

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 4 No. 5b *We are Westmount* May 11-12, 2010

Police appeal: Call 911 first when safety threatened

Residents question park safety

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

In the wake of an 84-year-old woman being pushed to the ground in Westmount Park May 1 by a would-be robber, citizens called on city council at its meeting May 3 to beef up park patrols and questioned the role of Public Security.

Finding no one to call for help on that Saturday at 8:30 am, the woman finally had to limp home alone to her apartment, a friend told the meeting, asking why no patrol had been present.

“We will find out,” Mayor Peter Trent said.

Neither police nor Public Security had a report of the incident in which the woman was apparently accosted by a young man who demanded money she did not have.

The story triggered several other com-

plaints from residents about students from a local school overturning benches, and youths cycling through the tot lot. (See a letter to the editor, May 4, p. 8.)

They also asked why they “never” saw public safety officers and asked for Public Security dispatchers to use more discretion before referring callers to 911 without offering to send a patrol car to the scene to investigate.

“It is very important for people to call 911 first in incidents involving violence and crime,” police commander Stéphane Plourde *continued on p. 9*

WMA names Janet Macklem Volunteer of the Year. See p. 6 for story.

City makes new accommodation in restaurant by-law

Gascogne to be allowed 25 seats

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Patrons of the Pâtisserie de Gascogne will likely be rejoicing due to a way city council has found to solve the longstanding issue of limiting its seating to 10.

Under modifications to a second draft by-law, the popular retail food outlet will now be allowed to have up to 25 seats, it was announced at the city council meeting May 3.

The change follows an April 26 public consultation meeting on the proposed lifting of the freeze on restaurants in the Victoria Village area and a petition of

Halo on the mountain



St. Georges High School student Will Ward leads the way in the two-kilometre 2010 Halo Road Race on Mount Royal, May 5.

Photo: Eric Bindman

See our listings p.15

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Westmount studying details of new Glen bike link

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

While Montreal last week unilaterally announced the construction of the long-discussed north-south bike path between de Maisonneuve and the Lachine Canal, Westmount city officials said there were still details to be worked out.

The route would follow Lansdowne Ave., south past the proposed entrance to the new arena/pool entrance and down Glen Rd. to de Courcelle and the Lachine bike route.

“Nobody told us,” Mayor Peter Trent said. “I had no idea this was coming down at this time.”

“We have to meet with Montreal to fine-tune how it will be done,” explained Public Works director Marianne Zalzal. The

city’s Administrative Traffic committee, which she chairs, would be making a recommendation, she said. “The traffic committee has no objection to the bike path.”

Still undetermined, she said, was whether the path would be split onto each side of the street or built on only one side for cyclists to travel in both directions. In the latter case, a protective barrier would be required.

Councillor Gary Ikeman, who was named May 3 as the chair of city council’s new *ad hoc* bike path committee, said the Montreal announcement was news to him. “Obviously, it will be one of our first items,” he said.

Because it will be an agglomeration project, the work would be carried out by Westmount but paid for by the aggro.

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For consideration, letters to the editor must be less than 300 words. Please identify them as “for publication” and include authors’ customary first and last names, and street names, all of which will be published. Please also include contact information (for follow-up purposes only). We do not publish letters regarding consumer complaints or inter-neighbour disputes. Letters will be edited for length, content and style. Please check your letter carefully. We may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please “redline” them instead of resending the whole letter.



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BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

More May 3 council news

Ad hoc committees struck for bike path and Turcot New way set up to study issues

Two new city council *ad hoc* committees have been set up to study the bike path and Turcot interchange project to trail blaze a new process for dealing with issues as they arise.

Following the decision in November to eliminate the traditional standing committees aligned to city departments, Mayor Peter Trent announced the new direction at the council meeting May 3.

“It’s a way of dealing with things issue by issue,” he explained, and to try to “reconcile the irreconcilable.”

Citing the success of the *ad hoc* arena/pool committee created by the newly elected council in a special effort to move the project forward quickly, the model similar to a task force would now be used for other issues. The temporary three-member committees would include the mayor ex-officio.

The bike path committee, to include councillors Gary Ikeman as chair, Kath-

leen Duncan and Theodora Samiotis, would also seek input from Westmount cycling groups, he explained.

The *ad hoc* committee on construction of the Turcot also includes Ikeman as chair along with Samiotis and Cynthia Lulham. All three represent the districts most affected.

Agglo budget report

Work has already begun on next year’s agglomeration budget, Mayor Peter Trent told the city council meeting May 3.

The early start along with a more open public process were key recommendations made by the Association of Suburban Municipalities (ASM) in a minority report after adoption of the 2010 budget. “I think it’s fair to say that without the report, it would not have happened,” he later explained.

Trent, who is president of the ASM, sits

Turcot plans requested

Westmount residents are very concerned about the noise and use of its streets during and after reconstruction of the Turcot interchange, Mayor Peter Trent has told Quebec’s Transport minister Julie Boulet.

Given the proximity of the city’s residential areas to the expressway and interchange, the level of noise and traffic is an important factor in the health of residents, he explained in a letter May 3 tabled at the council meeting that evening.

“We’re ready to meet with you in order to work together to find appropriate ways to allow our residents to have an acceptable quality of life during and after the work,” he states.

Of special concern is the proposed elimination of the St. Jacques access and closure of the Greene entrance. How

would these plans affect traffic volume using arterial and other roads crossing Westmount and Montreal from the start of the work?

He pointed out that the city’s suggestions and some recommendation were outlined in its presentation to the BAPE environmental hearings and in subsequent meetings with ministerial staff.

As well, the city had officially written to the minister of Transport in July 2009 concerning a sound barrier to minimize the impact the highway would have on the population. To this day, however, no reply has been received.

“We ask you therefore to inform us as quickly as possible of measures that will be taken so we can analyze them in order to reduce their impact.”

on the agglo finance commission along with Baie d’Urfé mayor Maria Tutino.

“It’s going to be very productive,” he ex-

plained. “I thank Mayor [Gérald] Tremblay for listening to us.”

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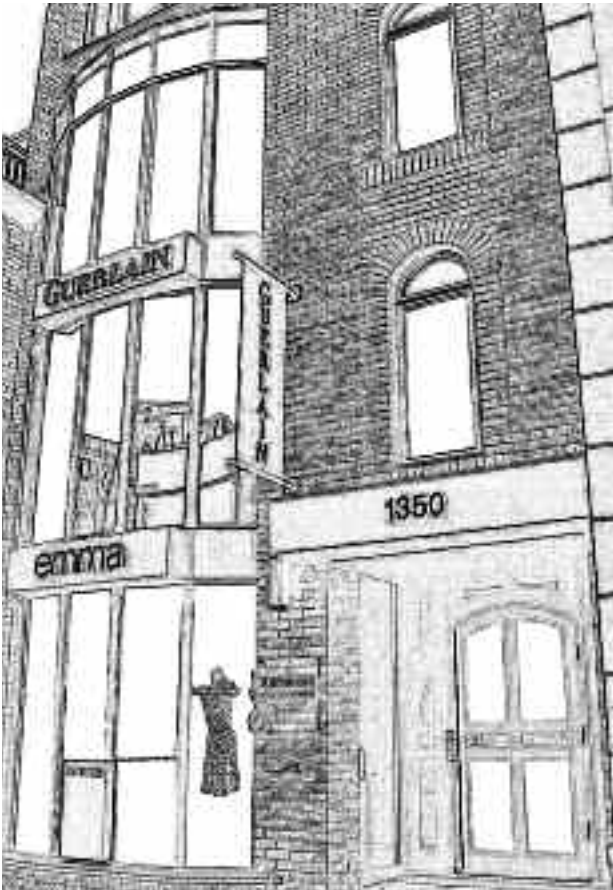
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ALL KINDS ON BIKE PATH

Recently, I saw an electric scooter on the bike path. It must have weighed 200 pounds, plus a man on it at 200 pounds. So 400 pounds hitting a 60-pound child at 25 miles per hour ... I never took physics but I don't think the result would be very good.

There are cyclists, people on scooters or wheel chairs, flying by being pulled along by their pitbulls; in-line skaters along with their 100-pound dogs. Several thousand bikes are passing through each day, none stopping at a red light or stop sign. None will ever stop to let you cross the path. Plus the best part: when you try to cross the street at a green light or stop sign you are told off with belligerent remarks, like "get off the path you f—ing Jew."

Please, Mayor Trent, move this path off my street, before someone gets seriously hurt or killed. The path is filled with rude, speeding people, who don't obey any laws and think they own the street.

SPENCER IRWIN, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

KUDOS, QUESTIONS FOR CITY ON ARENA PLAN

I'm thrilled at the idea of the underground ice rinks and the tennis courts above. Wonderful! Kudos to the person who suggested this plan.

I do have several questions about the

information provided in the *Independent*. A girls' program will be introduced, which is great. As well, there will be more "more time for hockey practice and general skating." I'm sure the information is available to us about how much time and space will be allotted, specifically to adult hockey practice, children's practice and general skating.

How many new adult teams would be created and how many more competitive adult teams would use the rink? Also how much time would they need?

MERYLYN WILK, SHERBROOKE ST.

WHERE WERE THE SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS?

I wish to express my concern about a meeting for the four local elementary schools that took place May 3 at Westmount Park School.

The absence of all our elected and paid school commissioners was most disturbing. The four school principals invited a ministry of Education representative to inform parents about the restructuring of all the public schools in the area.

What is truly frustrating is that not one of the elected school commissioners bothered attending, even though they had been asked to attend this meeting.

The issues ranged from bussing to language education to possible school closures. One can only wonder what issue

would actually motivate them to attend.

We must also wonder how dedicated these commissioners really are.

SAM KULIK, KENSINGTON AVE.

For related story, see p. 7.

THE WACKOS

We, Westmounters advocating cycling knowledge organization (the WACKOs), are a group of recreational bicyclists that wish to introduce and preserve sanity, moderation and consideration for others in the bike debate...less heat, more light.

This a partial list of our credo:

- Cycling is healthy and environmentally desirable (and, politically correct).
- Westmount introduced the bike path for recreational enjoyment.
- Cyclists are entitled to consideration, safety and facility by government aid and publicity; protection from automobiles, other cyclists, other citizens.
- Likewise, it should be mandatory, legally and socially, that cyclists: Obey traffic laws, extend courtesy, understanding and respect to others including pedestrians, children, the elderly and physically impaired, wheelchair occupants (whether pushed or motorized).

- Cooperate with the community by not trying to make self-indulgent demands that are inconvenient and financially burdensome to the community.
- Take into account that the majority of citizens do not partake in bicycling in this area; they prefer other venues for biking, are physically unable, or it is just not their bag.

We wish to sit at the table when our municipal authorities convene consultative sessions to discuss future bicycle policies. Those who wish to join us can call 514.485.3339 or email wacko@westmount.biz

STAN GROSSMAN,
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

RESTO RE-ZONING REMAINS A CONCERN

I am disturbed by the failure of the city to address the serious concerns of the residents of Victoria Village in the re-zoning of the area for additional restaurants.

The proposed change would allow for an increase of 15 new restaurants* with liquor licensees on top of the current 10, an increase of 150 percent. I find this action incredible from an administration that professes to believe in balancing commercial interests with that of the residents, and one that claims to understand the concerns of the neighbours.

For many years the residents believed that they indeed had a balance, but the city now says they were wrong; they were mistaken. This rezoning could add several hundred additional restaurant seats into a small area with substantially increased traffic, noise at all hours and with a major reduction in the availability of resident parking in an area that is at the limit right now, even before the imminent super-hospital construction.

While bars are not permitted, can the city guarantee that the new restaurants will not be centered around a bar with nachos as food?

A Westmounter, who supported the proposed changes at the April 26 public meeting, pointed to Monkland and Laurier streets as ideals for the city. But she chose to live, as did the residents of Victoria Village, in Westmount and not nearby Monkland, Laurier or in the Plateau.

Here we all enjoy a superb quality of life, unequalled anywhere else. This must not be jeopardized by an ill-thought-out zoning change.

I ask that the zoning changes be stayed until our major concerns, especially parking, are addressed. The alternative for the residents of Victoria Village would be to say "No to turning Victoria Village into Duluth St." through a referendum.

DENIS BIRO, BURTON AVE.

** Editor's note: It is true that there are 10 "restaurants" now, and 25 "restaurants" and "retail food outlets" will be permitted under the new law. For clarity, though, 11 of those 15 "new" spots are already occupied by existing retail food establishments, 10 of which can convert to full restaurant status, but all of which occupy one of the 25 spots regardless of what they do. As a result, at most four brand new establishments can open. Of course, the effect of 10 (or fewer) conversions and 4 (or fewer) new establishments might still be material and negative. For an exhaustive explanation, see story p. 1.*

Corrections

The photo showing Ellie Baron on p. 41 of the May 4 issue incorrectly identified a Greene Ave. establishment. It should have read Au Pain Doré.

In the same issue, we received incorrect information about the apartment building address mentioned in the Police Beat column on p. 12. It should have read 4300 de Maisonneuve Blvd.

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Ikeman adopts watchdog role on ‘excessive’ disruption

Council’s arena vote unanimous

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council members voted unanimously May 3 to proceed with the arena/pool project proposal described by one as “very imaginative and quite revolutionary.”

While council members credited the project’s 83-percent approval rating from the residents to the principal efforts of Mayor Peter Trent, Councillor Patrick Martin and retired contractor and resident Sam Aberman, the topic generated little comment from the audience.

Even Councillor Gary Ikeman, who described himself as a “vigorous opponent” of the previous council’s plan, said the current underground design was one he could endorse.

He would, however, closely monitor costs as well as excessive construction disruption in the neighbourhood and ensure that, when built, the new arena was not used to generate revenue from non-residents.

As expected, council also gave notice of motion it intended to adopt a loan by-law of some \$37 million. It also adopted a resolution authorizing the mayor to sign the infrastructure grant agreement for \$20 million. This would be used to pay down the loan in part (see story, May 4, p. 1).

No takers for results

In announcing a cut-off date of Friday, May 7 for the return of all questionnaires sent to residents, the mayor announced preliminary survey results from the Ipsos polling firm as reported May 4 in the *Independent*. While he had them printed out for distribution, no one asked for one, he later noted.

He also thanked the *ad hoc* arena committee for its work and especially Martin, its chair.

“You have no idea how much time he

spent with the architects and engineers,” Trent said, pointing out how lucky it was that Martin, an engineer, had professional construction experience as a project manager.

Advice from Aberman, the former president of DIVCO, who has built “tons” of multi-million dollar projects, was “invaluable,” he added. “Probably the most experienced person in Quebec, he has worked *pro bono publico* because he loves Westmount... We owe him a huge debt of gratitude.”

Because of their expertise, he said, “this project will not come in over \$37 million,” a point underlined by Councillor Tim Price, Finance commissioner.

Martin, who moved the council resolution to proceed with the project, said he was “extremely pleased to know our confidence is shared by 83 percent of residents.” He credited Trent with the plan to go underground and noted the Lemay architects had been very imaginative and responsive.

Classic Westmount

The result was “the classic example of what happens in Westmount” when council “listens to what people say” and comes up with a plan that is “a very imaginative and quite revolutionary,” Councillor Victor Drury explained.

Sports and Recreation commissioner Kathleen Duncan reported she had been “inundated with incredible response” to the proposal and looked forward to the end result. At that time, her District 4 shared the highest approval rating of 87 percent with Price’s District 2.

Ikeman – as Public Security commissioner and councillor for District 5, which will bear the brunt of the work with District 7 – said the city was “obligated to shield and protect” that district’s residents from excessive noise, light, parking and

other disruptions.

Let users pay any excess

He also proposed that “in the remote case” any costs exceeded those anticipated, they should be passed on to users rather than taxpayers.

Councillor Nicole Forbes echoed others’ comments, adding she was interested to see the comments from respondents to the questionnaire.

For Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who first joined city council 15 years ago to advocate for new recreational facilities, “the underground set-up” offered the best of both worlds by not taking away quality of life from those living in her district – “the area most affected.”

She later said she was very proud of her district’s 83-percent approval since she had worked very hard to encourage constituents to return the questionnaire. The neighbouring District 5 also achieved the same proportion of affirmation.

And for District 8 councillor Theodora Samiotis, whose constituents had mounted a NIMBY campaign against using the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) as a possible site, the proposal was “a job well done.”

Arena poll’s final approval rating same as prelim

As of Friday, May 7 (the cut-off date for the return of arena/pool questionnaires) more than one in four Westmount households had replied, 83 percent of whom approved of the project proceeding, Mayor Peter Trent told the *Independent* at the deadline time.

The final approval rating remained unchanged from the preliminary results a week earlier (see story May 4, p.1).

Of 8,062 surveys mailed out, 739 responses were received online of which 641 (or 87 percent) were in favour of the project going ahead. Of 1,391 hard copies received, 1,131 approved the proposed project, a proportion of 81 percent.

Details and final analyses will take longer to calculate and won’t be known for a while yet, Trent said. He didn’t expect much change from those previously announced.

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The woman with the ‘just do it’ attitude

WMA names Macklem ‘Volunteer of the Year’

By JOANNE PENHALE

It shouldn’t astonish anyone who knows Janet Macklem that she’ll be receiving an award for her volunteerism in Westmount.

Well, except Janet Macklem. “I was very surprised,” said Macklem about the news she was being recognized by the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) with the 2010 Derek Walker Award for volunteer citizen of the year. “I was very honoured and humbled. There’s so many deserving people.”

“We try to find the unsung hero of Westmount,” said WMA treasurer Helen Rainville Olders, who was on the committee that chose Macklem. “It’s someone who hasn’t been honoured by the city,” she said. How long each candidate has lived in Westmount, and the duration and scope of volunteerism is also considered, she said.

“What has impressed us the most has been the very unassuming way that she is always around to help in a very practical way,” said Maura Wilkins, who with her husband Robert Wilkins, nominated Macklem. “Many people I know have been helped by her in a small way, and she’s not someone to talk about the things she does.”

Here since the age of 15, Macklem has given her hands – and heart – in service to the Westmount community. She now works primarily with shut-in seniors, volunteering with the Meals on Wheels program for the past 25 years. She coordinates the driving and deliveries, and often does deliveries herself.

“One of the things I like about it is you do it. There’s not a lot of meetings and talk about it – you just do it,” Macklem said of her work there.

She also volunteers at Manoir Westmount, visiting with seniors and helping with the religious service. If the priest is not there, she does the communion serv-

ice.

Macklem is on the advisory committee of St. Mary’s Hospital. “I have a very soft spot for it,” she says, as her grandfather was one of its founders. She began volunteering there in 1980, once her three children, Joy, Janet and Tiff, were grown up. She was president of the auxiliary from 1985 to 1987.

Much of Macklem’s volunteerism is through the Ascension of our Lord Parish, through which she works to feed homeless men in Point St. Charles, and collect food and clothes for a Verdun parish. In 2000, she helped coordinate the furnishing of an apartment to house mentally ill people.

Macklem is also on the board of the local seniors centre, Contactivity.

“She’s the salt of the earth – really a person to rely on,” said executive director Mary Stark.

“She’s compassionate and competent and calm. And a great resource in terms of knowing people. She has a good sense of how to get things done and she just goes about them, without that much fanfare.”

“If you’re fortunate enough to have, you have to think of people who don’t,” Macklem said of the contributions she makes. “And it’s not only money.” Macklem says she’s been lucky that she has her health, lots of energy and time, and a very supportive husband, Dick Macklem.

“Something crops up every day almost,” Macklem says. “It’s not a big deal, you just do it.”

Macklem receives her award at the WMA annual general meeting May 17 at Victoria Hall. It is open to the public, says Rainville Olders.

The WMA award was first given in 1998, but was renamed the Derek Walker Award in 2005 to honour the recently de-



Janet Macklem, winner of the 2010 Derek Walker award for volunteer citizen of the year, in her Metcalfe Ave. home.

ceased WMA board member. “He was a wonderful gentleman,” said Rainville Olders of Walker. “He did all sorts of volunteering.”

Last year’s recipient was Mary Anne McNally, who works with Centre Greene.

Award ceremony

The Volunteer of the Year award is to be presented by the citizen watchdog organization, the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), at its annual general meeting May 17 at Victoria Hall. The event starts with cocktails at 7 pm with the meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm.

Reporter Sue Montgomery of the *Gazette*, who covered the Haiti earthquake crisis from the scene, will be guest speaker.

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School board: French instruction could be streamlined by 2012

By JOANNE PENHALE

Parents of elementary school kids will be getting surveys from the English Montreal School Board this week to poll their preferences on four options to combine the French immersion and bilingual programs into one extended French program.

“Nothing is set in stone, these are proposals we’re putting on the table,” said Christine Denommée, assistant director of EMSB’s pedagogical services. “The more information I gather, the more information I will be able to give to council,” she said.

The four options include:

- 68 percent overall French instruction, with 100 percent French in kindergarten, 80 percent in grades 1 and 2, and 54 percent from grades 3 to 6.
- 67 percent overall French, with 100 percent French up to grade 2, and then 43 percent until grade 6 – the same as the current immersion program.
- 65 percent overall French, with 85 percent in kindergarten, 80 percent in grades 1 and 2, and then 54 percent to grade 6.
- 50 percent overall French, throughout each grade, as is the current bilingual program.

The core program, which offers approximately 30 percent French instruction, will not be touched, said Denommée.

Demand for French

There has been a demand for more French instruction from parents who want their kids to be bilingual and biliterate, said Denommée, addressing parents from

Westmount Park School, where an information meeting was held May 3, and which also included parents from Roslyn, St. John Bosco and St. Gabriel elementary schools.

Denommée encouraged the audience of about 20 to send her their feedback and to tell anyone they know with elementary-aged kids to fill it out too. Parents can respond by May 21.

“It’s very logical,” said Roslyn parent, Sam Kohen of having one extended French program. “They should have done this years ago.”

Mother of eight Christine Griffin said since her children have total English exposure at home, she prefers the first option with the highest exposure to French in the earliest years, and then introducing crucial English grammar skills as the kids get older.

Survey findings

The findings of the survey will be reported to the commissioners, and their decision is expected by the end of the school year. A new extended French program would be implemented gradually, starting in 2012 with kindergarten and grade 1.

No school commissioners were present at the meeting. Denommée explained that this meeting was for parents. “In February, the options were presented to members of the school’s governing boards,” she said. The department of pedagogical services was there, as was Mario Tirelli, the director general of EMSB; Angela Mancini, chair of the council of commissioners; as well as other commissioners, and regional directors, said Denommée.

They presented the information about



Christine Denommée of EMSB's pedagogical services, left, answers Christine Griffin's questions about the possible impacts of the board's changes for her children, four of whom are students at Roslyn elementary school.

potential changes to the French programming at the three different regions within the EMSB's territory.

By 2012, commissioners also plan to implement new school boundaries.

The board reports that each school will have its own distinct territory and distinct boundary, and transportation services will then only be offered within the school ter-

ritory.

Denommée said that parents would still have a choice of which school to send their kids to, but they would not have access to transportation services if they chose a school that was out of their boundary.

The survey can be found online at www.emsb.qc.ca.

Story garden wins top Quebec award

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The Story Garden at Westmount Public Library has won the top landscaping award in the city’s population category in a competition held by Les Arts et la Ville, an organization the city joined a year ago.

“This is a very exciting prize because we are new members of the organization,” said Councillor Nicole Forbes, who attended the presentation ceremony May 6 in Victoriaville as commissioner of Culture and Community Events.

“It recognized what a little gem the Story Garden is, and the jury said it was not about the size or budget of a submission but the love and spirit it represents.”

Westmount was singled out as the only winner among municipalities between

20,000 and 100,000.

Forbes said it was also a tribute to retired library director Ann Moffat who conceived of and spearheaded the garden, the idea of Community Events assistant coordinator Virginia Elliott to enter the competition and the drive of library director Julie-Anne Cardella to make it happen based on the research and information compiled by outreach librarian Donna Lach. Cardella, Lach and Elliott also attended the presentation.

Named on the plaque were landscape architect Peter Jacobs, city horticulturist Claudette Savaria and library trustee and artist Lily Lam who designed and produced the award-winning storyteller’s cape, which has been exhibited in Canada and the US.

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Plant exchange May 19 offers variety

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Garden enthusiasts can expect to find many varieties of perennials for their gardens at this year’s Perennial Plant Exchange to be held at the arena Wednesday, May 19.

The city has grown 15 varieties for exchange or sale along with those that will be brought in by residents. Heirloom tomatoes and other vegetables are expected to be on sale while tips on composting and sustainable gardening will also be available.

The drop-off for plants to be exchanged for vouchers takes place from 4:30 pm to 6 pm. Doors open at 6 pm for the exchange of vouchers followed by the sale of remaining plants at \$2 each to the general public from 7 to 8 pm.

Organized by the city’s Horticultural Advisory Committee (HAC), the event is held to provide an opportunity for people to share their perennials with others. This year’s proceeds will go to future city garden projects.

“Plants brought in must be in good condition, watered and labelled as to variety and growing conditions (sun, part-sun, shade),” said city horticulturist Claudette

City grown plants

This year the city has grown the following perennials for exchange and sale:

- Platycodon*
- Hibiscus “Luna Red”
- Coreopsis grandiflora “Baby Sun”
- Echinops ritro*
- Gypsophylla repens
- Lysimachia atropurpurea “Beaujolais”
- Echinaceae*
- Papaver orientale “Pizzicata”
- Heuchera sanguinea “Hybrid Red”
- Helenium autumnale “Helena Red Shade”
- Monarda didyma “Panorama Red Shade”
- Sedum acre
- Salvia lyrata “Purple Volcano”
- Althaea rosea “Crème de Cassis”
- Aster alpinum

*Plants grown from seed which cannot be guaranteed for colour, size or uniformity.

Savaria. Four-inch pots and soil will be available on-site for anyone requiring them to pot up freshly-dug plants delivered in bags or other containers.

Annuals, house plants and gout (bishop’s) weed will not be accepted.

Restaurant: second draft adopted

.....
continued from p. 1

the news the next day.

“I have the feeling the people on the council recognized our business contribution for almost 15 years to the citizens and the neighbourhood.”

He also recognized the efforts of Dana Even, a resident of Arlington, who launched a petition on the store’s behalf after the public consultation meeting, collecting some 130 names to make good on the challenge she had made at the time.

Cannot convert to restaurant status

The fact that the Gascogne still would not be able to convert to “restaurant” status as could existing smaller outlets does not bother him, he said. All he had been asking for, for several years, was to expand seating to accommodate clientele. The store will retain its vested rights as a food-serving retail outlet.

While granting an exemption was something city officials said could not be done during the public consultation meeting, a solution was finally found to recognize the wish of many Westmounters to be able eat on the premises.

Despite learning of the changes on arrival at the council meeting, Even presented the petition of 130 names and thanked the council, pointing out the Gascogne had fallen through the cracks of the first draft by-law.

“That’s exactly why we have a public meeting,” explained Urban Planning commissioner Cynthia Lulham. “We go back [after] and review [the comments] and in the case of Gascogne, try to make accommodation.”

The petition “urged that this establishment not be discriminated against.” It concluded by stating: “We are Westmount residents whose past enjoyment of this *pâtisserie* has been severely restricted due to lack of sufficient seating.”

The second draft by-law caps the total number of all restaurants and food-serving retailers in Victoria Village to 25. This provides all 10 of the smaller existing retail food outlets with seating with the right to apply for restaurant status, with the exception of the larger Gascogne.

It also opens up the potential for four new restaurants having a total floor space

under 140 square meters, Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier said later. The zoning change involves five commercial zones. The one where the Gascogne is located allows for existing food outlets up to 300 square meters, Gascogne being only eligible establishment.

The by-law now faces a lengthy legal schedule of hurdles before any of the new spaces for small neighbourhood-type restaurants can be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis. Those who apply must be able to meet the city’s criteria and other code requirements for restaurants

and building occupancy.

The following existing establishments were identified by Urban Planning:

Existing restaurants

Starbucks, Dairy Queen, L’Oeufrier, Le Club du Village, Well House, JavaU, Tao, McDonald’s, Café Victoria and Pronto.

The 11 “food retail outlets” with seating

Second Cup, Mini & Coco, La Fournagerie, Cavallaro, Eatz Encore, Bilboquet, Le Café-Crème, Le Fournil, Marché Vic, Mia Moto and Pâtisserie de Gascogne*.

* Too large to convert to restaurant status.



Dana Even presents the Gascogne petition.

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See story “\$1,000 donated for crime-fighting fund,” March 30, p. 6, for details.

Tipline will run any reward-for-information notices being offered by residents, whether as part of the fund mentioned above or directly.

Residents question security roles

continued from p. 1

told the *Independent* after listening to the concerns as he sat in the audience. Police give priority to cases involving violence.

“In the case of injuries, 911 would also dispatch an ambulance. A delay of even a few minutes can be very important,” Plourde stressed.

“What does the Public Security do for me?” the victim’s friend asked, adding she paid high taxes but “when I call them, they say call [police].”

Public Security commissioner Gary Ike-man explained that the role of Public Security is to enforce municipal by-laws and act as a deterrent to trouble. It is police who deal with violence, aggression and the type of incident experienced by the elderly woman. The city would try to add additional park patrols.

It was also pointed out that help phones were located outside park comfort stations and suggested that people code the Public Security number (514.989.5222) into their cell phones.

Another questioner stated the “only time” she saw the patrol vehicles was

when they were parked in the Westmount High School lot with engines running when they were supposed to be enforcing the anti-idling by-law.

“I can understand why you’re angry,” the mayor replied.

“Demographics and the population have changed,” said one. “We’re an open society and I applaud that. But we shouldn’t be open to crime.”

Resident Maureen Kiely also related her concern about a call she made to Public Security last year over a potentially dangerous traffic situation unfolding at the Sherbrooke/Victoria intersection during blockage of Sherbrooke and was told to call police. She said that if the dispatcher had sent a car to the scene in the meantime, Public Security would have had a better understanding of the situation.

May at the art galleries

Division Gallery – Richard-Max Tremblay “L’ombre des choses”: paintings. Exhibit continues to June 5. New location: 1368 Greene, 514.938.3863.

Galerie de Bellefeuille – Peter Krausz: paintings. Vernissage: May 8 at 2:30 pm. Exhibit continues to May 19. Joshua Jensen-Nagle: photography. Vernissage: May 22 at 1 pm. Exhibit continues to June 2. 1367 Greene, 514.933.4406.

Galerie D’Este – Elena Willis: photography. Exhibit continues to May 23. Jean-Pierre Ruel: paintings. Vernissage: May 27 at 5 pm. Exhibit continues to June 20. 1329 Greene, 514.846.1515.

Gallery at Victoria Hall – Pamela Stewart: paintings and figurines. Exhibit continues to May 22. 4626 Sherbrooke, 514.989.5226.

Han Art – Michael Jolliffe: paintings. Exhibit continues to May 29. 4209 St. Catherine W. 514.876.9278

McClure Gallery – Visual Arts Centre – John Fox “Refiguration”: paintings. Exhibit continues to May 22. Max Wyse: mixed media. Vernissage: May 27 at 6 pm. Exhibit continues to June 19. 350 Victoria, 514.488.9558.

Parisian Laundry – Clint Neufeld “Grandpa used to wash my hands with gasoline”: sculpture; and Jason Gringler “Post Mortem Transmission”: paintings. Exhibit continues to May 22. 3550 St. Antoine, 514.989.1056.

Police receive English version of Declaration of Services

Local Station 12 police commander Stéphane Plourde wants *Independent* readers to know that a framed version of the “Declaration of Services to Citizens” has now been received in English.

When the document was first unveiled March 16, only the French version was available, although it was reproduced in both languages in pamphlet form. At that time Plourde said he would request a plaque in English to be mounted alongside the French (see March 23, p. 3).

LCC students collect books for Westmount Park School

Lower Canada College’s grade 1 students organized a junior-school-wide, week-long book drive last month that garnered over 20 boxes of books to donate to Westmount Park elementary school. To help encourage donations, the students made posters and decorated the collection boxes that were placed in individual classrooms. Grade 5 and 6 students helped transport the boxes.

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- Give your appliances a thorough deep clean. This includes cleaning your oven, stove burners, and range hood (replacing or cleaning the filter if necessary), and cleaning your refrigerator shelves, door, and frame. Maintain your air conditioner, and clean the filter regularly.
- Inspect the grout, caulk, and seals on your sink, shower, bathtub, and floors. Replace, repair, and clean as necessary.
- Make sure to thoroughly clean area rugs. Clean it as best you can, and shake it outside to clear away dust. Discard old, worn rugs.
- Clear away clutter! A clutter-free home is a home that sells. Donate lightly-used clothing, household items, and toys to charity:
 - Computers and computer equipment can be donated to **Computers for Schools**, which collects equipment for public schools, libraries, and not-for-profit organizations. Drop-off equipment at 1800 McGill College, 18th floor, or call at (514) 391-0861.
 - **The Canadian Diabetes Association** will pick up your gently used clothing, furniture, toys, and household items. Call 1-800-505-5525 to schedule a free pick-up.
 - Gently used, clean women's clothing can be donated to **Chez Doris**, a local women's shelter. Call (514) 937-2341 for more information, or visit chezdoris.ca.

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SOLD 30 Thornhill Asked \$1,100,000

SOLD 431 Mt. Pleasant Asked \$959,000

SOLD 484 Argyle Asked \$925,000

SOLD 461 Mt. Pleasant Asked \$899,000

SOLD 361-363 Grosvenor Asked \$899,000

SOLD 527 Victoria Ave. Asked \$760,000

SOLD 477 Victoria Ave. Asked \$689,000

SOLD 41 Windsor Asked \$510,000

BOUGHT Luminous Loft Asked \$415K

BOUGHT Retirement Retreat Asked \$314K

BOUGHT Baie d'Urfé Beauty Asked \$535K

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Westmounters attend Alzheimer event



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmounters were model supporters of "A Closet Affair," the Alzheimer Groupe Inc. (AGI) extravaganza held mid April at ExCentris.

Modeling in the fashion show were **Christine Pickrell** (wearing a Helmer dress), **Claire Webster** (in Andy Thé Anh), **Nancy Bloomfield** (in a white pantsuit by Westmount couture team **Serge & Réal**), **Etty Bienstock** (wearing Laurèl) and **Aaron Rand**, elegant in Ogilvy Monsieur.

They modeled with **Mirko Wicha** (wear-

ing Ernest), **Nada Rouabhia** (in Joshua-DAVID), **Suki Park** (in Julia Abraham Couture), **Kosta Markoglou** (in M.H. Grover), **Dale King** (wearing Minelli), Selwyn House headmaster **Hal Hannaford** (in S. Cohen) **Geraldine Caldart-Hart** (wearing Luisa Cerano), **Lisa Cohen** (in Michael Kors) and **Vince Guzzo**, dressed by Henry Marks.

Westmounter **Cheryl Besner-Cohen**, the soirée's stylish coordinator, was ably assisted by **Danielle Bitton** and **Raphy Benbaron**, with **Errol Pereira** organizing the fashion show. Commentator was Westmounter **Jennifer Campbell**.

The finale featured an original song, "Listen," written and performed by Westmounter **Chantal Chamandy**, accompanied by **Joel Campbell** and Westmount's ECS school choir.

Emcees CJAD's **Andrew Carter** (hubby of AGI PR **Cindy Aikman**) and **Isabelle Racicot** addressed the sold-out crowd, echoing the sentiments of AGI pres **Miriam Friedman** by expressing appreciation to all.

Chic guests included Westmounters **Thérèse** and **Michael Brownstein**, **Rosemary** and **Frank Niro**, **Caroline** and **John**

Kalaydjian, **Diana Miceli**, **Susan** and **Peter Varadi**, **Evelyn Black**, **Lynne Kassie**, **Lenore Harris**, **Linda Smith** and **Clarissa** and **Stephen Bronfman**. To the delight of departing guests, each was presented a flower pot and seeds of the lovely little blue flower called the forget-me-not.



Westmounter Claire Webster, Geraldine Caldart-Hart, Westmounters Aaron Rand and Nancy Bloomfield, and Vince Guzzo.



Westmounter Chantal Chamandy



Westmounter Evelyn Schachter

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Photo: Dale Gould

Jane's Walk visits Westmount landmarks



Ruth Allan-Rigby describes some of the elaborate engravings on City Hall.

BY RALPH THOMPSON

Jane's Walk took place in Westmount the afternoon of May 2. The walk was lead by Ruth Allan-Rigby with support from Dorothy Lindsay.

The walk started on the steps of Victoria Hall, originally a brick building designed by local architect Robert Findlay and erected in 1898. It was razed by fire in 1924 but was rebuilt to a new design, similar to city hall by architects Hutchison and Wood. The Gallery at Victoria Hall is a recent addition but was designed to blend in with the main building.

The walk continued on to the greenhouse, which was constructed in 1927 by noted greenhouse manufacturers, Lord & Burnham, and was restored in 2004 by Beaupré & Michaud. The Westmount Public Library, another Findlay design, was completed in 1899 and restored in 2005.

The tour continued through Westmount Park, whose origins date back to 1898. It was explained that the members of Côte St. Antoine Improvement Committee's vision responded to the popular idea that every town

continued on p. 18

Jane Jacobs (1916-2006) was an urbanist and activist whose 1961 treatise, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, introduced ground-breaking ideas about how cities function, evolve and fail. Jacobs helped derail the car-centred approach to urban planning in both New York and Toronto, invigorating neighborhood activism by helping stop the expansion of expressways and roads. Jacobs encouraged people to familiarize themselves with the places where they live, work and play, and today we are carrying on this tradition. She was a firm believer in the importance of local residents having input on how their neighborhoods develop.

– an excerpt from Ruth Allan-Rigby's notes for participants.

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Five locals in the 26th Alouettes Classic



Off-Sidel

NOAH SIDEL

With five Selwyn House Griffons in the 26th Alouettes Classic high school All-Star football game April 30, young Westmounters played a key role – though, unfortunately, all of the Selwyn kids were on the wrong side of a 24-11 loss.

Indeed, it was Team Michael Soles that prevailed over Team Pierre Vercheval in the game played at NDG's Concordia Stadium, despite the best efforts of a handful of local kids.

Defensive linemen Marc Ordonselli and Philip Destefano suited up for Team Soles on the defending side of the ball, while Alex Abrams played on both lines, Joey Zammit played on the offensive line, and Connor O'Brien played at receiver.

Team Soles opened the scoring with an early single, followed by a one-yard touchdown run by Collège de Montréal's Donovan Martel to go up 8-0, while Team

Vercheval responded quickly with a 75-yard touchdown run by Lower Canada College's Kadeem Campbell to make it 8-7.

After exchanging singles and a safety, Team Vercheval actually took a 10-9 lead, but that was the closest the team – named for Montreal Alouettes Hall-of-Famer Pierre Vercheval – would come.

Led by outstanding quarterback Benoît Lacasse from Curé Antoine Labelle, Team Soles blew the game open in the fourth quarter despite the best efforts from the Vercheval defence, including the Selwyn kids who tried to pressure him.

Lacasse found Antoine Labelle teammate Sébastien Champagne for a 32-yard passing score, then ran one in himself en route to being named his team's offensive MVP – and clearly putting in the game's standout performance.

"We worked hard all week prepping for this game – it was a real professional experience," said Lacasse, who, along with the other Classic players was tutored by several university-level players and coaches, as well as Montreal Alouettes Grey Cup Champions Damon Duval and Martin Bédard throughout the week leading up to last Friday.



Photo: Eric Bindman

"To come out and win was great, but the most important part was showing to all the coaches here what we could do. Next year I'll be at Vanier, and from there, who knows? This was a great way to show off our talents."

Despite losing, Campbell was pleased with his performance and echoed Lacasse's comments.

"At the Classic we were a group of guys who didn't know each other, but we are all competitors and in four days we had to learn each other's strengths and weaknesses. By game day we were ready to go – a lot of us had played against each other before, so we knew a bit coming in," said

Campbell, who was Team Soles' top offensive player.

"I felt like I had to step it up because I felt like I didn't have the best week of practice. I wanted to show my coaches and teammates how good I could be though, so I found that extra gear. I had that one 75-yard run and that really helped.

"I took it to the outside, and I was able to get some good blocks – and I just found daylight. After that it was just me and the safety and one on one I knew I could take it."

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Painting for the kids



As part of a campaign being conducted this spring across Ontario and Quebec, students working for a painting services company this summer to pay their way through university carried out some badly needed work on May 3 and 4 at the Montreal Children's Hospital's Gilman Pavilion on Atwater Ave. The company, Scholars at Your Service, which has many clients in Westmount, begins each summer season with a two-day volunteer project to get rookie painters acquainted with procedures. "Doing 200 windows at the Montreal Children's seemed like a great way to volunteer and give back to the community before we start our season," said Mark Kostove, the company's senior franchise manager in Montreal, left. To his right is employee Ian Brown.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Olympian Heil to mentor ECS students

By ERIN STROPES

The students of Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School (ECS) will be welcoming a new mentor-in-residence this fall: Winter Olympic medalist Jennifer Heil.

Heil, an elite freestyle skier and dedicated activist for Right to Play and other children's and girl's rights organizations, will work with students and teachers throughout the coming school year.

The details of the program have not been finalized, since Heil, who first came to ECS's attention when she attended the school's athletics banquet in May 2009, only confirmed her commitment to the position in April. She said in a statement that she will "work with the girls at ECS to show them how they can harness their

passion for making a difference in the world."

The thirteen women, who acted as mentors during ECS's just-completed centennial school year, passed the torch to Heil during a tribute evening at the Montreal Science Centre on May 4. These "Women of Courage" included Université de Montréal chancellor Louise Roy, MUHC cardiologist Nadia Giannetti, and chimpanzee rescue activist Gloria Grow.

Around 300 parents, alumni, and teachers attended the event. The guests were treated to reports and videos featuring the activities each grade completed with their Women of Courage mentors during the school year, from working in a community kitchen to visiting the ICU of the Jewish General Hospital.

Anniversary gala set for Persephone

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Persephone Productions will mark its 10th anniversary with a gala evening June 1 featuring the best of the decade, says Westmount founder and artistic director Gabrielle Soskin.

The non-profit theatre company will present monologues and extracts from some of its 14 shows over the 10-year period.

A reception, silent auction and raffle will take place following the 8 pm performance, all at The Segal Centre for Performing Arts (5170 Côte St. Catherine Rd.)

The semi-formal evening is also a fundraiser for which tax receipts for \$65 will be issued with the \$75 tickets. These may be obtained by calling the box office at 514.481.1327.

The company was launched by Soskin with a mandate to create work opportunities for emerging young professionals. These include not only actors but also stage managers, technicians and others. Soskin estimates the company has already helped with the career development of up to 300 aspiring artists.

Among Westmounters who have been involved in the company with her are Ann Elbourne, Diane Barker, Susan Spender and Andrée McNamara.

Soskin, whose own 45-year theatrical career stems from her training at England's Old Vic Theatre School, has taught numerous Westmount children in after-school drama classes at Roslyn School followed by two decades of teaching at John Abbott College. She is a longtime resident of Somerville Ave.



Platinum recording artist Chantal Chamandy performs with girls from ECS's senior choir at the Women of Courage tribute evening on May 4. Grade 10 and 11 students from left Stephanie Parsons, Emma Le Rossignol, Kia Pouliot, Geneviève Theriault, Samantha Berger-Klasa and Francesca Valenti.

Photo: Sean O'Neill

Heil was unable to attend the event as she was away taking a rare vacation, but a video message, taped at ECS late in April, was screened at the end of the evening. ECS director of communications Holly Potter said that although Heil's visit wasn't common knowledge, word spread quickly among the students, who congregated eagerly for autographs and photos.

"She's a great, young role model who's interested in giving back to the community," said Potter, "and the girls love her. We're very excited to work with Jennifer during the coming school year."

Beauty, listed on an estate sale ad



Well, you need all the help you can get when you need to place your beloved cat with another family if you are leaving the country. So, when I received the estate sale notice and read the last sentence "Also looking for a good home to give a lovely cat," I naturally called to get more information for you.

Beauty is a seven-year-old grey striped domestic shorthair with golden eyes. She is sterilized, has had all her shots and is declawed, which makes her an indoor only cat.

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Porscha, everything is new!



BY MARY LAMEY

Meet the cute face of Quebec's uncute puppy mill industry. This sleek miniature pinscher spent her whole life in a breeding cage churning out puppies for pet stores until being sprung out by Eleven Eleven Animal Rescue last October.

Porscha has spent the last few months catching up on all the things she missed, like daylight, walking on grass, burrowing that elegant nose in fresh snow and all five seasons of *Grey's Anatomy*. She's finally figured out what a squeaky toy is for and how to make dog friends. (i.e. bum sniff, bum sniff, now we're friends!)

This beauty was so neglected that she went blind from a lack of tear production. She can see now, but needs eye drops twice a day. She doesn't even mind. Porscha is eager for a home, preferably one without too many stairs because her eyesight still isn't great. She's pad-trained and loves her dog crate. She'd do better in a house without small kids. If you have an-

other pooch to show her the ropes, all the better.

Could this eight-pound bundle of resilience be the pooch for you? If so, call Erika at 514.938.8114 or visit www.underdogclub.org.



Porscha

Jane's Walk in Westmount

continued from p. 14

should have a central park for the pleasure and health of its residents.

Next stop was city hall, another Findlay masterpiece that was built in 1922. The tour continued past the current site of Selwyn House School (built around 1934), the Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue (1921) and St. Matthias Church (1875). Some explanation was provided concerning the historic milestone, which was placed by the Sulpicians to mark the distance from their mission of Fort de la Montagne (now

the Grande Séminaire de Montréal). Next, participants passed by the two remaining Metcalfe Terrace properties, built by Moses Judah Hays around 1840. The walk ended back at Victoria Hall at 4 pm.

This was the first Jane's Walk in Westmount but similar one were held on May 1 and 2 in 29 cities in Canada, 32 cities in the US and seven cities on other continents.

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Comin' Up

TUESDAY, MAY 11

• The **Westmount Horticultural Society** meets at 7 to 9 pm at the Westmount Library. Monica Giacomini will speak on "Wonder of Weeds: Food and Medicine." Guests welcome, Cost: \$5.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

• A **tribute to Katherine Hepburn**, 8 pm at the Atwater Library, Tupper entrance. Musical performances and readings by Catherine Kidd and Jessica Rose. Free, but donations of \$8 or more includes door prize draw and refreshments.
• The Thomas More Institute presents an interview with **Dennis O'Connor** on Paul Ricoeur, 7 to 9 pm. 3405 Atwater. Cost \$10. Reserve: 514.935.9585.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

The **Montreal Welsh Male Choir** performs "For the Love of Singing," Victoria Hall, 7:30 pm. Tickets available at Victoria Hall prior to the concert and at the door. Cost: \$20.

MONDAY, MAY 17

Westmount Municipal Association's annual general meeting at Victoria Hall. Cocktails at 7 pm, meeting and presentation of the **Volunteer Citizen of Year**

Award, followed by guest speaker, Sue Montgomery of the *Gazette*, 7:30 pm.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

• Beginning of 12-week **Intro to Judaism** class with Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom's Rabbi Lerner, who teaches Hebrew reading, Jewish holidays, life cycle and history. Open to all. Register: 514.937.3575.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Perennial plant exchange at the arena. Bring perennials from your garden from 4:30 to 6 pm; exchange them for trading vouchers, 6 to 7 pm. Info: 514.989.5226.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

• Westmount Historical Association's last speaker in spring series: Virginia McClure on the Visual Arts Centre, 7 to 9 pm at the Westmount Library. Free for members; \$5 non-members at door. Info: 514.989.5510 or 514.932.6688.
• Westmount Park School presents its **Interlink concert**, a mix of new and old songs, 7 pm in auditorium. Grade 4 & 5 choir joins the Place Kensington seniors choir.

Cutler joins up with MMFA for Alzheimer cause



From left, Colleen Gainey, CJAD host Andrew Carter, Sonia Besner, Mary Vanasajja, Lorraine Klaasen and gallery owner Marina Cutler.

The inaugural "Brush Off," a competition and fundraiser held the evening of May 6 at the Avenue Art Gallery in Old Montreal, raised money for the benefit of persons living with Alzheimer's disease. Organized by gallery owner and Westmount resident Marina Cutler, in conjunction with the Montreal Museum of

Fine Arts (MMFA), the event gave guests the opportunity to discover, enjoy and purchase art works by emerging artists.

The proceeds will be dedicated to the MMFA Art Links program, which aims to connect persons affected by Alzheimer's to historical and contemporary visual art.

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SHS ups its French programming

A report released by Westmount’s Selwyn House School cites a continued increase in the institution’s French-language elementary education while announcing ongoing efforts to enhance immersion-based programming.

Since 2001, the school has conducted 70 percent of its kindergarten through grade 2 instructional time in French, according to a press release, and now 50 percent of programming for grades 3 through 6 is also in French.

This means all elementary grade students are enrolled in an integrated French program. The release indicates that approximately two thirds of the primary school’s teachers are francophones, who interact with the students in French only. Many extra-curricular activities, such as clubs and sports, are also offered in French.

The school says it will begin examining the high school level’s French programming.

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Lieutenant-governor comes to Westmount



From left, Herbert Bercovitz, Joanna Wedge, Don Sancton, Mayor Peter Trent and Mary Sancton at the awards ceremony. Joanna Wedge was accepting the award for her ill father, Don Wedge. Don Sancton accepted the award for his late father, John Sancton, whose wife Mary and son Ted (not pictured) were also in attendance.

Photo: Ted Sancton

Marianopolis College hosted the award ceremony May 1 for Quebec lieutenant-governor Pierre Duchesne to present medals to seniors and students for community contribution. As previously reported, recipients were former city councillor and sculptor Herbert Bercovitz;

civic activist and volunteer Don Wedge; the late John Sancton, Rotary president and longtime *Examiner* publisher; and Marianopolis student government officials Ryan Brun and Alisha Khan (see story April 27, p. 2).

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Marianopolis marks the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands

PHOTOS BY ROBERT J. GALBRAITH



Veterans gather around a restored 1943 truck used in the invasion of Holland by the allies, during the reception at Marianopolis College celebrating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands, May 5.



Honorary consul of the Netherlands Michael Polak, a graduate of the Marianopolis College class of 1977, presents pins to Chief Warrant Officer Aubé. Looking on is Sergeant Dell. Both are retired.



Westmounters Andy and Ann Ip look at an exhibit, in the Marianopolis College boardroom. The Ips donated to College's capital campaign, and the boardroom where the event took place is named in their honour with a special plaque thanking them for their contribution.

Book sale raises \$9,600 for library

The Friends of the Library raised \$9,600 from its spring book sale over the weekend April 24-25. The results came in the wake of an \$11,000 donation made by the volunteers to the Westmount Public Library some two months ago.

The latest results were generated from the sale of some 7,000 books, according to Lee Taylor who co-chaired the semi-annual event with Carolyn O'Neill.

"This sale was very calm and leisurely compared to the typical stampede," she said. Good weather probably played a role in more evenly distributing the buyers and browsers. "Besides the usual best sellers, one interesting thing we sold was a three-volume set of *Teach Yourself Urdu*. That really surprised us."

As usual, student volunteer helpers "were fantastic," she added. A large contingent from LCC provided most of the much needed muscle power and endurance in moving around heavy boxes of books. Other volunteers came from ECS and École Internationale de Montréal at the former St. Paul's Academy.

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Local quilters craft Nomadic bedspreads with students

Members of the Westmount Quilter's Guild (WQG) are preparing materials for a project involving students, grades 4 and 5, from Montreal schools. The students designed the quilting squares, which have a nomad theme, during workshops hosted by the WQG and held at the McCord Museum as part of a project dubbed "*Les aventuriers nomads*". Coordinated by the McCord Museum of Canadian History and the Fur Trade at Lachine National Historic Site of Parks Canada, the project is financially backed by Quebec's minister of Education. The quilts will be assembled by the WQG and displayed at the McCord Museum the first week of June before being sent to participating schools.



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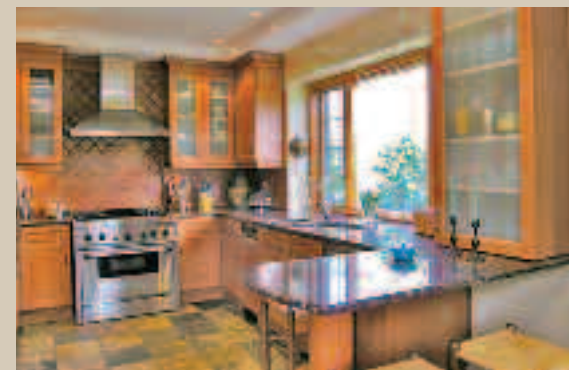
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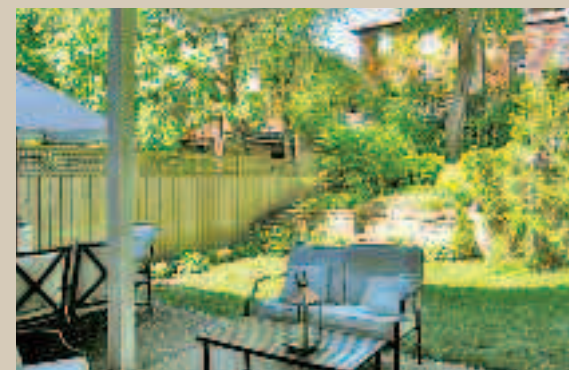
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TANIA KALECHEFF

B.Arch. • Chartered Real Estate Agent

Selling fine homes in Westmount and adjacent areas



DOWNTOWN PENTHOUSE \$3,395,000 +tax

Open-concept living spaces, high ceilings, large windows showing exceptional views of Montreal... everything imbued with light and space. The result is as innovative as it is inspiring. This luxury residence invites relaxation and the sharing of privilege at Montreal's prestige address. A masterful reinterpretation of the concept of "modern," infused with timelessness through the use of noble materials. Everything has been selected to create an international-class residential project in keeping with the prestige of the site. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths on 2750 sq. ft. plus 1600 sq.ft. terrace. 3 garage.



Intracoastal view \$453,000

1,469 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom



Ocean view \$557,000

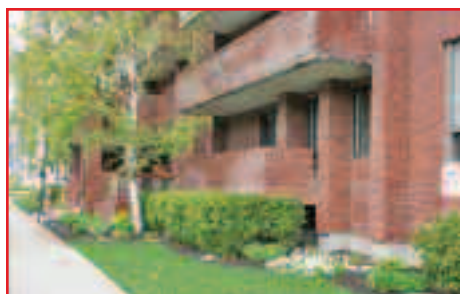
1,966 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom



Ocean view \$650,000

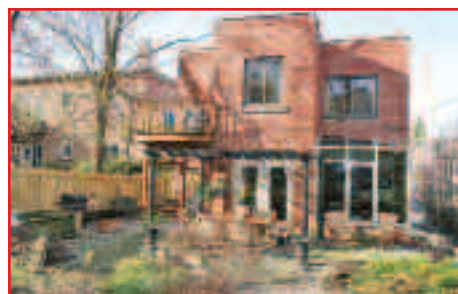
2,108 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, den, 2.5 bathroom

POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA New luxury condos offer the ultimate resort lifestyle; with 40,000 sq. ft. of indoor and outdoor amenities, there is something for everyone to do. Each residence is luxuriously appointed with top of the line finishes and ample space for family and friends. All rooms have spectacular views and open onto spacious terraces. 24 hr security. Appliances and garage incl. Don't miss the opportunity to purchase South Florida's most luxurious residences at unbelievable discounts, 55% below original asking prices.



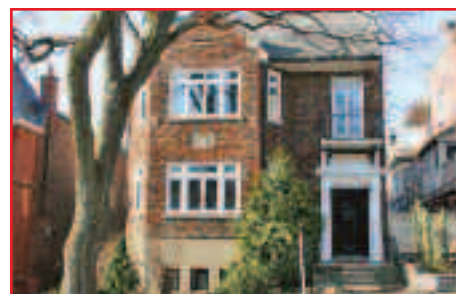
DOWNTOWN \$339,000

Centrally located, sunny & spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Ideal layout. Oversize master bedroom. Eat-in kitchen w/ dinette area. Impeccable condition. Balcony. Central air.



WESTMOUNT ADJ. \$599,000

One of a kind condo w/ magnificent garden. 2+1 bedroom, 3 bath, bachelor apt, garage.



WESTMOUNT \$769,000

Sunny ground floor condo, 2 bdrm + den, 2 bath, over 2000 sq. ft. Renovated kitchen. Basement w/ huge family room has separate entrance. Large terrace. Garage plus ext. parking.

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