found it in a shop in Georgeville. "I think it's especially important that this camera be preserved." (See photo on p. 1.)

He became interested in old cameras and began acquiring them from photo shops while teaching design and photography at McGill's School of Architecture, where he taught for 37 years and served as director from 1985 to 1990.

Anderson's oldest camera dates back to about 1880. His newest one is a camera pill used in digestive diagnoses.

The collection includes spy cameras, round ones, stereoscopic types, and early view cameras of mahogany and brass – even the simple boxes.

In short, they come from around the world and represent every innovation in photographic apparatus – almost. He's still keeping an eye out for a Daguerreotype camera, the earliest form.

Conspicuously absent from the collectibles at his office, however, are his prized British cars that include a 1932 MG J2, a 1948 MG TC, a 1950 Astin Martin DB2 racing car, a 1957 Jaguar XK140 and "a couple of Minis."

Growing up in Westmount, Anderson evolved naturally into the interests that have shaped his life and career.

Handy in the workshop

His father, a school principal of Swedish descent, maintained a hobby work shop in the basement where the young Bruce learned skills that would help him in the fixing up of his cameras.

"We had a woodworking and a metalworking shop as well as a pottery kiln and a small dark room," he recalls. "I used to make model planes and houses using the wood from fruit baskets." Later, he made custom furniture as a sideline.

Bruce attended Westmount public

schools of the day – King's elementary and the Junior and Senior highs – before obtaining his bachelor's degree in architecture from McGill in 1964 during the heady period of urban renewal.

Displayed among the many design models in his office is his design thesis for a large housing project to cover the railway tracks through Westmount from Atwater to Hallowell. It had won the Pilkington competition across Canada.

Anderson worked with Moishe Safdie on the design for Habitat 67 and with Westmounter Ray Affleck.

After obtaining a master's degree from Harvard in 1966, he began his McGill tenure, retiring four years ago to practice fulltime in professional partnership with his architect wife, Bissera.

"We're almost at 700 different projects ranging from small additions to houses, schools and private clubs," he says. Most are city homes in Westmount and country houses in New England, the Laurentians, and the Eastern Townships where he enjoys weekends and vacations at his own home on Lake Massawippi.

"We have a map of Westmount covered with black squares showing all of our projects here, and it has dots all over it."

Among them are the school addition at ECS and interior work for Selwyn House. One of his favourites is the design of St. Andrew's pre-school on Hillside, which he calls "real cool." He also found the school its site, the former Montreal Power and Water Works location.

Artistic daughters

Anderson's daughters, Diana and Christina, have both inherited their parents' passion for art and design.

Diana, a graduate in architecture and medicine, is working with a healthcare architectural design firm in Houston, Texas.

Christina, a biologist, has designed the stained glass panels hanging in the children's section of the Westmount library.

A fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, Anderson is preparing a book of his work which he calls *City Houses and Country Estates*.

As a member of Westmount's Architectural & Planning Commission from 1994 to 2004, he helped author the current Guidelines along with Mark London and Derek Drummond. Does it help that



Architect Bruce Anderson with some of his interesting cameras.

he has firsthand knowledge of the approval process?

"We have a certain sensitivity to Westmount and its character," he replies. "I believe in doing additions to houses with heritage value but in developing a solution that is sympathetic to the original design. I know how to marry the new with the old "

Pay-as-you-go to increase in '09

"largely assuffed medificult government grants, private donations and financing, she said, "all aspects will be rigorously evaluated and inherent risks related to the economic context will be considered."

For meeting the costs of other capital projects, however, the city intends to keep increasing the portion paid from the operating budget under the city's pay-as-yougo policy.

Debt stands at \$37.1 million

As of December 31, 2008, Westmount's debt will be \$37.1 million compared with \$2.1 million before the merger with Montreal in December 2001. The additional amount was accumulated by Montreal's financing measures related to capital expenditures during that period as well as the forced "purchase" by Westmount of its water network at the time of demerger.

"The only positive statement I can make," Marks said, "is that we have been extremely fortunate with the interest rates that are being charged for our long-term borrowing thus far, which are in the range of 4.5 percent."

Westmount is legally contesting various

amounts it claims are owed by Montreal, including the \$800,000 being held by Montreal as a transfer payment from the Agglomeration Council.

Marks was asked during question period whether or not the city could withhold the \$800,000 from its portion of 2009 agglomeration costs. "I have a feeling we would be put under trusteeship," she replied. Councillor Guy Charette, the finance commissioner, said the matter was now "formally before the courts."

Westmount was put under temporary trusteeship some 20 years ago when it withheld payments from the Montreal Urban Community as part of Mayor May Cutler's efforts to correct administrative errors in Westmount's evaluation roll.

Electronic Independents available

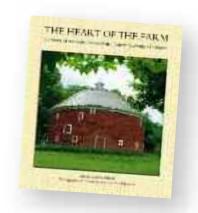
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644 GROSVENOR

2-car garage, main floor den, luxurious master suite, great landscaping, lovely private garden, central air, 5000 watt generator++++

Literally move right in!!!



REDUCED \$1,097,000

FABULOUS FLAT



Perfect location!! Very sunny, renovated 3 bedroom, upper co-op duplex with parking. Laundry room in the apartment. Decorative fireplace in the living room. Plenty of storage. Steps to Victoria Village, transports, schools and shops!!

457 GROSVENOR

REDUCED \$429,000

Also for sale

2122 Vendôme 109 Lewis 343 Clarke 4736 Victoria 481 Argyle

Large 4+1 bdrm home across from Mount Royal Tennis Club Steps to Greene, reno'd 3+1 bdrms, new kitchen & finished basement 423-425 Lansdowne Fantastic investment property or easily converted to single family home \$719,000 Bright & spacious Parisian style 3 bdrm 2 bth condo steps to Greene ave. \$445,000 Detached 3+1 bdrm with 2 car attached garage and large garden

\$529,000 \$689,000 \$829,000

e you ready for a condo lifestyle?



Downtown \$1,045,000 Spectacular 3 bdrm condo, 2 garage



Downtown \$719,000 History marries contemporary 2000 sq.ft PH



NDG/Westmount Adj. \$274,000 Charming 3 bedroom w/upgrades



Westmount \$438,000 Beautiful 2 bdrm condo w/great backyard

514-488-1049 514-933-6781 finehomes@kalecheff.com

Charming 3 bdrm Victorian home with parking & large garden

www.kalecheff.com Chartered Real Estate Agent • B.Arch.





BRIAN DUTCH





#10 in Canada 2008*



Westmount – 175 Cote St. Antoine Gloriously sun filled 4+den det. home. Exceptionally lovely garden! \$1,588,000

ANOTHER JUST LISTED



Habitat Spacious 1,800 sq. ft. 3 cube unit. Breathtaking city and harbour views. Huge terrace. Extensively renovated.

#2 in Quebec 2008*





Westmount – 26 Thornhill Ave. The most amazing location! Lovely views! Exquisitely renovated. \$1,150,000

OPEN HOUSE SUN. 2-4



Westmount – 379 Grosvenor Ave. Desirable "Victoria Village" location. Move-in condition. \$789,000



Westmount - 646 Lansdowne Ave. Exquisite, totally renovated home. Beautiful woodwork and details. \$1,195,000





Westmount – 24 Thornhill Ave. Amazing value! Great views. 2 car garage. Requires updating. \$769,000



NDG - 2237 Madison Ave. #305 Here's great value! 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, balcony and garage.

1,346 sq. ft. A/C \$299,000



Westmount – 466 Argyle Ave. Bright, spacious upper duplex, loaded with charm. 3 bdrms
PLUS a big family room. Excellent value!

Westmount – 4146 Dorchester Blvd. Great space! Amazing 2 storey solarium addition. Garage + parking. \$898,000

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

\$589,000

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Affiliated Real Estate Agent