

Many views on real estate firm

Has Cromwell conquered Victoria village?

BY ISAAC OLSON

Every day, hundreds of people come to Westmount's popular Victoria village to visit the mix of independent and big-name retail shops, grocers, restaurants and health services that line the streets of Victoria and Sherbrooke from Grosvenor to Claremont.

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If visitors aren't shopping at stores like the nearly 20-year-old Hogg Hardware or grabbing a lunch at eateries like the year-old Wellhouse, they're maybe headed above street level to the dozens of apartments and businesses, such as architectural firms and physical therapists, that mix into the busy commercial district's tightly woven fabric of commercial, office and residential space.

From east to west, many Victoria village renters, be they apartment dwellers or business owners, are sharing more than just a postal code. Many share the same landlord – Cromwell Management Inc.

Any sharp-eyed shopper strolling by might notice a commercial district in constant evolution with businesses young and old coming and going with each passing month. continued on p. 8

Martin, Bell win squash bronze



Judy Martin (left) and her twin Susan Bell of Westmount won the bronze medal for the "Women Over 50" category at the Canadian Doubles Squash Championships that ran between March 4 to 6 at the Atwater Club. Westmounters Bart Sambrook won silver in the men's 40+ category; Mike Wilson won silver in the men's 70+; and Peter Holland in the men's 75+. Some 150 participants took part in the event that attracted squash players from as far away as San Francisco and Vancouver.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith.

Sports & Rec targets fall for online sign-up

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The registration starting March 21 for Westmount's spring and summer Sports and Recreation programs could well be the

last one offering only conventional sign-up.

That is, if the installation of new enabling software and the training of personnel take place in time for the fall and winter process, said Sports and Recreation coordinator Dave Lapointe last week.

"We still have many details to work out but hopefully it will be in place by then," he said.

The timing of the new technology system "could- continued on p. 10

Don't Miss It:

Spring/summer registration starts March 21

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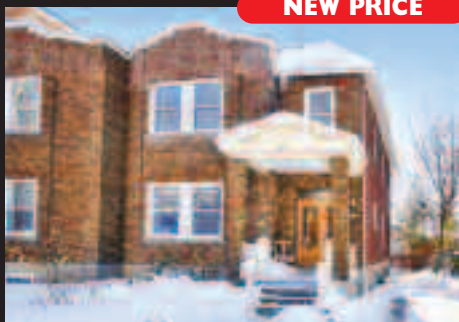
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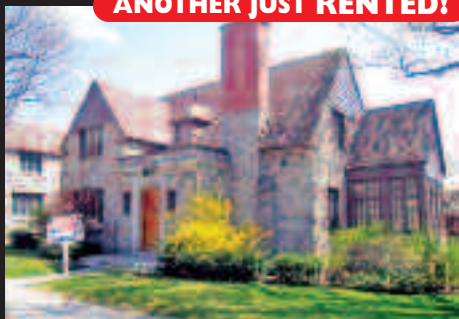
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Housing on St. Jacques at Glen Rd. worries residents

MUHC site may generate more buildings on de Maisonneuve

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Citizens and city council members alike sounded the alarm March 7 over growing concerns for traffic congestion expected to spill over into Westmount from a large new housing development in St. Henri and, in particular, the MUHC site.

They spoke of a lack of cycling and adequate pedestrian access to the hospital site, the absence of a traffic plan and new revelations that ambulatory clinics or doctors' offices would be set up at the former Air Canada building and possibly at a second one nearby.

These would undoubtedly add large amounts of traffic volume to an already congested and dangerous area, they explained.

In the short term, however, the MUHC is expected to move its many planning offices into the building.

Lulham 'appalled'

"I'm appalled that we were never informed about the clinics," said Urban Planning commissioner Cynthia Lulham. A bike path on the original plan has since been eliminated, she added.

There was even talk about a possible hotel, she later said.

Lulham told the *Independent* the next day that council is taking the traffic issue so seriously it plans to raise the matter with MUHC officials after director general Duncan Campbell meets with its planning committee at a regular monthly meeting.

"In all the years we've been involved with the hospital's plan, we've never been told about ambulatory clinics being set up off-site – on the fringes. It's very disturbing. They should be on the site."

The Pandora's box was opened at the start of the council meeting by Roger Jochym of the Westmount Walking and

Cycling Association (WWCA).

The public entranceway to the hospital "will be inadequate" and "active transportation is totally non-existent," he explained. This is completely opposite from the direction in which Westmount is moving.

Would the city, therefore, take "all appropriate action" by a resolution or letter to address the inadequacy and inaccessibility by non-drivers? he asked.

"A lot of what you say makes sense," Mayor Peter Trent said. "We have to find out more information."

Landowne resident Richard Locke also questioned how much traffic would be generated by a large new housing development rising at the southwest corner of St. Jacques and de Courcelle at the foot of Glen Rd.

While the building is outside Westmount, "we can find out how many garage spaces it has," the mayor said. (See box at right for more information.)

Referring to the expected move of offices into the former Air Canada building, "There are very serious problems," warned Maureen Kiely, the Westmount Municipal Association's representative to the CURA (Community University Research Alliance) project.

"There are major implications (for Westmount) if we don't get it right."

Changes seemed to be evolving piecemeal, she added. These were issues that Westmount and NDG needed to fight together since they will impact the entire neighbourhood.

Concerned about hotel

Both Lulham and Kiely are also concerned about the possibility of a hotel being built at the vacant southwest corner of de Maisonneuve and Claremont, further adding to the need for an overall traf-

fic plan.

It's likely that over time, the whole stretch of de Maisonneuve from Claremont to Decarie would be used by the MUHC, Kiely said. The MUHC has been designated to serve one quarter of the province, she pointed out.

The issues were raised just as city council announced a public meeting on the terms of reference for Westmount's master traffic plan to take place Monday, March 14, after press time. The plan is expected to focus largely on "active transportation" and the need to reduce vehicular traffic.

Kiely later spoke at length about how the MUHC was trying to encourage its staff to use public transportation to the site, yet even the current link between the Metro and commuter trains was at capacity. She also had concerns about a proposed open-air *passerelle* over the train tracks, accessible by elevators at either end. (See "MUHC, transport agencies aim for second underground link to Vendôme Metro," March 1, p. 9.)

"Can you imagine what will happen if the elevator is not working?"

St. Jacques/Glen project

Overall building

Architects: Atelier Chaloub + Beaulieu

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Garage space: one floor (85 spaces).

Budget: \$30 million

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CURRENT PENSIONERS NEED NOT WORRY

Michael Crouch, former head of the city's white-collar union and current pensioner, wrote last week expressing concern about his pension.

First of all, my campaign for more reasonable municipal remuneration is directed at the entire island of Montreal – and particularly at the city of Montreal, where employees earn, all in, well over 30 percent more than the rest of the public sector. Since the majority of our taxes go to Montreal, this is not an inconsequential matter for Westmount taxpayers.

Since the 2002 mergers, the cost of employee benefits across the island has increased by 126 percent. This cannot go on. Municipal pension benefits, both in Westmount and elsewhere, are by anyone's measure far too costly.

That said, I have always been careful to point out that I am advocating reductions that would take effect over time and not affect pensioners. In fact, a headline in the *Independent* on the matter last month read "Pension changes won't affect current pensioners." (February 8, p. 1).

Mr Crouch should not worry.

PETER TRENT, MAYOR OF
THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT

ANOTHER SIDE OF MAY CUTLER

I was not a resident of Westmount when May Cutler was mayor, but met her and became a friend at the bridge table.

One of my fondest memories goes back a couple of years when, in a friendly game, I took \$5 away from May by doubling and redoubling her contracts. It was *my* night!

May never allowed this to happen again, but she did not shy away from telling friends of her infamous night.

Our friendship increased, fuelled by mutual interests. I supported May's November 28, 2009 letter to *La Presse* when she took a position on the increase in violence against women. Once again, she was ahead of the game, the letter being published on the anniversary of the December 6 massacre at Polytechnique.

In August 2010, we had both missed the musical edition of Tremblay's *Les Belles Soeurs* in French. The next possibility was in Joliette in mid-summer.

I got the tickets and told May I would be glad to drive, provided we stay overnight. This would allow us to go to St. Jean de Matha to see the Abbaye Val Notre Dame, the new installations of the Oka monks. My interest was quite personal as my cousin Phillippe Gadbois has been a member of the order for over 60 years and had been active in the relocation.

May was keenly interested and, in great

respect, spent a full hour in deep conversation with Phillippe and later took in the view of this architectural project, a recent Quebec monument.

By her own definition, May was agnostic, however, she fully respected the views of others and this visit became for her as important as our theatre outing.

I shall miss May: her formidable knowledge, her eccentricities and her great sense of humour made her a great mentor to me, a happy Westmount neophyte.

DOREEN LANDRY,
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

COP: NO SENSE OF HUMOUR, FAIRNESS, RULES

I walk a lot around the city.

Some days, such as today, the conditions are not ideal. Big puddles, lots of splashing. So I wait until I know that all drivers are going to stop and allow a pedestrian to cross the street safely.

I waited today after my light turned green at Greene and Sherbrooke for the approaching car to come to a full stop. He did, right across the white lines dedicated to the pedestrian area. I stopped at the driver's window and told him that he was across the line, and he shouldn't do that.

He replied that I had not stepped off the sidewalk so how was he to know I wanted to cross? I said he should observe the rules of the road – after all he was a police officer in a police car.

I continued across the roadway. The light had turned yellow, and by the time I got to the other side, it had turned red.

The police car started his lights flashing, cut across the traffic lanes and gave me a \$37 ticket for crossing on a red light.

Watch out for cop badge # _ (available upon request for fear of intimidation) because he just has no sense of humour, fair play or the rights of a pedestrian.

I guess I will pay the ticket because it's too far to walk to Montreal's court house. But it is really nice to know that the cops

are doing their job.

MICHAEL ST. B. HARRISON,
MOUNTAIN AVE.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE... AND REVIEW

The *Independent's* well-researched exposé, "Merchants reveal recycling woes," (March 8, p. 1) demonstrates the error made by Westmount city council when they landfilled the sustainability officer.

"Oh, sustainable operations will be incorporated into existing city operations," they said.

Ha. We see how well the recycling program is working for merchants: 30 percent* participation.

To be a leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, recycling, and minimizing our human footprint, council must rethink its previous decision. Merchants could easily place their cardboard on the sidewalk on an appointed day, and I would join Mayor Trent in pitching the load into a dump truck.

It does not require a brain surgeon – though Westmount has its fair share – to conduct a nation-leading recycling program. But it does require good decision-making at the highest level.

"Reduce, reuse or recycle" should be Westmount's motto. "Review" wouldn't hurt either.

JACK LOCKE, SHERBROOKE ST.

Editor's note: It is 30 percent of the 44 merchants interviewed for the article.

WHY NOT RAISE THE DOG RUN FENCES?

I read, with interest, the articles regarding the state of the dog runs in Westmount. This has been a matter of interest for many years.

The height of the fences in insufficient for safety, and this has been brought up many times. The re-
sponse has been that rais- continued on p. 5

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please "redline" them instead of resending the whole letter. Email any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.

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More letters

continued from p. 4

ing the fencing will block the view of the people in the surrounding areas. Let's look at this closely.

The Lansdowne dog run: The view is the back of the arena. What is being blocked? At the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG), the view is an oval running track. What is being blocked? In Murray Hill park, the dog run is in the middle of the park. What is being blocked?

Outside of my window is the 10-12 foot fence surrounding the tennis court. My view is not blocked. There is a 10-12 foot fence surrounding the swimming pool. My view is not being blocked.

People pay a fee for dog licences and expect a certain amount of services in recompense. This is a laugh.

The excuses of the council are a pile of bull. The city just doesn't want to spend money on the dogs. So where is the money collected for the licences going? Funny enough, Westmount has a reputation as being dog friendly. Talk about oxymorons.

I have a dog, but I don't use the dog runs anymore as she is unpredictable with smaller dogs, but this argument has been going on for more years than I can remember. Explain this, Westmount council.

BELINDA BOWES, ACADEMY RD.

TO BE A MAN...

Re: Pacioretty incident and the Westmount arena: To be men, males in the human race have to risk their lives and getting injured. Let the arena wimps leave the discussion to real men and boys.

If you don't risk concussion, you're not in the discussion.

VICTOR YELVERTON HAINES,
DE MAISONNEUVE

Garbage taken in

Public safety officers asked two local residents recently to remove their garbage bags until collection day, according to Westmount by-laws. Two bags were spotted at the sidewalk on York St. at 6:30 pm Thursday, February 24, and the homeowner's son removed them on request. More bags were found three days later, also prior to pickup day, near 205 Victoria. A cleaning woman was said to have put them out ahead of time.

Police Beat

Man arrested for Upper Lansdowne break-in

BY DAVID GOLDBERG

Montreal and Laval police have arrested a suspect they believe broke into a house on Upper Lansdowne in November, along with several other residences.

An investigation led by Sergeant-Detective Patrick Santerre and Sergeant-Detective John Romas-Joudis led to the arrest on February 4. A suspect was arrested in front of his Laval house after a lengthy investigation, which is ongoing.

On November 20, a suspect used a flower pot to break into a home on Upper Lansdowne, getting away with several high-end items, including furs, jewelry and four expensive hunting rifles. (See "Suspect uses flower pot," December 1, 2010.)

"The four rifles, two Berettas and two Perazzis, were recovered in the suspect's home, along with another weapon," said Constable Adalbert Pimentel. "The investigators believe the suspect can be tied to several other break-ins."

Arrested was a 37-year-old Laval man. He is expected to be charged with breaking and entering and possession of stolen goods. Police say other charges may follow.

"The investigators believe that there are

more suspects involved, and they expect to make more arrests," said Pimentel.

Cops nab 'cat' burglar

A suspect, who had a pretty lame excuse for being in a Roslyn Ave. home's garage, was arrested by a Station 12 officer.

The police received a call at 1:34 am on March 6 from a witness who said he saw a tall man walking down Roslyn, trying car doors to see if any of them were unlocked. When Sergeant Danick Cardin arrived on the scene, he saw an interior car light on in a garage.

"Sergeant Cardin saw the suspect looking through the car's glove compartment. He entered the garage and found the suspect, who matched the description given by the witness, searching the rear of the garage," said Pimentel.

When Cardin asked the suspect what he was doing in the garage, the suspect replied, "I'm looking for my cat."

Cardin arrested the suspect, who apologized to the officer.

"The home's owner told us the garage door was unlocked, and that there was some change in the car, although he wasn't sure how much," said Pimentel. "When the suspect was searched, we

found \$17 in change on the suspect, but we're not sure how much of that was taken from the car."

Arrested was Richard Ward, 40, from NDG. He has been charged with breaking and entering, and theft from a vehicle. Police say the suspect is well known to the police.

Unwanted pitbull on the loose

Public safety officers picked up a loose pitbull February 25 at 7:39 am outside 15 Ingleside. It was subsequently taken to the SPCA when the owner could not be found. The dog was not wearing a licence or other identification.

It was not known whether or not the dog was the subject of an anonymous call to Public Security at 4:20 am that day by a caller who hung up after saying he was letting a dog run loose.

Later in the day when a man called Public Security looking for the found pitbull, he claimed to be a friend of the owner who had moved to another country. The caller was told he would be issued a \$75 ticket for allowing the dog to run unattended and was given 14 days to obtain a licence. Two other dog-related tickets had previously been issued to the man.

On March 3, the man again called Public Security to say he was letting the dog loose because he no longer wanted to look after it. He was told not to, that charges would be brought against him if he did

and advised to take it to the SPCA. He later called back to say he had made arrangements with the shelter.

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BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

NEWS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Stock's contract extended

City council has approved the extension of a three-year contract to retain the services of Communications head Brigitte Stock for the next 18 months until August 3, 2012. The item of new business was adopted at the March 7 meeting of city council.

A Westmount resident, Stock came to city hall to coordinate communication services in the director general's office.

No protest over loans

Two loan by-laws for the upgrading of roads, water mains, sewers and Hydro Westmount's electrical network were adopted without opposition at the March 7 council meeting.

Not one person turned up to sign either of the two referendum registers at city hall February 22, according to city clerk Mario Gerbeau. The two totalled \$5.4 million for work under the city's 2011 capital works budgets.

Bike path sought for Côte Rd.

Could Côte St. Antoine be the next bike path in Westmount? Mayor Peter Trent didn't rule out the possibility at the March 7 city council meeting.

Marilynn Gillies of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association (WWCA) pointed out during question period that the street was already a popular route for cyclists but was unsafe because of the one-way west traffic.

She asked that in parallel with preparation of the city's master traffic plan, would Westmount request the bike path in time for its inclusion in the agglomeration budget for 2012? The island-wide bicycle network is an aggro responsibility.

Trent, a resident of the street, said he thought it was wide enough and had no objection to it, adding, "I'll have to talk to my neighbours."

A discussion ensued about the aggro's custom of using only paint and signage to create bike lanes, as on Lansdowne.

Mar. 24 deadline to request registers, acquired rights now under study

The city will study the issue of acquired rights but has decided to proceed for now without changing a rezoning by-law to prevent the building of so-called supersize houses in three R2 zones.

The announcement was made at the city council meeting March 7 by Urban Planning commissioner Cynthia Lulham during the adoption of the second draft by-law.

Anyone planning to collect enough signatures to request a referendum register in any of the three zones now has until March 24 to do so.

Further information may be obtained at the City Clerk's Office or from the city's notice on p. 23.

Despite comments from architects and citizens at a rezoning public consultation meeting February 23, Lulham said the city had decided to proceed with the proposed changes outlined in the original draft by-law.

These include reducing site coverage as

well as increasing minimum lateral setbacks from seven to 10 feet from property lines, all at properties of 8,000 square feet or more.

At properties of all sizes, however, underground building would be limited to the same lines as those required for the buildings.

Under the existing regulations, basements could extend from one side property line to the other. This change would apply to all 221 properties in the three affected zones (R2-07-01, R2-09-01).

Meanwhile, in referring to the proposed lateral increases at large properties, Lulham said the city is looking into one recommendation from the consultation meeting to grant acquired rights to houses already built seven feet from the side property lines.

This would enable additions or second storeys, for example, to be built onto the existing structure without creating setbacks.

She said the plan would be to extend the vested rights to similar properties in R1 zones, where the same provisions have been creating problems (see story February 27, p. 3).

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MEETING, MARCH 7

Five Bixi stands by summer?

Westmount could have five Bixi stations in place by the summer, Mayor Peter Trent said at the city council meeting March 7. All would be “on the flat” and on a trial basis.

In reply to a question from Patricia Dumais of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association (WWCA), he said the city had ruled out having the bicycle locations further up the hill because of the disruption and noise to residents of trucks replenishing the supply of bikes.

“People love to ride down but not up,” he noted, explaining that their use might be in one direction only.

Negotiations have been underway for some time between Westmount and Montreal’s Public Bike System Co., which counts 186 Bixi users in Westmount (see February 15, p. 1).

Dog gates fixed, Summit plan coming, city says

Gates at Westmount dog runs were all checked and repaired if required “last week,” city director general Duncan Campbell told the March 7 council meeting. He was replying to a question by Cynthia Grahame following up on her concerns expressed at the meeting February 7.

The city and Grahame were not the only one looking into the state of Westmount’s dog runs.

In “Snow banks pose problems at Westmount dog runs,” (March 8, p. 17), the *Independent* reported on the state of the gates at each of the three fenced dog runs as seen on March 2: Westmount Athletic Grounds (working, but the mooring of a steel post was breaking loose); Lansdowne (working); at the Murray Park (working, but one latch imperfectly functioning).

Grahame also asked if an educational program was in the works concerning the birds in Summit Woods. Urban Planning commissioner Cynthia Lulham replied there was and that she would unveil efforts to rejuvenate the nature preserve at the April meeting.



Patricia Dumais asks about the status of Bixis.

“We’ll have a quick poll,” Trent said, “...and there’s a possibility of having Bixi by the summer and we’ll try it out.”

Building green gets green light

City council gave the green light March 7 to the integration of several sustainability initiatives into guidelines for building and renovating in Westmount.

Among them are recommendations for green roofs, solar panels, vegetated retaining walls, permeable and semi-permeable pavers and use of certain recycled materials (see February 1, p. 1).

In presenting the changes for by-law adoption, Urban Planning commissioner Cynthia Lulham noted that two recommendations from a public consultation meeting January 25 had been made in the final version.

One was removal of the previous requirement to paint or stain decks and fences. “We weren’t enforcing it,” she said. The other was an addition stating the usefulness of plants in reducing soil erosion, wind impact and glare and conserving energy.

She credited the changes to suggestions from environmental advocate Paul Marriott, vice president of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA).

Tenders on way for arena project manager

Tenders will be called for a project manager for the arena/pool project “as soon as possible,” Councillor Patrick Martin told the council meeting March 7.

The tender documents were expected to be completed by the end of the week and would be posted on the Quebec government website.

Bidders would then have 15 days to answer the call, after which the bids would be evaluated. “So we could expect by mid-April to have a project management team on board,” he said. This would be followed by the long-awaited public information meeting.

One elevator

Martin also corrected several “rumours” relayed by one questioner concerning the project. There would in fact be only one elevator to take anyone requiring it to the underground rinks. And the complex would have a café not a restaurant, he said. It would also contain a separate lunchroom for employees, as required by collective agreements.

Asked why the pool would not remain in its existing location, Martin said that

with a 45-percent increase in size, the new pools would require additional space. (The new pool area is to include two small pools). It also would be well separated from St. Catherine St. by trees and that all would be explained at the public information meeting.

Mayor Peter Trent told Patrick Barnard, another resident, that he certainly had visited private schools to help with arena funding before mailing out the information letter last April. “I wanted to make sure we could expect \$2.5 million before I wrote to citizens.”

Barnard also asked Martin on what basis he was reported to have said the underground plan would cost only \$1 million more than the final above-ground concept presented by the previous council.

Martin replied that the previous plan’s large underground garage and a number of other features had helped nudge its total cost up to roughly the same as the estimated \$37 million for the current plan.

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Cromwell has purchased noticeable sections of village

.....
continued from p. 1

That same sharp-eyed shopper might also notice Cromwell's distinct red-and-black sign marking the company's some 40 civic addresses in Westmount, with its heaviest concentration in Victoria village.

The company owns noticeable sections of the area. For example, according to its website, the firm has addresses 4858 to 4896 Sherbrooke St. This includes Wellhouse, Bark & Fitz, Dairy Queen, Chou Chou, the former Minelli store and more. Across the street, the company has 4817 to 4833, a section that includes the Bank of

Caught in the cover-up

A \$75 ticket was issued to a woman March 3 for failing to pick up after her dog, Public Security officials said. She was caught in the act of covering the feces with snow at 4:46 pm when spotted on the closed portion of Summit Circle. A resident of Bonavista Ave., the woman asked officers to send the ticket by mail because she was in a hurry.

Montreal, Société des alcools du Québec (SAQ) and dozens of offices.

Its website claims that the company, which manages high rises, shopping centres and strip malls, owns 2.4 million square feet of office space, 700,000 square feet of commercial and 5,000 apartment units throughout Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa and Quebec City.

The firm's property portfolio, which includes Parkview Apartments at 4501 Sherbrooke, is being described as the typical results of free enterprise by some Westmounters, and as a worrisome monopoly by others. In talking with some merchants throughout Victoria village, many expressed concerns about the firm's control of the rental market, but most weren't willing to talk on the record.

Many business owners cited concern about losing their rental space as big-name commercial giants move in and the smaller, lower-income businesses are pushed out by rent hikes, tax increases and a lack of legal protection. Several merchants said Cromwell has already forced some businesses out, but those reports were not verified as of press time.

Compared to residential renters, commercial renters have much less provincial

protection beyond their three-to-10-year lease agreements. For example, lease renewal is not guaranteed, meaning a large corporation with more rent money to offer can easily inspire firms like Cromwell not to renew leases so as to make room for financially competitive tenants.

Some tenants unhappy

Though some renters have no problems with Cromwell, others described the company as a billion-dollar landlord that is making it very difficult for small businesses to stay in operation.

When asked about these claims, a representative from Cromwell told the *Independent* that the goal is not to chase away tenants or drive up rent, because that would be bad for business. The long-term goal, explained vice president of finance Carl Yacovelli, is to preserve and enhance Victoria village's unique nature, thus creating a viable commercial district that attracts shoppers to the neighbourhood and produces rent revenue for many years to come.

Either way, merchants have voiced concerns to councillors Kathleen Duncan (District 4) and Gary Ikeman (District 5). When interviewed by phone, Ikeman and city director general Duncan Campbell both said the issue is a question of free enterprise that leaves little legal room for city intervention, but Councillor Duncan, concerned for the village's "uniqueness," reported she has contacted the city's clerk to see if there is any way to restrict the number of buildings one company can own in any given district or municipality.

Speaking on behalf of the Victoria Village Merchants' Association, member Pierre le Gourriérec, who owns Avenue des Arts on Victoria, said concerns surrounding Cromwell are "just speculation" at this point, but it is being investigated. The investigation will look at the actual percentage of commercial spaces owned by the firm, he said, and allow the association to determine if there is reason to be alarmed. Gourriérec declined to comment

further.

Other tenants: Blame taxes for costs

George Hogg, co-owner of Hogg Hardware, doesn't blame Cromwell for buying up area real estate, but it is the reason his store moved several doors down to the SAQ's old spot. Because Cromwell bought the shop's old building for millions more than the assessed property value, Hogg said his taxes went through the roof — nearly quadrupling. The tax laws, he said, are to blame for his move, not Cromwell.

"I don't know if you can blame Cromwell for going into an area and trying to make money," said Hogg on the phone. "It's unfortunate for small businesses because a lot of them can't afford the rent that Cromwell's charging, and it's unfortunate for Westmount because it changes the types of stores we have here. But maybe that's what the citizens of Westmount are going to end up liking anyway. I don't know. You go downtown and the rents are crazy high too."

Adam Summers, co-owner of the Wellhouse, had similar sentiments but, overall, he described the rent increases as "a little bit ridiculous" in addition to "hidden invoices that come out of nowhere." A lot of small businesses are being pushed out of Westmount by these rent hikes and increased taxes, he said.

"With Cromwell having a monopoly on the area, it is becoming a little harder for smaller businesses to do business," said Summers. "Cromwell is going to put a lot of people out of business eventually — which, I think, is what it's looking to do."

Summers is still in his first year of business since taking over Mess Hall's lease. He was the Mess Hall's general manager for the five years before and, since opening, he said Cromwell destroyed his basement kitchen's heavily used counter while repairing a leak. The property management company, he added, refuses to reimburse the restaurant but, when asked if he is going to take legal action, Summers replied: "What can you do against a billion-dollar company?"

After nearly six years of working on Sherbrooke St., Summers said the changes in the commercial district are evident.

"You can walk Sherbrooke St. from Grosvenor to Claremont and just see how many small businesses are holding moving sales and closing down," said Summers. "Was it due to the recession? Possibly. Was it due to Cromwell? It's hard to say."

Evelyn Coutour, owner
of the soon-to-move Bark continued on p. 9

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Sports, loisirs et événements communautaires
Sports, Recreation and Community Events



Parents called over pot

A Public Security patrol came across four 14-year-olds youth smoking marijuana near a rear door to 4039 Tupper, the former Reddy Memorial Hospital, March 2 at 8:46 pm, officials report. Their parents were all called on the spot and the matter left in their hands. The boys came from NDG, Point St. Charles and the Plateau.

Bark & Fitz moving

continued from p. 8

& Fitz cited her own reservations about one company owning a large portion of the rental properties in the very shopping district she is leaving after four years.

“If Westmount is serious about wanting to maintain a ‘village’ feel in its shopping districts, then it better act quickly if it is even possible to do anything in this situation. With every year that goes by, the situation will only grow worse as old leases come up for renewal,” said Couture.

Councillor Duncan said she and Ikeman had a meeting with the Victoria Village Merchants’ Association and business owners cited high rent as the main Cromwell-related concern.

“The merchants are telling us it is becoming prohibitively expensive to stay there and these people are not only shop owners in Westmount, but they’re homeowners in Westmount too,” said Duncan. “The whole character of the area — what’s so appealing — is these unique amenities. I would hate to see that character go.”

City, councillor: Free market sets rents

Both Campbell and Ikeman confirmed that, so far, the city has not gotten involved

in any way when it comes to this issue and questioned what Westmount could do.

“If people follow the laws of the land, I can’t imagine what one might do,” said Ikeman. “I’m not aware of any action the city is taking or could take with respect to anyone acquiring properties in the city.”

While it “sounds ominous” to potentially have one company in charge of the commercial rental rates, Ikeman said nobody will want to pay the rent if it is too high which, in turn, would be bad for the property management firm.

Ikeman said it seems as though Victoria village is composed of independent shops and, without a thorough analysis, it’s hard to say whether the comings and goings of local businesses are any different than anywhere else in the world.

“We live in a free market system and supply and demand is the way things work with, hopefully, not too much government intervention,” said Ikeman. “I don’t believe in government intervention. I believe we have to allow the marketplace to find its level.”

Firm: We’re ‘upgrading’ area

As far as accusations of failing to repair the Wellhouse’s destroyed counter or other

concerns that came up during the *Independent’s* investigation, Cromwell property manager Mary Riley declined to comment on specific cases. She did say tenants have different lease agreements. This means, she continued, that the responsible party varies when it comes to building repairs and maintenance.

“When we purchase a building we usually renovate and remodel it,” said Riley, citing the building that now houses the SAQ as an example. “We’ve taken a lot of older buildings and upgraded them.”

Yacovelli, noting he didn’t have official estimates, speculated that Cromwell owns a maximum of 20 to 25 percent of the commercial properties in the Victoria village area and some 90 percent of the tenants, he said, are local businesses.

“Even if we wanted a monopoly,” said Yacovelli. “We don’t have one.”

Most of the big-name tenants, like the Bank of Montreal, were there when Cromwell bought the buildings, he said, and the rest of the company’s tenants are “mom-and-pop” stores. However, he noted, a good balance between small- and big-name businesses is important to shoppers, who are attracted by the convenience of variety.

Yacovelli said the only way Cromwell is changing Westmount is by refurbishing and renovating buildings for the better. The new, revamped look helps Victoria vil-

lage attract shoppers and, citing busy commercial streets across the island, Yacovelli said it’s important Westmount remain attractive in order to stay competitive.

Cromwell Management is in it for the long haul, he continued, and, unlike some companies that might buy properties and then sell them at the first scent of failure, he said his company holds on to properties and makes them profitable for years to come.

Cromwell’s philosophy

Cromwell’s philosophy, he continued, is to give back to the community by enhancing its commercial viability. It’s a philosophy, he admitted, that also helps Cromwell stay in business by attracting dedicated tenants.

“If we hike up the rent, we won’t have any tenants and we won’t be able to maintain those buildings,” said Yacovelli. “We have to maintain those buildings because it’s good for the tenants, it’s good for us and it’s good for the people that live in Westmount. It’s, honestly, a win-win situation.”

Yacovelli concluded by saying Cromwell sees its tenants as partners. “In the end, if they’re happy, we’re happy too. We’re all there for the same reason. They want to rent from us and we want them to rent from us.”

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Appel aux artistes

Les artistes de Westmount sont invités à soumettre leurs dossiers pour la 12^e saison d'exposition de la galerie du Victoria Hall qui se tiendra de septembre 2011 à août 2012.

Ce concours s'adresse aux artistes émergents et professionnels résidant à Westmount. Les candidatures sont acceptées pour des expositions solo ou partagées.

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This competition is open to emerging and professional artists residing in Westmount. Applications are considered for solo and group exhibitions.

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photo : Ron Harris
GALERIE DU VICTORIA HALL
GALLERY AT VICTORIA HALL

Registration software approved

continued from p. 1

n't be better" since it would coincide with the start of preparatory work for the arena/pool project that could create some disruption for the Sports and Recreation office, he explained.

The purchase of the new registration and membership software from PG Solutions at a cost of \$32,987 was approved by city council March 7 as a last minute addition to the published agenda.

"It's long, long overdue to be able to register online," said Sports and Recreation commissioner Kathleen Duncan in presenting the motion.

Also announcing the start of registration for spring and summer activities next Monday, March 21, Duncan pointed out that Westmount residents will be given priority until April 1 when remaining spaces will also be opened up to non-residents.

Registrants will still be required to register in person at the Sports and Recreation office at the arena.

The city has sent out its semi-annual activities book to all homes, which also notes any programs that may be subject to space

limitations despite the city's year-old policy of guaranteeing space for local residents in most programs. Information may also be found on the city's website.

With the decision to open the pool again this summer before its expected demolition in the fall, regular swim classes and schedules will remain in effect, Lapointe said. "It's status quo for the pool."

A number of new programs are in the line-up for the coming season (see story same page.)

Another \$1,250 ticket issued at 11 Hillside

A contractor working at the condo development at 11 Hillside was issued a \$1,250 on March 4 when six concrete mixers and a pump truck were discovered obstructing part of the road, Public Security officials said. The city had not issued a permit for trucks.

Another ticket in the amount had been handed out a week earlier (February 26) for a large pile of gravel blocking the sidewalk and one lane of traffic (See March 8, p. 1).

The real face of Stephen Harper



Our Man in Ottawa

MARC GARNEAU, MP
FOR WESTMOUNT-VILLE
MARIE

Five years ago, Stephen Harper informed Canadians that he would do things differently. He promised openness, transparency and accountability. He has not kept that promise.

Let's begin with the "In and Out" spending scandal which caused Elections Canada to take the Conservative party to court. The accusation is that the Conservatives illegally spent \$1.3 million more in publicity than was allowed during the 2006 election.

Not only that, but this manipulation of funds also allowed them to subsequently claim reimbursements from Elections Canada.

On the question of transparency, there is the case of Minister Oda and the church-based international charity known as KAIROS. The issue here is not about the minister's actual decision not to fund KAIROS (that's her prerogative), but that

she lied to parliament about the decision process.

This is but one example of Mr. Harper refusing to answer legitimate questions. Canadians will remember how his government refused for a very long time to allow the opposition parties to see documents related to the Afghan detainee issue until the speaker of the house overruled him. In the meantime, he did his very best to destroy the reputation of Richard Colvin, a Canadian civil servant who was courageous enough to stand up to him.

Civil servants driven from office

The list of civil servants Mr. Harper has driven out of office because they spoke up is now very long. We now also have the spectacle of Integrity commissioner, Christiane Ouimet, departing three years into her seven-year mandate with a severance package of more than a half a million dollars and a promise not to speak about her tenure, which was roundly criticized by the Auditor General. She was supposed to investigate the claims of whistle blowers as part of a government promise of accountability. Not one complaint saw the light of day.

Covering up the true cost of building more prisons and deciding to buy fighter jets without a competition are two other examples of Stephen Harper's lack of transparency coupled with an arrogant treatment of parliament and of Canadians. This led to the most recent ruling of contempt by the speaker of the house.

In closing, we now learn that Mr. Harper has directed civil servants to replace "Government of Canada" by "the Harper Government" on official government documents and websites. Mr. Harper said that he was going to change the face of Canada and that by the time he was finished, no one would recognize it. He is certainly well on his way to accomplishing that task.

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Redfern condos require further study: demo and project approval

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A high-end condominium project being planned for the former Reader's Digest building on Redfern Ave. has several key hurdles to overcome before construction or demolition begins, the *Independent* learned last week.

The preliminary plan "hasn't even been presented to council members yet," said city director general Duncan Campbell.

The mounting of at least one billboard downtown and other publicity has not gone unnoticed by city officials.

In fact, the project will require a public demolition hearing since the design requires removal of more than 50 percent of the exterior, said city Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

Drawings and announced plans also reveal the addition of two storeys, as well as a penthouse, rooftop indoor pool and other major changes, all of which would be subject to approval as part of the replacement project. The city could also require changes in the plan as a condition of a demolition permit.

Then all would then require approval

by council.

"I've had citizens call me about the project," said Urban Planning commissioner Cynthia Lulham, who also represents the district. "I'm happy it will be a residential project ... and bring in tax dollars but it has a long way to go yet in the process."

Rolling in slow motion

A passerby called Public Security from a cell phone February 24 at 12:46 pm after spotting a parked car "inching" down the hill near 470 Mountain Ave., officials report.

The Ford Mustang was apparently moving slowly enough to enable a public safety officer to push a stone under a wheel bringing to a stop. Police were called, and the owner subsequently arrived on the scene. The car's wheels were reportedly not turned against the curb. A ticket was issued to the owner.

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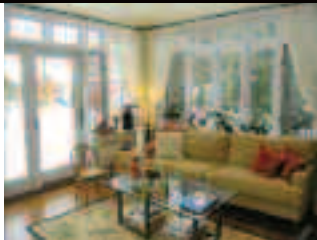
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Nuit Blanche draws out the winter party-goers



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Montreal's annual Nuit Blanche – Montreal en Lumière – was another smash success. Traditionally held the last weekend in February, the event invites one and all to an all-night celebration of all that is great in the city.

People pack the streets, the museums open free of charge and the underground passageways linking skyscrapers. The Metro was art-full!

Westmount resident **Dorota Kozinska**, arts editor and journalist, led a merry band, which started out seeking the bright stuff at the Musée d'art contemporain – the “MAC.” There were crowds of art afi-



Artist Kristian Verono and Westmounter Dorota Kozinska.

cionados as early as 6
pm.

According to a 15-year old I spoke with, the “coolest part” of the MAC exhibit was the *Lord of the Rings* films. The piece, by artist Doug Schmidt, was made with two boats on the Fraser River. One boat had a screen that projected the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy. The other boat filmed the film. Get it?

The adults, however, enjoyed the most divinely decadent chocolate from **Chocolats Geneviève Grandbois**, which they tasted blind – literally: they wore a b

Then, it was on to the S.A.T. (the Société des arts technologiques) on St. Laurent, where light painter **Patrick Rochon** used *Star Wars*-style swords to create a myriad of kaleidoscope “paintings” on huge screens placed around the room.

Everyone loved the mood, which combined light, music – and of course, dancing! Other areas in the city offered fire-breathing, basketball games, arts and crafts, gallery shows – all free. A vibrant urban moment: part of what makes Montreal so great.



Videographer Pascale Bourbeau and light artist Patrick Rochon.



Danielle Lagentil, public relations, Musée d'art contemporain.



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Frankie, the Yorkshire terrorist out again



Funny how the words terrier and terror sound so much alike. When you meet little Frankie, you begin to see why.

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he is now oddly sausage-shaped. No one ever said “No” to him about food, discipline or behaviour. He turned into a chubby little ankle-biter.

It’s cute when little dogs think they’re big. Then, it’s not cute at all.

Frankie’s people indulged him until a baby entered their lives. Suddenly, Frankie’s alpha male tendencies were a problem. They sent him to the pound, where he was picked up by Sophie’s Animal Rescue. Sophie has worked hard to teach Frankie that he isn’t the boss.

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TRENDSSETTERS

NICK NIRO

By VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmount is full of CYT (Cool Young Things). I often see this urbane urban guy in the neighbourhood. So, dear readers (hoping there are many of you out there who appreciate style!), I thought you might enjoy to know a bit about Nick Niro. I “re-discovered” him by chance as I was looking for stilettos in the Stuart Weitzman women’s shoe store in the Rockland mall. He not only manages the collection but is, and has been for years, a Westmount resident. So he was a shoe-in (couldn’t resist) for this Westmounters-in-style column.

STYLE

How would you describe your personal style?

Classic with a contemporary flare.

What is your favourite way of dressing?

I like to dress up – with a pressed white shirt and black jeans, you can never go wrong.

On weekends, what do you like to wear?

Often you’ll see me dressed in a cashmere sweater, dark blue jeans and suede shoes.

LIVING

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

I love travelling. However, even if money were no object, I would stay in Montreal. You can’t beat having all four seasons, delicious restaurants, great culture and, of course, access to many great cities like NYC in less than two hours by plane. Plus, everyone knows that Montreal has the world’s most beautiful women!

Who would you invite to a dinner party if you could have anyone in the world and from any era?

Tyler Brulé, the man behind *Monocle* magazine and creative director of Winkcreative, the firm that designs the in-flight magazine for Porter Airlines. *[He is a Canadian, who founded, directed and sold Wallpaper magazine.]*

FASHION

Today many stores such as Zara, Forever 21 and Le Château offer the latest looks at an affordable price. Possibly Armani is the last “old school” designer to be still creating. What do you think of today’s fashions?

Many retailers cater to the masses by selling disposable fashion items. This allows anyone to dress with confidence in the last trends. The best part is to see a woman with a designer handbag and sunglasses, maybe a *haute couture* article of clothing, but also wearing a Zara piece. However, at the end of the day, the great designers will always lead and dictate the trends that keep fashion so exciting.

I see lots of different ‘kicks’ (street term for running shoes) around, but I also see amazing sexy shoes: sparkling stilettos with six-inch high heels – not to mention thigh-high boots of the nano-moment. What is happening in shoes, and why do you think shoes are still such a hot item for women?

A great pair of pumps can dress up any outfit and provide a woman with a sense of confidence. And on the street, kicks have become an urban fashion item with bright colours, different toned laces, wide



Nick Niro exudes style as he relaxes in his Westmount Square condominium this past January.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

soles, high tops. But there is nothing like a woman in heels!

Do you like designers, and if so, who is your favourite?

I’m biased by a pair of Stuart Weitzman pumps, which will make any guy stop and stare!

Snow boarding halted on Holton

Youths were cautioned not to snow board down the side of city steps on Holton at the top of Wood as a safety measure February 23, public safety officers said. The youths were found following a call received by Public Security at 4:30 pm.

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Omar Khadr's lawyer to be hosted at the Busbridges'

BY LAUREN O'LOUGHLIN

Dennis Edney, the Canadian defence attorney in the controversial Omar Khadr case will be hosted at the home of a Westmount family as part of his visit to Montreal in March.

The person responsible for his visit is Annabel Busbridge of Somerville Ave. And the lucky hosts? Her parents Gabrielle Soskin and Raymond Busbridge.

Annabel is a second-year law student at Université de Montréal and president of the Montreal student chapter of Canadian Lawyers Abroad. In this position, she is mandated to organize a themed event during her term. This year's theme is children's rights.

When approaching this task, Busbridge had already decided that she wanted to organize something with impact. "I wanted to go big this year – go big or go home!" she said.

It was no easy task getting Edney, who will be speaking at Université de Montréal, to Montreal, though "there were many doubters at the beginning," confirmed Busbridge. "It does involve a lot financially as well as logistically."

The highly political nature of the Khadr case meant that it was difficult for Busbridge to get any private sponsorship. The law faculty at her university has helped to fund his visit, and the event will also be billeted.

When asked about why the Omar Khadr case holds such importance, Busbridge replied "...his Charter rights have been violated...this should be a debate that people should have and hopefully this [event] will stimulate more discussion. Even if he is guilty, he still has right to a fair trial."

Busbridge described it as "appalling" that a government is being left to make the decision of the courts.

Busbridge's family feel positive about hosting Edney at their home. "They have been very supportive all the way through,"

said Busbridge of her parents, "they are excited. We're hoping he'll accept to have dinner with us."

Busbridge holds a high degree of personal admiration for Edney's work to date. "He has done all of this work *pro bono* that is incredible to me. He won the award from Pro Bono Canada [2008]...he is affecting human rights and raising a ton of awareness."

She extends an invitation to all her fellow Westmounters to come and hear Edney speak on Thursday, March 24 at 4 pm at 3200 Jean Brillant St. in the Salle Jean Lessage. Tickets cost \$10 and are available online by visiting: www.aceudm.info/en.html.



Annabel Busbridge

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

• City of Westmount St. Patrick's Day celebrations: an evening of live traditional Irish music at **The Raven & The Rose Irish Pub** at Victoria Hall, 8 to 10 pm. Doors open at 7 pm. Cost: \$15, plus cash bar. Participate in the limerick contest. Info: Virginia Elliott, 514.989.5226.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

• St. Stephen's Anglican Church (4006 Dorchester Blvd.) welcomes **Reverend Nick Brotherwood** as incumbent, 7 pm service. All invited. Bring a scripture verse, poem or note to include in a book for him. RSVP: heatherdoucet@hotmail.com or 514.481.7371.

• Montreal director Jacob Tierney discusses and screen parts of his movie **The Trotsky**, 12:45 to 2:15 pm in the Auditorium of Marianopolis College. Free. Info: 514.931.8792, ext. 204.

• The Westmount Historical Association's Greene Ave. Talks continue with speakers Nicole Fournier from the **Grey Nuns of Montreal** and Westmounter Doreen Lindsay on "Les Soeurs Grises de Montréal 1856 to 1955," at the Westmount Public Library, 7 to 9 pm. Free for members; \$5 for non-members. Info: 514.989.5510.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

May Cutler memorial service, 2 pm, Victoria Hall.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

• Westmounters are invited to take part in Westmount's "green entry" in the **St. Patrick's Day Parade**, 12 pm, downtown. Call 514.989.5226 to obtain sign-up and participation information.

• **Mountainside United Church** (4000 The Boulevard) hosts the second of three concerts in the 2011 Concerts Plus series, 3 pm. "Meet and greet" session with the performers to follow. Cost: \$12 to \$15 at the door.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

Vihang Errunza, Bank of Montreal chair of finance and banking, will be speaking to the Women's Canadian Club of Montreal on "**Emerging Markets in the Global Economy**," 12:30 pm at The Unitarian Church, 5035 de Maisonneuve. Free for members; \$10 for non-members. Men are welcome. Info: 514.932.4005.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

• **Bryan Perro** will be reading and signing his book *Amos Daragon: The Mask Wearer* at Babar en Ville, 4:30 pm. For children aged 9 and up. RSVP: Babar en Ville, 1235a Greene Ave., 514.931.0606.

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Snow dumped

Private contractors were told to remove snow they were seen dumping on the de Maisonneuve bike path east of Wood, Public Security officials said. The incident occurred February 28 at 9:09 am. The contractors were reported to have complied.

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Homes flooded

Extreme fluctuations in temperature have resulted in several incidents of burst plumbing and water leaks over the last couple of week, according to Public Security reports.

In one incident March 6, the son of a homeowner on Kensington called at 1 am to report major flooding coming through the ceiling. Officers helped him place garbage cans and other containers in place to catch the water and informed him to call a plumber. About two feet of snow and ice could be seen near the roof drain.

At 12:10 pm the same day, a contractor was seen pumping water out of a basement into the lane and was asked to run it into the drain. Another leak was also reported at a house on Sunnyside the day before.

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Real estate brokers to donate part of sales commissions to SPCA



Foxy, a stray female kitten cradled by Kimberley Wagner, is checked out by Lexie, a stray border collie mix, with Lindsay Hart and the SPCA's Anthony Johnson.

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Two Westmount real estate brokers with a concern for the well-being of cats, dogs and other pets have decided to do something to prove it — they're donating four percent of their sales commissions to the SPCA.

"We both have a huge love and admiration for animals and especially for what the SPCA does," said Kimberley Wagner, who works as a team with Lindsay Hart at JJ Jacobs Realty.

"Nowadays it's hard to find time to volunteer as much as we would like to. So we fig- *continued on p. 24*

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Music and poetry showcase Westmount High's coffee house

BY LAUREN O'LOUGHLIN

Westmount High held its second coffee house in the early evening on February 23 in the intimate setting of the school's library.

It was a full house as students, teachers and parents came to watch the musical and spoken word performances from students. Some teachers also performed.

This is a new event on the high school's calendar. The first coffee house was held in November 2010. "It was the initiative of two English teachers, Rob Green and Mike Phalen, as a way to create a community atmosphere and a social event," said music teacher Steve Incze. The success of the coffee house was unexpected, "it was originally intended as an annual event," he continued, however students enjoyed it so much that "next year



From left, Laura Michetti, Jessie Lesage and Robert Telfer of Westmount High's student council serve snacks and beverages at the coffee house.

with fellow student Rebekha Alberts-Gill. The first performer of the evening was Jack Natovitch, who had performed in the previous coffee house. "It's a good opportunity to make music and it's not so for-

mal," he said. He sang "Just the way you are."

Refreshments served on the evening help to fund various school projects. The previous coffee house contributed to the school's cultural enrichment trip. This second coffee house was hosted by Westmount High's student council, who organized and served the food and beverages for the evening. Tickets sold for the coffee house go to help pay for a CD of the night's performances. It will be released at a launch party at the school where students can purchase a copy.

When asked whether he envisioned parents one day performing at the coffee houses, Incze replied, "I'd love it! I'm trying to make links between families and school life here."

For now, however, the focus of the coffee house is "to empower students to make music in small groups without a teacher's guidance... learn how to research songs on the internet, how to verify chords, how to rehearse efficiently, how to recruit band members and work out harmonies, and finally to build school spirit and to make people excited to come here."



Jack Natovitch of Westmount High performing at the coffee house, February 23.

we are hoping to have three or four."

The coffee house provides "a contrast to the typical high school music program," said Incze, it "provides opportunities to make music beyond a classroom context... a lot of people participating are not from the music program."

The students performing during the evening were all enthusiastic about the coffee house. "It's amazing, people get to show their talent," said Destiny Roy-Level who later performed the song "Billionaire"

Introducing lawn bowling for all, science for tots

What's new in Rec programs

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

For the first time ever, lawn bowling is being introduced by the city's Sports and Recreation department for residents of all ages.

One of several new additions to the spring and summer line-up, the lawn bowling classes will be provided for teens aged 14 to 17, and people 18 years and over. They will be taught by members of the Westmount Lawn Bowling Club at its location adjacent to city hall.

A number of other programs that proved to be very popular in the fall/winter session are now being introduced for spring and summer, according to Claude Danis, program and community services coordinator.

Registration priority will be given to Westmount residents between March 21 and April 1. All city programs – including sports, swimming lessons and day camps – are listed in the activities book sent to all homes.

Among the introductions are four programs aimed directly at younger kids. These include the "All Star Exploration" for ages 1 and 2, the "All Star Art Play" for 3 to 4-year-olds and the "All Star Creative 'I'" for those aged 5 and 6.

The Child/Parent Dance program for ages 2 to 5 offers another opportunity for parents and kids to participate together.

Two Saturday activities created to generate an interest in science are being initiated by Nigel Penney, who has been coordinating summer science camps at Marianopolis over the last two years.

These are Saturday Science for Tots aged 3 to 5 and Super (Natural) Science for two age groups: 6 to 7 and 8 to 9. The latter will explore the natural environment around Westmount Park, teach about flora

and fauna of the planet and create some "crafty science" to take home.

Zumba dance for 18 years and older is another new addition.

Knowing ourselves, others

"Understanding Human Behaviour," a program for those aged 18-plus, will be offered in a newly extended to 10-week format.

"It's a discussion group that explores why people act the way they do," explained Dr. Henri Lavigueur, a Westmount resident and clinical psychologist who will lead the sessions in laymen's terms.

"It's extremely important to understand ourselves and others to get by in this world," he told the *Independent*.

In this light, the program will provide a very down-to-earth and non-academic understanding of relationships, how to deal with different types of personalities and defence mechanisms, Lavigueur said.

Man hit by spinning car

A pedestrian was struck crossing Atwater at Tupper when he was hit by a northbound car that spun out of control after being rear-ended by a taxi, public safety officers said. The accident occurred March 6 shortly before 12:18 pm.

A passerby informed Public Security of the accident and the man was found lying in the southbound lane where he had been flung from the east side of the street over the central median. The man was quickly taken to the Montreal General Hospital by ambulance. His condition was not known.

A PSYCHOLOGY COURSE FOR EVERYONE

The Recreation Department of the City of Westmount and Dr. Henri Lavigueur, a long-term Westmount resident and clinical psychologist, is now offering a longer 10-week version of the psychology course entitled *Understanding Human Behaviour*. A fascinating analysis of narcissism, human behaviour and society, discussions focus on how we defend our personal identities. During the Spring Session there will be 10 consecutive classes on Wednesday evenings from 6.30 to 8.00 pm, April 13 through June 15.

Registration is at the Westmount Arena: Residents (\$50) March 21 through April 1. Non-residents (\$80) April 6.

Dr. Henri Lavigueur, Psychologist 514-938-5180



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AVIS PUBLIC

DEMANDES DE PARTICIPATION À UN RÉFÉRENDUM

SECOND PROJET DE RÈGLEMENT N° 1406

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné par le soussigné, greffier de la Ville de Westmount, de ce qui suit :

1. Lors de sa séance ordinaire du 7 mars 2011, à la suite de l’assemblée publique de consultation tenue le 23 février 2011 sur le premier projet de règlement n° 1406, le conseil municipal a adopté le second projet de règlement portant le n° 1406 intitulé « **RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER DE NOUVEAU LE RÈGLEMENT 1303 CONCERNANT LE ZONAGE – IMPLANTATION, ESPACES DÉCOUVERTS ET CONSTRUCTIONS SOUTERRAINES DANS LES COURS LATÉRALES ET ARRIÈRE DANS LES ZONES R2-07-01, R2-09-01 ET R2-10-01** ».
2. Toute personne intéressée dans les zones concernées d’où peut provenir une demande ou, selon le cas, dans une zone contiguë à celles-ci, peut signer une demande visant à ce que les dispositions du second projet de règlement n° 1406 qui sont susceptibles d’approbation référendaire soient soumises à l’approbation de certaines personnes habiles à voter.

À cet égard, soyez avisés qu’une copie d’un résumé du second projet de règlement peut être obtenue sans frais par toute personne qui en fait la demande au bureau du greffier situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest.

Une demande visant à ce que des dispositions du règlement soient soumises à l’approbation des personnes habiles à voter peut provenir des **zones concernées et des zones contiguës suivantes** :

ZONES CONCERÉES	ZONES CONTIGUËS
R2-07-01	R1-02-03, R2-06-03, R2-08-01, R2-09-01 et R2-10-01
R2-09-01	R2-07-01, R2-08-01, R9-21-06, R9-09-03, R3-11-01, P1-09-02 et R2-10-01
R2-10-01	R2-07-01, R2-09-01, P1-09-02, R3-11-01 et R2-12-01

Une illustration des zones concernées et des zones contiguës à celles-ci est jointe au présent avis. Un exemplaire à plus grande échelle de cette illustration est également disponible pour consultation au bureau du greffier.

3. Vous pouvez en outre obtenir les renseignements suivants du bureau du greffier en communiquant au 514-989-5256 ou en vous présentant à l’hôtel de ville durant les heures d’ouverture :
 - a) les personnes intéressées qui ont le droit de signer une demande et à l’égard de quelles dispositions elles peuvent le faire;
 - b) l’objectif d’une telle demande et ses conditions de validité;
 - c) le nombre potentiel de signataires dans votre zone;
 - d) toute autre information pour la bonne compréhension de la démarche.
4. Pour être valide, toute demande doit :
 - a) indiquer clairement la disposition qui en fait l’objet et la zone d’où elle provient;
 - b) être reçue au bureau du greffier **au plus tard le 24 mars 2011**; et
 - c) être signée par au moins 12 personnes intéressées de la zone d’où elle provient ou par au moins la majorité d’entre elles si le nombre de personnes intéressées dans la zone n’excède pas 21.
5. Est une personne intéressée :
 - a) toute personne qui n’est frappée d’aucune incapacité de voter et qui remplit les conditions suivantes le **7 mars 2011** :
 - être domiciliée dans la zone d’où peut provenir une demande;

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATIONS TO TAKE PART IN A REFERENDUM

SECOND DRAFT BY-LAW No. 1406

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned, City Clerk of Westmount, of the following:

1. At a regular meeting held on March 7, 2011, following the public consultation meeting held on February 23, 2011 in connection with the first draft By-law No. 1406, the Municipal Council adopted the second draft By-law No. 1406, entitled “**BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND ZONING BY-LAW 1303 – SITE COVERAGE, UNCOVERED SPACES AND UNDERGROUND STRUCTURES IN SIDE YARDS AND REAR YARDS IN ZONES R2-07-01, R2-09-01 AND R2-10-01**”.
2. Any interested person in the concerned zones from which an application may originate or, as the case may be, in a contiguous zone to said zones may sign an application requiring that the provisions contained in the said second draft By-law No. 1406, which are subject to approval by way of referendum, be submitted for the approval by certain qualified voters.

To that effect, please be advised that a copy of the summary of the second draft by-law may be obtained, free of charge, by any person who so requests at the office of the City Clerk, located at 4333 Sherbrooke St. West.

An application requiring that provisions of the by-law be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters may originate from the following **concerned and contiguous zones**:

CONCERNED ZONES	CONTIGUOUS ZONES
R2-07-01	R1-02-03, R2-06-03, R2-08-01, R2-09-01 and R2-10-01
R2-09-01	R2-07-01, R2-08-01, R9-21-06, R9-09-03, R3-11-01, P1-09-02 and R2-10-01
R2-10-01	R2-07-01, R2-09-01, P1-09-02, R3-11-01 and R2-12-01

A sketch of the concerned zones and the contiguous zones to said zones is attached to this notice. A large sketch of the zones is also available for consultation at the office of the City Clerk.

3. The office of the City Clerk can provide you with the following information at 514-989-5256 or in person at City Hall during business hours:
 - a) the interested persons which are entitled to sign an application and in respect of which provisions;
 - b) the object of such an application and the conditions of its validity;
 - c) the number of potential signatories in your zone;
 - d) any other information you may need for a better understanding of the application process.
4. To be valid an application must:
 - a) state clearly the provision to which it refers and the zone from which it originates;
 - b) be received by the office of the City Clerk **no later than March 24, 2011**; and
 - c) be signed by at least 12 interested persons of the zone from which it originates or by a majority of them if their number does not exceed 21.
5. Is an interested person:
 - a) any person not disqualified from voting and who meets the following conditions on **March 7, 2011**:
 - is domiciled in a zone from which an application may originate;



Ville de Westmount City of Westmount



- être domiciliée depuis au moins six mois au Québec;
- b) tout propriétaire unique d'un immeuble ou occupant unique d'un établissement d'entreprise qui n'est frappé d'aucune incapacité de voter et qui remplit les conditions suivantes le **7 mars 2011** :
 - être depuis au moins 12 mois propriétaire d'un immeuble ou occupant d'un établissement d'entreprise situé dans la zone d'où peut provenir une demande;
 - avoir produit ou produire en même temps que la demande un écrit signé par le propriétaire ou l'occupant demandant l'inscription sur la liste référendaire, le cas échéant;
- c) tout copropriétaire indivis d'un immeuble ou cooccupant d'un établissement d'entreprise qui n'est frappé d'aucune incapacité de voter et qui remplit les conditions suivantes le **7 mars 2011** :
 - être depuis au moins 12 mois copropriétaire indivis d'un immeuble ou cooccupant d'un établissement d'entreprise situé dans la zone d'où peut provenir une demande;
 - être désigné, au moyen d'une procuration signée par la majorité des personnes qui sont copropriétaires ou cooccupants depuis au moins 12 mois comme celui qui a le droit de signer la demande en leur nom et d'être inscrit sur la liste référendaire, le cas échéant. La procuration doit avoir été produite ou être produite avec la demande.

Dans le cas d'une personne physique, elle doit être majeure, de citoyenneté canadienne et ne pas être en curatelle.

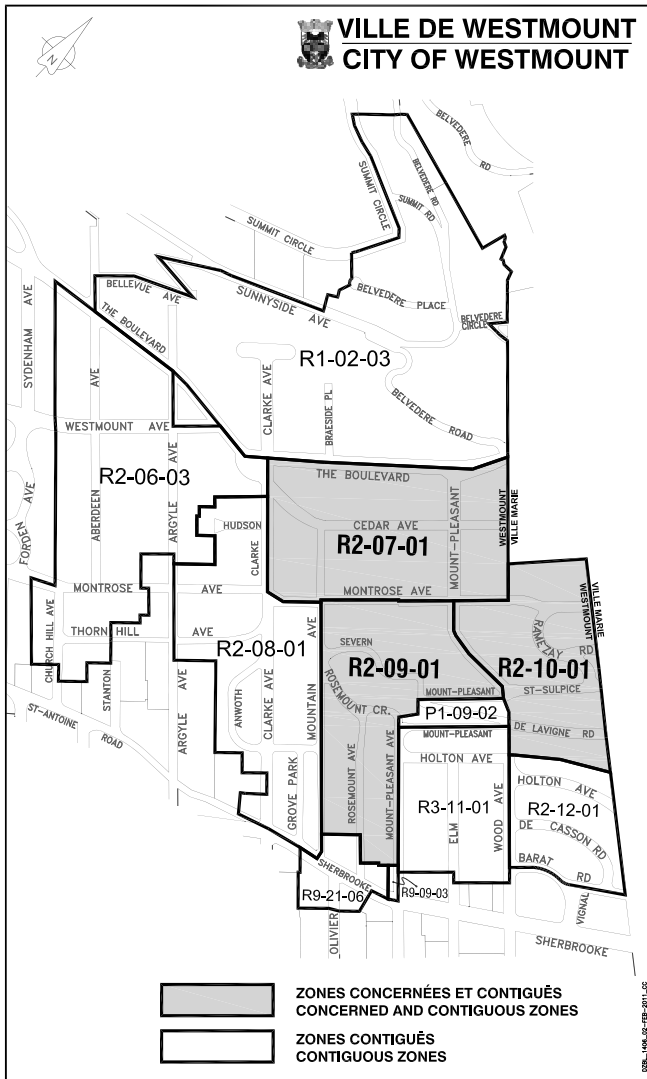
Dans le cas d'une personne morale, il faut :

- avoir désigné parmi ses membres, administrateurs ou employés, par résolution, une personne qui, le **7 mars 2011**, est majeure, de citoyenneté canadienne, qui n'est pas en curatelle et qui n'est frappée d'aucune incapacité de voter prévue par la loi;
- avoir produit ou produire en même temps que la demande, une résolution désignant la personne autorisée à signer la demande et à être inscrite sur la liste référendaire, le cas échéant.

Sauf dans le cas d'une personne désignée à titre de représentant d'une personne morale, nul ne peut être considéré comme personne intéressée à plus d'un titre conformément à l'article 531 de la *Loi sur les élections et les référendums dans les municipalités*.

6. Les dispositions qui n'auront fait l'objet d'aucune demande valide pourront être incluses dans un règlement qui n'aura pas à être approuvé par les personnes habiles à voter.
7. Le second projet de règlement n° 1406 peut être consulté au bureau du greffier, au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, Westmount, durant les heures d'ouverture, soit du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30.

DONNÉ À WESTMOUNT, ce 15^e jour de mars 2011.



In the case of a legal person, one must:

- designate by resolution one of its members, directors or employees who, on **March 7, 2011**, is of full age, a Canadian citizen, not under curatorship, nor disqualified from voting;
- having filed or file the resolution with the application, designating the person authorised to sign the application and to be entered on the referendum list, as the case may be.

Except in the case of a person designated to represent a legal person, a person shall have his or her name entered on the list in only one capacity, as per section 531 of *An Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities*.

6. The provisions in respect of which no valid application is received may be included in a by-law that is not required to be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters.
7. The second draft By-law No. 1406 may be consulted at the office of the City Clerk, at 4333 Sherbrooke St. West, Westmount, during office hours Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, this 15th day of March 2011.

Mario Gerbeau, greffier de la ville / City Clerk

SPCA ‘delighted’

continued from p. 20

ured this would be a nice way to give back.”

Hart is a cat lover. Wagner, who has two cats and a dog, is a long-term supporter of the SPCA.

About three years ago, she was involved in an organizational dispute at the Jean Talon St. animal shelter, which culminated in its then-director being replaced.

Wagner and Hart attended St. George’s, the same school as Alanna Devine, CSPCA director of animal advocacy, and a Westmount resident.

The shelter’s management is delighted that the SPCA was chosen to benefit from the two brokers’ generosity.

“When Kimberley came to us with this offer we just jumped at it because it was so generous and so kind,” said Anthony Johnson, the organization’s director of development.

“We just loved the way it fit in with our philosophy. She wanted to help out, she couldn’t do it with the time she had available, but she managed still to leverage her work towards helping animals.”

Neither Wagner nor Hart could say what the four percent will equal in actual dollars donated to the SPCA.

“We don’t know what our sales production will be because we’re just a month into the business,” Hart said. “It will be four percent coming out of our pocket essentially,” Wagner added.

In Other Words

Old Post Office’s saviour dies in crash

Paul Oberman, 53, who was involved in the restoration of the old Post Office on the corner of Greene and de Maisonneuve, died March 7 when his plane crashed during a snowstorm near the Maine-Quebec border.,

The Globe and Mail’s Les Perreux wrote in the March 8 issue “[Oberman] could see potential. And he frequently capitalized, turning neglected historical buildings into majestic money makers in Ottawa and Montreal, but mainly his hometown, Toronto.”

Oberman was also known for restoring

Toronto’s King James Place, the Flatiron Building and a historic stretch of Elgin St. near the Parliament buildings in Ottawa, reported the *Globe*.

In a *Gazette* article of March 9 by Peter Kuitenbrouwer, it was reported that Oberman restored the Westmount Train Station, though the old train station has never been officially restored.

Electronic *Independents* available

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Ville de Westmount City of Westmount



AVIS D’ADOPTION RÈGLEMENT 1399

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné à tous ceux qui peuvent être concernés que le règlement n° 1399, intitulé « **RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER DE NOUVEAU LE RÈGLEMENT 1305 SUR LES PLANS D’IMPLANTATION ET D’INTÉGRATION ARCHITECTURALE** » a été adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount, lors d’une séance ordinaire tenue à l’hôtel de ville le 7 mars 2011.

- L’objet de ce règlement consiste à inclure de nouvelles exigences et diverses recommandations en matière de développement durable, de façon :
- à intégrer une nouvelle section concernant les panneaux solaires et les toits verts;
 - à introduire l’utilisation des murs de soutènement en sol renforcé végétalisés;
 - à recommander l’utilisation de revêtement semi-perméable pour les voies d’accès pour autos;
 - à recommander l’utilisation de revêtement perméable dur pour le remplacement des aires de stationnement existant;
 - à encourager l’utilisation de réservoirs, tels que des barils pour récolter l’eau de pluie et d’autres collecteurs d’eau bien intégrés à l’aménagement paysager;
 - à permettre l’utilisation de matériaux recyclés et d’autres matériaux qui sont favorables à l’environnement;
 - à modifier la section de l’équipement mécanique / acoustique du site afin de refléter les récentes révisions du *Règlement sur le bruit* (1387) et supprimer la référence du bruit maximal permis le jour et la nuit;
 - à modifier la section concernant les clôtures autour des piscines à la suite d’une révision de la réglementation provinciale en matière de sécurité qui prévoit que toutes les nouvelles piscines résidentielles doivent être complètement clôturées afin d’en empêcher l’accès.

Ce règlement entre en vigueur conformément à la loi.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter le règlement sur le site web de la ville : www.westmount.org et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffier situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30.

DONNÉ à Westmount ce 15 mars 2011.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION BY-LAW 1399

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to all who may be concerned that By-law 1399 entitled “**BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND BY-LAW 1305 ON SITE PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURAL INTEGRATION PROGRAMMES**” was adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount at a regular sitting held at City Hall on March 7, 2011.

- The object of this by-law is to include new requirements and recommend various sustainable initiatives as follows:
- to integrate a new section on solar panels and green roofs;
 - to introduce the use of engineered vegetated retaining walls;
 - to recommend the use of semi-permeable paving for driveways;
 - to recommend the use of permeable hard surfacing for replacement of existing parking aprons;
 - to encourage the use of cisterns, rain barrels and other water collectors well integrated into the landscaping;
 - to permit the use of recycled materials and other materials that are environmentally positive;
 - to modify the section of Mechanical equipment/Site acoustics to reflect the recent revisions to the *Noise By-law* (1387) and remove the reference to maximum permitted noise levels at day and night time;
 - to modify the section concerning Swimming Pools Enclosure as a result of a recent revision to the provincial requirements for safety, all new residential swimming pools must be fully enclosed to prevent access.

This by-law comes into force according to law.

Any interested person may consult the said by-law on the City’s website: www.westmount.org and obtain copies thereof at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount this March 15, 2011.

Mario Gerbeau
Greffier de la ville / City Clerk

Kirkland recounts Quebec women's voting history at Atwater Library



In a talk she gave on March 4 at the Atwater Library to mark International Women's Day (March 8), Elizabeth Kirkland of the Dawson College history department recounted how women in Quebec hold the title as first and last to gain the right to vote in elections. According to Kirkland, a legislative mistake in 1791 resulted in voting privileges not being specified for male landowners only, so a few women voted up to 1820 when the law was amended. Although women gained the right to vote in Canadian federal elections in 1918, Quebec didn't follow suit until 1945.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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ON THE SHELVES

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

Magazines

"Elton John: The Rolling Stone Interview," by Austin Scaggs in *Rolling Stone*, February 17, 2011, p. 36. "I'm probably the most famous homosexual in the world. I annoy other homosexuals by doing things like playing Rush Limbaugh's wedding." (Elton John).

"2011 Preview: Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides, which promises a return to the wacky joys of the original," by Ian Nathan in *Empire*, February 2011, p. 62.

"Denis Villeneuve: entre la gloire et la colère. C'est un être discret et intense, à mille lieues des paillettes de Hollywood, qui pourrait rafler un oscar avec son film *Incendies*, Denis Villeneuve s'impose déjà comme le nouveau géant du cinéma québécois," by Isabelle Grégoire in *L'Actualité*, March 1, 2011, p. 72.

Adult books

Just Like Someone Without Mental Illness Only More So: A Memoir by Mark Von-

negut – The son of Kurt Vonnegut chronicles his battles with alcoholism, his calling to practise medicine, a psychotic break, marriage and fatherhood, and the passing of his father.

The Memory Palace by Mira Bartok – A memoir about the 17-year estrangement of the author and her homeless schizophrenic mother, and their reunion.

Picture books for children

There's Going to be a Baby by John Burningham and Helen Oxenbury – When a mother tells her son that she is having a baby, he starts imagining all the amazing things he can do with the newborn!

Ti-Boutte by Janette Bertrand – Léon has had enough of being the smallest in his family and at school. One day his wish to grow tall comes true. He grows so tall that his head reaches the clouds! For the first time in his life, Léon realizes that being small and held in the arms of his mother is not so bad after all.

DVDs

The Secret in their Eyes – Benjamin, a recently retired criminal court investigator decides to write a novel based on a 25-year-old unsolved rape and murder case, which still haunts him. Sharing his plans with Irene, the beautiful judge and former colleague he has secretly been in love with for

years, Benjamin's initial involvement with the case is shown through flashbacks, as he sets out to identify the murderer. Winner of the 2009 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film of the Year.

They Came to Play – This documentary focuses on the International Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs that gathers together 75 of the world's best amateur pianists for one week of intense competition and camaraderie.

Adult French – All in the family

Des gens très bien by Alexandre Jardin – The author of popular books such as *Le zèbre* and *Fanfan* looks into a dark corner of his family's past, at the time of the occupation by the Nazis. His grandfather was a high official in the French government when thousands of Jews were gathered in Paris and deported: how much did he know?

Questions à mon père by Éric Fottorino – Fottorino was adopted as a child and gave homage to his adoptive father in his previous book *L'homme qui m'aimait tout bas*. In *Questions à mon père*, he writes about his biological father, who had little time left to live when he finally met him. In rekindling ties with him, he discovered his Moroccan roots and a family he had not known.



Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount

AVIS PUBLIC MODIFICATION DU CALENDRIER DES SÉANCES ORDINAIRES DU CONSEIL 2011

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné que, lors de sa séance ordinaire du 7 mars 2011, le conseil a modifié le calendrier de ses séances ordinaires pour l'année 2011 afin de fixer la séance ordinaire du mois de juillet au **lundi 4 juillet**, plutôt qu'au mardi 5.

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 15 mars 2011.

PUBLIC NOTICE MODIFICATION TO THE SCHEDULE of the regular council sittings FOR 2011

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that, at its regular sitting held on March 7, 2011, Council modified the schedule of its regular sittings for the year 2011 in order to fix the regular sitting of July to **Monday, July 4** instead of Tuesday, July 5.

GIVEN at Westmount, this March 15, 2011.

Mario Gerbeau
Greffier de la ville / City Clerk

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<div></div> <div>ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES 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.</div> <div></div>		<div></div> <div>COMMUNITY EVENTS 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.</div> <div></div>	
<div></div> <div>BIBLIOTHÈQUE Club de lecture française Joignez-vous au club de lecture française le lundi 28 mars de 18 h 30 à 21 h pour discuter des œuvres de <i>Tahar Ben Jelloun</i>. Info : 514 989-5386.</div> <div></div>		<div></div> <div>LIBRARY Chess and Scrabble Club Our club will meet on Friday, March 18 at 2 p.m. Drop by for a friendly game as we look forward to meeting new players. Info: 514 989-5386.</div> <div></div>	
<div></div> <div>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.</div> <div></div>		<div></div> <div>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.</div> <div></div>	
<div></div> <div>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.</div> <div></div>		<div></div> <div>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.</div> <div></div>	

Tarnowska wins prize for photo



Sophie Tarnowska's photo "Blue Hand"

Westmounter and *Indie* columnist Sophie Tarnowska's photo "Blue Hand" was recently published in a *National Geographic* magazine.

The photo was taken during a trip to Calcutta, India in March 2010. It was taken at a local school and clinic run by Calcutta Rescue (calcuttarescue.org), where Tarnowska volunteered as a photographer. Her images were published in the organization's annual report.

A finalist in the "World in Focus" *PDN* magazine contest, the image can be found online under "Professional winners," at www.pdngallery.com/contests/worldin



Westmounter and Independent columnist Sophie Tarnowska in Beirut, December 2010.

Photo courtesy of Sophie Tarnowska

focus/2011/. It was also published in January/February issue of *National Geographic Traveler*.

Tarnowska explained she took the photo while photographing a lunch period at the children's centre. She recounts that all the kids were crouching and eating, and suddenly a little hand popped out from under the door, making all the kids laugh – until the teachers noticed and scolded whoever was behind the door.

"It sums up Calcutta for me," she said. "It has a sense of humor and playfulness that I love."

Teaching kids to stay safe



Nada Wanner, a trainer in the KidzSafe program, animated a session at the children's library on February 23, with the help of Yello Dyno, the program's mascot.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Yelling is something that's usually not tolerated at the Westmount Children's Library.

But when it's part of an educational program that teaches children how to not become the victims of sexual predators, they can yell as loud as they please.

That's just what a group of around 25 kids did at the library on February 23, when the KidzSafe organization introduced them to Yello Dyno.

With the help of his handler, Nada Wanner, the big yellow dinosaur mascot taught them about personal safety, and when is the right time to yell out because they sense danger.

The Yello Dyno program, originally from Texas, which is sponsored in Montreal by KidzSafe, has been offered in thousands of daycare centres and elementary schools across Canada and the US for

the past 15 years.

"We try to give them an understanding without frightening them," said Allan Shulman, founder and executive director of Montreal-based KidzSafe.

Parents can help their children at home with the Yello Dyno program through a CD and a DVD that are available at the children's library.

KidzSafe is a charitable organization primarily offering programs in the Montreal area, however it offers training sessions for children, parents, teachers and police officers from Quebec City to New York. For more information: www.kidzsafe.org.

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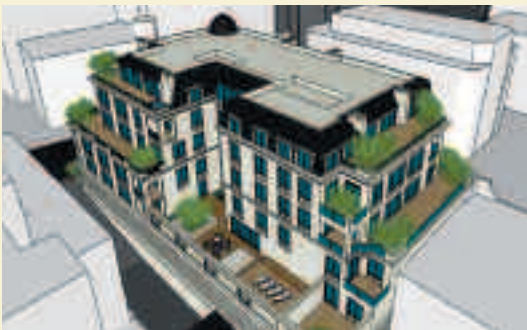
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