

Toddler struck by cyclist during soccer game

City looks for bike path remedies

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City officials are rallying to find solutions to heightened hazards on the bike path through Westmount Park after a 2 ½-year-old boy was knocked down by a cyclist and taken to hospital June 5. He is reported to have been not seriously hurt.

The toddler apparently broke free from a babysitter and ran suddenly onto the path while his brother was playing soccer on the newly refurbished junior fields on the other side of the bicycle route.

"The refurbishment project has rendered the bike path even more dangerous for pedestrians, and we have to find a solution very quickly," city councillor Kathleen Duncan told the *Independent*.

Specific crosswalks installed as part of

the project tend to funnel pedestrians into those areas, she explained. "There needs to be some sort of impediment at the new pedestrian crossings to force cyclists to stop or get off their bikes," she explained.

This condition is further compounded by increased traffic on the recreational bike path by cyclists, who use it as a thoroughfare to and from Montreal's downtown bike route on de Maisonneuve. This is a concern citizens have raised at council meetings.

"It's changed the whole calling of our bike path," Duncan explained. "I've asked that the park portion be moved to a street."

City officials said a permanent fence is to be installed along the north side of the new soccer fields, which at the moment are closed on *continued on p. 13*

New citizens in time for Canada Day



New Canadians enjoy a piece of cake on June 18 at Victoria Hall after they were sworn in as citizens at the citizenship evening hosted by The Rotary Club of Westmount. The event was presided over by senior citizenship judge George Springate (a former Westmount provincial legislator) and attended by Mayor Karin Marks, Westmount Rotarians and residents. By George Catering donated the cake.



INSIDE

Westmount Page p. 2

Civic Alert Don Wedge on the unanswered arena questions, p. 5

Water leak on Claremont unrelated to Sherbrooke main

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A number of homes and establishments were left without water Saturday, June 20 after a water main sprung a leak on Claremont south of Sherbrooke, city officials said. Bottled water was delivered to those affected, as is the city's usual procedure in such cases.

Somewhat ironically, the leak was discovered accidentally by the city's water and sewer superintendent Michel Berthelet as he was leaving on holiday at about 6 am. Personal plans washed out, he remained on the job during the repairs. Water service was shut off between 8:30 am and

12:30 pm. The excavation was backfilled and paved over by the end of the day.

"There was nothing unusual about the break," said Public Works senior engineer Andrew Duffield. But being a Saturday, the work at the busy intersection attracted much attention.

The leak occurred when a piece of the 10-inch main broke at the top of the pipe rather than resulting from a more typical transverse crack. The pipe was otherwise found to be in good condition.

The situation was unrelated to the east-west water main that is being replaced this summer on Sherbrooke between Victoria and Claremont.

New to Westmount?

How to manage your waste, see p. 14

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<div></div> <div>HÔTEL DE VILLE Heures d'affaires et services municipaux Fête du Canada Veuillez noter que tous les bureaux administratifs de la Ville de Westmount, soit l'hôtel de ville, le Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount et les services de la sécurité publique, des sports et loisirs et des travaux publics seront fermés le mercredi 1^{er} juillet en raison de la fête du Canada. De plus, la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount sera fermée le mercredi 1^{er} juillet en raison de la fête du Canada. Prière de noter que la Bibliothèque sera fermée tous les dimanches pendant la période estivale, soit jusqu'au 6 septembre inclusivement. Veuillez noter qu'il n'y a aucun changement quant à la collecte sélective qui s'effectuera à l'horaire normal. </div>		<div></div> <div>CITY HALL Business Hours and Municipal Services Canada Day Please be advised that all administrative offices of the City of Westmount (City Hall, Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount, Public Works and Public Security) will be closed on Wednesday, July 1 for the Canada Day holiday. The Westmount Public Library will be closed on Wednesday, July 1 for Canada Day. The Library will also be closed every Sunday during the summer period until September 6, inclusively. Please note that recycling collection is unaffected, and will take place according to the regular schedule. </div>	
<div></div> <div>TRAVAUX PUBLICS Travaux de réfection du réseau d'aqueduc sur la rue Sherbrooke Veuillez noter que la Ville remplacera la conduite d'eau principale sous l'avenue Greene à compter du 6 juillet dans le cadre de son programme visant à renouveler le réseau d'aqueduc municipal. Durant ces travaux, d'une durée de six semaines, une partie du stationnement sur le côté nord de la rue Sherbrooke, de l'avenue Grosvenor à l'avenue Claremont, ne sera pas disponible. Veuillez consulter notre site Web pour des informations plus détaillées à ce sujet. Info : 514 989-5257.</div>		<div></div> <div>PUBLIC WORKS Infrastructure Renewal on Sherbrooke Street As part of the City's ongoing effort to renew the municipal water distribution network, the water main on Sherbrooke Street will be replaced beginning July 6, with work continuing for the following six weeks. This project will require the City to temporarily remove parking on the north side of Sherbrooke Street, from Grosvenor to Claremont Avenue. More information on this project is available on our Web site. Info: 514 989-5257.</div>	
<div></div> <div>Pesticides Veuillez noter que l'application de pesticides est interdite entre le 15 juin et le 1^{er} septembre à l'exception d'infestation portant atteinte à la santé publique. En tout temps, la délivrance d'un permis est nécessaire avant de procéder à une application de pesticides. Info : 514 989-5268. </div>		<div></div> <div>Pesticides Public Works would like to remind all residents that the application of pesticides is prohibited between June 15 and September 1, except in cases of infestation that present a threat to public health. Please note that even in cases of infestation, a valid permit is always required before using pesticides. Info: 514 989-5268. </div>	
<div></div> <div>ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES Activités de la Fête du Canada Participez à la Fête du Canada à la piscine de Westmount le 1^{er} juillet. Le barbecue traditionnel aura lieu de midi à 14 h, suivi du <i>Splash Bash</i> de 14 h à 17 h avec jeux, prix et gâteau pour tous. Info : 514 989-5353.</div>		<div></div> <div>COMMUNITY EVENTS Canada Day Join us for Canada Day festivities on July 1st at the Westmount Pool. A BBQ will take place from noon to 2 p.m. followed by the annual <i>Splash Bash</i> from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Includes games, prizes and Canada Day cake for everyone. Info: 514 989-5353.</div>	
<div></div> <div>BIBLIOTHÈQUE Club de lecture vacances 2009 Cet été, venez découvrir le monde des animaux à la Bibliothèque en participant au club de lecture vacances. Le thème de cette année est <i>Lire, c'est pas bête</i> ! Inscription au comptoir des enfants de la Bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5229. </div>		<div></div> <div>LIBRARY Summer Reading Club 2009 Explore the world of animals by joining our summer reading club. The theme this year is <i>Go wild, read!</i> You can register for this activity in the children's section of the Library. Info: 514 989-5229. </div>	
<div>Westmount, à votre portée. Pour toute question ou commentaire, veuillez nous contacter : Westmount at your fingertips. Contact us with any comment or question:</div>		<div>www.westmount.org assistance@westmount.org</div>	

A day in a wheelchair



Westmounter Amanda Jelowicki spends a day in a wheelchair to raise funds and awareness of what life is like for people who must use a wheelchair to get around.

BY AMANDA JELOWICKI

Recently, I spent the day in a wheelchair, not because I had to, but because I wanted to. In my 11 years working as a journalist in Montreal, I have had many tough days, many difficult stories. But without a doubt covering a story in a wheelchair was one of my most challenging assignments to date.

For the second year in a row, I participated in the Action Centre's Chair Aware Challenge. The centre provides invaluable resources and support to people with disabilities. Each year, it challenges individuals to spend the day in a wheelchair to help raise funds. Last year I spent my day entirely in Westmount; this year I spent about half my day in this area. Sadly, not a lot has changed.

I started my day with a story meeting in the Global newsroom. We ruled out covering a march involving 15,000 students (too challenging in a chair), and instead opted for covering a new Loto Quebec policy requiring signatures on lottery tickets.

What struck me first and foremost was

how physically exhausting it was. Just wheeling out of the newsroom to my cameraman's truck was tiring, and by the end of the day my arms felt like jelly. Not everyone can afford electric chairs, and getting around in a manual chair is very, very tough. Sidewalks everywhere, even though they slope at the roadside, are poorly maintained, and many times I almost fell forward trying *continued on p. 8*



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Atwater



Westmount's newest gem. The secret is out!

This Co-op building, with just 30 units on 5 floors has been under the radar in the Westmount real estate market since it was converted to a co-op in 2006. Just a short stroll to Greene Ave, Victoria village, and Westmount park. Close to many schools, churches and synagogues.

On Redfern at the corner of Sherbrooke this charming building has a spectacular oversized lobby with marble floors, cathedral type ceiling, and an ambiance reminiscent of years passed.

For just under 1 million dollars, you can own this spacious 4 bedroom unit (3 with ensuites) which has been fully renovated from A to Z.

With just under 2700 sq ft. this unit boasts a large open concept living room / dining room. The spectacular designer kitchen is truly a chef's paradise with a spacious dinette area. It has a 36" Wolf cook top with 5 burners, double Liebherr fridges, and a Kitchenaid double convection oven. There is also a separate den to relax or read in as well as an office. Indoor parking too.

The views of the mountain from this corner unit are breathtaking. The building has a large rooftop terrace with BBQ, sun beds, and table and chairs perfect for a nice summer dinner with a 360 degree view of the city.

The low monthly fees include all taxes, heating, hot water, and co-op fees. You can't find this much space in Westmount with such reasonable and low cost of living. Compare it to Westmount Sq, 1 Wood or Port Royal and you'll be impressed. Also note that there is no welcome tax to pay when you buy here.

Schedule an appointment with me to see this gem and I can assure you, you won't be disappointed.

Jessica Silverstein
Londono Realty Group
514-699-9466

Botched Irvine manhole leads to new problems years later

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A faulty manhole installation on Irvine Ave. eight years ago caused a sewer collapse, detected June 17, that opened up a proverbial can of worms.

The discovery was made when Westmount crews began working on a small hole on Irvine just south of St. Catherine St., said Public Works senior engineer Andrew Duffield. "We expected to find the road had been undermined by a catch-basin."

Instead, it was found that the oval brick sewer from the 1890s had collapsed from the weight of a manhole chamber that had been placed directly upon it rather than being supported on either side, he explained. The manhole installation had been carried out in early 2001 during repairs to the water main by Montreal before Westmount assumed ownership of the water and sewer network, he said.

In remedying the situation, crews cleaned the sewer, repaired it and installed the manhole "the way it should have been done." In the process, a water leak was also detected. In order to conform to re-

quirements of the CSST (the provincial workplace accident compensation, health and safety board), the street had to be opened to its full width to undertake the repairs.

What started off as a small hole in the street set off a string of events compounded by the St. Jean Baptiste holiday, which further delayed completion of the work.



Work on Irvine Ave. was photographed by councillor Patrick Martin who visited the site to take a look at the city's aging infrastructure.

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Opinion

A Children’s Commissioner for Canada

BY GINETTE SAUVÉ-FRANKEL

On June 11, Marc Garneau, member of parliament for Westmount-Ville Marie, tabled a private member’s bill to ensure that Canadian children have a voice thanks to the establishment of a national Children’s Commissioner.

I have been advocating the establishment of such a commissioner for a number of years, and I’m very pleased to see the issue finally reach our house of commons. For the children of Canada and for all of us, I thank you Mr. Garneau.

Under Mr. Garneau’s bill, a federal Children’s Commissioner will promote, monitor and report on the effective implementation of Canada’s obligations under the Convention for the Rights of the Child that are within the legislative authority of the parliament of Canada, to advance the principle that children are entitled to special safeguards, care and assistance, including appropriate legal protections.

The Children’s Commissioner would also raise awareness of children’s rights

and children’s issues, take special care of aboriginal children’s issues, liaise with provincial child advocates and foster collaboration and consultation at all levels.

Why do we need a Children’s Commissioner? There are currently close to 9.6 million children in Canada and one in six children is still living in poverty. This is true today, 20 years after a resolution was passed in the house of commons, with all-party support, promising the elimination of poverty among Canadian children by the year 2000. Campaign 2000’s recent Report Card on child poverty points out that the after-tax poverty rate is still exactly the same as it was in 1989.

The Canadian Paediatric Society in its 2007 status report “Are We Doing Enough?” states that about 14 percent of children and youth under 20 years old suffer from mental health conditions that af-

fect their daily lives, yet only one in five of these children has access to mental health care, while the debate over wait times is focused solely on adults.

These, our most vulnerable citizens, need an advocate and a voice.

Over the last five years, numerous organizations – including the Canadian Paediatric Society, and the Canadian Council of Provincial Child and Youth Advocates – have joined the Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights in demanding the creation of a Children’s Commissioner for Canada to be the official voice for our children.

To quote Nigel Fisher, the president and CEO of UNICEF Canada, “Children comprise a quarter of Canada’s population. They have no vote. They need someone to speak up for them on national issues that shape their lives today, and the future of our country. That someone is a national

Children’s Commissioner.”

I believe the true measure of a nation is how well it attends to its children – their health and safety, their material security, their education and socialization, and their sense of being loved, valued, and included in the families and societies into which they are born. I also firmly believe that if we create a Canada fit for children we will address all the economic, social and environmental issues, and have as a result a Canada fit for all.

I urge all of you, in and out of parliament, to set aside party politics and to support Mr. Garneau in his efforts to establish a Children’s Commissioner. Write to your MP and to the government to urge them to support Mr. Garneau’s bill. Our children will thank you; so will our country.

Ginette Sauvé-Frankel is a school commissioner on the English Montreal School Board for Westmount and is running to be the Union Montreal candidate for city councillor in NDG’s Loyola district. Sauvé-Frankel wrote about the need for a children’s commissioner in the May 20, 2008 issue of the Independent.

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Letters to the Editor

ROBERTS’ DRAWINGS A HIT

Congratulations on two years of conscientious, comprehensive reporting.

And Bruce Roberts’ drawings are a great addition!

ANNE DOUGLAS, ACADEMY RD.

PETER HOWLETT: MOUNT ROYAL IN PERIL

Westmounter Peter Howlett, president of Les Amis de la Montagne, recently spoke at the annual meeting of the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN), held June 13 at Smith House near Beaver Lake. He had an important message: “If the commercial development of the (former) Marianopolis site goes ahead, it will lead to the slow death of Mount Royal as a protected area. Gradually it will all be developed.

“If governments do not take a firm stand to protect the mountain from development, we will lose this unique aspect of Montreal and diminish the quality of life of its citizens. We will lose the major symbols of Montreal’s identity and its most prominent landmark.

“The recent mergers and demergers on

Montreal Island have splintered and complicated the responsibilities for maintaining the mountain, and this has opened the opportunity for political and business interests to move towards developing the whole area, including the (former) Marianopolis site. Commercial interests have \$47 million invested in the Marianopolis project, so they will not go away easily.”

The former Marianopolis site is just east of Westmount.

“If this Marianopolis project goes ahead, the work of the farsighted citizens who put together the mountain project in the 1860s and 1870s, and the work of Les Amis de la Montagne since 1986, will be lost,” Howlett said.

Since the opening of the park in the 1870s, Howlett noted, it has been a struggle to maintain the mountain’s character against the onslaught of commercial interests.

“One of my great-grandfathers was among the first arrivals in Montreal from France, so my family has a long tradition of respecting Mount Royal,” Howlett noted.

SUSAN MCGUIRE,
MONTROSE AVE.

Civic Alert

\$30-million arena questions do not go away

BY DON WEDGE



Three weeks ago, the *Indie* published Mayor Karin Marks' personal update on the arena-pool reconstruction. It was an unusually detailed account of the evolving project as seen from the mayor's desk. (See "Council's job", June 9, p. 5.)

It must have dashed the hopes of many who had sought changes. I can't imagine all of the various interest groups are going to leave things as Marks envisaged. Despite all the "consultation," no major change from the project outlined in April is planned.

Even the hockey lobby has not been successful in convincing council that there should be two full-sized rinks: one slightly smaller (at 185 feet) is still planned. The possibility of relocating the outdoor pool to the tennis courts' site is controversial. With the exception of the underground parking as a late addition to the spring plan, it seems the project could have been designed in 1999.

This week, I asked the mayor how she expected the project to go forward in the coming weeks. Council was waiting for revisions from the architects, she said, mainly of site layout options and then council will work through the proposals. "We have to be very flexible until all parts of the puzzle are in place." Eventually there will be the promised third public meeting and finally the telephone poll.

However, before anything like a final decision can be made, a key element needs to be answered: how much financial support will come from the federal and provincial governments?

Long expected

"News on infrastructure grants is overdue," Marks said. "We expected answers to our applications months ago." But what if the answer comes and there is not the expected level of help? "Then Westmounters will have to decide how much they are willing to invest in the new facility."

Given a \$30-million project, taxes may yet be the determining factor. The timing of events will also be critical. There will be council elections on Sunday, November 1. This means that council will be dissolved on October 2. If there are to be contests for seats, then the campaigns will begin a month or more before that.

With council still discussing siting, it is not likely that a final plan will be in place by the election period. Nevertheless, any disputed mayoral or district election will revolve around the arena cost issue.

Hopefully there will be sufficient and reliable information for voters to make wise choices. The election cannot take place under a financial blackout, however.

Not to be redone

I fear that in the rush to be ready to take advantage of whatever government grants may be offered, there will be a temptation to short-change the longer-term future. At the same time, any current opportunity cannot be lost. It is not only a council dilemma, but one for every taxpayer.

At present, council and citizens alike seem resolute that a new facility is required. There is an apparent consensus at city hall that the current proposal cannot accommodate the most in-demand addition, an indoor pool. However, as Barbara Moore put it in her submission: "Whatever is done now is not going to be redone in the foreseeable future."

The potential political repercussions

are large. Almost everyone has a view on some aspect of the project. This must be among the reasons for the many votes by councillors in their project-planning sessions that Mayor Marks wrote about in her mid-June update.

In addition to the known themes, there are some issues still scarcely mentioned, like traffic flow (parking is now being provided, but all those extra cars still have to use a short stretch of St. Catherine St.). Then there is the greater mystery of the financing.

New councillors will have knowledge gap

Chances are that most members of the current council will continue for another term. Four councillors (Cynthia Lulham, Nicole Forbes, Patrick Martin and Kathleen Duncan) have declared their intentions to do so. At least one new candidate is expected – Vic Drury. He is one of the best-informed Westmounters (a member of Karin Marks' electoral team in 2005), but he will not bring the detailed background of the councillors who have been

exposed to the arena planning in recent months. Newcomers will have a large knowledge gap, so that could create a different outcome or change of appearance to the project in November.

This story has many more chapters to come!

Citizen activist Don Wedge's email address is dwedge@sympatico.ca.

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from Marc Garneau**

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Living Sustainably

How good are you?

By EVE ASPINALL

We are very fortunate to live in a well run city with lush green trees lining our streets, beautiful parks and gardens, and where crime is relatively low and we can live in peace. So much of this results from the work of city councillors, city employees and the many citizens who volunteer their expertise and time to enhance the quality of life in Westmount.

We are fortunate to belong to a community where we can communicate with departments such as Public Works and Hydro Westmount, with people who work in city hall offices, and with councillors. We do not have to agree, but we have that prerogative. What matters most is citizen participation.

How good a citizen are you? Do you ever attend city council meetings? Or the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA)? Do you vote in civic elections? Do you know your city councillor? They put in long hours on top of their regular jobs for our collective benefit, and each one serves on five or six sub-committees. Are you aware of the many issues facing Westmount?

Do you use your blue box for recycling? Are you using your green bin effectively? At the end of the week, are you left with a very small amount left for the landfill? Do you do any home composting for your garden? Do you walk, bicycle or use public transportation instead of driving? Do you

keep your car in good condition? Do you keep to the speed limits and avoid braking? If you have to wait, do you make sure to turn off your engine? Idling is detrimental to the environment, as are leaf blowers. Do you ensure that your gardeners are no longer using them? Leaf blowers emit great quantities of particulate matter that are hazardous to both the environment and particularly to human health.

Are you using CFL or LED light bulbs to reduce your electrical consumption? Do you return burned out CFLs and neon tubes to a store that accepts this kind of waste (like Home Depot) so that the mercury does not get into landfill?

Do you take paints and varnishes, cell phones and e-waste to the Hazardous Waste Collections or to the Eco-centres?

Do you have lighting that shines onto a neighbour's property or into their house (light trespass)?

Prior to making alterations to your property, do you obtain the required permits? How considerate are you regarding the impact of your plans on neighbours, such as noise, dust or obstruction of view? Do you consider how green your project is?

These are considerations we might make so that our neighbourhoods remain pleasant and safe.

Green tips

There are compostable diapers made in Sweden called Nature Babycare. (www.naty.com). Click on USA or do a Google search on compostable or biodegradable diapers.

Earth mixed with Perlite should never be put in your green bin. Perlite does not degrade.

At Second Glance

Teaching Quebec and Canada

By HEATHER BLACK



Who is Alexander Graham Bell or Sir Arthur Currie? This year the Dominion Institute rated Canadian history courses, and Quebec did surprisingly well.

But an opportunity to discover Canada first-hand is the prize offered to winners of the Women's Canadian Club of Montreal's public speaking contest. For ECS student Kelly Steinmetz and Arthur Schiller of Royal West Academy, it's a week-long "Encounters with Canada" program.

Quebec's B+ program

Recently, the Dominion Institute awarded Quebec a B+ for its Canadian history program – the top grade. The institute – formed to encourage a greater understanding of Canada – praised the province's new secondary 3 and 4 social studies course for fostering research and encouraging the use of primary sources.

Moreover, the province was given a perfect score for including key historical themes like: aboriginal issues, and French-English relations, the world wars, the Constitution, and Canada's international role, to name a few. However, the institute called for a better balance between "national and provincial/regional events and themes."

Attendance in a youth forum like Histor!ca's "Encounters with Canada" also helps students understand the country, and the people.

Each week, 120 to 138 high school students go to Ottawa to visit museums and meet with key government or industry players. Initiated by the Canadian Unity Council in 1982, events are organized around themes such as culture, entrepreneurship, sports, ecology or technology.

"Politics in Canada" is the title of a recent rendez-vous. There students visited embassies, Parliament Hill, Rideau Hall, learned about Canada's institutions, held mock elections and discussed leadership within the democratic process. Students also participated in an official citizenship ceremony.

Of equal importance, participants – there have been over 78,000 to date – form enduring friendships with fellow students from other backgrounds. And learn first hand an appreciation of cultural diversity.

Montreal rendez-vous?

So why not a Montreal youth forum? Students from the Gaspé and Gatineau or even Greater Vancouver visit universities, Ubisoft and Cirque du Soleil. The forum would encourage post-secondary education, entrepreneurship and an understanding of Montreal's role in the development of Canada.

And our economy! For instance, how did Montreal attract the computer gaming industry? With innovation as the current buzz word in business and society, it only makes sense that students understand historical as well as current trends. And who accomplished what!

One look at Quebec's newest officers and knights: – among them McGill's Heather Munroe-Blum, the Neuro's Brenda Milner, dancer Margie Gillis, or promoter René Angélil – reveals a respect for accomplishment in academia, science, the arts. In a global economy, a knowledge of many languages is valued.

And perhaps youth forums held in culturally-diverse Montreal would dispel fears of French-language decline – now at 87 percent according to a recent Léger poll. Surely if Gaelic can flourish in Cape Breton, a major international language like French will prevail here. But isn't a knowledge of Canadian history needed for comparisons? *continued on p. 13*

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Fundraising time at St. Leo's

The Fondation de l'École Saint-Léon-de-Westmount is raising funds again this year for projects that are not covered by the school's regular budget. Past funds have gone to a more environmentally-friendly playground, multimedia equipment and student awards.

This year, funds will be used for computers, musical instruments, library books and student performances. A goal is to equip each of the school's 20 classrooms with a wireless internet computer. The foundation also accepts in-kind donations of goods and services for after-school programs (including homework help), dancing and singing lesson during recess, and general improvement to the school's building.

The foundation can be contacted at C.P. 133, Succ. Victoria, Westmount, QC, H3Z 2V4. Or for information: www.csdm.qc.ca/st-leon.



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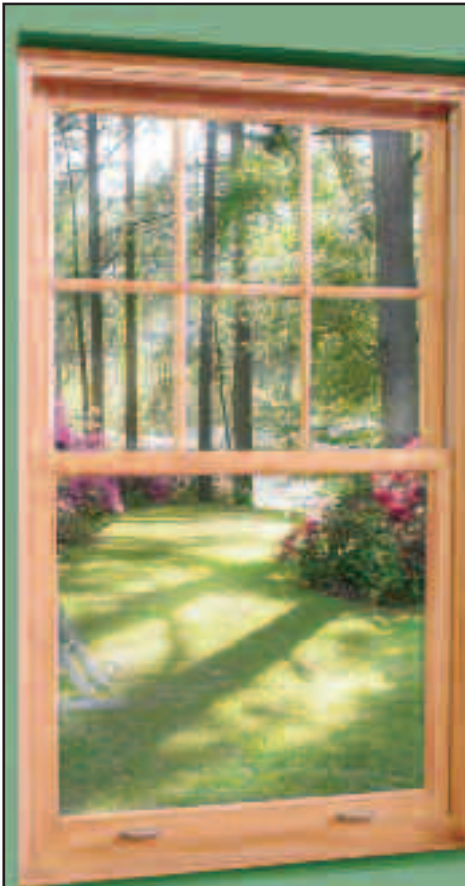
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Westmount not wheelchair-friendly?

.....
continued from p. 3
to navigate my way along the bumpy surfaces.

When I got to my first interview, I was amazed that Loto Quebec's headquarters on Sherbrooke St. downtown did not have a wheelchair ramp. My cameraman had to go inside to get the spokesman to do the interview outside (not ideal), and even he didn't know which side entrance might have had a wheelchair ramp. It seems almost inexcusable that an extremely profitable crown corporation wouldn't have one.

Then we headed to Westmount to go to a depanneur and speak to a merchant. The first one we came across on Sherbrooke St. near Victoria had no ramp - a random person lifted me in my chair into the building. Inside, none of the aisles were wide enough for me to get around the store. Some people seemed frustrated I was taking up so much room.

We then tried eating lunch in the area - place after place either had stairs or steps to get in. Some stores had a ramp, but no electric door. If you stop and take a look around the next time you walk down Sherbrooke, you will be amazed at how few

places are genuinely wheelchair-friendly. Fortunately, my cameraman was with me and helped me along. But I really tried putting myself in the situation of someone confined to a wheelchair 24 hours a day and sensed how frustrating life must be. Not everyone travels with a buddy, and having to pass store after store, knowing just getting in is an impossible feat, must no doubt make people feel unwelcome.

I ended my day back at the station with a less-than-ideal story, and the sad realization that someone confined to a wheelchair could not do my job on a daily basis and could also not easily get around and access all the wonderful shops, cafés and stores we enjoy in Westmount.

The Action Centre, though, is trying to change that, raising awareness about the reality of living in a wheelchair. Hopefully more places will become wheelchair accessible. With your support, we will get there eventually.

If you would like to support the centre you can make an online donation at: www.centreaction.org/ChairAwareChallenge.htm.

Amanda Jelowicki is a Westmounter and Global News anchor and reporter.

Foodie celebrity hits Appetite for Books




Ricardo Larrivée (centre) with Michelle York and Jonathan Cheung of Appetite for Books.
Photo and story: Erin Stropes

Ricardo Larrivée, host of the popular Food Network program *Ricardo and Friends*, paid a recent visit to Westmount bookstore Appetite for Books (388 Victoria Ave.), where he cooked up some of his recipes and signed copies of his new book *Ricardo: Meals for Every Occasion*.

Larrivée, a Quebec native, was full of recommendations for Montreal restaurants and markets, including a new favourite, Bilboquet ice cream, which he had just tried for the first time.

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Social Notes from Westmount and beyond

Westmounters enjoy CCA Soirée 2009



BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

Many elegant Westmounters were noted at CCA Soirée 2009 which took place June 12. Honourary chair **Jean Charest** attended with his wife **Michèle Dionne**. Also seen were Westmounters **Dr. Sheldon Elman**, **Stuart Elman**, **André Poulin** with his wife **Lieve Perneel**, and **Clément Demers**. Honourary patrons were **Claudine** and **Stephen Bronfman** (not in attendance)



Phyllis Lambert, Charles Bronfman, Bonnie Roche and Jean Charest.

with **Charles Bronfman** and his wife **Bonnie Roche**.

The evening also celebrated the 20th anniversary of the CCA's public opening and the 30th anniversary of its establishment. Notable guests included Montreal mayor **Gérald Tremblay** (with **Suzanne Tailleur**), federal Liberal leader **Michael Ignatieff**, French ambassador **François Delattre**, **Catherine Sévigny** (member of the Montreal Executive Committee responsible for culture) and **Peter McGill** (Montreal city councillor.) Business co-chairs were **Louis Vachon** (president and CEO, National Bank Financial Group), and **Riadh Ben Aïssa** (executive vice president, SNC-Lavalin Group).

As always, the annual gala was held under a massive white tent on



Marie Chevrier and Richard Gervais, honorary consul to Mauritius.



Charles Lapointe, Mary Kay and Frederick Lowy, Cornelia Molson.

the lawn abutting the CCA building and drew a sold-out crowd from Montreal's cultural, political and fashion sectors.

Eye-catching yellow accents, a massive horizontal video screen, and black clad staff accessorized with yellow scarves added to the outstanding decor created by architect **Benoît Dupuis**, in collaboration with **Alain Moreaux**.

Enjoying champagne cocktails were **Liza Frulla** and **Andrew Morrow**, the Honourable **Serge Joyal**, **Nathalie Bondil** (director of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts), **Marie-Josée** and **Jacques Ménard**, and **Louise Roy** and **Dr. Richard Bruno**. But the talk of the evening was the fun, fu-

turistic jacket worn by **Phyllis Lambert** (founding director and chair of the CCA Board of Trustees). Created by Studio sub-Tela from Concordia, the back flashed an electronic message "Votre CCA. Your CCA."

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Dans la conjoncture actuelle, «il y a un élément d'incertitude lié aux ventes aux enchères; il est donc plus prudent de vendre de gré à gré», a déclaré Ann Temkin, conservatrice en chef responsable des peintures et sculptures du MoMA (Musée d'art moderne de New York)¹

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Even institutions like the Museum of Modern Art are avoiding auctions... "There's an element of uncertainty with an auction that in this climate makes it more prudent to sell privately" said Ann Temkin, chief curator in the department of painting and sculpture at MoMA.¹

¹Carol Vogel, New York Times, April 26, 2009

Westmounters help celebrate Jewish General's 're-opening'



JGH executive director Dr. Hartley Stern (fourth from left) with five former Jewish General presidents: Leonard Ellen (seated) and Westmounters (from left) Edward Wiltzer, Leo Kolber, Bernard Stotland and Morton Brownstein.



Provincial legislator Lawrence Bergman (fifth from left), Dr. Hartley Stern (sixth), Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay (seventh), and Myer Bick (ninth), with Westmounters (from left) Samuel Minzberg, Richard Dubrovsky, Morton Brownstein, Edward Wiltzer, Bernard Stotland, Mildred Lande, Steven Kaplan and Gail Karp.

To mark its 75th anniversary on June 18, the Jewish General Hospital (JGH) unveiled new doors and a wholly redesigned entryway for its main entrance, which had been

closed for two years while the work was being done. Westmounters were there in large numbers to mark the occasion.

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July at the Art Galleries

Galerie de Bellefeuille – Darlene Cole: Exhibit July 2 to July 13. Franco De-francesca: Exhibit July 16 to July 27. Jason Walker: Exhibit July 30 to August 10. 1367 Greene, 514.933.4406.

Galerie D’Este – Rita Cohen: Exhibit continues to July 5. 1329 Greene, 514.846.1515.

Galerie Sandra Goldie – Susan G. Scott: New arrivals. 4898 de Maisonneuve, suite 100, 514.670.8327.

Galerie V. Trimont – Dominic Besner: New display. 4259 St. Catherine, 514.658.7214.

Han Art – Andrew Lui: Exhibit at Oeno Gallery, 2274 Counry Rd. 1, Bloomfield, Prince Edward County until July 23. 514.876.9278.

Parisian Laundry – Adam Parker Smith: “Royal Turn” and Carolyn Salas: “Trophies” (bunker). Exhibits continue to July 25. 3550 St Antoine, 514.989.1056.

West End Gallery – Ingrid Harrison: New arrivals. 1358 Greene, 514.933.4314.

The Emporium Gallery: Seripop “No Henge” Opening: July 2 continues to July 8. 3035 St. Antoine, #74, 514.510.1547.

Graduating with distinction from Marianopolis

Marianopolis graduated 762 students on June 15. Among the several West-mounters graduating with distinction were Emilie Ellis, who won the West Island Chorus Voice Award for distinguishing herself in voice; Maud Hurley, winner of the Beverly Kennedy Award for outstanding achievement in the Liberal Arts Program; Jessica Morlon, winner of the

Shirley Marcotte Award for showing promise in political science; and Cody Walker, winner of the Fine Arts Prize for creativity and overall excellence in art.



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BUILDING PERMITS What's permitted

The following permits for exterior construction, alterations and renovation were approved at the last two city council meetings starting with May 20 (continued from the *Independent*, June 22, p. 9):

194 Côte St. Antoine: to replace a rear window;
3 Grove Park: to replace front and side windows;

400 Côte St. Antoine: to do some landscaping front and rear;

7 de Casson: to replace rear windows and doors and modify opening for the kitchen door and window;

378 Gosvenor: to rebuild upper balcony and two lower ones at the rear and erect a fence and gate.

Approved June 17

759 Upper Lansdowne: to landscape in front and rear yards;

335 Clarke: to modify window opening on rear façade to install a door;

444 Grosvenor: to build a fence on the south-west property line in addition to one of the northwest;

1310 Greene: to modify window and door assembly at the front of the ground floor and replace existing canopy;

545 Roslyn: to build a new basement level terrace addition and a sunroom at the rear;

565 Argyle: to demolish the accessory garage and build a new one attached to the main house;

18 Summit Circle: to modify the shape of the roof, replace the exterior cladding of the building and modify rear basement floor window opening;

378 Lansdowne: to build an extension at the rear;

488 Mount Pleasant: to build an underground garage addition in the front yard behind the building line, build a new addition to the rear, remove stucco finish to reveal original brick veneer, replace windows and doors and modify rear accessory building; to build a new swimming pool and landscape;

3295 Cedar: to do some front landscaping;

68 Summit Circle: to build side and rear extensions, make modifications to the building including replacing the brick veneer with new brick, modifying window and door openings and building a new rear balcony;

61 Summit Cresc.: to build a second floor side addition above existing sunroom;

4055 St. Catherine: to install a real estate sign;

354 Olivier: to modify garage doors facing rear lane, install a new skylight in the master bedroom and replace rear kitchen door;

27 Bellevue: to replace stucco cladding on the south elevation of the sunroom with new true stucco;

29-31 Bruce: to replace windows;

331 Prince Albert: to replace windows and a door;

9 Renfrew: to replace upper front balcony door;

61 Thornhill: to replace storm windows and modify sunroom windows;

412 Roslyn: rear landscaping to include modifications to rear deck;

306 Roslyn: to modify back terrace and an opening on the façade, and landscape; to rebuild front balcony and basement access below;

55 Belvedere Circle: to build new skylights on the north, west and south of the roof;

648 Murray Hill: to modify door openings and replace some rear windows;

136 Irvine: to modify landscaping at rear and build a new fence;

659 Murray: front and rear landscaping;

598 Argyle: to build a garage roof deck, stairs and a new fence;

104 Abbott: to replace fence in the southeast of the yard, replace two windows and two doors and do some landscaping;

383 Claremont: to modify rear fence;

708 Upper Roslyn: to replace two upper rear windows;

434 Metcalfe: to replace windows and three doors;

26 Willow: to replace storm windows;

7 de Casson: to enlarge rear deck;

4212 de Maisonneuve: to rebuild rear masonry walls;

68 Chesterfield: to enlarge rear deck;

70 Chesterfield: to enlarge rear deck;

640 Lansdowne: to replace north rear fence;

429 Mount Pleasant: to install an awning above the front door and refurbish the cornice;

64 Forden Cresc.: to replace fence along rear perimeter;

95 Arlington: to repair rear basement structure including brick replacement and modification to door opening;

659 Victoria: to replace first and second storey windows to conform to original house design;

342 Victoria: to rebuild rear brick wall and balconies;

392 Victoria: to modify window opening on rear façade to install a door;

4185 St. Catherine: to install a sign for Femme Coiffure.

174 Edgehill: landscaping to include new retaining walls and a fence;

544 Grosvenor: to build a new rear stone patio and do some landscaping;

446 Argyle: to replace wrought iron railing on upper front balcony;

800 Lexington: to replace the windows;

Surrey Gardens: to install three temporary real estate signs on three vacant lots;

372 Olivier: to modify front steps and walkway.
(To be continued next week.)

Educating students about Canada

continued from p. 6

Young people are our future, and they deserve the best education possible. While not perfect, the new secondary social studies curriculum is certainly a step in the right direction.

As Marc Chalifoux of the Dominion Institute points out: "The education system



Everyone uses the bike path, points out councillor Kathleen Duncan at one of the contentious pedestrian crosswalks in Westmount Park. There are no signs immediately evident to indicate usage of the path.

Solutions needed for bike path

continued from p. 1

the north side and to the bike path by snow fencing. An onsite meeting was also being arranged so Duncan and Public Works personnel could identify possible solutions.

Duncan said it was fortunate that sports coordinators Anitra Bostock and Andrew Maislin witnessed the recent accident and were able to help.

"We called 911 and Public Security and stayed with him," Bostock said. The boy apparently had a bump on his head and tire marks on his back. "We also tried to

help the cyclist who was in shock." The man had been travelling westbound at a normal speed, she said, but had been unable to stop when the boy ran onto the path.

"The bike path is becoming a huge problem, more so at high traffic times," Bostock explained.

"We're out there on the fields 24 hours a week with a few hundred kids and we see the hazards all the time. It's scary." Pedestrians continue to walk on the bike path, and cyclists not only speed but fail to stop at stop signs. "We're always yelling at them to stop."

Larger bike path issue in council's hands

The larger context of bike paths in Westmount, including the current Westmount Park portion, depends largely on Westmount city council's approach to plans by the agglomeration council to create a north-south route on Lansdowne and Glen Rd.

"The ball is in council's court," Westmount director general Duncan Campbell said last week.

A north-south bicycle path linking those along de Maisonneuve and the Lachine Canal has been proposed by the is-

land-wide council, which has some responsibility over the connection of bike paths, he explained. The proposed north-side link is being studied by Westmount and "has to be negotiated" with Montreal. "We want to improve the bike path network co-operatively."

Council could say "no" to including the park portion on grounds that it's a recreational path, he said. Right now, however, "the focus is on how to improve it." He said remedies would be instituted to slow down the cyclists.

isn't just about training students to become workers and consumers. At some point, we have to become citizens and understand the evolution of the country."

Heather Black is a Westmount communications designer. Contact her at: blackheajea@gmail.com.

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Moving in, throwing out

Moving creates a lot of recyclables, (boxes!) and garbage

With July 1 moving day upon us, here are a few helpful tips for new Westmounters, according to city officials.

For **large-volume recyclables & electronics**, if you (or your house) can't wait for the curbside pickup (see below), Westmount's Corporation Yard at 1 Bethune St. (reached via the south side of St. Catherine St., just east of Lansdowne Ave.) has facilities where residents can drop recy-

cables and electronic waste. To get there, go under the railroad bridge. The various bins are in front of you and to the left.

Spent batteries can be dropped at the Corporation Yard (1 Bethune St., see above for directions) and Fire Station 76 (19 Stanton St.). The arena drop-off is temporarily closed.

Bulky items (e.g. appliances) can be placed outside with regular garbage on collection day (see "Garbage pick-up" further on), but advise Public Works at 514.989.5311.

8 am on Thursdays (in the "eastern" section – see box "The great garbage divide" for the dividing line) and Fridays (in the "western" section).

Recycling pickup (e.g. clean paper, cardboard, metal and plastic – but not styrofoam) takes place on Wednesdays starting at 8 am. You need a blue box, which you get from Public Works (1 Bethune St.).

Compostables (e.g. food, plant cuttings, soiled paper – but not diapers) takes place on Mondays (eastern sector) and Tuesdays (western sector). You need a green wheeled box (which you get from Public Works at 1 Bethune St.), which should be placed where you put your garbage for garbage pick-up.

The great garbage divide

The dividing line between the eastern and western sections for garbage and compostables pick-up is a jagged line running up Hollowell, up the middle of Clarke, west down the middle of de Maisonneuve, up the middle of Lansdowne, east on Côte St. Antoine, then through Murray Hill Park (west of Murray, Forden Crescent and Sydenham), east on The Boulevard, then west of Aberdeen, and through Sunnyside and Summit Circle. If you're near the border, and aren't sure, ask your neighbours or call Public Works at 514.989.5390.

Local collections of **hazardous waste** take place twice a year. The next one is on Saturday, October 17 in front of the Westmount Public Library (4574 Sherbrooke St.) from 9 am to 5 pm. Westmounters can also dispose of hazardous materials at the Côte des Neiges Eco-centre (6925 Côte des Neiges Rd., next to Maxi) throughout the year.

Regular pickups

Regardless of whether it is recycling, compost or garbage, "refuse" should only be put out on pick-up day between 7 and 8 am, so you don't miss the collectors. Be warned: there are fines for early placement.

Garbage pickup takes place starting at

Unsure of what goes where? Or when?

To find out the fine points of what is "garbage" and what is "compost," go to the city's website at www.westmount.org. Click on "Environment" (centre-bottom box). More information can also be found there on pickup times and other topics. You can also call Public Works at 514.989.5390.

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TRENDSETTER

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

DENIS D'ETCHEVERRY

Denis D'Etcheverry is the co-owner of Flore. His style is as eclectically elegant as the shop. "I love clothes. My mother was a dressmaker, and I was raised with more fabric on the table than food!"

STYLE

How would you describe your personal style?

"Cosmopolitan" might be a good word.

In a way, my style is similar to our store – a Baroque mixture of modern, chic and relaxed.

I note with interest Denis' heavy silver Hermès bracelet, worn casually with his khaki cargo shorts, crisp white polo shirt and thongs – hot Havaianas, from Brazil, of course!

What is your favourite way of dressing? Relaxed, black tie?

Relaxed – absolutely! I spent years in a corporate environment in a suit and tie. [Denis was president of the Urgel Bourgie Group.] I enjoy dressing up, but I simply cannot wear a tie anymore. Day to day, I wear relaxed clothing.

On weekends, do you wear trendy jeans or comfy jeans...or both?

Relaxed jeans – but trendy.

FLORE, THE STORE

How did you get started in Flore?

My partner Gilles Lord was running Flore at another location in Westmount, and I was a silent partner. After 14 years in business, we are now celebrating four years in our new location.

Flore is far more than flowers – how would you describe your store?

I love accessories and interesting accents. Right now, we have two life-size horses from "The Mummy film," large Italianate containers, magnificent moose horns, charming garden statuary and two rare balloon chairs for the garden.

Flore is a contemporary Aladdin's cave with wonderful 'objets' to discover at every turn.

HOME STYLE

Is your home like your store?

Customers often say that the store is like stepping into our home: both are a mixture of antique and modern. We have lots of accent pieces, beautiful urns for example. And "memory meubles" – pieces we fell in love with on our trips.

I don't mind empty spaces – or an empty wall.

LIVING

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

Paris. It is such a beautiful city. But I would be tempted by Venice!

Do you have flowers in your home?

No, only on special occasions. I don't want to take them for granted.

But we have white flowers in our garden because they are beautiful at night.



Denis D'Etcheverry

GALAS

You have designed for many black tie events, such as the recent McCord Museum Ball. What inspires your style?

We love to visit hotels. Two of my favourites are the George V in Paris and the Gramercy Park in New York. The McCord concept was inspired by the Gramercy.

And we travel. We have visited Buenos Aires, Rajasthan, Paris, Venice and London. We have already planned our trip to Bhutan next winter.

FASHION

What do you think of today's fashions?

I love the looks of today. People feel free to mix the less expensive with investment pieces. For shoes, I love Prada and Todd's, and often shop at Frankfurt Airport where I discover fashion finds.

"Street" fashion is fun.

And of course, in European cities, you still see an elegance as well as the funk.

I love urbane classics and I love the urban looks of the street.

The style of Denis D'Etcheverry is exactly that: urbane and urban – worn with a casual confidence, of course.

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