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DON'T MISS IT

MUHC public information session on the superhospital, Tuesday, September 14, 7 – 9 pm. See Comin' Up, p. 25.

PSOs crack down on safety as schools resume

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Additional public safety officers (PSOs) have been brought in to handle back-to-school traffic congestion, as well as a number of parking and noise complaints from residents near Marianopolis, Public Security officials report.

PSOs on foot patrol have been stationed at most schools on the first day of classes. They are also following up to sensitize parents against dropping off children across the street from a school, idling cars or lingering in drop-off zones.

"We've been ticketing cars that exceed the 10 continued on p. 19

Back to school? It's not all bad



Marionopolis College health science student, Kai Park, strums his guitar during lunch break at the CEGEP as his friends, some in social and some in pure and applied sciences, relax September 2.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

Claremont area residents roast Second Cup's 24/7 test run

BY ISAAC OLSON

Concern is brewing over a Westmount Second Cup franchise's September 6 switch to serving customers 24/7 but, says the shop's manager, it's a one-month trial and they'll pull the plug if it causes problems in the local community.

"It is a beautiful neighbourhood," said Muhannad Saad, manager of the coffee shop located at 5001 Sherbrooke near Claremont. "If anything was to happen, we would respond immediately. If it means stopping the 24/7 service, then we would do that."

They would reconsider the change, he said, because the Second Cup serves the neighbourhood and they do not want to disrupt the shop's relationship with the community. The owner is testing the 24/7 market, he said, because there aren't any other around-the-clock coffee shops in the immediate area.

Neighbouring residents like Rosalind Davis and Richard Aylett have contacted the city with concerns ranging from increased noise and litter to the potential of other area businesses following the coffee shop's lead.

"The business is on the continued on p. 4

See our listings p. 24

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Westmounters to take part in Tour de Lance bike rally



More than a half-dozen Westmount residents plan to take part in the third annual 2010 Cedars Tour de Lance, a cycling event in Mont Tremblant, September 11, for the benefit of the MUHC's Cedars Cancer Institute, with seven-time Tour de France champ and cancer survivor Lance Armstrong leading them. A total of 50 cyclists, who are raising \$25,000, each will be joining Armstrong for a 100-km ride through the Laurentians. Seen here from left are four of the Westmounters who will be participating: Danny Minogue, Debbie Zuckerman, Leonard Schlemm and Sally Morris. Biking teams can be registered and donations can be made through this web site: www.tourdelance.ca/donate.html.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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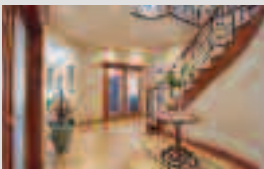
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City asks more questions, wants key data Council reviews Bixi sites

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount has requested specific terms and conditions related to bringing Bixi stations into the city, city director-general Duncan Campbell said last week. This



follows a report of locations suggested by the company running the bicycle sharing program,

Without divulging locations pinpointed for the bicycle stations, he said they were – as expected – in the higher traffic areas such as Sherbrooke and Victoria, a cross-roads for the main east-west and north-south traffic routes.

City council briefly discussed the report at its closed-door general committee meeting August 2, Campbell said, but wanted basic information and many more details on the Montreal-based program before studying it further.

Such key items include data on insurance, spacing between stations, impact and financial issues, he explained. For example: Would Westmount have to pay for the stations? Would it share in any profits or have to absorb some of the \$30-million

debt incurred by the PBSC?

Until this is received, further consideration of the program would be “premature.” Campbell said he has requested the information from the Public Bicycle System Company (PBSC), which operates the Bixi network.

The suggested locations were submitted to the city by a Bixi locator. This follows a request stemming from an initial meeting June 8 between Bixi officials and Westmount representatives (see story July 13, p.1). These included the council’s ad hoc bicycle committee as well as Campbell.

Lost 3-year-old found

A 3-year-old child “slipped through the hands of his great-grandmother” while shopping near Sherbrooke and Victoria August 27, and she could not find him anywhere, Public Security officials report.

Officers were called to the scene and managed to retrieve the little boy on the sidewalk outside 4855 Sherbrooke, the new location of Hogg’s at the northwest corner, much to the relief of his great grandma, a Westmount resident.

“They were happy to get back together again,” said Sgt. Kim Colquhoun.



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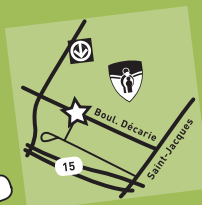
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Water and centre-city ‘irritants’ continue Suburb aggro talks to reopen with Quebec

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The outcome of pending negotiations to resolve two outstanding agglomeration issues are predicted to have considerable potential impact on Westmount tax bills. These are water management/costs and a realistic definition of so-called “centre city” shared costs.

Parameters for “re-initiating” discussions with Quebec on the “irritants” were “ironed out” in the last month, said Bruce St. Louis, executive director of the Association of Suburban Municipalities (ASM) and retired Westmount city manager.

This followed a meeting between Montreal representatives and Westmount Mayor Peter Trent, as president of the ASM, and St. Louis, as well as another meeting with suburban mayors August 26, he said.

The issues of water and centre city responsibilities remained unresolved after the adoption of Bill 22 in June 2008 on agglomeration reform, which addressed certain anomalies in the creation of the agglomeration but left the others outstanding.

Stalled by elections

“There was a commitment by Quebec

to resolve them and negotiations began but were interrupted by the municipal elections last November,” St. Louis told the *Independent*. “We’re now hoping these can be resolved in time for the 2011 agglomeration budget.”

The demerged municipalities continue to question the justification for charging certain types of costs within the centre-city (Ville-Marie and part of the southwest and Plateau Mont Royal boroughs) as agglomeration expenses. The suburbs pay 20 per cent of aggro costs. Montreal pays the other 80 percent.

“It’s frustrating when you see Westmount contributing to the reconstruction of a purely residential street in Ville Marie,” he explained.

Also being challenged, among a number of water management issues, is the manner in which Montreal charges its supply of drinking and potable water to Westmount and others by burying it in the aggro quote-part rather than by a municipality’s consumption.

**For Letters to the Editor,
please turn to p. 6**

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Second Cup to try 24/7

continued from p. 1

edge of a residential area,” said Davis. “You have to consider the residents.”

Saad said the sidewalk seating will stay available into the night, weather permitting. This, said Aylett, has already been a big producer of litter. When the wind comes through, Aylett explained, it blows people’s trash everywhere, and he expects the problem to increase with the all-night service.

According to Joanne Poirier, director of urban planning, an annually-issued permit allows outdoor seating from 7:30 am to 11 pm.

District 4 councillor Kathleen Duncan recommends the community monitor the situation as it develops and notify the city of any problems.

“I know residents are concerned,” said Duncan. “They are understandably worried.”

Both Duncan and Davis said they were surprised the coffee shop’s owner thinks there is a market for a 24/7 establishment, while expressing concern over who might frequent the shop at all hours of the night. Even if it were simply ambulance, delivery and taxi drivers, Davis said many commercial vehicles beep while reversing, and it is already loud enough to wake residents in the morning.

Quebec is the only Canadian province that controls store hours outside of Sun-

days and holidays. Businesses are separated and regulated based on criteria-driven categories. The legislation is intended to preserve balance among merchants, according to the minister of Economic Development’s website.

Westmount can’t stand in the way of provincial law by limiting business hours, confirmed assistant city clerk Nancy Gagnon, who noted construction hours are regulated by Westmount’s noise by-law. The city could intervene if the business were to violate that nuisance noise by-law, said Poirier.

Not everyone dissents to the long hours. Gerard Fellerath owns Folklore I and is a member of the Sherbrooke/Victoria Merchants Association. Located about a block east, he said he has never heard any complaints about Second Cup’s litter and he doesn’t expect the new hours will cause an in-



Second Cup at Claremont and Sherbrooke.

Photo: Independent

crease in trash because the shop cleans up after its patrons.

Though he can’t speak on behalf of the association on a not-yet-discussed issue, he said he supports going 24/7.

“I don’t have a problem with that,” said Fellerath. “If there is enough business to stay open 24 hours a day, more power to them.”

Water leak signals more trouble

A leak in the water main at Sherbrooke and Victoria August 28 was quickly repaired but signaled potential trouble on the main line east of Victoria, according to city director general Duncan Campbell.

“This is the same water line we replaced west of Victoria last summer,” he explained. “So the leak indicates there may be problems to the east.”

Unfortunately, he added, the leak occurred on a Saturday morning, “never a good time” as far as traffic disruption and repairs are concerned.

Fined \$500 for late night swim

A 19-year-old Westmount man was fined \$500 and \$128 in court costs when he was found swimming in the municipal pool August 23 at 11:14 pm, Public Security officials said. A 17-year-old accompanying him received the \$100 maximum fine for a youth, plus \$18 in costs.

Both were reported to have scaled the 10-foot fence and were found to have violated the city’s regulations prohibiting use of an outdoor public pool between 11 pm and 7 am. Officers were called to the scene on a noise complaint.

Dream come true for longtime staffer, Wesley McCoy Centre Greene's new director has done it all

BY JOANNE PENHALE

Cheerful and even-keeled, 33-year-old Wesley McCoy said, "Becoming director was a dream of mine since I started here."

His first day at Centre Greene, in 2004,

was as a volunteer. It was his field placement as a community recreation leadership student at Dawson College.

On the second day there, he was hired. "I've done just about everything here," McCoy said, listing after-school programming, evening office shifts, summer camp animation, Friday evening youth dinner and activity coordination, summer camp direction, fundraising, volunteer coordination, and more. "I can walk through it blindfolded."

Six years after his first day, the Sherbrooke native realized his goal – assuming responsibility for the operations of the community centre at 1090 Greene Ave.

"He's a great leader," said Sophie Cram, the centre's after-school program coordinator and McCoy's co-worker since he started. "He treats everyone as equals," she said, adding he is a good listener, and is always helpful.

McCoy's goals, he said, are to re-populate some existing programs and to pilot a Good Food Box program – through Moisson Montréal – where the centre would act as a distribution centre for wholesale produce. He also wants to help staff initiate their own programming ideas, like start a



Wesley McCoy, the new Centre Greene director, and his predecessor, Anna Johansson, at her retirement party, August 19.

Photo: Brian Shemilt

new dodge ball league.

He walks and bikes nearly everywhere, averaging, he estimates, 15 to 20 kilometres per day.

Since he was old enough to hold tools, he's been fixing bikes, and now revives unwanted or neglected vintage bikes and either gives them away to kids in need, or sells them through his new business, Retro Vintage, whose online storefront is retrovintage.ca. Eventually, McCoy said, he

wants to open a physical storefront.

His vintage fascination doesn't stop with bikes. If he's wearing a tie, McCoy assures it will be from the '50s or '60s. He and his wife, whom he eloped with to Jamaica in May, live just down the hill from Centre Greene in a home full of '50s, '60s and '70s vintage furnishings. They also have a Sheltie-poodle named Oden, who McCoy often brings to the centre.

continued on p. 9

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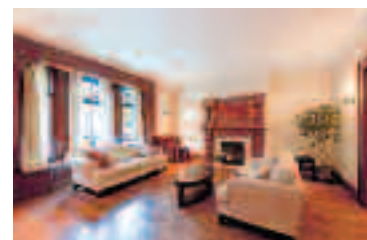
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POOLS ARE FOR EVERYONE, ARENAS NOT SO

My name was surprisingly printed in the last issue alongside nine (suspicious) others, singled out from the 114 signatories of the arena/pool project register. Yet, all we did was express our concerns or hesitation for this costly project. Is apathy more desirable? It certainly gives council *carte blanche* to do whatever they want with our money. Unbelievable that only 28 percent responded to the [April mail-in] survey! As for the register, held in August with no publicity – no comment.

We are about to spend millions on two huge rinks yet there isn't money for an indoor pool. Pools are for anyone: pregnant women, babies, athletes, seniors, the disabled, our very successful swim team. NHL-sized rinks are for hockey players, period. Kids can learn how to skate on any sized rink. Lucky hockey players! But what fraction of our population do they represent? Are they the 83 percent that approved the project in the survey? Mayor Peter Trent cites this "majority," cleverly omitting that it is 83 percent of the 28 percent that actually responded.

Why this obsession with two NHL-sized rinks at any cost? When council couldn't fit the rinks on the existing site, they upped the price by putting them underground! What about Councillor Patrick Martin's proposition to build them behind the Westmount Athletic Grounds? The existing pool could be made bigger; an indoor pool could replace the arena. Something for everyone. Indoor pools are expensive to upkeep? What about two NHL-underground-year-round ice rinks? *

Seems that, politically, rinks are more important, although pools cater to a broader public. If one child likes brownies, the other pie, you can't bring 25 bags

of brownies saying you had no money for pie. Council could have decided on an indoor pool and one big rink (or two) and work to make this happen. That's why I signed the register.

ANNE MONTY, VICTORIA AVE.

* *Ed.'s note: It is our understanding that "One of the two rinks would remain open as an ice surface year round while the other would provide space for general recreational activities in the summer as are now available." (see April 13, p. 20, "Proposed arena/pool project...")* – KM

SHARING NOT OUTRAGEOUS

This is in response to the letter signed Belinda Bowes "Adult swim is not intolerant" (September 1, p. 7.).

We never advocated getting rid of the late-afternoon adult swim. We simply proposed that the 6 to 7 pm time slot consist of *shared* swimming, so that no one be excluded, in particular families with working parents – especially at a time of day when less people use the pool (supper time).

This would have taken nothing away from your time at the pool. It just meant sharing that time slot with fellow citizens who happen to have younger children and who would maybe also like to use the pool.

Now you tell us: is that such an outrageous demand? It still seems surreal that council didn't at least consider it, choosing instead to fiercely fight this little battle as if the moon had been requested, even though so many families (close to 200) had put their name on a petition.

This battle never should have taken place; it only served to divide us, as many adult swimmers agreed that pool-sharing was a reasonable option at that time of day.

Almost all pools on the island offer shared swim since times have changed and most parents work nowadays. To see

what pool sharing looks like, take a stroll to our pool this week. Because of the modified end-of-summer schedule, it is not possible to offer adult-only swim. Someone had the great idea to set up two permanent lanes for adult swimmers (who can come and swim whenever they like)! The keen observer will notice that the adults can swim and that the kids respect the lanes in place.

M. ELVIR, LAND P. COMMIE, A. LOPEZ, A. CARICOTE, J. PEDROSA TORRES, C. HERNANDEZ

CURIOUS REPORTING OF LOAN REGISTRY

Your newspaper has a curious way of reporting the results of the initiative to hold a referendum on the financing of the arena/pool project.

How do you know that half the people who signed live nearby, are critics of the project or have been involved in other city issues? Did you run a check each of the 114 names? What is the relevance of someone being involved in "other city issues" or living nearby? Why do you mention 10 of these by name? Are they the most undesirable among them? The ring leaders? Or just the usual rabble rousers in the city?

Could it not be possible that among them are conscientious citizens who agree with the project but would like everyone in the community, including the majority who never use the pool or arena, a say in whether or not they would like to have their property taxes significantly increased to pay for this project?

Also, with respect to the "low" numbers that signed, could this not be because of the short and scant notice given, the fact that it was on only one day, and during the summer holidays? Was this really so urgent that the city could not have waited a couple of weeks when people were back in the town?

You have a right to support (or oppose) the project but please don't do it by ostracizing people who are just exercising their democratic rights.

PETER STERN, BRUCE AVE.

Publisher's reply: To answer your first question, signatories signed with their street name, and we counted those in the categories listed.

To answer the broader issue, we have now had three letters implying or stating that naming is shaming. Why should this be the case? Might not the signatories be heroes to their cause, as you yourself suggest? It is not as though we caught them doing something untoward and unrelated, and *then* published their names. (Regarding the focus on leaders, please see my two replies in the September 1 issue of the *Independent*, p. 6 and 7.)

If you were a reporter whose job it was to report on this event, would you have gone back to your editor and said, "The list of registry signatories was public and available, but I didn't look at it or think it worth putting in my story"? Do you think Woodward and Bernstein, or Christiane Amanpour, or Matt Drudge, would have done that? If not, why would we?

Regarding the choice of August for the registry, we had already published two letters to the editor criticizing this choice ("Loan by-law = Taxation without information" by Patrick Barnard and Mavis Young, August 10, p. 4, and "No leadership on city's biggest ever spend" by Willem Westenberg, August 17, p. 4).

As a result, that viewpoint had already been aired, and we didn't feel it necessary to point out in an August news story that it was August.

Could we have dug into why the registry had not reached the 500-signature threshold and then pondered whether the time of year had made a difference? Sure. But there is always more

that a newspaper can do *continued on p. 7*

LET'S SHAME THE PETITIONERS FOR STANDING UP!

Let's shame the petitioners for standing up!
For wanting to pay less taxes
Let's thank 'em for not being corrupt'.
Charest and boys take more than a cup
The PST rises and no one waxes
Let's shame the petitioners for standing up!
When Stop signs are illegal, let's change 'em to Stup
To make change in Quebec will take a team of yakses
Let's thank 'em for not being corrupt'.
When most are silent I treasure W.W.'s whup
Now that Wedge is gone who'll sharpen the axes?
Let's shame the petitioners for standing up!
A stallion will run less you have tight grup
An arena will too, unless given prophylaxis
Let's thank 'em for not being corrupt'.
A quarterback knows when to huddle, or say "Hup!"
Leadership requires followship of the maxes
Let's shame the petitioners for standing up
Let's thank 'em for not being corrupt'.

JACK LOCKE, SHERBROOKE ST.



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More letters

continued from p. 6

and the resources are always limited.

In this case, it didn't seem like a burning question. After all, among the 27.5 percent of households that cared enough to respond to the mail-in survey in April and May, 83 percent voted "yes" to the project, including by implication to the loan by-law. For municipal affairs, that was a high participation rate and, in any sphere, 83 percent is decisive. And the percentages can mask how small Westmount is.

The 17 percent opposing the arena via the mail-in survey was composed of 377 households. So when the city's overall mood in this regard was relatively unknown, only 377 households voted against the proposal. Why would anyone expect opponents to get 500 signatures by a more arduous process (i.e. showing up at city hall) at a time when everyone knew that the majority of respondents favoured going ahead? (Unfortunately, the two units of measurement – individual registry signatures and mailed-in household responses – can't be perfectly compared, but the numbers are still directional.) It would have been more curious (and worth digging into) if the 500-vote threshold had been reached.

Lastly, far from ostracizing the named signatories, we have been on the phone with them, responding to their emails and publishing their letters ever since publication of the story. And we've been happy to do it! – DP

83% OF 28% ≠ 50%

Please stop referring to 83 percent as was mentioned in the *Independent* of August 24, and earlier, as if it's an approval rating. It's not. That's not telling the truth, and there is no moral authority to proceed based on it. 83 percent is the percentage of the responding households that supported the project in a household survey back in May.

(Note: the population was not surveyed because most Westmount households have more than one Westmounter, the support expressed was even more weak.)

Since only 27.5 percent of households responded, the 83 percent means only 1 in 4 (or 23 percent; it's 27.5 percent X 83 percent) households expressed approval.

As the survey stated that a "majority of Westmounters" had to be in approval, approval was not even nearly obtained, and the project was dead. Council on this matter is guilty of bad math, and not keeping its word, and "spinning" the survey results ever since.

Had 100 households replied, with 90

percent in favour, would council be crowing about a 90 percent approval rating? Had 10 households replied, all in favour, would council be overjoyed by a 100 percent approval rating? Of course not – don't extrapolate the 83 percent to refer to the population's opinion.

A "majority of Westmounters" means over 50 percent have to approve of the project, and the onus is on the supporters of the project, and on council, to demonstrate that that approval exists. No approval = no project: that's what council said.

I challenge us to have a referendum to prove that a "majority of Westmounters" want to proceed. I personally am not in favour of this project for reasons already given, but if Westmounters express a majority approval, as they were instructed they needed to, then let's proceed, and you won't hear from me on this subject again.

That's what democracy is, and council should apply it to this issue.

WILLEM WESTENBERG, STAYNER ST.

THE LAST WORD

Why is it that you always have to discredit your readers by getting in the last word? I wonder how you'll reply to *this* letter.

PAUL GLASSMAN, CÔTE ST-ANTOINE RD.

Publisher's reply: "Always"? – DP

OPEN LETTER TO MUHC

An open letter to Julie Paquet, Communications lead, New MUHC Public Affairs and Strategic Planning.

Dear Ms. Paquet:

Please consider this an official complaint against the noise created by work occurring on an on-going basis at night, all night, at the MUHC Glen Yards site. I understand that you are the coordinator of issues relating to site concerns and local residents.

I am a resident of Westmount and my house backs onto the Glen Yards. The noise issues at night are intolerable. Notwithstanding the diggers, there are bulldozers, and the beeping sound made when vehicles back up is etched in my mind, like a very bad tune.

In the *Westmount Independent*, you were quoted as saying that the contractor was working at night to catch up due to rain delays ("Neighbours divided over MUHC construction site noise," August 24, p. 3). It has not rained lately, and the digging and beeping are going on all night long, in addition to the standard day shift.

There is work every night, including Sunday night. There is beeping and banging all night long. I wake up at 6:30 am to

this noise, leave for work and come home to it. I go to bed to the noise and wake up to the noise the next day. It is non-stop, all the time. It is affecting my family's quality of life. I have written to my councillor, Gary Ikeman, and he is doing his utmost to find a solution.

I have complained to Westmount Security, but this is not in their jurisdiction.

Please advise what can and is being done to alleviate this situation. While I am in full support of the MUHC plans, I am not in support of working all and every night non-stop, and disturbing local residents.

LIZ MCCALLUM, ST. CATHERINE ST.

MUHC's response

Mrs. McCallum:

Thank you for your email. I am forwarding it to the contractor, as he is informed of all complaints. We are told that for three nights in the last days, equipment for measuring the noise level has been installed on the roof of one building at the corner of de Maisonneuve and St. Catherine. We are waiting for the results from these measures. The MUHC is well aware of the disturbance to the neighbourhood and is doing its very best to get the contractor to alleviate and even find a

solution to stop noise at night. Unfortunately, this solution cannot only come from the MUHC. We are also working with the borough of Côte des Neiges-NDG which is also getting complaints from the residents. We are in constant communication with the city on the subject. We regret sincerely the inconvenience.

JULIE PAQUET, COMMUNICATIONS LEAD,
NEW MUHC, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

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Westmount vous informe...


Westmount Page



www.westmount.org
info : 514 989-5200



Vol. 4/16
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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Bureaux administratifs – Horaire d'été


Du 7 juin au 10 septembre, les bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront ouverts du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h. Entre le 13 juin et le 5 septembre, la bibliothèque sera fermée le dimanche. Info : 514 989-5200. 🌿



ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

La galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

La galerie est fière de présenter les œuvres de l'artiste Anait Abramian du 2 au 25 septembre 2010. Info : 514 989-5521.



Art Westmount 2010

Les 2 et 3 octobre, 65 artistes westmountains exposeront leurs œuvres dans les édifices municipaux de Westmount : l'hôtel de ville, le pavillon de bowling, la bibliothèque et le centre communautaire Victoria Hall, ainsi qu'à Place Kensington. Venez rencontrer les artistes qui seront sur place de 10 h à 17 h les samedi et dimanche. Cette troisième édition d'Art Westmount est organisée par le comité consultatif des événements communautaires de Westmount en collaboration avec la Ville de Westmount et certains commerces de notre communauté. Info : 514 989-5226. 🌿



BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Cercle de lecture anglaise

Joignez-vous au club de lecture anglaise le mardi 14 septembre de 19 h à 21 h pour discuter du livre *The Bishop's Man* de Linden MacIntyre. Info : 514 989-5386.



Les vendredis du cinéma d'été

Avez-vous une passion pour le cinéma? Alors notre club de film est tout à fait pour vous ! Joignez-vous à nous le vendredi, 17 septembre à 18 h 30 pour regarder un excellent film et ensuite en discuter. Âges 13+. Info : 514 989-5386



Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Cet atelier vous permet de vous exprimer en vers et de libérer votre créativité dans une ambiance décontractée. Notre prochaine date de rencontre est le mardi 14 septembre à 14 h. Info : 514 989-5386. 🌿



DATES À RETENIR

Le 10 septembre à 14 h
Club d'échecs
Bibliothèque publique de Westmount

Le 14 septembre à 10 h 15
Cercle de lecture
Bibliothèque publique de Westmount



AMÉNAGEMENT URBAIN

Visite guidée : Westmount à cœur ouvert

Joignez-vous à nous pour une visite guidée de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount, le Conservatoire de Westmount, le centre communautaire Victoria Hall et la galerie du Victoria Hall le dimanche 3 octobre. Les visites, d'une durée d'une heure, débiteront à la Bibliothèque, 4574, rue Sherbrooke O. à 14 h et 15 h en anglais et à 14 h 30 et 15 h 30 en français. Aucune réservation n'est requise. Cet événement gratuit est présenté en collaboration avec « *L'Opération patrimoine architectural de Montréal 2010* ». Info : 514 989-5226. 🌿



AMÉNAGEMENT URBAIN

Campagne du Diagnostic résidentiel MIEUX CONSOMMER : c'est maintenant qu'il faut s'y mettre !

Avez-vous rempli votre questionnaire du Diagnostic résidentiel MIEUX CONSOMMER ? Dans le cadre de cette campagne, Hydro-Québec remet un montant de 35 \$ à un organisme communautaire pour chaque rapport transmis en ligne ou 30 \$ si le citoyen l'envoie par la poste.

Si vous avez besoin d'aide pour compléter le questionnaire, des bénévoles peuvent vous aider. Contactez notre personne ressource au 514 989-5355 ou appelez au 1 800 ÉNERGIE pour obtenir des renseignements sur le questionnaire et la campagne.

Encouragez également vos voisins et amis d'en faire autant avant le 18 octobre pour économiser de l'argent et pour en faire profiter le Centre Greene. 🌿



CITY HALL

Administrative offices – Summer hours

From June 7 until September 10, all administrative offices of the City will be open Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Between June 13 to September 5, the Westmount Library will be closed Sundays. Info: 514 989-5200. 🌿



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Gallery at Victoria Hall - exhibition

The Gallery is pleased to present the works of Anait Abramian from September 2nd to 25th, 2010. Info: 514 989-5521.



Art Westmount 2010

On October 2-3, 65 Westmount artists will be showcasing their work in Westmount municipal buildings (City Hall, Lawn Bowling Clubhouse, Library, Victoria Hall) and Place Kensington. The artists will be on hand at the venues Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to provide insight into their works. This third edition of Art Westmount is organized by the Westmount Community Events Committee in collaboration with the City of Westmount and select local businesses. Info: 514 989-5226. 🌿



LIBRARY

English Book Club

Join the English Book Club from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14 as they discuss *The Bishop's Man* by Linden MacIntyre. Info: 514 989-5386.



Friday Film Club

Do you have a passion for film? If so, our Film Club is for you! Join us on Friday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m. to view an outstanding film and then discuss it afterwards. Age 13+. Info: 514 989-5386.



Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Get creative in this light-hearted workshop that will get you to express yourself in verse on Tuesday, September 14 at 2 p.m. Info: 514 989-5386. 🌿



DATEBOOK

September 10 at 2 p.m.
Chess Club
Westmount Public Library

September 14 at 10:15 a.m.
Readers to Readers Book Club
Westmount Public Library



URBAN PLANNING

Guided Tour: The Heart of Westmount

Join us for a one-hour walking tour of the Westmount Public Library, the Westmount Conservatory, Victoria Hall Community Centre and the Gallery at Victoria Hall on Sunday, October 3. Tours will begin at the Library, 4574 Sherbrooke St. W. 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. in English and at 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. in French. Reservations are not required. This event is presented in association with the 2010 *Montreal Architectural Heritage Campaign*. Info: 514 989-5226. 🌿



PUBLIC WORKS

Energy Wise Home Diagnostic Campaign: Now's the time to keep it moving!

Have you completed your ENERGY WISE Home Diagnostic questionnaire yet? Don't forget that Hydro-Québec will contribute \$35 to a community project for every report sent online or \$30 for each one sent by mail.

If you need assistance with the questionnaire, volunteers can help you. Contact the Library's Reference Desk at 514 989-5355, or phone 1 800 ÉNERGIE for more information about the questionnaire and the campaign.

Encourage your neighbours and friends also to complete it by October 18, 2010 to save money and help Centre Greene. 🌿

Westmount, à votre portée. Pour toute question ou commentaire, veuillez nous contacter :
Westmount at your fingertips. Contact us with any comment or question:

www.westmount.org
assistance@westmount.org

September at the Art Galleries

Galerie de Bellefeuille – Kevin Sonmor: paintings. Exhibit: September 11 – 22.

Jacques Payette: paintings. Exhibit: September 25 – October 6. 1367 Greene, 514.933.4406.

Galerie D'Este – Sarindar Dhaliwal: installation art. Exhibit: September 25 – October 24. 1329 Greene, 514.846.1515.

Galerie V. Trimont – Laveur: paintings. Exhibit: September 29 – October 16. 4259 St. Catherine, 514.658.7214.

Gallery at Victoria Hall – Anait Abramian: paintings. Exhibit: September 2 – 25. 4626 Sherbrooke, 514.989.5226.

Han Art – Dora Bendixen, paintings. Exhibit: 23 September – 23 October. 4209 St. Catherine, 514.876.9278.

McClure Gallery - Visual Arts Centre – Russell T. Gordon "Over Easy". Exhibit: September 10 – October 2. 350 Victoria, 514.488.9558.

Parisian Laundry – Michael A. Robertson "Even When Bombs Are Gone", and Rick Leong "The Roaming Gloama". Exhibit: September 7 – October 6. 3550 St. Antoine, 514.989.1056.

The Study goes virtual

Things are going to be a little different at The Study this year, as the school pilots the services of the Virtual High School Global Consortium in grades 8 and 11.

The Study offered 15 of the Virtual High School's 336 courses, which include American foreign policy, music theory, engineering for sustainable energy and sociology, to its students. The girls narrowed it down to 10 subjects, including math, history and literature in grade 8; and political science and calculus in grade 11.

"It is a very small part of our offering," head of school Mary Hebert told the *Independent*, but "it offers opportunities for our students to pursue subjects they like," even if their Study class has only four students. "They also get to study with students from all over the world," including the US, China and Indonesia.

After the fall term, the school will evaluate whether the level of enrichment has been right for its students.

McCoy new head at Centre Greene

continued from p. 5

Open to all, Centre Greene is a non-profit organization that provides a variety of recreational, social and cultural programming. It's a relaxed atmosphere where people are genuine and easy-going, said McCoy, and it attracts people from every walk of life.

McCoy graduated from Dawson's community recreation leadership training program, and is now its alumni association chair.

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The annual SPCA Montérégie dog walk takes place Sunday, September 12 at the St. Lambert Seaway Park on Riverside Dr. Parking is free, and registration (\$25) starts at 10 am. There are three prizes for the most money raised. Dogs for adoption will be present. Info: 514.386.5960 or visit www.spcamonteregie.com.



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Lacrosse finding a home in Westmount



Off-Sidel

NOAH SIDEL

The first time lacrosse came onto the radar screen in Westmount in recent years was way back in 2006 when resident Tim Murdoch decided to bring it to his community.

Looking back on a story from that year, he commented: “In a nutshell, as a lacrosse enthusiastic, I had wanted to put my kid into the sport, so we thought of starting a team in Westmount.”

And that’s really how it all started. Now, half a decade later, the sport is really starting to take a foothold.

“Lacrosse has seen a tremendous increase in enrollment over the past few years here in Westmount,” said Westmount Sports and Recreation’s Andrew Maislin. “This year we had 130 players playing within our program, up from 106 the year before. I attribute this to the increase in coverage of lacrosse across North America and the work that Tim and [co-

coach] Kyle Peterdy have done to build the program to what it is today.”

“Their experience with the game, their eagerness to teach it, and their ability to recruit great coaches has allowed our program to flourish.”

Murdoch believes the sport is a perfect fit for this community.

“Lacrosse is the best sport in the world for athletes and fans. Westmount is promoting outdoor field lacrosse, the ‘gentlemen’s version’ of the sport, versus the more-violent box lacrosse played in hockey arenas in the summer and as seen on TV,” he said.

“Field lacrosse is no rougher than hockey and is an ideal complementary sport to it, as it is played when the ice is gone. My hope is that enough girls will take up lacrosse, since women’s lacrosse is a non-contact version of the sport that is beautiful to watch.”

Murdoch wants to be clear, however, that this sport isn’t new to Westmount. In fact, not only does it have a history here, it is actually Canada’s official summer sport and was the only official sport until the early ’90s when hockey was made the game of winter.

“We’re seeing a renaissance of lacrosse



The Westmount Lynx lacrosse team played against the West Island Shamrocks during the 5th annual Westmount Lacrosse Showcase on August 28 in Westmount Park. See September 1, p. 26 for story.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

in the Montreal area since it was actually played on Westmount’s fields in the late 1800s and early 1900s when its popularity in Montreal had peaked.”

As for Murdoch’s original goal of starting a local lacrosse program in order to get his son involved, well, that’s been nothing short of a huge success.

“My son Maxime, now 13, has developed into an excellent player since he

started playing box lacrosse on the West Island in 2005, then began Westmount field lacrosse in 2006. In field lacrosse, he led the Westmount league in scoring for four straight years, and for the past two years, his team won the championship,” Murdoch said. “This past spring he had 40 points on 36 goals and 4 assist in only seven games and he was elected captain of the Westmount Lynx select U14 field team. Sorry for all of the detail but my son has accomplished a lot. In a nutshell, mission accomplished!”

For more on the lacrosse program, call the Sports and Recreation department at 514.989.5353 or visit www.westmount.org.

You can always reach me at noahsidel@gmail.com

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Price varies according to whether one is a member or not, and also with the length of the course. Most courses start early October, but some are earlier. Please call for info.

Monday AM: Stretch to Music (filled; wait-list only) 8 weeks \$24-\$27

Tuesday AM: *new course* Jog Your Mind – amazing course of memory tips and exercises for people experiencing some nagging memory issues associated with normal aging. This course would not be suitable for anyone with a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s or related cognitive disorders. 2 hour classes, 10 weeks \$50

Wednesday 3 levels of Bridge instruction, 2-hours each class, 8 weeks, \$48-\$54

Thursday AM: Stretch to Music 8 weeks \$24-\$27, PM Tai Chi \$33-\$36, 11 weeks

Friday AM: “Historical Biographies” by Harvey Levinson 2-hour classes, 6 weeks \$48-\$54, PM Thomas More Discussion group “The Reading Adventure” 1½ hour classes, 8 weeks \$20-\$23 also PM Line Dancing 8 weeks \$24-\$27

Interlink Choir is an inter-generational choir sponsored by Contactivity and Westmount Park

Elementary School. If you are a senior and like to sing on or off-key, we need you and will welcome you with open arms! Sessions are informal and loads of fun.

We are again offering a Fall Prevention course for free, but the course is full. Please call if you would like to be considered for the spring term.

What else is on? Mon./Thurs. twice-weekly yummy community meals, bridge, chess, watercolours, arts and crafts, restaurant outing club, birthday lunches with live music, guest speakers, out of town trips, LOTS of volunteering opportunities.

Two Special Institute Sessions for Volunteers, Potential Volunteers and Others interested in Seniors Both sessions are free, but pre-registration is required, so please call. Tuesday Sept. 14th 10:30 AM “Demystifying Alzheimer’s Disease” with Meghan Williams, MSW of Alzheimer Groupe and 1:00 PM “Living a Healthy Life with a Chronic Condition” with Deborah Radcliffe-Browne, PhD of the MUHC – tips for managing, monitoring and transcending chronic health conditions



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Play pokes into superficiality in corporate world and beyond

Upcoming play *Fat Pig* fed by Westmount talent

BY JOANNE PENHALE

A cast and crew with connections to Westmount – through work, education, and upbringing – makes the soon-to-open *Fat Pigs*, well-fed.



Cast member Rachelle Néron, 24, with co-artistic director and fellow cast-member Timothy Diamond, 29. Néron said it's been ironic and thought-provoking rehearsing for this play in the evenings, while during the day, meeting with clients about aesthetic matters at the Victoria Park spa on Victoria Ave.

It's the story of corporate go-getter Tom (Timothy Diamond, employed in Westmount) falling in love with plus-sized Helen (Westmount High alumni Emma Lanza), ensuing judgments from friends and co-workers – and Tom confronting his own ideas about beauty and what really matters.

"This play is very close to me," says Rachelle Néron, 24, in the role of Tom's superficial co-worker, Jeannie. Néron, a receptionist at the Victoria Park medical spa, meets regularly with clients interested in botox and breast augmentations. Her day job and the show's evening rehearsals, she said, keep her constantly reflecting about beauty ideals, peoples' concerns about self-image and judgement. This and her recent travels to India, she said, have helped her shift her own focus toward what she feels is more important, like character, relationships and spirituality.

Nearly all members of the cast and crew are Dawson College theatre program graduates.

"Tim was one of my favourite actors while I was in the program," Néron said of Diamond, who graduated in 2004.

"The play is not about weight. It's about difference and your peers' judgement – it's what we try to portray to other people and our motivation for doing that," says Diamond, a co-founder of Through Line

Productions, who holds an office day job at ad firm Bloomfield Innovations in Westmount.

Preparing for the show, he said, has made him reflect on how his past decisions have often been influenced by what his friends and family might think.

Diamond, with two fellow graduates – director Joe Garque and Francis Martin, a Westmount High alumnus – established Through Line Productions in 2007. Together they've produced Patrick Marber's award-winning *Dealer's Choice*; *Shades of Grey* for this year's Fringe Festival, which won a production design award, and a special mention from Cirque du Soleil for best original creation; and several other original pieces.

Westmount-raised Rob Denton is doing set and lighting design for the show, which is by American playwright Neil LaBute.

As Dawson alumni, the cast has been allowed rehearsals at Dawson College in the evenings.

Fat Pig plays at Théâtre St. Catherine at 264 St. Catherine St. E., from September 8 to 18. Reservations and ticket information: 514.284.3939.



Raised in Westmount, Rob Denton is doing set and lighting design.

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Dawson Lacrosse gets pumped for first practice of the season



Dawson students try out at the first practice of the Dawson College Blues lacrosse team, September 2. Over 40 students showed up. Thirty will be selected for the team. For more info on tryout schedules, look up Dawson Lacrosse on Facebook. For more on lacrosse in Westmount, see Noah Sidel's take in Off-Sidel, p. 10.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

Westmount's Viva Voce visit PEI on summer Maritime tour



Viva Voce, under the artistic direction of conductor Peter Schubert, a Westmounter, along with his wife and chorist Lori, performed for four evenings in three Maritime provinces this August. Pictured here, the choir fills St. Mary's Church near Kensington, PEI, during the Indian River Festival on August 20 with "Motets and Melodrama," which included works from the 16th century and the Victorian era. Their next Montreal concert will be during the Montreal Bach Festival on November 30. Tickets are available soon by calling 514.398.4547, or through Admission.com.



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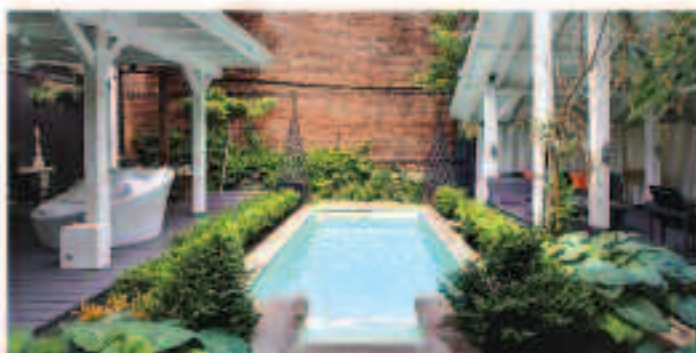
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Rossy Foundation fundraiser enjoyed at Parisian Laundry



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

St. Henri art space Parisian Laundry was once again transformed into a chic party on May 29 when **Sharon Rossy**, with her many helpers, held an event honouring her son **Gabriel Rossy**, who lost his life on August 1, 2006.

In his memory, the **Gabriel Rossy Memorial Fund** was established to raise funds for the **Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation Bleu Blanc Bouge**. Hockey was omnipresent as a theme, with shirts signed by **Béliveau** and **Halak** up for auction, and hockey legends **Henri Richard** and **Phil Goyette** as star guests.

Their arrival provoked a popping of paparazzi cameras! The entire Rossy family turned out for the moving evening. Sharon and **Richard Rossy** and their sons **Luke**, **Nicholas** and **Justin** (with wife **Lisa**); cousins **Brian Rossy**, **Alan Rossy** (with wife **Roula**) and **Carol Malouf** with her daughter **Stephanie** and son **Patrick**, **Joanne Rossy**, **Cookie** and **Larry Rossy** with their daughter **Stephanie** (with husband **Gene Beauchamp**) and son **Neil** (with his wife **Danielle**).

Also seen were **Elizabeth** and **Nicola Batchoun** and their sons **Mark** (with **Vanessa**) and **George** with his wife **Carole**. Noted amidst the 375 guests were Westmounters **Michaela** and **Michael Penner**, **Bernie Unikowski** and **Annette Granich**, **Elizabeth** and **Brian Chamandy-Cook**, and **Max Castle** and **Amanda Eaman**. The event raised \$80,000 – \$50,000 for **Bleu Blanc Bouge**, and the rest to be distributed

to local outreach programs providing educational and recreational programs.



Richard and Sharon Rossy.

	
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Brian Rossy and hockey legend Phil Goyette.



Vanessa Gentile, StyleExchange guru Mark Batchoun.



Alan and Roula Rossy, Westmounters Michael and Michaela Penner.

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Kittens at play: Moka and Sasha



From SPCA Montérégie, we are presenting two kittens for adoption this week:

Precious Moka is a petite, black short-haired 7-month-old female kitten. She is active and loves to play. She also enjoys being cuddled and petted. She gets along well with other cats and quite likes company. She is a bit shy to begin with, but she warms up to new people with attention and affection. Moka is very healthy, she has been vaccinated and spayed.

Sasha is so elegant: a tiny grey and

white shorthaired 7-month-old female kitten. Playing is her main occupation: both with other pets and people. Then, cuddling is for when she runs out of energy! She is very healthy as well, and has been vaccinated and spayed.

To find out more about these kittens, please contact Cindy at 450. 386.5960 or email info@spcamonteregie.com. The cattery section of this no-kill shelter is very well organized and it is a wonderful place to visit and support by adopting a cat. Please consider dropping in to see the kittens. They are located at 178 du Vide in St. Angèle de Monnoir (exit 37 on Highway 10). Adoption/visiting hours for cats are Tuesdays to Saturdays, from 2 to 4 pm or by appointment.

Your neighbour, Lyzanne



Sasha



Moka

In Other Words

Marianopolis has top-rated teacher on RateMyTeacher

An article in the September 15, 2010 edition of the French-language news and general interest magazine *L'actualité* reports that Marianopolis math teacher Jean-François Deslandes was rated among the

top instructors in North America for several months in 2008 on RateMyTeachers.com.

RateMyTeachers.com is an educational resource for students and parents to rate teachers anonymously in four categories: easiness, helpfulness, clarity and popularity, according to the website.



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ON THE SHELVES

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

Adults – Creative inspirations for autumn

101 Snappy Fashions: Oodles of One-Piece Designs for Babies by Cathie Filian – Full of colourful ideas and instructions for easy-to-execute, original designs embellishing plain baby “onesies” that could easily be used for children’s t-shirts too. Great original gift-making ideas or for your own budding fashionista!

Nature Inspired: Mixed Media Techniques for Gathering, Sketching, Painting, Journaling, and Assemblage by Tracie Lyn Huskamp – What better way to remember the summer than to incorporate photos and other finds into beautiful shadow-boxes, assemblages, or journal pages? With detailed, step-by-step techniques Huskamp provides inspiration for creating lovely works of art highlighting nature.

Adults, French – Renaissance people

Léonard de Vinci, homme de sciences by Fritjof Capra – Little is known about da Vinci’s personal life; this book focuses on his scientific and artistic accomplishments and has been hailed as “a pioneering book of real value and wide appeal” by the *Washington Post*.

Marie de Médicis, reine, régente et rebelle by Françoise Kermina – Marie de Médici was queen and, when her husband died, became regent of France at the turn of the 16th century. A great patron of the arts, she also had a knack for political intrigue. Her tumultuous life ended in poverty and exile.

Magazines

“Oh Brother! Siblings are born to compete for parental attention, and the strategies they use wind up encoded in personality. No wonder it takes a lifetime to work out these relationships” by Hara

Estroff Marano in *Psychology Today*, August 2010, p. 54.

“Inside the mind of a psychopath: Why they don’t care: they can’t” by Kent A. Kiehl and Joshua W. Buckholtz in *Scientific American Mind*, September/October 2010, p. 22.

“Faut-il croire nos souvenirs d’enfance? Nous avons tous envie de savoir si nos souvenirs d’enfance sont fiables. Ils témoignent de nos premières années et nous aident à comprendre les adultes que nous sommes devenus” by Isabelle Taubes in *Psychologies*, juillet-août 2010, p. 86.

Children’s books – Nature

The Hive Detectives: Chronicles of a Honey Bee Catastrophe by Loree Griffin Burns – A fascinating look into why the number of honey bees has dramatically decreased over the last few years and the devastating effects this could have on our world.

Oiseaux de chez nous by Susan Hughes – Did you know that there are more than 400 different types of birds in Canada? This book is full of fun facts about birds and their habitats.

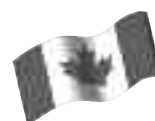
DVDs

Small Island – This film explores the lives of two couples, one Jamaican and the other English, whose worlds intertwine in post-World War II Britain at a turning point in the long relationship between the two countries. It is a story of tender emotion and sparkling wit, of crossings taken and passages lost, of shattering compassion and of reckless optimism in the face of insurmountable barriers.

Creation – Based on the book *Annie’s Box*, this film gives viewers a unique look at Charles Darwin, his family and his love for his deeply religious wife, as he is torn between faith and science.

May this be a New Year blessed with
Health, Happiness and Peace.

Que l’année qui vient vous apporte
santé, Bonheur et paix.



Marc Garneau

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Garneau.M@parl.gc.ca – (514) 283-2013



Back-to-school safety

continued from p. 1

September 7.

minutes allowed in school drop-off zones,” said Sgt. Kim Colquhoun, who has been coordinating the safety campaign.

Traffic congestion is compounded by the number of students – many from outside Westmount – converging by car on the city’s 14 schools and numerous day-cares.

Parents of students at St. Léon are being asked to use Kitchener rather than busier Clarke for drop-off and pick-up. Congestion on The Boulevard is also particularly heavy at The Study.

Fortunately, back-to-school times have been staggered, Colquhoun said. This started with Marianopolis three weeks ago and concludes with Selwyn House, which was set to start the school year on Tuesday,

Child car seat check

As part of the safety campaign, appointments can be made with Public Security (514.989.5222) to have baby and child car seats installed or inspected. Officers will even call by residents’ homes to verify a seat’s safety, Colquhoun said.

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The MUHC’s Glen Yards site

*One hour of work left,
September 2, 11 pm*



Photos: Independent

*How far they’ve gotten,
September 3, 8:30 am*



Some residents have been complaining about nighttime noise from the MUHC’s Glen Yards construction site (e.g. “Open letter to MUHC,” p. 7).


The *Independent* went by on September 2 at 11 pm and counted eight dumptrucks and four backhoes hard at work. A worker said that construction was slated to end at midnight. The trucks’ back-up beeping signals were audible at Prince Albert and York at the same time, but – true to the worker’s prediction – they were silent by 12:15 am and had not come back at 4:15 am.

This situation tracks what MUHC management is communicating as its new scheduling rules. Julie Paquet of the MUHC public affairs department told the *Independent* that, effective September 1, night work would stop at midnight. She

also described several measures that had been taken to allay residents’ complaints: the last trucks are to leave by 11 pm and the noise level on the trucks’ back-up safety signals have been turned down, and a noise barrier has been put up on De-carie.

Construction begins soon on temporary support walls (September 7 to November) and foundation piles (November to February).

Although the site straddles the Westmount/Montreal border, the work is taking place in Montreal’s Côte des Neiges-NDG borough. According to the borough, the MUHC is subject to its noise by-law and must keep noise below 60 decibels during the day (7 am to 11 pm) and below 50 at night (11 pm to 7 am).



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Cyclist injured avoiding cat

A cyclist going down the hill near 433 Lansdowne Ave. was taken to hospital with undetermined injuries August 28 after he fell trying to avoid hitting a cat, Public Security officials report.

When officers arrived on the scene about 11:18 am, they found the man lying on the street surrounded by a number of people. At least one resident had witnessed the accident. He was suffering a considerable amount of pain and was unable to respond to questions.

Public Security took the man's posses-

sions and bicycle back to the office on Stanton St. for safe-keeping while an ambulance transported him to the Montreal General Hospital.

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Westmount Profile: Doug Robertson

Working on a new career at 82

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

When he sets himself a goal, Doug Robertson's competitive spirit shifts into high gear. And now, at age 82, he's forging a second career as a pastels artist.

"I used to doodle in class," he says. "But that was my only experience in art – until three years ago when my wife, Angie, suggested that in retirement I should take up art as a hobby."

Since then, his drawing has become far more than a pastime, he says, even though it's still for his own satisfaction – and when he has time between tennis games, ski excursions, hiking and travel to exotic places.

"What drives me is setting the goal," he explains.

And Robertson, who retired three years ago as a printing broker, has risen to many challenges over the years.

Strongly supported by his father in his younger years, he was a top cadet, a gold-medal marksman, a downhill and slalom team champion, and a semi-professional

player of tenor sax and clarinet.

Seniors' tennis champion

An avid tennis player, at age 75 in 2003, he won the eastern Canada seniors' indoor championship in doubles play and made the national outdoor finals, also in doubles.

Many of Robertson's pastels and charcoal drawings capture his keen eye for detail, his outdoor experiences – especially snowy days on the ski trail – a soft spot for animals and life in Westmount, where he has lived for 30 years.

Some of the drawings will form part of a group exhibit at The Gallery at Victoria Hall next July, he says. One, depicting a panhandler at Sherbrooke and Victoria, recently appeared in the *Independent* (July 13, p. 4).

Yet to come, Robertson points out, are works of the sea and the 33-foot boat he sailed out of Pointe Claire Yacht Club before moving it to Kingston to sail in the more open water of Lake Ontario. It has since been sold.



Doug Robertson adds finishing touches to a scene from the Aerobic Corridor, Morin Heights.

Sailed 'Jangada' 30 years

Called "Jangada," after a type of seaworthy South American fishing raft, it was his fourth boat and one which he had built in England by Moody's. He waited a year for its delivery. "It was an ocean-going vessel designed for the North Sea – a beautiful boat in British racing green and admiralty grey. That's where the artistic side in me comes out."

Despite pressure from other sailors to compete, he says, "I was happy to remain a recreational sailor." He sailed the boat for 30 years until a painful parting last year.

"Selling a boat is probably the toughest thing other than losing a pet," he explains. "And we've lost three cats over the years." The fourth, Hobbes, is a 13-year-old tabby.

As a child, Robertson made a raft,

rigged it up with a sheet and sailed it on the Sydenham River in Owen Sound, where he grew up.

Born in Wayburn, Saskatchewan, he started ski jumping at age 5 in North Bay but began skiing competitively after the move to Owen Sound. "That's what my life was. I hated school," he says.

"At one time, our ski team won the eastern Canada championships. I had an opportunity to train with the Canadian Olympic team in Aspen, Colorado, in the hopes of being considered as well. But I injured my knee. That was such a huge disappointment."

Played with swing band

But he was already playing sax and clarinet, and even doing the vocals, for Lloyd Kibbler's Orchestra. This was a well-known 12-piece swing band that performed several times a week at a large dance hall outside Owen Sound.

When he moved to Montreal at age 23 to pursue a career in the printing industry, he formed his own combo and played at hotels and private functions.

Eventually, he set up his own small graphic art and printing agency called D.C. Robertson Productions Inc. to subcontract typesetters, copy writers, artists and printers. It was through one of his larger clients, McGill's development office, that he became close friends with former Westmount city councillor Tom Thompson.

continued on p. 23



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Doug Robertson displays his pastel drawing of the Westmount Park tot lot in winter.

Robertson: one of the two

.....
continued from p. 22

Studied at Visual Arts

He and Thompson attended courses at the Visual Arts Centre and call themselves “the Group of Two”. Robertson’s large pastel of two tigers (see p. 1) hangs in his apartment on Lansdowne, inspired by a photo given to him by Thompson’s wife, Sherrill.

It’s how he likes to draw, he says, usually using a photo he has taken himself, “often using artistic licence to alter things to my liking.”

One of his recent works is of a 3-year-old boy playing tennis at the Monkland Tennis Club, where Robertson has played for 47 years – now three times a week plus weekend tournaments.

“I’m very, very fussy,” he says, looking at the completed drawing. “I’m happy

when I finish something. I say, ‘Did I do that?’ I’m taking up art so late in life, I’ve had to learn to discipline myself or there would be no end to it.”

And Robertson, the artist, is trying to make up for lost time. That is, if he can just get off those tennis courts.

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

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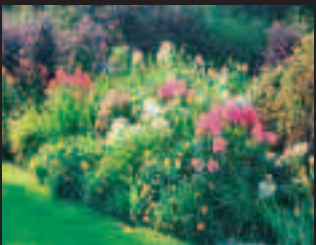
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Harlem-Westmount-LCC hockey exchange



From left: Chris Viau (camp director), Umar Khan, Sage Mason and Westmounter Pierre McGuire.

Photo: LCC

Westmounter Pierre McGuire, an LCC parent and alumnus, was the guest of honour at the 19th annual Ice Hockey In Harlem (IHIH) Benefit on the Green in early August.

The golfing event brings together corporate America with the NHL, providing more than 200 Harlem-based, hockey-playing youth a day of golf. McGuire also offered his hockey expertise during the camp.

Lower Canada College (LCC) invited two youth from the IHIH organization to participate in the school's annual hockey camp. Umar Khan and Sage Mason spent four days sharpening their hockey skills between August 16 and 20.

IHIH is a not-for-profit based in East Harlem that uses ice hockey to promote academic achievement, responsibility, teamwork and life skills.

School's back in - we want to hear from you!



*When the Bell Rings:
Westmount Students Speak Up*

COMPILED BY PHILIP CUTLER AND MICHELLE WARNER

In this column, we are interested in hearing from students who live or go to school in Westmount. Send your answer to this week's question, along with your name, grade and school to whenthebell-rings@ymail.com. The deadline is Saturday, September 18 at noon.

This week's question: What are you looking forward to at school this year?

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Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Registration today and September 9 for **ballet at Centre Greene**, 5 to 7 pm. Info: www.centregreene.org or contact Ora Kozlov at 514.932.2389.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

• Registration of new students for **"Faith First,"** an ongoing six-year catechetical-program starts at Ascension of our Lord Parish, 4 to 7 pm in the Parish Room. 375 Kitchener. Info: www.ascensionofour-lord.ca.

• **MUHC's open house** on Glen Campus to inform the public about the superhospital, 6 to 8 pm at KoSA Centre, 5325 Crowley. Also Friday and Saturday from 11 am to 5 pm, and Tuesday, September 14 from 7 pm to 10 pm. Public information session is September 14, 7 to 9 pm. Info: muhc.ca/construction.

• **Tumbling Tots** resumes at Centre Greene. Indoor park/playground for children under 5, with parents. Tuesday and Thursday mornings 9:30 to 11 am. Cost: \$3.50/morning, drop-in. Coffee and snack provided.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

• Community theatre group, **Dramatis Personae**, is welcoming new members until the end of September for late November production. 8 pm in the Lodge Room, Victoria Hall. Male actors are particularly welcome. Info: dramatis.personae07@gmail.com, 514.486.7423 or www.theatrewestmount.com.

• ECKANKAR invites you to a community **HU song**, 7 pm to 7:30 pm at Atwater Library. Free.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

• **Harmonia Westmount**, a women's community choir, meets weekly on Tuesday evenings. Auditions for new members today and September 21. Experienced and inexperienced singers welcome. Info: harmoniawestmount@gmail.com or 514.762.0216.

• **Information session on superhospital**, 7 to 9 pm, KoSA Centre, 5325 Crowley. Info: muhc.ca/construction.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

• Author **Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos** gives a presentation of her book *Saris on Scooters: How Microcredit is Changing Village India*, Atwater Library, 12:30 pm. Free, donations. Info: 514.935.7344.

• Party to celebrate the launch of **Kathleen Winter's** novel *Annabel*. The author will read from and discuss the book, live music and refreshments. Atwater Library, 6:30 pm. Raffles will be held; proceeds to support its programs.

• The Westmount Historical Association presents **Ruth Shine**, who will speak about her 35 years as owner of the Bead Emporium, 7 to 9 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Admission free for members, non-members \$5 at the door. Info: 514.989.5510.



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Firefighters were called to Wood and de Maisonneuve August 30 to extinguish burning bark chips at the base of a tree outside Westmount Square, Public Security officials said. The small fire was discovered at 6:16 am by a passing patrol.

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Kimmie, the one-eyed wonder



The other dogs might laugh and call her Funnelhead, but Kimmie the shih tzu doesn't mind. Even with only one good eye, she knows her world is looking a lot better than it was just a few weeks ago. This four-month-old puppy was plucked from death row at a dog pound and sent to the SPCA. The SPCA didn't have the time or resources to treat a corneal injury that could cost Kimmie one eye. Gerdy's Rescues stepped in and was able to get this sweetheart the treatment she needs, thanks to the generosity of Underdog Club supporters. If it works, Kimmie will need daily eye drops for the rest of her life. If she loses the eye she'll still be Kimmie, a cock-eyed optimist. She's a happy girl who waggles when she meets other dogs. She's a people magnet, who basks in the attention showered

on her. She'll need a nurturing forever home, where her new human companions will be willing to care for her delicate peepers. She loves kids, but a grown-up home would be best. Kimmie won't be ready for adoption until her eye problem is resolved. She'll be



Kimmie Photo: Gerdy's Rescues
spayed before she's placed and will have all her shots. Gerdy's Rescues welcomes adoption applications. Contact them at: 514.203.9180 (pager), info@gerdysrescue.org or www.gerdysrescue.org . To find out about other Underdogs, visit www.underdogclub.org. You can also call 1.877.43.DOGGY.

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