

Vanguard School, Nurses may both leave Westmount

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two longtime Westmount institutions have put their buildings up for sale with the probability that both will leave Westmount, it was confirmed last week. They are Vanguard School and the Quebec Order of Nurses.

Both have grown out of their current sites, victims of their own success, they told the *Independent*.

Each is in the early stages of planning, with dates and other arrangement pending the sale of their buildings. The Order

of Nurses has been in Westmount for 46 years at 4200 Dorchester; Vanguard for almost 20 years at the Metcalfe and Hillside campus.

“We’re actively looking for a site where we can accommodate all three of our sites,” said Carolyn Coffin-Caputo, Vanguard director general. It would require a large central location, easily accessible for some 760 students. There are now 335 at the Westmount campus.

The 71,000-member Quebec Order of Nurses has just launched a tender process to sell its building and will be searching for larger *continued on p. 15*

Coach Mitchell retires from Selwyn



Steve Mitchell stands behind his Selwyn House hockey team as they take on Loyola February 22 at the Lower Canada College arena. Mitchell will retire this year after 28 years as a Selwyn hockey coach, much of that time as director of athletics, and after 34 years of hockey coaching. The game was Mitchell’s last GMAA Juvenile championship. The final score? 4-0 for Loyola, but according to one alum, “Mitchell retires a winner nonetheless.”

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Employee and pensioner reps comment

Pension plan seen as key to loyal service

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount’s employee pension plan is viewed by employee representatives as one of the main reasons they choose to work for the city – and stay long enough to benefit later in life from its acknowledged generosity.

And while they told the *Independent* last week they understood the current concerns over the plan’s under-funding and questionable sustainability, they believed the plan to be an integral part of the Westmount culture that makes employees “take Westmount to heart.”

“One of the biggest reasons we’re work-

ing here is because of the good pension plan and job security,” said Élise Corbière, city hall cashier, who represents Westmount’s white collar workers in Montreal local 429 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE).

“The good pension plan is one of the main incentives to work in Westmount,” agreed Stéphane Daoust, who retired last year after 30 years with Hydro Westmount.

“It pulls in good employees, promotes loyalty and keeps them long enough to be able to retire at an early age.”

Daoust has been a representative on the blue *continued on p. 7*

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Meeting hears concerns on restrictions affecting up to 221 properties

City asked to ease up on proposed R2 rezoning

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Three Westmount architects, and a land owner locked in a long court battle with the city, challenged proposed rezoning measures at a public consultation at city hall February 23.

The changes call for reducing site coverage and increasing setbacks at the side of some 67 properties of 8,000 square feet or more in zones R2-07-01, R2-09-01 and R2-10-01, which are between The Boulevard and Sherbrooke and east of Clarke.

The proposals also prevent underground construction taking place from side to side property lines at all 221 properties of all sizes in those same zones.

But despite the city's aim to prevent the creation of super-size homes and underground drainage problems, critics claimed the measures could lead to the creation of "wedding cake" houses, demolitions and "cock-eyed" additions. They also said drainage was not a problem and could be solved other ways.

As a result, architects asked for less restrictive measures that would take into account individual design needs, as well as acquired rights for people wanting to add "seamless additions" without irregulars "jogs" and other problems.

Problems already emerging

Some of these were already being encountered in R1 zones (mainly north of The Boulevard) where similar restrictions were adopted in 2009, stated both architects Bruce Anderson and Philip Hazan.

When architectural designer Adam Borowczyk suggested solving the setback issue by granting acquired rights, Urban Planning commissioner Cynthia Lulham said, "We might look at acquired rights."

"It's done in other places," he said.

Anderson, who had presented his concerns two nights earlier during an address to the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), said "I'm very troubled by what you're trying to do."



Philip Hazan

The area was very historic and already built up, and he did not foresee the likelihood of negative impact from so-called super-size homes.

The changes, he said, would mean that anyone with a large house that burnt down probably could only rebuild it on a smaller footprint. "I would urge you to send letters to each of the 67 houses and tell everyone of the referendum procedure."

Wording too strong

He also asked for less restrictive constraints on below-grade construction and softer wording than that being used to prohibit it in a minimum space in side and rear yards. "To forbid – is that ever strong!" he said.

It could preclude the sinking of an underground generator as more and more people were asking to have one installed, he pointed out. This could be the size of a

large truck.

Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier explained that the city had received many complaints from residents during the construction of basements extending right to the property lines, which required contractors to work over the property line. It was also an issue of drainage.

Architect Hazan suggested that drainage was an issue that could be dealt with by terrassing hilly land, which allows



Adam Borowczyk

for increased percolation of rain water.

Al-Musawi's concern

The drainage issue was also raised by Shatha Al-Musawi, who has been in and out of court with the city in trying to build a 20-room house at 3283 Cedar that would include an underground swimming pool, gym, basketball court and cinema.

What examples or studies did the city have of drainage problems caused by underground structures? she asked.

Poirier said given the city's experience with flooding during heavy rain and the city's aging sewers, "we feel" there is a need to prevent basements being built right to the property lines. It was also "felt" that studies weren't necessary.

"You feel...you feel. It's your feelings!" Al-Musawi shot back.

After the meeting she said she hoped to force a referendum on the rezoning.

City clerk Mario Gerbeau presented the legal complexities required for persons requesting the opening of a referendum register. This would require a letter submitted to his of- continued on p. 6

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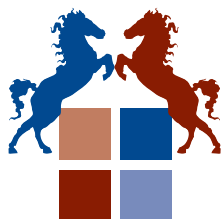
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Westmount safe for foot, cycle traffic, but could be improved, study finds

By ISAAC OLSON

According to a study conducted last summer, cyclists and pedestrians are comparatively safer in Westmount than other parts of the island, but it suggests there is room for improvement.

"There is no single mechanism that contributes to collisions, so there is no single method that is going to reduce them," said Emily Sangster after presenting the



Emily Sangster

study's findings to the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) in an open-to-the-public format, attended by some 25 people on February 21.

Sangster is a master's candidate at the McGill School of Urban Planning and a research assistant with Community University Research Alliance (CURA), which takes interest in how "mega projects" like the incoming super-hospital and the Turcotte reconstruction will affect the surrounding community. CURA sponsored the study, which found a multipronged approach to addressing safety issues will improve Westmount's already good situation.

Last summer, Sangster and a colleague studied Westmount's foot and cycle traffic through paper surveys (165 participants), interviews (cyclists, law enforcement officials, etc.), on-site observations (nine hours) and sifting through five years of accident reports.

The study found the de Maisonneuve bike path to be the most popular cycling route and, though there were reported concerns about cyclists running stop signs, it is also considered the safest route for pedalling in Westmount.

"Westmount is quite safe, but it could be improved," said Sangster about the city as a whole, noting several safety strategies are already being employed.

Westmount can implement a range of measures, she said, such as improving the designs at areas prone to collisions and areas perceived to be dangerous. The study, she added, also suggests enhancing the bike path network, adding traffic calming measures, improving traffic light timing, launching an education campaign and encouraging community conversations around the importance of safety.

Audience member Barry Pless said he was surprised that speed and traffic-light cameras weren't suggested by the study because the electronic enforcement devices are proven much more effective than educating the public. Drivers too often "jump the lights" when pedestrians are trying to cross the street, he said, and the all-to-common lead-footed motorists on streets like Sherbrooke "make for a dangerous situation."

Susan Kazenel, a three season-plus cyclist who regularly uses the de Maisonneuve bike path, said the fact that areas perceived to be dangerous weren't always found to be collision prone may be a result of people being more cautious in risky places, but there can still be plenty of close calls.

"It's an amazing dance that happens in this city between cars, pedestrians and cyclists," Kazenel said. "I'm always amazed that we don't have more accidents. It's really incredible."

Following the presentation, the meeting turned to other matters, including ways of honouring the late Don Wedge and Stanley Baker, the February 23 public consultation on rezoning of "super-size" houses, a proposed tunnel connecting the hospital-owned and former Air Canada

René Pelletier mourned

Funeral services were held February 26 for René Pelletier, who ran for Westmount city council in the November 2009 election. He was reported to have died peacefully February 19 at age 70.



Pelletier is survived by his wife Dora Koop and teenage daughters Victoria and Nicole.

A longtime resident of Lansdowne Ave. and an avid championship tennis player, Pelletier was an investment dealer

who had been an associate chief of staff in the defence ministry and a member of the National Parole Board.

He also had been involved in fundraising for the Atwater Library and the refurbishment of Westmount Public Library, and worked for the No side of the Quebec referendum. He was a member of the board of the Hillside Tennis Club and the Westmount Alzheimer Society, and a director of the Westmount federal Conservative riding association.

In announcing his candidacy in District 5 – a seat won by Gary Ikeman – Pelletier said: "The community has served my children well. I feel I want to give back." (See September 22, 2009, p. 6)

While this was his first foray into municipal politics, he had spent three years working in government in Ottawa in the 1980s after which he opened his own business to train government lobbyists.

building to the Vendôme Metro and the need to have more issue-oriented presentations to start meetings as a way to encourage more public involvement.

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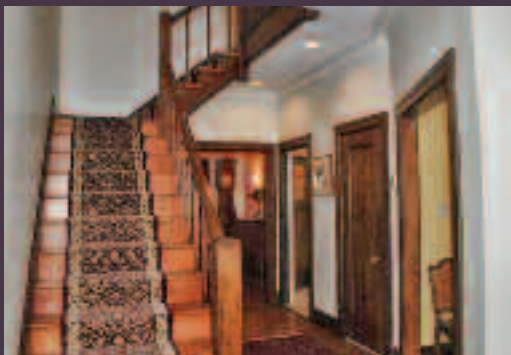
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM THE MAYOR TO SAQ

Open letter to Irène Anoia, director for real estate development, Société des alcools du Québec (SAQ), by Mayor Peter Trent:

Thank you for your February 16 letter in response to my own that described my concern about the SAQ’s decision to close two outlets – one in Westmount Square and one in the Pepsi Forum. Unfortunately, I am not very persuaded by the contents of your letter.

One cannot help but think that the closure of these two outlets has been in the cards for some time now, given the recent investment in, and expansion of, the Sherbrooke and Victoria SAQ outlet; an expansion that for some of us simply results in more floor space for more numerous bottles of the same product. Most Westmounters want a short walk to their SAQ, not a long walk in their SAQ. In fact, this bigger shop will attract customers living further away, who will mostly travel by car.

One thing is for certain: the decision to close the two outlets used by Westmounters living in south-eastern Westmount will cause hardship to them, especially the elderly population living in the many apartment buildings in the area, people for whom walking down the hill and back to the Atwater Market outlet – a 2.5-km trek – is no more possible than the 3.5-km

round trip to the Sherbrooke/Victoria outlet. Don’t forget that one-third of Westmount residents in that area are over 65 years old.

Westmount city council believes strongly in a pedestrian-centred vision of our city. Bigger and more infrequent shops are the hallmark of suburban sprawl, not urban centres.

Even the Greene Ave. Merchants’ Association, whose president supports this letter, is very concerned about the effect of the closure on their own businesses.

While we understand the SAQ’s need to contain operating costs, closing both outlets is unacceptable. Why not just close the larger Pepsi Forum outlet, and leave the Westmount Square outlet open?

Westmount city council insists your decision-makers sit down with us and try to come up with a better arrangement for our citizens. Thank you.

PETER TRENT, MAYOR

REPLACING FIGHTER JETS

In reference to the letter in the *Independent* of February 22 (“Canada needs new jets,” p. 4), I want to reassure you that the Liberal Party fully intends to replace the aging CF-18 fighter jets before the end of the decade. Secondly, I would like to point out that there is no government contract in place for the F-35 at this time. Such a contract would not be signed until 2013

at the earliest. There is therefore no contract cancellation fee to pay.

MARC GARNEAU,
MP FOR WESTMOUNT-VILLE MARIE

ENJOY COFFEE WITH FRIENDS,
BUT HANG ONTO TO
YOUR PURSE!

Recently, I enjoyed a relaxing moment at the Greene Ave. Second Cup with a friend. Later she rang me from the police station. I was appalled to learn that her wallet was pick-pocketed out of her bag, as we sat chatting. Her large bag had been placed on the back of her chair, and some charming soul walked by, stole her purse

Re-zoning could
be considered for
R-2 zones to west

continued from p. 3

fice. Under his current schedule this would likely be by March 24 after publication of criteria in a city ad in the *Independent* the week of March 14.

These dates, however, are based on city council adopting the second draft by-law March 7.

Howard Hoppenheim, one of the residents on the Boulevard who has opposed the building of the Al-Musawi house, launched into a discussion of the size of her property with Anderson, her architect, until Councillor Lulham intervened, saying: “We agree it’s a large lot.”

Maureen Kiely asked if the city considered applying similar restrictions in the R2 zones to the west. “We reserve the right to reconsider zoning, but we don’t announce it ahead,” Lulham said.

It had been reported earlier, however, that the “current thinking” was not to do so (see February 15, p. 1).

and kept going.

So, this note is just to re-warn everyone. Do not leave your lovely large fashionista bag hooked to the back of your chair. This kind of incident also happened as I was sipping hot chocolate with a New York friend at a Second Cup near Place des Arts. In that case, she had her passport stolen. Enough said.

VERONICA REDGRAVE, HALLOWELL ST.

Tips on planting for
shady gardens at next
horticultural meeting

The Westmount Horticultural Society will feature the challenges of gardening in the shade at its March 8 meeting at the Westmount Public Library.

Albert Mondor, horticulturalist, garden designer, TV co-host and author, will present the how-to of gardening in shady areas, a characteristic of many Westmount gardens. “We’re only two months away from garden time, so now’s the time to start planning and discovering the beauty that can be achieved with a shade garden,” said president Sally Cooke.

“Gardening under mature trees is not an easy thing to achieve,” Mondor explained. “But shade gardens can be as beautiful as the ones located in full sun. Some special techniques can help you to obtain nice healthy plants in shady conditions.”

The presentation starts at 7 pm. Doors open at 6.30 pm for tea, coffee and cookies. Admission is \$5 for non-members.

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Pension plan: too few said to be paying in

continued from p. 1

collar union and an employee representative on the city's pension committee. He now continues on the committee as the representative of all pensioners.

His experience made him an excellent source to speak for employees, explained Lili Tremblay, a Public Works service person who now represents Westmount blue collars in Montreal's CUPE local 301. Tremblay has just joined the pension committee and said she was not aware of all the issues.

Referring to the growing costs to maintain its provisions in today's economic reality (see story February 8, p. 1), Corbière said "We know something has to be done. We are ready to find a solution. There are simply not enough people paying into the plan."

She attributes this to the increasing practice of replacing outgoing permanent employees with contractors, part-timers and auxiliaries, who are either ineligible to pay into the plan or may choose not to, depending on their status.

It was a point repeated by Daoust. "While contractors may cost the city less in the short term, permanent employees bring a higher standard of quality to the city in the long run."

He cautioned that a plan is not something to be "fixed in a week. The planning is for decades to come. When we talk about deficits everyone should be concerned. But deficits are cyclical, and it's important for people not to panic in the face of big fluctuations.

"We mustn't get caught up in the panic of the moment."

And retiree Michael Crouch, who worked for Westmount for 40 years and led the then white collar Association of Salaried Employees agrees. The current underfunding of the plan will recover itself because the market will eventually turn around.

"But don't make up unfunded liabilities on the backs of the employees who provide good service."

"It's the fact that many workers now don't have to join the plan and contribute. That's what's going to kill it," he said.

In the future, he added, the city won't have many people retiring after 30 or 40 years on large pensions "because everyone is hopping around these days."

In the short-term, according to Daoust, "it's the benefits that cost the money. One is Westmount's 'magic number' of 80."

That's the combined total of age and years of service at which an employee may retire on full pension. And it can be adjusted, he explained.

"It's been done elsewhere. "My confrères at Hydro Quebec went up to 85 and back to 80 depending on the economy.

"Nobody's going to be comfortable with a benefit that's taken away but the main goal is to keep the plan healthy for everyone to be able to enjoy their investment later in life. I was paying \$120 a week to belong to the plan."

While the plan does not provide automatic cost of living increases, he explained, employees receive them if the plan has a surplus and the committee decides "to give more benefits."

Contrary to some municipalities, Westmount has one general pension fund. "We're not blue, white or administrators. We're all in it together, employees and pensioners." Daoust said.

"I've heard so many times from (retired city manager) Bruce St. Louis, who managed this place like a father, about the 'sense of loyalty.' It was very important to have the feeling that working for Westmount was a purpose and that even Westmount residents liked that idea. It's part of the Westmount culture."

Corbière suggested discussing the issue with Human Resources. "I think we need to step up for our rights but we also want to be fair with our population."

In her role as cashier, she pointed out, "I know how residents are feeling about their taxes, and I understand that because I am a taxpayer in Brossard. It's just a situation where everything is going up and not necessarily in parallel with salaries, for us and for them." She said employees "take Westmount to heart and love to work in the community." This means "residents can talk to someone who cares."

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Demo decision requires design changes

28 Devon passes first hurdle

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A one-storey stone house at 28 Devon can be levelled to make way for a new two-storey home, the city's demolition committee decided February 21.

It has requested, however, that the new house be lowered and better integrated into the natural slope of the land as neighbours requested at a two-hour long demolition hearing February 17 (see February 22, p. 1).

"It was clear that with only one person opposed to the demolition, all comments from the neighbours were directed at the replacement project – concerns shared by the demolition committee," said Councillor Patrick Martin, its chair.

Included in the written decision is a provision that breaks new ground by stating that the revised plans for the new home, once approved in principle by the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), would be posted for 10 days in front of 28 Devon.

"This is believed to be the first time the city has taken the initiative to do this because there are to be changes," Martin

said.

A \$130,000 bond was also imposed to ensure the construction project is carried out according to an approved replacement plan.

Neighbours' safety

This plan would include details of the process and schedule as well as measures to protect the safety of "immediate neighbours." continued on p. 14

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Ski for the Children's gearing up for fundraising event



Westmount board members, from left, Jeremy Engelberg, Mike Hitelman, Ian Quint and Samara Zavalkoff take part in a planning session, January 20, at Zavalkoff's Burton residence for the third annual Ski for the Children's fundraiser for the Montreal Children's Hospital. The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 19 and includes a day of skiing, lunch, après-ski and a silent auction at Stowe Mountain Resort. To participate or sponsor a skier, visit www.skiforthechildrens.com. Zavalkoff works in pediatric critical care at the children's hospital. Over \$200,000 has been raised at the fundraisers over the last two years.

Photo: Eric Bindman

St. Pat's celebrations being finalized City to celebrate with Irish pub and 'green' parade

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The winds of change are blowing through Westmount for this year's St. Patrick's Day celebration with the "greening" – in colour and sustainability – of the city's parade entry on Sunday, March 20.

Local festivities will also kick off Wednesday, March 16 with an Irish pub, from 7 to 10 pm at Victoria Hall.

New safety regulations for this year's parade required too many changes and complications to enter Westmount's traditional "Then and Now" float, said the city's assistant Community Events coordinator Virginia Elliott in announcing the changes.

As a result, the city's contingent will focus on citizens and community groups walking together behind a decorated Public Security hybrid vehicle and Scouts carrying the flags of Westmount and Ireland. "This year we'll be green in all respects – a lot more sustainable," she said.

Those wishing to participate may obtain further information regarding assembly times and staging areas by calling

514.989.5226 and can pick up parade passes at Victoria Hall. The parade heads east along St. Catherine, from Fort St. at noon.

Three days earlier, the Lodge Room at Victoria Hall will be transformed into The Raven & the Rose, an Irish pub.

Musicians who have previously played on the city's float will entertain using traditional Irish instruments. Prizes will be awarded for the best limericks recited by those attending.

Tickets for this event are available at Victoria Hall at a cost of \$15, which includes snacks. Beer, wine and Irish coffee will be available at a cash bar.

Enough is enough

Public safety officers asked the city to post rink-closure times at Prince Albert Park after finding five hockey players on the ice February 16 at 12:06 am. Despite midnight park curfew signs, officers have frequently been called to the location this winter by nearby residents annoyed by the noise.



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Police Beat

Four 'bits' lead to more loot for Rogers robber

BY DAVID GOLDBERG

A man who simulated a weapon held up the Rogers cell phone store at 1201 Greene Ave. on February 17.

The suspect entered the store at 1:45 pm and began looking at the merchandise in the glass showcases. He then went up to a salesperson and told her that he had two quarters that weren't working in the parking meter.

"He asked the employee if she could exchange the money," said Constable Adalbert Pimentel. "When she opened the cash drawer, he held his hand in his pockets as if he had a gun and said, 'This is a robbery. Give me your money.'"

As the woman handed over what police described as "not a large amount of money," the suspect told her, "And don't press the button."

The suspect put the money in his pocket and left the store, going north on Greene. Police say his image was caught on video surveillance cameras, and that he left his fingerprints on the cash drawer.

The suspect is described as a white male, 5'6" and thin. He had reddish hair and wore a black cap, a green jacket and blue jeans.

"It's always a good idea for stores not to keep large amounts of money in their register in case this type of situation happens," said Pimentel. "If a suspect simulates having a weapon, you should assume he does have one. Stay calm and remember: your safety is always number one."

Pimentel said that victims should pay attention to suspects, so they can give good descriptions and also notice whether or

not they're wearing gloves.

"If the suspect is not wearing gloves, pay attention to what they touch," he said. "Then, never touch those items, as you're in the middle of an active crime scene. Get a good mental picture and give police a good description of the suspect and the items touched."

BMO robbed

Two masked suspects held up the Bank of Montreal at gunpoint in late January.

Police say the suspects entered the branch located at Sherbrooke and Grosvenor at 4:24 pm on January 28. One of them brandished a silver gun and they began shouting, "Hold-up! Give me your large bills."

Both suspects got money from the tellers but then jumped over the counter looking for more.

"They searched through other cash drawers before leaving the bank and getting into a grey Honda," said Pimentel. "The car headed north on Grosvenor."

Police say witnesses were not able to give conclusive descriptions of the suspects, but their images were captured on the bank's surveillance cameras. As well, the bank was dusted for fingerprints.

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MUHC, transport agencies aim for second underground link to Vendôme Metro

BY ISAAC OLSON

The McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) has teamed up with two public transportation agencies to both study the feasibility of and ask the province for help funding improved northern access to the incoming super hospital.

With thousands of daily staff, patients and visitors expected to converge on Glen Campus come 2014, MUHC officials, working with the Société de transport de Montréal (STM) and the Agence métropolitaine de transport (ATM), hope to link the hospital-owned 5100 de Maisonneuve,



Wanda Potrykus, a York St. resident who sits on the super-hospital's "Committee for Good Neighbourly Relations," holds up a shard of broken glass as she tells MUHC and Montreal officials that her window was shattered by the shocks caused by piling activity on the Glen Yards construction site. The shaking, she said, is an ongoing problem for her 120-year-old home even though tests conducted by the MUHC indicate piling-related seismic activity is minimal. An SNC Lavalin representative told her he would look into it. When asked for an interview, Potrykus said she wants to see how the hospital responds before talking to the press.

formerly the Air Canada building, to the Vendôme Metro station by tunnel.

"As it stands today, we're not even here yet and the Vendôme Metro station, in the morning, is at capacity," said Pierre Major, the MUHC's associate director of facilities development and construction. "So, to make it

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MUHC asks province for funding to build tunnel connecting Vendôme Metro to hospital

continued from p. 9

a truly intermodal station, something has to be done. It has to be fixed. Everybody was counting on the MUHC to fix a problem that already exists, but we have limited funds.”

Switching to French, he went on to say “we are confident that we will be able to demonstrate to Quebec that an investment in this station is necessary.”



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Major was responding to Roger Jochym, of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association, who demanded a solution during the monthly meeting of the MUHC’s “Committee for Good Neighbourly Relations,” comprised of both citizens and officials, on February 21.

The public-private partnership agreement requires the \$1.3-billion hospital have two northern links. The first is the extension of the Vendôme train platform’s existing under-the-tracks tunnel to the hospital’s underground parking garage. The second link will be an uncovered pedestrian bridge built just east of the station with elevators on either end. Widening the current tunnel to better facilitate the crowds would be a costly endeavour, explained Major, so the pedestrian bridge was proposed to help alleviate pressure on the underground passage.

As plans to hold hospital-related activities and offices in 5100 de Maisonneuve develop, people like Westmounter Maureen Kiely are concerned with what this means for staffers making the time-consuming trip back and forth between the two facilities via an open-air foot bridge.

Keily is a member of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), a long-time MUHC employee and, as a WMA member, she is involved with the Community University Research Alliance (CURA), which is focused on integrating mega projects like the hospital into the surrounding community.

Citing her own tiresome experiences of pulling on boots and a jacket to walk from the Royal Victoria to Montreal General, Keily said that, while she doesn’t blame the MUHC for the budget constraints, an underground solution is a necessity. At the very least, she added, the bridge should be covered.

“Not having adequate access to the hos-

pital from the northern, Westmount/NDG side of the site makes for an inaccessible building and that just isn’t user-friendly,” said Keily, noting the irony in the fact that Montreal is globally famous for its underground network of shopping centres. “Obviously we need a tunnel.”

Loud music costs man \$288

A resident of Château de Maisonneuve apartments was issued his second ticket for \$144 in a month for violating the noise by-law February 15 when it finally took arrival of police to stop the music.

Public Security officials said they received a call for loud music and voices just after 11 pm. When officers arrived at 4998 de Maisonneuve, they reported hearing “excessively loud” music and voices, and cautioned the tenant without success.

The disturbance continued even after police arrived at 12:17 am when it took loud banging on the door and shouting of the word “Police!” before the music stopped. The door was never opened.

Neighbour raises concern

A concerned resident of Lansdowne Ave. called Public Security at 8 am February 22 to say no answer could be obtained at a neighbour’s house where the front door was open. When unable to raise occupants, public safety officers called police who searched the home inside to find all in order. When the resident was finally reached, she reported her young son must have left the door open.

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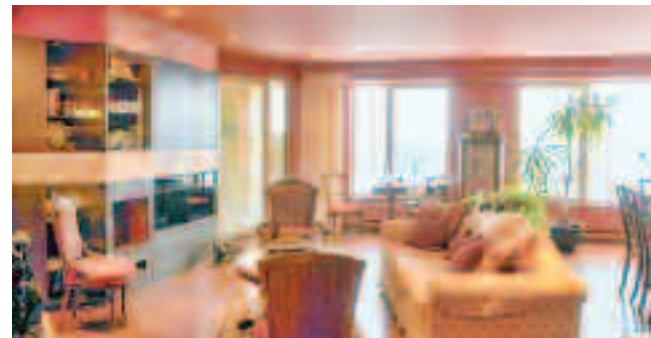
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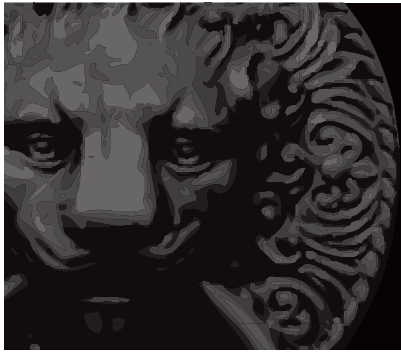
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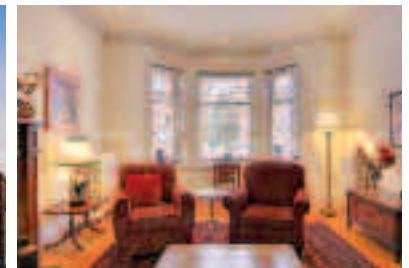


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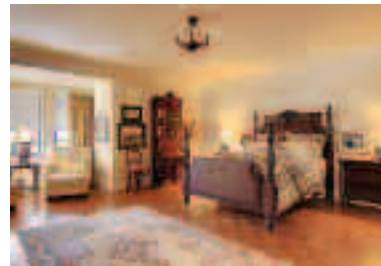
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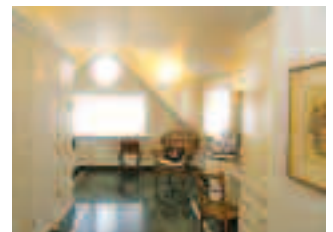
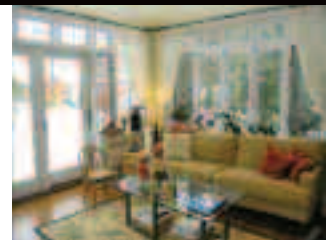
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Neighbours worried about blasting from Devon demo

continued from p. 7

Parking for workers' vehicles and the method to be used for rock excavation are among other items required in the plan.

During the demolition hearing, neighbours had expressed concerns over potential damage to their own homes on Devon, Summit Crescent and Lexington that might result from dynamiting required for the building of the new house.

While these are not directly answered in the committee's written decision, the residents were assured during the hearing that Westmount's regulations related to

blasting were particularly restrictive.

They were also told that monitoring would be carried out and dynamite charges lowered if required, though "obviously things could happen," explained city Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

The demolition decision would take effect within 30 days after the posting of the revised plan for the new home "unless there is an appeal to council."

The new house is being built at an estimated cost of some \$1.5 million by Jordan Dermer, who purchased the property and existing Category II-rated house some six months ago.

Stuart Webster wins three landscaping awards



From left, Eva Novoa, Louis-Guy Bégin, Annie Robinson, Stuart Webster, Christian Bilodeau, Julie Dumont-Paquet and Nathalie Desjean.

Photo courtesy of Stuart Webster Design

Stuart Webster, a landscape designer from Westmount who owns Stuart Webster Design and Daccord Webster Paysage, recently won three awards for his work.

Awarded by the Association of Professional Landscape Contractors of Quebec (APPQ) during its 32nd annual award ceremony on February 17, Webster won the Milan Havlin Award for outstanding landscape design and construction for a

Boucherville-based property. He also took home two first-place awards for "Most Beautiful Backyard Garden" and "Most Beautiful Intimate Space" for properties in Boucherville and Montreal.

Webster, born in Sherbrooke, attended Selwyn House School before heading off for degrees from Princeton University and the Inchbald School of Design.

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Vanguard could stay

continued from p. 1

quarters outside Westmount.

"It's a pity for us," said press attaché Lise Provost told the *Independent*. "We have been the only owners and occupants of the building for 46 years."

The five-storey building at Greene has a staff of 140 and requires more space but "municipal regulations do not allow us to enlarge our building," she explained.

No alternative sites or dates are known because "we are very far from that [part of the process]," Provost said.

City Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier said the order's site had been "maximized." The office building exists by vested rights in a residential zone. Should it wish to build on the vacant lot next door, it would require a zoning change. Apartments to the west were razed after a fire in 1999.

Vanguard has not ruled out consolidating within Westmount "if anyone knows of a large-enough site," Coffin-Caputo said.

Students at the special needs high school in Westmount come from 13

Stuck skunk freed on Oakland

A skunk was freed from a window well on Oakland Ave. February 19 after the resident called Public Security at 7:45 am to report it "wedged" in the opening.

The SPCA was called and managed to release the animal unhurt, public safety officers report. The skunk was believed to have become caught overnight.

Hazardous freeze

Access to the Church of the Advent at de Maisonneuve and Elm was cordoned off by city crews February 18 when ice blocks and icicles were spotted hanging dangerously from the roof, Public Security officials said. The safety measure was undertaken when personnel from the church could not be reached.

school boards on and off the island of Montreal, many bussed to and from. Vanguard also has campuses in Laval (high

school) and St. Laurent (elementary school).

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

Adult non-fiction: Cosmic wonders

Cycles of Time: An Extraordinary New View of the Universe by Roger Penrose – The author offers a new perspective on the often-asked question: what came before the Big Bang?

How Old is the Universe? by David Weintraub – This is the incredible story of how astronomers solved one of the most compelling mysteries in science and, along the way, introduces readers to fundamental concepts and cutting-edge advances in modern astronomy.

Magazine articles

“At the market: the buzz on honey: one ingredient and delicious seasonal things to do with it,” by Amy Albert, recipes by Sara Kate Gillingham-Ryan, in *Bon Appétit*, February 2011, p. 50.

“The rise of the new global elite: F. Scott Fitzgerald was right when he declared the rich different from you and me. But today’s super-rich are also different from yesterday’s,” by Chrystia Freeland, in *The Atlantic*, January/February 2011, p. 44.

“100 ans de vie de couple: Ils se marièrent et eurent beaucoup d’enfants... Cette phrase a longtemps décrit ce qu’était la vie conjugale au Québec. Mais les bouleversements survenus au cours du dernier siècle ont complètement transformé les rapports entre conjoints,” by Annie Richer, in *Coup de pouce*, Février 2011, p. 30.

DVDs

Macbeth – Patrick Stewart plays the leading role in this adaptation of the stage production that relocates the action to a nameless 20th century underground facil-

ity and offers a parable of the quest for power in the modern world.

The Stoning of Soraya M. – When a journalist is stranded in a remote village, he discovers the fate of a kind-spirited woman whose bad marriage has led her husband to trump up false charges of infidelity, which carry an unimaginable penalty.

Adult French – All the world’s a stage

L’homme blanc by Perrine Leblanc – Leblanc’s first novel won the Grand Prix du livre de Montréal. A man becomes a successful circus artist but, damaged by life, cannot overcome his compulsive behaviours. This novel is set in contemporary Russia and we follow the main character’s life from his birth in a prison camp in the 1930s until the 1990s.

Janine Sutto: vivre avec le destin by Jean-François Lépine – Sutto gives as one of the reasons she wanted this book published that the public sees only the glamorous side of a life on stage and does not realize how exacting a profession it is. At 90, she is still in love with drama, though. This biography covers her personal life, which was not without turmoil, as well as her great career in the theatre.

Reference

Encyclopedia of Global Resources

State of the World 2011: Innovations that nourish the planet

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Vol. 5/04

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ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES Musique en folie le 1^{er} mars au Victoria Hall

9 h : ateliers Brico-musique (3 à 6 ans) et La musique dans la BD (7 à 12 ans); bilingue; 5 \$.

10 h : concert: Anabelle Canto (6 à 12 ans); gratuit; laissez-passer disponibles au Victoria Hall. Réservations et info: 514 989-5226.

Exposition

La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter les œuvres des artistes Susan Brainerd Alain et Ilyse Segal du 17 février au 12 mars 2011. Info : 514 989-5521.

Galerie : appel de dossiers

La galerie du Victoria Hall lance un appel de dossiers pour sa programmation de la saison 2011-2012 (septembre 2011 à août 2012). Ce concours s'adresse aux artistes émergents ou professionnels qui habitent Westmount. Les propositions doivent inclure 10 photographies ou images électroniques d'œuvres récentes; une liste des titres et description; un court curriculum vitae ainsi qu'un exposé portant sur la démarche artistique du candidat. Les artistes sont également invités à proposer jusqu'à cinq œuvres pour une exposition de groupe.

Période d'inscription annuelle : du 15 février au 15 avril. Les dossiers doivent être envoyés au soin du comité de sélection, Victoria Hall, 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, Westmount, H3Z 1E2 ou déposés au Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest. Info : 514 989-5521.

Soirée Pub irlandais au Victoria Hall

Fêtez le Saint-Patrick au son de musique traditionnelle irlandaise, limericks et encore plus. Accès à partir de 19 h le 16 mars de 20 h à 22 h au Victoria Hall. Billets : 15 \$, bar payant. Info : 514 989-5226.

Défilé de la Saint-Patrick

Les résidents de Westmount sont invités à arborer les couleurs de l'Irlande en compagnie des participants de la Ville lors du 187^e défilé de la Saint-Patrick organisé par la Société unie des Irlandais de Montréal. Le contingent de Westmount se réunira à midi sur le boulevard René-Lévesque entre les rues du Fort et Crescent. Info : 514 989-5226.

Une heure pour la terre : Sous les étoiles au parc Westmount

La Ville de Westmount et le Projet ville en santé de Westmount invitent les résidents à marquer **Une heure pour la Terre 2011** avec une foule d'activités : films, kiosques d'information et invités distingués le samedi 26 mars de 18 h à 22 h 30 au Victoria Hall. Observez les étoiles et les planètes au parc Westmount

DATES À RETENIR

Le 7 mars à 20 h

Séance du conseil
Hôtel de Ville

Le 20 mars à 12 h

Défilé de la Saint-Patrick
Montréal, centre-ville

avec les membres de la Société royale d'astronomie du Canada. Info : 514 989-5265. 🌿



BIBLIOTHÈQUE Cercle de lecture

Aucune liste de lecture imposée et aucune date limite, seulement des discussions au sujet des livres que vous avez lus ! Notre prochaine date de rencontre est le mardi 8 mars à 10 h 15. 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 8 mars à 14 h. Info : 514 989-5386.

Conférences à 14 h

Joignez-vous à nous à l'occasion de la lecture théâtrale de *After Miss Julie* avec *The Golden Stagers* le mercredi 9 mars à 14 h. Info : 514 989-5386. 🌿



SPORTS ET LOISIRS Guide pour les activités printemps / été 2011

Surveillez bien votre courrier; l'édition printemps/été 2011 du guide des activités culturelles, sportives et de loisirs de Westmount vous parviendra la deuxième semaine de mars et les inscriptions débiteront le 21 mars. Info : 514 989-5353. 🌿



SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE Pour rapporter un graffiti

Rapportez des incidents de graffiti à Westmount en téléphonant au 514 989-5222, en visitant le site Web au www.westmount.org ou en envoyant un courriel au graffiti@westmount.org. Photos acceptées. Info : 514 989-5222. 🌿



COMMUNITY EVENTS March Musical Madness – March 1 at Victoria Hall

9 a.m. workshops: Brico-music (3-6 yrs) and My Music in Comics (7-12 yrs); bilingual; \$5.

10 a.m. concert: Anabelle Canto (6-12 yrs); free; passes available at Victoria Hall. Reservations and info: 514 989-5226.

Exhibition

The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present works by Susan Brainerd Alain and Ilyse Segal from February 17 to March 12, 2011. Info: 514 989-5521.

Gallery: call for projects

The Gallery at Victoria Hall announces a call for projects for its 2011-2012 exhibition season (September 2011 to August 2012). Emerging or professional artists who are residents of Westmount are invited to apply. Submissions should include 10 photographs or electronic images of recent works, an accompanying list of titles with descriptive information, a short résumé and an artist's statement. Artists may also apply to participate in a group exhibition (maximum 5 images).

Annual registration period: February 15 to April 15. Please forward your project to: Gallery Selection Committee, Victoria Hall, 4333 Sherbrooke St. West, Westmount, H3Z 1E2 or deliver it to Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke Street West. Info: 514 989-5521.

Irish Pub night at Victoria Hall

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with an evening of live traditional Irish music, limericks and more. Doors open at 7 p.m. on March 16 from 8p.m. to 10 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Tickets \$15; cash bar. Info: 514 989-5226.

St. Patrick's Parade

Westmounters are invited to be Irish for a day as part of the city's 'Green' entry in the 187th St. Patrick's Day Parade, organized by the United Irish Societies in downtown Montreal. The Westmount contingent will meet at noon on René-Lévesque Boulevard between Fort & Crescent Streets. Community groups are welcome to join in carry banners of their respective group. Greenery and accessories will be available to participants. Info: 514 989-5226.

Earth Hour: Stargazing in Westmount Park

The City of Westmount and the Westmount Healthy City Project invite residents to mark **Earth Hour 2011** on Saturday, March 26 from 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at Victoria Hall with activities, information booths, movies and special guests. There will also be

DATEBOOK

March 7 at 8 p.m.

Council meeting
City Hall

March 20 at 12 p.m.

St. Patrick's Parade
Montreal - downtown

stargazing in Westmount Park with members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. Info: 514 989-5265. 🌿



LIBRARY Readers to Readers Book Club

Join our morning book club with a twist. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8 at 10:15 a.m. to talk about great books recently read. 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, March 8 at 2 p.m. Info: 514 989-5386.

2 O'Clock Series

Join us for a dramatic reading of the play *After Miss Julie* with *The Golden Stagers* on Wednesday, March 9 at 2 p.m. Info: 514 989-5386. 🌿



SPORTS & RECREATION Spring/summer 2011 Activities Guide

Watch your mailbox the second week of March for the spring/summer edition of the Westmount Culture, Sports and Recreation Activities Guide. Registration begins March 21. Info: 514 989-5353. 🌿



PUBLIC SECURITY To report graffiti

Report graffiti incidents in Westmount by phone at 514 989-5222, by visiting the Web site at www.westmount.org or by e-mailing directly to graffiti@westmount.org. Photos are accepted. Info : 514 989-5222. 🌿

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

Missing curfew signs spare group from tickets

A group of five persons found in Summit Woods at 2:30 am on February 8, could not be ticketed because a curfew sign was missing, Public Security officials said. Statements of offence were issued, however, to two who were the drivers of two illegally parked cars.

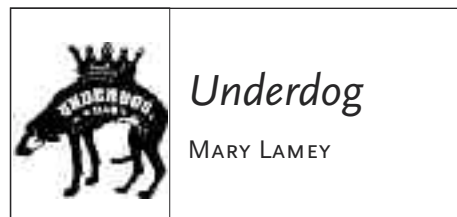
The group was spotted during a regular patrol and identified. Names were recorded for the issuance of tickets should they violate the curfew again.

One-way in Westmount

A man driving east along de Maisonneuve in NDG February 19 continued straight through the intersection at Claremont without realizing that de Maisonneuve became one-way west at that point, Public Security officials said.

The car mounted a raised curb barrier knocking down two poles and signage indicating no-entry. The driver claimed to be “not very experienced” and “distracted” by talking with his sister. The accident occurred around 6:47 pm.

Black and white and hurt all over



Gerdy's Rescue, knowing that the people there would help. Gerdy piled into her battered van and headed to the Townships, no questions asked.

Jenny came through the surgery with flying colours. She's got a polka-dot cast up to her hip and is on cage rest for two months in a foster home. The vet noticed

Jenny was found by a motorist at the side of a country road in a raging snowstorm. She'd been hit by a car and left shivering in the icy cold, unable to get up and so grateful for help when it came.

The year-old Dalmatian was brought to a vet in nearby West Brome, who determined that she had a bad leg break and needed specialized surgery or amputation.

As is so often the case, the vet called



Jenny

marks on her that suggest she was ill treated before she was dumped. Despite it all, she's a sweet-natured dog, who makes friends with everyone she meets.

Gerdy is appealing readers of the *Westmount Independent* for donations to pay off Jenny's sizable vet bill, so that the rescue can continue to help friendless dogs. Tax receipts are issued for all donations over \$10.

Visit www.underdogclub.org or email contact@underdogclub.org to find out how you can help Jenny and other needy pooches. Dog bless you all.

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Can parents hibernate too?



Parenthood Uncensored

SOPHIE TARNOWSKA

Sometimes I find it hard to write this parenting column, because sometimes parenting isn't fun or fulfilling or heart-warming. Sometimes it's just hard.

My daughter has reached the age of intense cheekiness and deliberate deafness, along with a fondness for rolling her eyes at everything I say. Normally I can handle it, except it's also the dead of winter, and like my circulation, my parenting skills decrease with the temperature. So I've gone into parental hibernation.

Not only did I buy a weird blue light lamp to combat my winter blues, but my circulatory system slows down to that of a snake from November through June. Instead of playing educational, interactive games with my child, I surf the internet for deals to the hottest destinations and dream about a sun that gives off actual heat. Travel websites are my porn.

Lake Victoria cryogenics

Since we know that our children act as mirrors reflecting ourselves back at us, this means that while I fantasize about cryogenically freezing my body 'til summer comes by lying down in the swimming pool-sized slush puddle at the corner of Sherbrooke and Victoria Ave., my daughter becomes whiny, anxious and many other things that drive me bonkers.

The other day I bumped into my friend after I'd had a particularly trying morning with my child (i.e. I shouted, she cried, I cried). I told her that I'm the worst parent I know. "Um, hello? Don't you remember me telling you that I once got so mad at my kids that I pushed them into a snow

bank?" my friend said, laughing. Thank goodness I'm not alone.

Winter is a constant struggle to insert my child into layers and layers of clothes, to rush her from one heat source to another; to strap the car seat around her now massive girth, to engage in outdoor activities designed to alleviate the short grey days of winter while trying to keep both our extremities frostbite-free. I'm convinced that being a parent during the winter is much harder than being a parent during the summer.

There's a section in *Us* magazine called "Stars! They're just like us!" that shows celebrities pushing their adorable Burberry-clad children on swings in the sunshine or building sandcastles with their kids on some Malibu beach. I'd like to see the winter version: Suri Cruise throwing a tantrum on the bunny slopes while Tom Cruise swigs whiskey from a hip flask; or Brad and Angelina trying to wipe the snotty noses of their 17 children all at once while being sprayed with slush by a passing car. That would help my winter blues.

Winter's Death Star

So for now, my parenting skills are in hibernation, which means that my daughter and I eat too much Nutella together and have watched every *Full House* episode ever made. But I'm trying to make the best of it, so on weekends we ski, snowshoe, skate under the glare of that poor excuse of a sun – or as my friend Tracey calls it: that "shiny death star."

Last weekend I took my daughter skiing in minus 25 degrees Celsius, when she decided to point her skis straight down an intermediate hill and ended up on her back sliding down sheer ice, at Mach 3. I raced after her until I could get close enough to grab her by the hood before she slammed into the chairlift. When I hugged her and asked if she was okay, she re-

March at the art galleries

Galerie de Bellefeuille – David Bierk: paintings. Exhibit continues to March 2. Russell Young: photography. Exhibit continues to March 9. Bobbie Burgers: paintings. Exhibit: March 12 to March 23. David Drebin: photography. Exhibit: March 26 to April 6. 1367 Greene, 514.933.4406.

Galerie D'Este – Elena Willis, Aislinn Leggett & Davida Kidd "En trois temps": photography. Exhibit: March 10 to April 3. 1329 Greene, 514.846.1515.

Gallery at Victoria Hall – Susan Brainerd Alain, Ilyse Segal: Exhibit continues to March 12. Alfredo Abeijon: Exhibit: March 24 to April 16. 4626 Sherbrooke, 514.989.5226.

Han Art – Luis-Fernando Suárez: paintings. Exhibit continues to March 10. 4209 St. Catherine. 514.876.9278.

McClure Gallery/Visual Arts Centre – Fiona Annis "The After-Image (Swansongs)": photography. Exhibit: March 4 to 26. 350 Victoria. 514.488.9558.

sponded, "Mama! That was all your fault! How could you make me go down that silly hill? I hate that hill!" – and rolled her eyes at me.

It took everything I had not to nudge her ever-so-gently into the nearest snow bank. Ah, winter.



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Bought & Sold: Real estate transferred since November 30, 2010

Address	Price	Evaluation *	Buyer	Seller	Date
Lots on Selby, de Richelieu, St. Catherine St. and Hillside, incl. the Montreal property at 3711 St. Antoine St.	\$24,100,000	\$32,970,000	9229-5138 Quebec Inc./V. Chiara	Imperial Tobacco Canada Limited	Jan 24
753 Lexington Ave.	\$3,550,000	\$3,591,000	Gerard Sisteck	Trustee of the 753 Lexington Trust	Feb 8
46 Forden Cres.	\$2,590,000	\$2,691,000	L. Crossley McInnes & K. McInnes	Trustees of Forden Crescent Trust	Feb 16
694 Aberdeen Ave.	\$1,310,000	\$1,205,000	M. Shams-Amiri & S. Ghanbari	Estate of the Late Yvonne Masri	Jan 27
343 Olivier Ave.	\$1,135,000	\$1,126,900	Olivia Corning & Scott Kern	The Canada Trust Company	Jan 21
422 Metcalfe Ave.	\$975,000	\$916,300	Giuseppina Santillo	Jennifer Lassner	Jan 24
60 Chesterfield Ave.	\$950,000	\$896,000	Heidi Hollinger	The F2 Trust	Nov 30, 2010
320 Kensington Ave.	\$925,000	\$875,000	Ronald Kay	Robert Campbell	Nov 30, 2010
426 & 428 Grosvenor Ave.	\$850,000	\$840,400	John Kreuzer & Sandra Carvalho	Jean Bedard & Gloria Di Francesco	Feb 17
4700 St. Catherine St. #605	\$775,000	\$792,300	Denis O’Brien & Susan Wood	Geracimos Hionis & Cynthia Campbell	Feb 8
62 Somerville Ave.	\$740,000	\$538,900	Nancy Richler & Vicki Trerise	Luc St-Arnaud & Julie Bernier	Nov 30, 2010
26 Springfield Ave.	\$672,000	\$534,000	Oliver Coomes	Bridget Blackader	Jan 26
4773 & 4773 A Sherbrooke St.	\$540,000	\$488,500	Mohsen Zarrabi & Maryse Ménard	Mojtaba Zarrabi	Jan 31
399 Clarke Ave.	\$460,000	\$424,600	Dora Berkson	Ruth Asner	Jan 25
436 Grosvenor Ave.	\$422,900	\$369,100	John & Julia Brennan	Yong Tao Wang	Feb 7
4055 St. Catherine St. # 135	\$95,000	\$185,400	Behrang Ashtiani	Grigorios Efraimidis	Feb 3

* 2010 transfers have the previous valuations, 2011 transfers have the new ones.

Real estate, on average

Number of transactions in parentheses. All dollar amounts are averages.

	March 1	February 1	December 1	November 2	October 5	September 1
Semidetached on the flat	\$925,000 (1)	\$640,000 (1)	none	none	947,500 (1)	\$547,500 (2)
Semidetached, Mid-Westmount	\$950,000 (1)	\$1,239,222 (9)	\$1,171,750 (8)	\$1,220,000 (1)	1,159,333 (3)	\$1,183,965 (12)
By type						
Detached	\$2,483,333 (3)	\$1,729,621 (4)	\$2,290,000 (3)	\$1,371,000 (5)	\$2,530,000 (4)	\$2,064,545 (11)
Semidetached	\$937,500 (2)	\$1,179,300 (10)	\$1,171,750 (8)	\$1,220,000 (1)	\$1,106,375 (4)	\$1,093,041 (14)
Townhouse	\$812,400 (5)	\$722,333 (3)	\$903,000 (5)	\$722,667 (3)	\$658,250 (4)	\$875,136 (11)
Duplex/triplex (1 unit)	\$424,300 (3)	\$373,125 (8)	\$540,000 (2)	\$475,833 (6)	\$415,150 (8)	\$476,938 (8)
Condo	\$617,500 (2)**	none	\$573,650 (6)	\$527,000 (1)*	none	\$720,000 (4) ***
Commercial	\$24,100,000 (1)	\$1,519,167 (3)	none	\$1,200,000 (1)	\$4,000,000 (1)	\$3,000,000 (1)
Land	none	\$3,700,000 (1)	\$150,000 (1)	none	none	none
By area (excl. commercial and land)						
Upper Westmount	\$3,550,000 (1)	\$1,573,317 (1)	\$3,800,000 (1)	\$1,371,000 (5)	\$2,310,000 (2)	\$1,497,000 (5)
Mid-Westmount	\$1,038,738 (8)	\$1,403,180 (12)	\$1,115,267 (15)	\$909,333 (3)	\$1,065,615 (13)	\$1,277,003 (31)
On the flat	\$688,333 (6)	\$681,500 (8)	\$593,988 (8)	\$673,667 (6)*	\$506,675 (4)	\$855,208 (12) ***
All transactions	\$2,505,619 (16)	\$1,284,839 (25)	\$1,017,236 (25)	\$939,063 (16)	\$1,224,985 (20)	\$1,146,692 (49) ***
Average price/evaluation, arithmetic	1.08**	1.45	1.23	1.35*	1.34	1.28***
Average price/evaluation, \$ weighted	1.04**	1.41	1.27	1.22*	1.31	1.26***

Data is by newspaper reporting date, not notarial registration or sale agreement date. The dividing lines between the three geographic areas are the middles of The Boulevard and Sherbrooke St. All data excludes parking lot and storage transactions.

* Excludes possible related-party transaction at 35 percent of evaluation.

** Excludes a condo at 51 percent and a commercial transaction at 73 percent of evaluation.

*** Excludes condo transaction at \$1.

Nota bene: the drop in price/evaluation ratios in March is likely the result of higher evaluations in effect for 2011 and following.

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office@westmountindependent.com.

Dancing with the stars, year 5, at the Telus Theatre



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

On a stormy night in early February, energy was elegantly high as agile volunteers danced for a cause at the 5th edition of the annual Dancing with the Stars at the Telus Theatre.

Ten alumni dancers – Cheryl Besner Cohen, Derek Stern, Betsy Fainer, Samara Berlach, Catherine Turner, Alissa Perzow, Janice Sherman and Westmount residents Simon Tooley, Norma D'Alesio and Lloyd Feldman – partnered with the seven competing dancers: Westmounters Anne Gill (wife of Canadiens Hal Gill), Irwin Zelnick and Allyson Kassie-Goldberg, along with Erika Ludwick, Pietro Di Battista, Tim Sochaczewski and Andrea “Andy” Barbi-ero.

Co-presidents Ali Greenberg Kastner

and Samantha Manis chaired the event with vice president Leah Mitelman.

The dancers were judged by Westmounter Stephen Bronfman with Pierre Allaire and Mireille Veilleux. Virgin Radio was more than present as a sponsor with Lisa Player and Cat Spencer hosting,

Cousin Vinny as the dynamo DJ, and former Westmounter Martin Spalding, VP and general manager of Astral Media Radio, attending with Joanne Walford. Also, Astral Media Inc. CEO Ian Greenberg was present with his wife Linda.

continued on p. 23



From left: Westmounters Claudine Bronfman and Linda Smith, with Violette Cohen.



Westmounter Eric Goldberg, and Cindy Hershorn.



Westmounters Bea Pungartnik and her son Tristan.



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Comin' Up

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

• **Elizabeth Kirkland** of the Dawson College history department speaks on the contributions to the advancement of women by elite women in Montreal in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Atwater Library, 12:30 pm. Info: 514.935.7344 or www.atwaterlibrary.org.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

City council meeting, 8 pm, city hall.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

• The **Westmount Horticultural Society** offers a lecture by Albert Mondor on the challenges of gardening in the shade, 7 pm, with doors opening at 6.30 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Cost: \$5 for non-members. For story, see p. 4.

• **Mardi Gras pancake dinner** at Centre Greene. Cost: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under 5 years. Tickets on sale at the centre or reserve: 514.931.6202. Info: www.centregreene.org.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

Communications doctorate student **Joan Kahn** gives a presentation on the curious nature of information, drawn from her

book *The Paper Chaser: Pursuing and Capturing Information*, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. free, donations invited.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Westmounter and lawyer **Bernard Amyot** on “De l'importance de l'enseignement privé au Québec” at the University Club of Montreal, 2047 Mansfield, 7:15 am to 8:45 am. Cost: from \$30 (students) to \$50. Contact Sonia Ou-saidene at 514.342.9342, ext. 5305, or email anciens@brebeuf.qc.ca, by March 8 to reserve.

MONDAY, MARCH 14

Marianopolis students perform in the **Prix d'expression musicale**, open to public, starting at 7:30 pm in the auditorium, 4873 Westmount Ave. In case of inclement weather, it will take place at the same time on March 16.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

Westmount Toastmasters hosts special guest Georgia Remond who will present a workshop on “The power of intuition,” 7 to 9 pm in the Club Room at Victoria Hall. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Free.

More Social Notes

continued from p. 22

Noted amidst the sequins and the stiletos were Westmounters **Béa** and **Gunther Pungartnik** with their son **Tristan**, **Claire** and **Stuart Webster**, **Isabelle** and **David Bensadoun**, **Carmie** and **Joey Saputo**, as well as **Mike Cammalleri** and **Jen Bernaudo**, brothers **David** and **Yehuda Sochaczewski** with his wife **Andrea**, and **Cheryl** and **Alan Goffman**.

Food was amazing! Java U (a sponsor)

outdid themselves with an oyster bar and a smoked salmon station, as well as hors d'oeuvres to die for. Belvedere Vodka – also a sponsor – served ice-cold shots in yummy chocolate cups. (Thank goodness we got to dance it all off!)

Winning dancer? Congratulations to Anne Gill and to the Just For Kids Foundation, Chapter 1, which raised \$370,000 (gross) for the Montreal Children's Hospital.

60% already sold!

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Westmount, 252 Kensington Ave.

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Understated outside, but inside...WHOA! **\$600,000** in recent renos. It screams quality. A MUST see!

ANOTHER JUST SOLD!

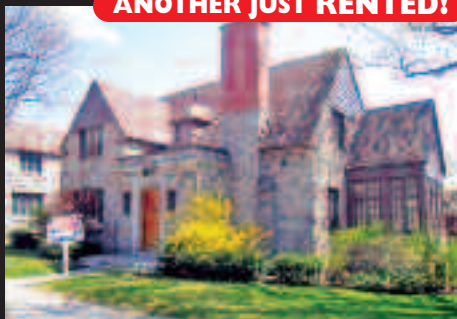


Westmount adj., 4081 Highland Ave.

\$1,375,000

Exquisitely renovated 1900 4 bdr detached cottage. Every luxury and convenience. 3 (yes, 3!) car garage. You MUST see this property!

ANOTHER JUST RENTED!



Westmount, 3764 The Boulevard

\$4,500 mo.

Charming 3 bedroom detached stone house. Immediate occupancy.



Westmount, 254 Kensington Ave.

\$969,000

Charming 1920's home loaded with woodwork and sunshine! Renovated kitchen, windows, bathroom, etc. Lovely garden. Great family oriented location.

ANOTHER JUST SOLD!



Westmount, 457 Clarke Ave.

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Westmount, 11 Willow Ave.

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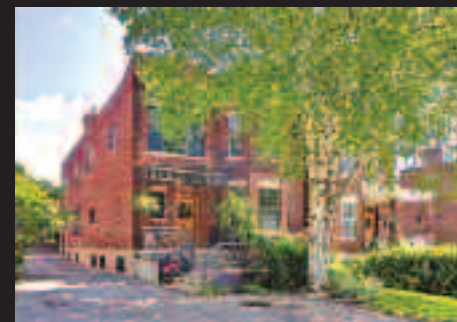
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Westmount, 18 Willow Ave.

\$1,495,000

Phenomenal space + light! TOTALLY renovated. 4+1 bdrms. Central A/C. HUGE 2 storey solarium and terrace. Fabulous family friendly street!



Westmount, 611 Roslyn Ave.

\$1,295,000

Arts and Crafts era at it's finest! Exceptionally spacious, and LOADED with beautiful oak woodwork. 5 fireplaces. A/C. Garage.



Westmount, 468 Wood Ave.

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