

New signage slated for Summit Woods

City: New dog regulations to be strictly enforced

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A first step in the rehabilitation of Summit Woods as a nature reserve will include increased dog licence fees, the re-imposing of licences for non-resident users of Westmount dog runs and stricter enforcement, the *Independent* learned last week.

The proposed changes are to be incorporated into new signage and are expected to be unveiled at the city council meeting



Public notice p. 26

April 4 after press time Monday.

"They're all aimed towards the goal of making Summit Woods a positive experience for everyone," said Parks commissioner Cynthia Lulham.

The changes will require anyone taking a dog into a fenced or unfenced dog run to carry with them a new licensing card to make it easier for public safety officers to verify the permit rather than searching a dog collar for the tag.

The urban forest is an unfenced dog run during certain hours dictated by the season which, over the years, has given rise to *continued on p. 8*

Jackson taps at Centre Greene



Attentive students follow Justin Jackson's foot and body movements, March 25. The former Westmount Park student achieved fame on So You Think You Can Dance Canada. See story, p. 26.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Polling mentions \$235,000 price tag

City poised to receive 50 Bixis

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

There's a good chance by the time this edition of the *Independent* is received by most readers that Bixi bikes will be on their way to Westmount – figuratively speaking.

Mayor Peter Trent said last week that negotiations were still ongoing with the bike sharing service to supply the city with five stands of 10 bikes each but that the city was quite certain the cost would not exceed \$235,000.

"I may be able to make an announcement to this effect at Monday's council meeting [April 4] if we get strong positive results from our telephone poll."

The Ipsos pollers calling 500 Westmounters last week were using the cost figure of \$235,000, Trent said. Both Bixis and the winter bike path were subjects of the first in a series of polls planned to gauge residents' opinions on a variety of topics (see story March 29, p. 1).

The five proposed non-residential Bixi locations are subject to change, Trent said. Three, however, are tentatively suggested for Sherbrooke St., one for de Maison-neuve and another for St. Catherine.

Possible sites could include Victoria Hall or the library, city hall, the arena and Dawson College. Another might be expected to connect with the Vendôme metro station.

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Preparing for two spring shows



City gardeners put finishing touches on the first of this year's two spring shows at the conservatory. From left are Hélène Bazinet, Christine Dupuis and Christophe Côté. It opens to the public April 7.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

This year's unusually late Easter, April 24, has provided a particular challenge to Westmount's greenhouse staff. It will, however, benefit residents, who will be able to enjoy two separate showings of traditional spring bulbs.

The first of the two shows opens to the public Thursday, April 7 and can be visited weekdays from 10 am to 9 pm and weekends, 10 am to 5 pm.

The second show will feature the traditional Easter bunny family and lilies. It's being timed for Easter weekend by which time the blooms from the first show will likely be finished.

"We'll have two quite different displays," said Hélène Bazinet. "It's been quite a challenge this year."

With the onset of longer days, the blooms open quickly and even those for the first exhibition have had to be held back, she explained.

The windmill has a new look in time for the first show. Previously painted white and red, it has a fresh coat of blue paint with yellow trim along with added lace curtains and a cut-out of a small black cat looking out one of the windows.

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Parking restrictions in force April 1

Public safety officers and parking inspectors began enforcing the street maintenance parking restrictions April 1, Public Security officials said.

Parkers may have been out of the habit of checking signs for these days when the street sweeper passes, they said. The fine for parking on a street during these prohibited times is \$52.



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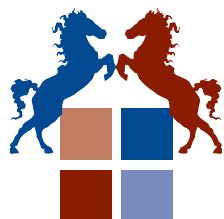


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Urban Planning reno workshop set for April 16

Event provides a chance to talk with the experts

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A Saturday morning renovation workshop with exhibits to help Westmount homeowners plan and carry out their work will take place for the first time April 16 at Victoria Hall.

Called “A Heritage to Build On,” the event is being organized by the city’s Urban Planning department in conjunction with the Westmount Historical Association. It will provide presentations and interactive sessions with architects and specialists in various fields.

“This is more of hands-on approach than our previous lecture series,” said Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

The aim of the workshop, she said, is to identify common problems and discuss how to deal with them. The emphasis will be on sustainable approaches.

Tickets costing \$10 for the event are

now on sale at city hall and Victoria Hall, and will be offered for sale at the reception for invited guests to open the spring flower show April 6 and at the Friends of Library book sale Saturday and Sunday, April 9 and 10 at Victoria Hall.

The workshop will be divided into three bilingual sessions as follows:

- Roofs: 9 to 10 am, with architect Richard de la Riva of Affleck and de la Riva architects, and Trevor Stevens of Norman & Collie roofing;
- Masonry: 10 to 11 am, with architect John Diodati of Fournier Gersovitz Moss Drolet architects, and Jean-Luc Gaillard of Maçonnerie LMR;
- Windows and Doors: 11 am to noon, with architect John Diodati (see above) and Octavio Salcedo, woodwork conservator in the repair of existing windows, and Mario Goncalves of Patenaude Trempe, on new windows.

Book sale this weekend moves to Vic Hall, has longer hours

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

In its 10th anniversary year, the semi-annual book sale for Westmount Public Library has outgrown its on-site venue and is expanding this weekend into Victoria Hall.

“With more space we’re hoping to surpass the record we set last fall, just shy of \$12,000,” said Carolyn O’Neill, president of the Friends of the Library, who co-chairs the event with Lee Taylor.

The Friends’ sale takes place Saturday and Sunday, April 9 and 10, between 10 am and 6 pm – closing one hour later than usual. Proceeds are used to buy equip-

ment and augment the library’s collection.

As the book sale grew over the years, it began overflowing from the Westmount Room into other parts of the library. Still, hundreds of books had to remain in cartons under the tables and were difficult to access, she explained. “Now we’ll be able to display them all and work with a single cash line-up for six separate cashiers.”

By sale time, the Friends expect to have collected some 450 cartons full of books. All are being moved from their quarters in the basement of the library to Victoria Hall. Student volunteers will then help set up the displays.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REDFERN CONDO CONVERSION ROLLING ALONG

I would like to set the record straight with respect to a recent article that was published in the *Westmount Independent* about our condo project at the former Reader's Digest building on Redfern ("Redfern condos...", March 15, p. 12).

Firstly, every project in every municipality on the island of Montreal has procedural requirements to meet. Plans must be submitted to cities for their initial review and opinion, and the process is an ongoing dialogue, eventually culminating in an approval and permit from the city.

My firm started this dialogue regarding the Redfern project with the city of Westmount and, in particular, with Mrs Joanne Poirier, the director of Urban Planning, back in late October 2010.

While it is true that the formal request for the relevant permits has not yet been submitted, we do have correspondence from Westmount's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) stating that it is not against the proposed condominium project in principle. Also, Westmount's Board of Inspections has confirmed to us in writing that, according to Westmount zoning regulations, we do have the right to add two floors to this building and that the resulting structure will be compliant. I also

met personally with all the members of the PAC and presented the entire project to them. They had a very favourable response.

We are now in the final steps of preparing final plans, based on the understanding and correspondence with the city, and will soon start the formal submission to obtain the necessary permits from the city.

KARL FISCHER, ARCHITECT

BUILD BETTER FENCE AT DOG RUN — AND FEWER WILL JUMP

I live across from the dog run on Lansdowne Ave. and enjoy watching the dogs — and their owners — making good use of the area.

But what bothers me is the amount of times I see dogs jumping the fences and anxious owners trying to catch them before they run into the traffic.

The solution is installing higher and stronger fencing, which I am sure Westmount can afford and the users of the run would greatly appreciate it.

JANE CARSON, LANSDOWNE AVE.

BEWARE OF POLLING RESULTS

The question of governance by polls is a tough one, and I can see both sides, quite apart from the high cost of using a professional polling firm. But there is one aspect that would weigh heavily against



The former Reader's Digest building on Redfern Ave., March 30. The 4300 de Maisonneuve apartment building is in the background at left. See letter at left.

Photo: Westmount Independent

any polling — a poll that is misleading because of the methods used.

In the case of what council is undertaking, as someone who has used surveys in much of my research, my first concern is the number in the "sample." With 500 as the target, there will be a wide error range. A greater concern is that the polling firm has been contracted to provide 500 responses and will need to keep going until it reaches that number. Readers need to be told how many calls were made to get that number. The total includes numbers where there is no answer after repeated tries and those who refuse to respond. Both numbers help us to judge the validity of the results.

For example, if 1,500 people are called and 500 refuse, they could all be folks who see no need to respond because they are happy with the path and the plans for Bixis. Those who do get polled would then be mostly anti-path, anti-Bixi.

We can never know with certainty, but council should insist that we are given the

numbers so we can make more informed guesses.

We also need to take into consideration some limitations of telephone polling. If random digit dialing is used, the sample should otherwise be reasonably good, but if numbers are drawn from the Westmount directory, the sample will underrepresent those with unlisted numbers who may be more supportive of bicycling.

Likewise, those who only use cell phones will also not be represented, and they are more likely to be younger people who favour bicycling. Finally, concerns that were expressed about the sample used to support the decision to proceed with the rink *continued on p. 7*

Correction

In "Drury heads Shriners' \$100M campaign" (March 29, p. 8) the number of beds should have been noted as 60 in 1925, 40 today and 22 in the new hospital.

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More letters to the editor...

continued from p. 6

project also need to be taken into account. Recall that Selwyn House families were encouraged to respond and the same could occur with anti-bicycling groups making the results biased.

Given these issues, the best (and cheapest) solution would be for council to make its decisions based on the platform it was elected to support: sustainability and livability.

BARRY PLESS, LANSDOWNE AVE.

LIBRARY: KEEP YOUR DOORS OPEN

Once more, that dreaded sign has appeared on the door of the Westmount Library: "Closed for..." This time it's for Easter, and once more the library is unavailable for three days (April 22, 24 and 25).

This situation occurs numerous times during the course of the year and is in addition to all the Sundays during the summer months.

This is in contrast to the library in Côte St. Luc, which is open 365 days a year! However, they do close early on Christmas

Day and New Year's Day – 5 pm instead of the normal 10 pm.

Perhaps our library could open an hour later and or close an hour earlier in order to create enough hours to close less often? I don't know how this would affect scheduling for library employees but if there is an interest for change, I'm sure it could be accomplished.

Hopefully Mayor Trent sees as much value in this issue as he does with respect to the necessity of having an SAQ outlet in the eastern part of the city.

SAM BEITEL, ABBOTT AVE.

LET'S GET LOWER LANSDOWNE BACK

I am responding "yes" to the email sent from the group Save the Park! on March 26 with some comments about issues that I wish to have addressed again.

If a call for tenders for a Traffic and Active Transportation Master Plan is being arranged for April, I would expect the city of Westmount to hold up all present traffic changes until the master plan is completed.

Why change until all needs are identified?

It is essential that the entrance/exit to the massive arena remain on Academy Rd. to avoid more traffic disasters.

The suggested parking on the west side of Lansdowne between de Maisonneuve and St. Catherine is a design for disaster. The dangers of exiting or entering west side driveways here are already a threat to cars and cyclists alike. What can city planners possibly be thinking?

Let's get lower Lansdowne back. Let's continue the existing two-way bike path through the park, then south along the very eastern edge of the park to St. Catherine and then on.

Thus a wider, safer Lansdowne.

Before the municipal election, the planning process for the new arena project was described as "bass-akwards," and it still is. The long delays prove that there are many very serious issues to be addressed.

TRUDY ASCH, LANSDOWNE AVE.

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A new/old perspective

Déjà vu for dogs, Summit renewal

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

New initiatives proposed for dog regulations and the rejuvenation of Summit Woods echo those presented by city council at a meeting 16 years ago.

That was a particularly heated session May 1, 1995, when the city council presented new seasonal leash laws that have since withstood the test of time.

Even the latest changes don't tinker with them in preserving a delicate balance between different users of the urban forest and its condition.

It was also at that meeting when the city announced it would impose a non-resident dog licence fee to apply in all Westmount dog runs.

The fee at that time, however, was \$100,

compared to the \$40 now being proposed in its reinstatement (see story this page).

Reports of the day explain how those off-leash periods had been hammered out in negotiating sessions between the city and the Westmount Dog Owners' Association (WDOA).

They even detail the city's efforts to rehabilitate the Summit nature reserve (recently rebranded Summit Woods), including the formation of a citizen conservation group then called Friends of the Summit that eventually petered out. A similar group has now been started under the name Summit Woods Advisory Committee.

The city is even hoping to reactivate the WDOA as a representative group with which it can liaise, according to Parks commissioner Cynthia Lulham.

Mayor broke the tie

At that somewhat historic meeting 16 years ago, an ensuing debate over the dogs and the Summit produced an unusual tie vote of 4-4 on a motion that would have seen dogs leashed during the summer from 10 am to 7 pm. The tie was broken by the mayor – Peter Trent – resulting in the current times of 9 am to 6 pm.

The meeting was a confrontational one among dog owners, birders, others and the city council, fuelled by rumours the council might not adopt the Summit leash times that had been agreed to.

At the same time, a motion was passed requiring the 24-hour leashing of dogs from mid-April to mid-June during bird migration period, which remains in effect today.

The changes were subsequently adopted in amendments to the dog by-law 535 at the June meeting in 1995 and the non-resident tariff adopted at the July 1995 meeting.

Annual dog license fees to go up

continued from p. 1

concerns over balancing its use by dog owners with others and its designation as a bird and floral sanctuary.

Annual licences for Westmount dogs are expected to rise from \$15 to \$20.

The new fee for non-resident dogs would be \$40 per dog. This resurrects the non-resident fee adopted in 1995 in the amount of \$100 and repealed in 2002 after the merger with Montreal.

Considering that Westmount taxpayers pay for the upkeep of parks and the dog runs through their taxes, it was "only fair," Lulham said, that users of the dog runs who don't pay Westmount taxes would be asked to help defray the cost of maintaining the parks and dog runs.

The fee was set at an amount not intended to prevent non-residents from using the facilities – at least for now, she said. The city, through the licence requirement, will monitor the number of non-residents actually using the dog runs.

As well, the city has refrained from imposing a limit on the number of dogs one person can take to the runs at one time as long as each one has a valid licence and card, Lulham said.

"But we're going to enforce the regulation that dogs must be kept under control at all times, and that they and their keepers stay only on the trails." They must not forage through the underbrush.

Obviously, she added, this might prove challenging for one person looking after a number of dogs.

Off-leash hours and seasonal regulations are expected to remain unchanged from those adopted in 1995 as part of a similar rejuvenation of the Summit area (see separate story).



Cynthia Lulham displays new sign. See story, p. 9

Lulham said the city valued the security role that dogs play in preventing camping and other illegal activity.

But it was trying to strike a balance between the use of the nature preserve by dog owners and those who don't want dogs jumping up on them or may have a fear of them.

The new regulations are expected to come into effect with the second reading and posting of by-laws that require related revision: dog regulations and tariffs.

The summit was rebranded as Summit Woods last November as a springboard for its rehabilitation.

Dog taken home

A dog living on Victoria Ave. turned up at a house on Severn Ave. March 29, Public Security officials said. It wore a Westmount licence tag. The owner, who was out at the time, asked, when called, that the dog be left in the back yard, which it was.

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New Summit signs aim to educate

New Summit Woods signage was designed with explanatory notes to help users understand the regulations, said Councillor Cynthia Lulham.

“The Summit Woods are a nature reserve and bird sanctuary,” a prototype reads. “Please enjoy this unique urban forest and help its fragile biodiversity by staying on the pathways.”

“We’re going to mark the pathways for the winter,” Lulham explained. If new ones are created in the winter by anyone straying off the trails, they are likely to be continued to be used once the snow melts, she said.

Along with the seasonal dog-leash hours and fines, the signs bear pictograms aimed at prohibiting fires, garbage, alcoholic beverages, camping, picking of flowers, riding of bicycles, and bringing motorcycles and motor vehicles into the park.

The park’s curfew – midnight to 5 am – is also posted.

Dogs have always been banned from playing fields

Dog owners should note that Westmount’s dog by-law 535 prohibits the walking of dogs on any of the city’s playing fields just as it does playgrounds, Councillor Cynthia Lulham said last week.

“The playing fields at Westmount Park are covered in feces after the winter,” she said. “They’re just as much playgrounds as are the tot lots.”

In fact, the dog by-law defines playgrounds as including areas used as playing fields, games areas, putting greens and “any other games area designated as such by official signs of the city.”

Bird migration leash law in effect April 16 at Summit

It’s back on the leash at all times for all dogs in Summit Woods starting April 16 with the onset of the bird migration period ending June 15.

During the summer and fall, between June 16 and December 1, dogs must be kept on leash from 9 am to 6 pm.

During the winter – December 1 to April 15 – dogs accompanied by keepers have been allowed to run off-leash during park hours. It is closed year round during curfew hours, midnight to 5 am.

Overview of candidates running in Westmount for member of parliament seat

BY LAUREN O’LOUGHLIN

Five candidates had signs up at press time indicating their candidacy to represent the Westmount-Ville Marie riding in the federal election. The Elections Canada website (www.elections.ca), however, did not yet list any of the candidates, and indicated the full list would not be available until April 13.

Marc Garneau – Liberal Party

Garneau, 62, has been a Westmount resident since 2001. Garneau received a bachelor of science in engineering from the Royal Military College in Kingston in 1970. He served in the navy, during which time he became the first Canadian in space, until his retirement in 1989. In this same year, Garneau was appointed deputy director of the Canadian Space Training Program and in 2001 was appointed executive vice president of the Canadian Space Agency. He ran unsuccessfully to be MP for the Vaudreuil-Soulanges riding in 2006 and has been the MP for Westmount-Ville Marie since the last federal election in 2008. More information on Garneau can be found at marcgarneau.liberal.ca.

Neil Drabkin – The Conservative Party

Drabkin, 49, grew up in the west end of Montreal. His political history goes back to 1984 when he first volunteered with the Conservatives. Drabkin, a lawyer, is chief of staff to Stockwell Day in Ottawa. He obtained his degrees in both civil and common law from McGill and the University of Montreal and was accepted to the Quebec bar in 1989. Drabkin has had his own immigration law practice, radio show and worked as crown prosecutor. A press release giving a biography of Drabkin’s career is available on the Conservative Party’s website at www.conservative.ca. You can also visit Drabkin’s candidacy profile on Facebook.

Joanne Corbeil – NDP

Corbeil, 51, has worked mainly in media and communications. She currently is a freelance translator and administrative officer for a rehabilitation centre. She began as an office worker at the *Journal de Montréal* and CBC and eventually had a career as a television host for Cogeco St. Hyacinthe. Corbeil has worked as an editor for *Salon Magazine* and later formed her own publishing house, Spa Media Inc., in 2003. At the time of publication, there was no information available on Corbeil via the NDP’s website.

Andrew Carkner – Green Party

Carkner, 29, moved to Westmount in 2001 to study at McGill. He now lives in Verdun. Carkner is a junior process engineer at a waste-to-energy company. He obtained his bachelor of engineering in 2006 and his masters in 2008. Carkner first volunteered with the Green Party in 2004. Carkner’s full profile is available on the Green Party’s website at www.green-party.ca.

Véronique Roy – Bloc Québécois

Roy has been teaching history, economics and IT at the Centre Ferland since 2009. She received her degree in secondary-level teaching from the University of Montreal in 2007 and is doing a masters in history at the same university. Information on Roy can be found on the Bloc’s website (www.blocquebecois.org) and on Facebook.



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Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount

4300 dwellers face more construction as garage repairs begin

BY ISAAC OLSON

The approximately 600 residents of 4300 de Maisonneuve have lived in a construction zone for a number of years now and, as the landlord aims to restore its aged underground parking garage, tenants can look forward to about two more years of the same.

Located two blocks west of Greene Ave., the luxury apartment complex's two-level, underground parking garage is getting a makeover and the building's windows are being replaced.

Starting with the garage's 135-stall western wing, Michele Walkau stated the restoration project is being done in two phases to minimize the impact on residents. The eastern wing's restoration will take place next year. Walkau is the vice president of corporate resources for the Toronto-based Great West Life Realty Advisors – the 50-year-old building's asset manager.

"We are managing a multi-year restoration project at 4300 de Maisonneuve to restore the property to its former glory," stated Walkau in an email interview. "Last year we completed all of the balcony railings and panels, and the exterior wall. At

the request of our residents, we began a window replacement program to upgrade the suites' windows and are on track to have this complete by year end."

Erosion at garage

The garage restoration is needed due to deterioration and erosion, according to Sylvain Lamothe, a spokesperson with Quebec's Régie du bâtiment (RBQ), who said provincial inspectors have been monitoring the garage since last summer.

"We have an excellent collaborative relationship with the landlord and, when it comes to this dossier, as far as the RBQ is concerned, they have taken responsibility," said Lamothe, in a French-language interview. "The landlord has respected all that was asked by the RBQ."

Contrary to last summer's reports indicating the city of Westmount ordered the landlord to produce an engineering study on the garage's structural integrity, (see story June 22, 2010, p. 4) Lamothe said it was actually the RBQ that asked for it.

Evacuation order

Lamothe said an evacuation order was given last summer until an engineer deemed it safe and, within a couple weeks,

temporary structures were put in place and an engineer found the garage to be secure for use until restoration work could start.

"The good news is the exterior masonry work is completed and that will allow them to carry out the repairs to the garage," said Westmount's Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier, noting the masonry equipment above ground meant crews couldn't start working underground. "Everybody has problems with interior parking because of the salt and water degradation, so doing these types of repairs is not unusual."

Temporary parking

A garage restoration permit was issued on March 9, said Poirier and, in the meantime, the city is negotiating with the landlord on temporary parking around the property. Walkau, however, claimed a parking permit was already issued by the city. Residents who have parking spaces, explained Walkau, will be offered parking out front, a 25-percent discount on their monthly parking rate and free valet parking.

The news of the garage repair was brought to the *Independent's* attention

when a resident sent this newspaper a copy of a contract issued by the property's leasing office. The contract asks tenants to sign an agreement to one of three options: Elect for the valet service, decline the valet service or not use parking.

Walkau said her firm is "working closely with our building restoration engineer to ensure we comply with all necessary requirements, such as building code and safety regulations." Throughout the building's restoration, she said, social events have been held to show tenants "our appreciation for their patience." This, she continued, is along with four "quiet rooms" and a TV monitor in the lobby to update residents on restoration progress.

She concluded by writing: "We appreciate the cooperation of the residents and we are committed to completing the work in a timely manner with as little disruption as possible."

15-year-olds fined

Two teenaged boys were issued \$118 tickets each for drinking in Westmount Park March 25 just after 6 pm, Public Security officials said. Both were identified as 15-year-old residents of Côte St. Luc.

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Police Beat

Suspect tied to two robberies arrested

BY DAVID GOLDBERG

A suspect, whom police believe was involved in at least 19 robberies, including two in Westmount, was arrested by police officers in Côte des Neiges.

Police say the suspect held up the Art-Enfant store at 4968 Sherbrooke St. on February 11. The suspect entered the store and announced, “This is a hold-up,” as he held his hand in his jacket, as if he was holding a gun. Before leaving with the contents of the register, he told the clerk, “I have to do this. My daughter has been hurt.”

On February 17, the suspect again simulated having a weapon when he held up the Rogers cell phone store at 1201 Greene. (See story, March 1, p. 9)

“In that case, the suspect told the clerk his two quarters weren’t working in the parking meter, and he asked the employee if he could exchange them,” said Constable Adalbert Pimentel. “When she opened the cash drawer, he had his hand in his pocket and told her it was a robbery.”

The suspect was arrested on March 22.

Police say they have closed 19 robbery cases since January of this year with the arrest. Those robberies took place in Westmount, the downtown area, St. Henri, NDG, the Plateau and Côte des Neiges. He was also wanted by the RCMP for an outstanding warrant for breaking the conditions of the court.

Arrested was Jerry Martin, 24. He has no fixed address.

The investigation is ongoing and police say more charges may be forthcoming.

Victims show suspect the door

An armed suspect posing as a deliveryman got shown the door – literally – by his elderly victims.

Police say the man’s wife had just returned from shopping to their home on St. Sulpice at 12:55 pm on March 10. As she was taking off her coat, there was a knock at the door.

“When the wife opened the door, the suspect was standing there with a box, and he began to come into the house,” said Pimentel. “But the wife yelled, ‘No!’, and told him to get out of the house.”

She managed to push the suspect back into the door frame, and she called for her husband. When he arrived, the suspect opened his jacket to show the couple a gun tucked into his belt.

“He asked the husband for his jewellery twice, but after the second time, the husband managed to slam their heavy, wooden front door right in the suspect’s face, which forced him outside,” said Pimentel.

The husband then looked through the peephole and saw the suspect heading west along St. Sulpice.

The suspect is described as a male of unknown race, 20 to 40, 5’7” and 150 lbs. He had long black curly hair and a beard, and wore a black jacket and black tuque.

“Never open your door if you don’t know who is on the other side,” said Pimentel. “If you have a peephole, use it. If you see someone making a delivery who doesn’t have a uniform or you don’t see a Canada Post or some other truck that identifies a company, don’t answer your door. Tell them to leave the package or a document out where you can pick it up.”

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WMA may take second look at local impact of Turcot project

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) may be renewing its efforts to raise awareness of the impact the Turcot interchange reconstruction project could have on Westmount, following a March 21 information meeting for WMA members and the public.

The Quebec ministry of Transport (MTQ) plans to redesign and rebuild the elevated interchange located west of Westmount that connects the Decarie and Ville Marie expressways with autoroutes 15 and 20 through the former Turcot railway yard.

Shannon Franssen, coordinator with Solidarité St. Henri, made a presentation during the WMA meeting held at the Westmount Public Library. She said people and groups with alternative ideas have about six months left to persuade the MTQ that it should change its plans.

She also explained that Solidarité opposes the project because it says it will increase traffic on the interchange and require the demolition of residences in St. Henri. Westmount is likely to see more vehicles on its streets, as well as a rise in

air pollution from motor vehicle exhaust.

As the plans call for the elevated sections of the interchange to be demolished and the roadways to be rebuilt at ground level, a WMA member expressed concern and Franssen agreed that car exhaust, which is now emitted high above the ground, could accumulate at ground level and drift more easily into lower Westmount.

“We’d like to see an alternative that reduces highway traffic, that keeps the Turcot raised, and that doesn’t allow the situation to get worse in terms of the isolation of our neighbourhood,” Franssen said about Solidarité’s objectives.

WMA president Jean-Pierre Picard told the *Independent* that the WMA may be following up on work it previously undertook to raise awareness of the local impact of the Turcot project.

“We’ve had some presentations before on this, and we have in the past written letters to council and to the provincial authorities,” he said. “As we learn more about how the project has evolved, we are willing to raise the issue again.”

Earth Hour records 2 percent drop

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

An approximate drop of 2 percent in electrical consumption was recorded in Westmount during Earth Hour, 8:30 to 9:30 pm, March 16, according to Hydro Westmount reports.

Councillor Patrick Martin, commissioner of Utilities and Public Works, said the Westmount network experienced a drop in demand of 1,200 kW during Earth Hour in comparison to the normal usage.

“This is equivalent to having turned off 20,000 light bulbs of 60W each, an interesting comparison in view of Westmount’s total population of 20,000 residents. Of course, there’s no way of knowing whether some power consumption, such as laundry or dishwashing, may have been simply deferred to a later hour.”

Astrophysicist Tony Moffat, one of the Earth Hour event organizers, said, “Even if it is 2 percent, that’s not very much. I saw a list of Ontario cities, where it varied from about 6 to 18 percent. People have to do more than just turn off their lights if we want to go deeper than this.”

Lighting, he explained, is only a small fraction of the total power consumption but is more of a nuisance to dark skies and glare.

“But lighting is symbolic, being very visible, so can be quite effective in drawing people’s attention to their excessive energy consumption and the negative effects it is having on the planet.”

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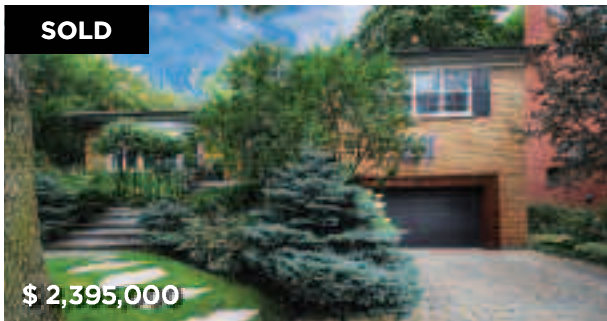

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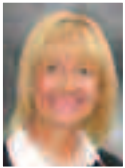
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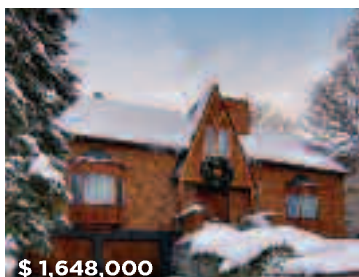
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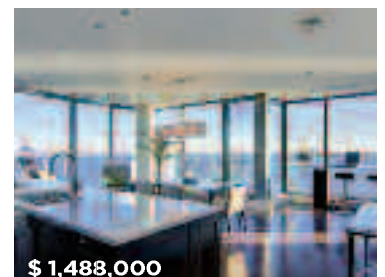
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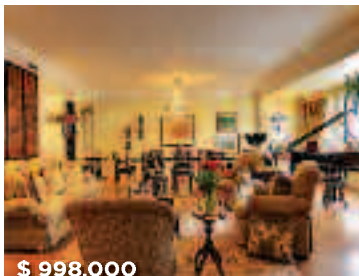
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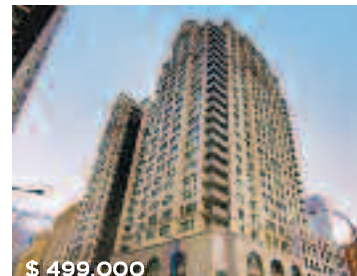
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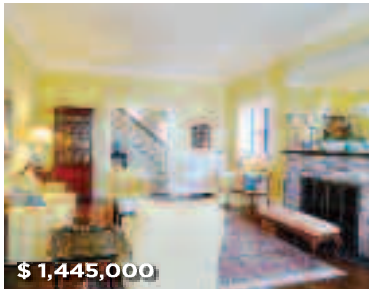
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344 ME TCALFE AVE.
Graceful Victorian | MLS 8425727



\$ 2,250,000
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\$ 1,445,000
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\$ 1,249,000
663 GROSVENOR AVE.
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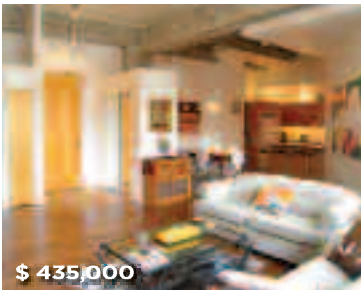
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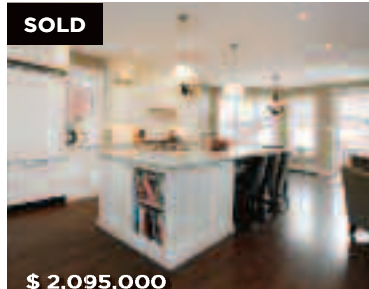
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Ref Jacques Hébert thanked for 25 years' service



Westmount's Sports and Recreation department presents retiring hockey referee Jacques Hébert with a plaque at his last official appearance in Westmount March 25. Hébert, who drove in weekly from Rigaud to officiate in the senior B league, was recognized for a quarter century of service at the arena (see story March 22, p. 15). From left, are: department director Mike Deegan, Hébert, administrator Dave Lapointe and senior B league goalie Dan Kelly.

Photo: Monique Hébert

Artwatch



From left: collector Michael Banks, Yunus Chkirate and Westmounter Denis Lépine at Chkirate's first vernissage in Old Montreal, March 2.

Photo: Simone Winkler



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*Adventures in sustainable living*

Getting ready for the gardening season

BY MARCI BABINEAU

With the snow just starting to melt in this year's particularly cool March and birdsong starting up, it's time to start thinking about your garden.

Since moving here eight years ago from the south, I have come to understand that these signs are only small invitations made by the elusive Canadian spring. Initially mistaking these signs for the start of a growing season, I spent the first few early springs wrestling with my frozen compost containers and endeavoring to break into it with a shovel.

I soon learned that I was ahead of the game. There are, however, some productive things that you can do at this time of year to make the most of our short growing season.

Create a garden plan

Look at your garden spaces and plan where you can do some planting, whether it is in the ground or in containers on the patio. It's a good time to gather the materials for specific projects like creating a small mosaic patio, a little fishpond, vertical wall plantings on your balcony, or adding a bird bath or rain barrel.

Start pruning

If your shrubs and trees are now protruding out of the snow, you can start pruning. Though there may still be some heavy spring snow, shorter branches will be more resilient now the sap has begun to rise. Pruning the dead wood before the plants expand outward is helpful, except of course for early blooming shrubs and trees, such as forsythia, lilac and Japanese magnolia.

Sharpen your tools

Shovels, hedge clippers, pruning shears

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and lawn mower blades can all take a new edge right now, carrying them through much, if not most, of the season.

Purchase seeds

This is the time to choose which annuals, both vegetables and flowers, you want to grow from seed this year. It takes about two to five weeks to get most seedlings up and ready to plant outdoors, so starting them mid- to late April will be soon enough for setting them out around Victoria Day (or when there is no danger of a late frost). Sowing your own seeds lets you choose from a variety of interesting heirloom varieties with which you can experiment.

Sprout seeds and beans.

This can be done all year, but I find it especially helpful at this time of year to get geared up for the growing season ahead.

Grow from seed

Grow tomatoes, greens and herbs indoors from seed. With longer daylight hours you can begin to grow some of your own produce (except basil, which likes the summer heat) in your sunniest windows. A fluorescent light is needed if you want to grow all year long.

Order trees and shrubs

If you know that you want to add a tree or specific shrubs, especially if they are rare, you will want to go ahead and order them from your favourite nursery. Trees and woody shrubs can be planted as soon as you can dig through the soil and will benefit from springtime to get established.

Get composting

If you stopped composting during the coldest parts of winter, take heart and venture back out!

If you are not able to access your container, you can temporarily store your kitchen compost in a spare trashcan (with a lid) outside or consider adding a second large compost container.

A thriving garden begins with healthy soil, which you can't have too much of. Be on the look out for our urban woodland

creatures. Raccoons, skunks and muskrats will begin foraging again.

Sign up for CSA program

Local community supported agriculture (CSA) farms will be starting to gather members for the growing season. If you haven't participated before, it is a great education on our local organic farming culture and a delicious adventure in eating.

Organic CSA's that deliver to Westmount are Ferme Mange Tout that brings its produce to L'autre Choix on Victoria. (<http://home.cogeco.ca/~scurran14/myweb/2008season.htm>) and Arlington Gardens that delivers to the Westmount arena (<http://arlingtongardens.ca>).

Good luck with your preparations and stay tuned for more gardening discussion as the season progresses.

Marci Babineau is an urban farmer in Westmount. She teaches sustainable gardening practices at Victoria Hall, Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9 pm. The class will run from April 14 to June 23. To register, visit Victoria Hall or call 514.989.5226.

Applying ancient sciences to local garden care

An overview of simple yet effective ways to enhance plant growth and control pests will be presented at the April 12 meeting of the Westmount Horticultural Society at Westmount Public Library.

Guest speaker Adhi Moonien Two Owls of Pennsylvania will use slides and demonstrations to explain some of the interesting ways to improve plants and gardens. She owned and ran the Zen Gardener, an experimental, organic and sustainable urban gardening company in New Haven, Connecticut from 1998 to 2004.

In her lecture called "Ancient Sciences for Landscaping and Plant Care," she will draw on knowledge from the ancient Egyptians that has been brought to new standards as well her own research in developing designs and products to improve soil and other land issues.

Doors open at 6:30 pm for refreshments before the presentation starts at 7 pm. The event is open to the public at a cost of \$5.

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New members of library committee announced



The new members of the Westmount Public Library Committee are, from left: new trustees Anna Santiago and Mehdi Ghafouri; Julie-Anne Cardella, Library director; Janet Boeckh (chair); and councillors Kathleen Duncan and Nicole Forbes. The three citizen trustees were appointed at the December 6 meeting of city council, including the naming of Boeckh, a previous trustee, as chairman. The selection was made following an invitation in the Westmount Page in September to residents interested in applying. The committee's term started in January.

Photo courtesy of Janet Boeckh

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Mémère needs a real home ... and a better name



Mémère's sad brown eyes tell of the hard times behind her and the hope of better days ahead.

This mature black beauty was rescued from a stranger's yard more than a year ago, dehydrated, overheated and half starved. It was clear she had recently had puppies.

She was brought to the SPCA Montérégie, where she was cared for and made to feel safe. It's a nice enough place but noisy and busy. This gentle girl craves a quiet home with a family she can call her own. Enough is enough.

Her friends at the South Shore shelter

have filled in as many blanks as they can about Mémère. Her graying muzzle and calm nature tell us her rambunctious years are behind her. Our best guess is that she's about eight.

Now that's she's eating regularly, she's filled out to a nice solid 60 lbs. No one's too sure what kind of designer blend she is, though there's clearly some Labrador in that black coat.

She needs a home, and if we're honest, a more fitting name. She's got plenty of good years ahead of her. Could that home be yours? You can email info@spcamonteregie.com, or call 514.386.5960. The shelter is located in St. Angèle de Monnoir, just 20 minutes from downtown off Highway 10. Visiting hours are Thursday and Saturday from 2 to 4:30 pm. The adoption fee covers, sterilization, vaccination and de-worming.

Find out about other good dogs needing homes by visiting the Underdog Club website at www.underdogclub.org.



Mémère



Notaries

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ON THE SHELVES

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

Magazines

"Libya: a civil war beckons: As Muammar Qaddafi fights back, fissures in the opposition begin to emerge," in *The Economist*, March 5-11, 2011, p. 49.

"The war between the Libyas: In the east, rebels dream of life without Muammar Gaddafi. In the west, people revere him as a man who has given them dignity," by Abigail Hauslohner, Ajdabiyah and Vivienne Walt, in *Time*, March 21, 2011, p. 26.

"Libye: chronique des années de peur: À l'est du pays, dans la partie du territoire libérée du joug de Khadafi, les habitants, longtemps muets de terreur, peuvent enfin se confier. Ils racontent le quotidien d'une des dictatures les plus répressives du monde arabe," by Jean-Michel Demetz, in *L'Express International*, 2 au 8 mars, 2011, p. 34.

Adult English – Remarkable artists

Alice Neel: The Art of Not Sitting Pretty by Phoebe Hoban – The unforgettable story of the life of the American artist, from her education at the Philadelphia School of Design for Women to the development of her controversial political views and courageous flaunting of convention, both in her life and her work.

Enrique Martínez Celaya: Collected Writings and Interviews, 1990-2010 – Features the photographs and writings, which trace the intellectual influences and development of one of the more formidable and productive minds in the contemporary art world.

Adult French – Fuel for thought

La révolution des gaz de schiste by Normand Mousseau – The author argues that,

while environmentally sound exploitation of this resource is not impossible, the Quebec government is selling rights too cheaply and, with many unknowns at this point, is recommending a moratorium and further studies.

Les sables bitumineux: la honte du Canada by Andrew Nikiforuk – This journalist has been covering economic and environmental questions for the last 20 years. He offers an assessment of the problems tied to the growing exploitation of tar sands and demonstrates the weaknesses of public policies.

Books on CD

Sing You Home by Jodi Picoult – Max and Zoe's marriage, stressed by infertility problems and miscarriages, is finally destroyed by a stillborn baby. After their divorce, Max moves in with his brother and sister-in-law, and backslides into self-destructive drinking, while Zoe devotes herself to music therapy. Their discord deepens when Max converts to an evangelical brand of Christianity that pits him against Zoe when she asks Max for permission to use their frozen embryos.

The King's Speech by Mark Logue and Peter Conrad – Based on the recently discovered diaries of Lionel Logue, this book recounts an inspiring real-life tale of triumph over adversity, when an Australian taught a British king with a crippling speech defect how to speak to his subjects.

Picture books

I Know Here by Laurel Croza – Although Doug is excited to be moving from northern Saskatchewan to the big city of Toronto, his little sister isn't so sure. Finally after worrying about leaving behind the place she knows, her teacher helps her find a way to keep everything she loves about her home.

Sans toi! by Geneviève Côté – After having an argument over a spilled wagon of toys, Bunny and Piggy decide to do things on their own, but it doesn't take long before they realize that everything is more fun when they do it together!

Reference

The Grove Encyclopedia of Islamic Art and Architecture

The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Islamic World

Nouveau dictionnaire des artistes contemporains by Pascale Le Thorel.

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Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

St. George's School presents the Broadway hit *Curtains*, 7:30 pm. Runs through to Saturday night. Info: 514.937.9289, ext. 297 or www.stgeorges.qc.ca/curtains.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Spring flower show opens to public at Westmount conservatory.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

The Quebec Writers' Federation (QWF) presents "**An Introduction to Copyright**" by the Montreal Artists Legal Clinic in the Atwater Library auditorium, 1200 Atwater from noon to 1 pm. Free. Bag lunches welcome. Info: 514.933.0878 or admin@qwf.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

• **Friends of the Westmount Public Library** quality used book sale. Also, Sunday, April 10, from 10 am to 6 pm. Proceeds go towards purchasing new materials for the library. Info: Carolyn O'Neill 514.483.5604.

• "**Empty Bowls**" at the Unitarian Church, 5035 de Maisonneuve, 11 am to 2 pm. Benefit the Montreal Diet Dispensary, the NDG Food Depot and MultiCaf. Cost: \$20 – buys a handmade pottery bowl, soup, bread and Brazilian music. Info: 514.248.1928.

• "**Fiesta! Arte de Cuba**" opens at A.H. Campbell Gallery, 4916 Sherbrooke St. Vernissage from 1 to 6 pm. Exhibit continues until April 15. Info: 514.932.4697.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

• Mini-concert of Broadway, opera and cantorial music at **Shaar Hashomayim**, 425 Metcalfe Ave., 12 noon. Cost: \$5 for performance and lunch. Reserve: 514.937.9471, ext. 139.

• **Robert Ventresca**, author of a biography of Pope Pius XI will discuss "Pope Pius

XII: Myths and Realities" at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 7:30 pm. Admission is free; everyone welcome. Info: 514.937.3575, ext. 213 or anita@temple-montreal.ca.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

• **Westmount Horticultural Society (WHS)** presents Adhi Moonien Two Owls, Zen gardener, who will demonstrate ways of improving garden plants. Westmount Library, 7 to 9 pm. Free for WHS members; \$5 for guests. Info: 514.932.9349. See story, p. 20.

• Reception to celebrate the launch of **Suzanne Daningburg's** novel *The Lillivax Inheritance: A Montreal Mystery* at Atwater Library, 6 to 7:30 pm. A reading, discussion, live classical guitar and refreshments. Book on sale for \$15, with a portion of the proceeds to Atwater Library.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

Sports and Recreation banquet at Victoria Hall, 6 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

• Mayor's blood donor clinic from 2 to 8 pm at Victoria Hall. Info: 514.989.5226.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 16

• **Renovation workshop** organized by the city of Westmount's Urban Planning department. First session starts at 9 am. Cost: \$10. Tickets can be obtained at Victoria Hall or city hall. See story, p. 4.

• **Big band dance** at Victoria Hall, 7 pm. Tickets are \$20 in advance or if wearing Big Band era attire (\$25 at the door) available at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St.

• Adoption clinic and nail trimming at Nat-

uralanimal & Pawtisserie 4932B Sherbrooke St., 12 to 4 pm. \$10 fundraiser to benefit the rabbits of Secours Lapins Quebec. Apple treats and toys for bunnies.

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St. Michael's Mission would like to thank all in the community that have helped keep the Mission running and thriving, especially during these tough economic times. Without you the Mission would be unable to serve the needy of Montreal.

Here we have compiled a list of items that the Mission is always in need of throughout the year for our everyday programs and services: **Disposable Razors, Socks, New Underwear (Men & Women's), Toothbrushes, Running Shoes, Belts, Bars of Soap, Winter Jackets, Winter Boots, Deodorants, Sleeping Bags, Caps and Hats, Shampoo, Moisturizers, Blankets, Shoelaces, Bed Linens, Back Packs, Snow Pants, Rain Gear, Travel Size Skin Lotions.**

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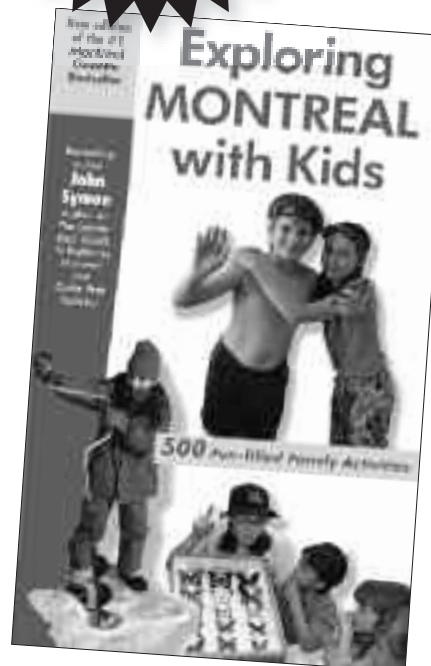
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Sharyn Scott, Treasurer St. Michael's Mission



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Squirrel caught in feeder

A public safety officer answered a call to a house on Victoria Ave. March 24 for a squirrel trapped in a bird feeder. It was found with a paw stuck in the top. The feeder was taken down but the animal's paw could not be dislodged. While the officer was making a call for assistance, however, the squirrel managed to free itself, and all was well, Public Security officials said.

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Westmount Square

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Hello, Westmount

BESSNER GALLAY KREISMAN

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Bessner Gallay Kreisman, a Westmount-based chartered accountant firm, launched a new service for seniors in March.

As a growing number of people are discovering, sometimes even the most carefully laid-out plans can end up off the rails due to unforeseen circumstances. Health problems in older family members, for example, can turn a life upside down.

In some cases, it becomes difficult for family members to commit the time, find the appropriate resources and perform the tasks required to help aging parents.

The firm says it has devised a solution for families caring for aging members.

It has established BGK Advisory Group Inc., offering a host of services in “a one-stop-shop” for financial, legal, home care, tax management and other services.

Jeff Sidel has been appointed the division's managing director. “Many people in my position are caught between the needs of their children and those of their elderly parents,” he said. “Our goal is to provide them with the information they need and counsel they can trust.”

Hello, Westmount's content is provided by the Independent. Businesses that appear do not pay for or approve what is written.



Jeff Sidel deals with eldercare issues as BGK Advisory Group's managing director.

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Cleaning service for commercial buildings. Call Michael at 514-998-5731.

Furniture for Sale

Desk and chair, French Provincial, walnut, 60" x 32", 4 drawers, excellent condition, \$2000.00 / 514.729.8796

An international and personal view Exploring Nicaragua

BY HILLARY CHARRON, GUEST
COLUMNIST



The world is just a map ready to be explored, but a map doesn't always allow you to experience the world for what it is. As a student in Dawson College's North South Studies program, I had

the good fortune to take part in a field trip to Nicaragua in Central America over the past winter holidays.

"North South" is a small program with a huge heart. We are prepared for international studies and learn about the relationship between the North – the developed world – and the South – the developing world. Some call us the "tree huggers" of Dawson, but this matters not to us since hugging trees has allowed us to experience life in the shoes of someone else for a long – and hot – month!

It was a given that it would be hard the first few days since I was adjusting to a new culture, community and language. Surprisingly, however, I never felt like a stranger in the homes of these extremely friendly, warm-hearted, and very generous

people.

As a group of 32 blindingly white (as in not tanned) people, we toured all over this Spanish-speaking country and met with many different people from the various communities to learn about the past, present and future of Nicaragua.

In addition to living with host families and attending many insightful and educational conferences, we got our hands dirty carrying out work projects in the various *comarcas* (Nicaraguan villages). As a group, we contributed to repairing three roads and a school sidewalk. This may sound small to you and me, but it was huge to anyone living there.

By the end of the trip, I realized that I had an excellent balance of good and trying times, which strengthened the experience for me. I realized that it may not have changed me as a person in the ways that I had expected, but it definitely reinforced the values and beliefs I already held.

I experienced the magnitude of a people, a culture and the rough edges of a country in ways that would not have been possible had I not been in the program.

Hillary Charron, 19, is a Westmount resident. She says the map of her life is "very much a work in progress as I still struggle with figuring out where I would like to go next. For now, I plan to continue my education along a similar path to North South Studies, and fill my noggin with more knowledge on the issues we both face and create in the world today."

Westmounters at work

Grosvenor's "Colour Your image" helps assess personal colours

Westmounter, fashion stylist and colour expert Kathy Grosvenor of "Colour Your Image" believes that "when you feel good, your confidence soars."



She explained that while colours flatter, frequently the colours people choose to drape themselves with do not truly enhance appearances.

Grosvenor helps her clients learn what colours are flattering and which colours are complimentary. "My passion lies in my belief that style evolves once an individual realizes their colours," she said. Recently, Grosvenor became affiliated with

make-up artist Annie Young at Avanti Salon. "An artist begins with a blank slate, but we are born with a given," she explained. "We start with specifics: hair colour, eye colour and skin tone." The right complementary colours can brighten eyes, freshen skin and overall establish a younger look.

Grosvenor offers an hour-and-a-half consultation, where she suggests an individual's dominant colour, makeup, fabric shades and other factors involved in establishing a personal palette.

Sessions are offered for both men and women. "Colour can affect your mood, energy level and general sense of well-being," she explained. Grosvenor can be reached at 514.497.9722.

– Marilyn Smith Carsley

Abandoned outdoors



9 Lives

LYZANNE

Lynx was abandoned outdoors and taken in by Lina who has given him all the care needed for a brand-new start in life.

His fur was knotted so he was shaved and now has a brand-new coat growing out, he has had his shots and has been neutered (his vet costs have been covered).

Lynx is very friendly, loving, bright and obedient. He needs a new home urgently



Lynx

since he is confined to one room at his foster family's residence (they have their own cats who are territorial) and need him to have his own adoptive family as soon as possible.

Tony has also been abandoned outdoors, but he is getting a bit of help surviving: he is being fed by Lina's neighbor next door. What a sweet fellow down on his luck. He is very social and loves being petted. This is the same set of circumstances as my adoption of my extra-large cat Maximus, who was fed by my neighbors Helen and Trevor until I took him in.

He fit in immediately as he was used to being a house cat.

I would love for Tony have such an opportunity in our community as well. Why get a cat from a pet shop when you can adopt a cat being fostered or in a shelter?

For more information on Lynx and Tony, please contact Lina Drasse at 450.669.6349 or 514.573.2030 or email her at linadrasse@hotmail.com.

Your neighbour, Lyzanne



Tony

Joint rolling captured on camera

Three teens appearing to be rolling a joint in the Westmount Park comfort station March 29 were caught on the city's surveillance camera, Public Security officials report. When officers arrived on the scene, no one was seen in the act of smoking. Two of the three, Westmount residents, were warned and the substance was reported to have been destroyed "in front of the camera".

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Justin Jackson gives tap lessons at Centre Greene

BY RALPH THOMPSON

Former Westmount Park School student and a two-time contestant on “So You Think You Can Dance Canada” Justin Jackson, 21, gave the first of three tap dance workshops at Centre Greene on March 25.

The dancer, who attended Westmount Park from grade 1 to his graduation from elementary school in 2002, is starting to build his credentials at a young age. He performed in the opening ceremonies of the 2010 Winter Olympics, was a special guest on The Wendy Williams Show in New York City and was honoured by the Montreal-based Black Theatre Workshop with a Victor Phillips Award for a Black Montreal youth enrolled in an academic program and who has achieved excellence in the performing arts.

Bursting with energy and confidence,

Jackson’s dance defies his slight stature. His students were kept on their toes – and heels – that Friday evening while a small fan club comprising his mother Jacqueline and father Amos, his grandmother Beryl and girlfriend Sylvia looked on with obvious pride.

Jackson has been called “one of the best tap dancers in the world” by Mary Murphy, a judge on *So You Think You Can Dance Canada*, and was invited to the finals in season 3 as a special return guest.

A video can be found on YouTube (www.youtube.com/watch?v=92mDsVdjb0U&NR=1&feature=fvwp).

Jackson’s next tap dance workshop is scheduled to take place Friday, April 29 and Friday, May 27 at Centre Greene. Classes are offered to all ages at the intermediate and advanced levels. To sign up, go to www.dancejustinjackson.com or call 514.712.2015. See p. 1 for photo.

April at the art galleries

Galerie de Bellefeuille

David Drebin. Exhibit: April 2 to 13. Jean-François Provost. Exhibit: April 9 to 20. Dale Chihuly. Exhibit: April 23 to May 21. 1367 Greene Ave. 514.933.4406

Galerie D’Este

Sophie DeFrancesca. Exhibit: April 21 to May 15. 1329 Greene Ave. 514.846.1515

The Gallery at Victoria Hall

Alfredo Abeijon. Exhibit continues to April 16. 4626 Sherbrooke St., 514.989.5226.

McClure Gallery – Visual Arts Centre

Annual student exhibition: April 1 to 21. 350 Victoria Ave. 514.488.9558.

Parisian Laundry

Collision 7: Annual MFA graduates. Exhibit continues to April 9. 3550 St. Antoine St. 514.989.1056.



Ville de Westmount City of Westmount



AVIS D’ENTRÉE EN VIGUEUR RÈGLEMENTS D’EMPRUNT Nos 1404 et 1405

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné à tous ceux qui peuvent être concernés, que les règlements d’emprunt énumérés ci-dessous, adoptés par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount lors d’une séance ordinaire tenue le 7 février 2011, sont réputés avoir été approuvés par les personnes habiles à voter à la suite de la procédure d’enregistrement tenue le 22 février 2011. Le ministre des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l’Occupation du territoire a par ailleurs approuvé ces règlements 1404 et 1405 le 25 mars 2011 :

Règlement n° 1404 intitulé « RÈGLEMENT AUTORISANT UN EMPRUNT DE 5 146 400 \$ POUR L’EXÉCUTION DE TRAVAUX DE RÉFECTION ROUTIÈRE, DE RESTAURATION DE CONDUITES D’AQUEDUC ET DE RÉHABILITATION DE CONDUITES D’ÉGOUTS », dont l’objet vise à autoriser un emprunt de 5 146 400 \$ relativement à l’exécution de travaux de réfection routière, de restauration de conduites d’aqueduc et de réhabilitation de conduites d’égouts.

Règlement n° 1405 intitulé « RÈGLEMENT AUTORISANT UN EMPRUNT DE 245 600 \$ POUR LES TRAVAUX DE RÉALISATION DU PROGRAMME DE RESTAURATION DES RÉSEAUX AÉRIEN ET SOUTERRAIN DE DISTRIBUTION ÉLECTRIQUE D’HYDRO WESTMOUNT AINSI QUE L’ACHAT DE VÉHICULES », dont l’objet vise à autoriser un emprunt de 245 600 \$ relativement à l’exécution de travaux de réalisation du programme de restauration des réseaux aérien et souterrain de distribution électrique d’Hydro Westmount ainsi que l’achat de véhicules.

Ces règlements entrent en vigueur en date de ce jour.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter ces règlements sur le site web de la ville : www.westmount.org et en obtenir copies 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 5 avril 2011.

Mario Gerbeau
Greffier de la Ville

NOTICE OF COMING INTO FORCE LOAN BY-LAWS No. 1404 and 1405

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to all who may be concerned that the loan by-laws listed below, adopted by the Municipal Council of Westmount at a regular sitting held on February 7, 2011, were deemed to have been approved by the qualified voters at the registration held on February 22, 2011. On the other hand, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy approved these by-laws on March 25, 2011:

By-law 1404 entitled “BY-LAW TO PROVIDE A LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,146,400 FOR THE ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME, THE REFURBISHING OF WATER MAINS AND THE REHABILITATION OF SEWERS” the object of which is to authorize a loan in the amount of \$5,146,400 to carry out work for the roadway reconstruction programme, the refurbishing of water mains and the rehabilitation of sewers.

By-law 1405 entitled “BY-LAW TO PROVIDE A LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$245,600 TO CARRY OUT WORK FOR THE HYDRO WESTMOUNT AERIAL AND UNDERGROUND NETWORK RESTORATION PROGRAMS FOR THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY AND FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VEHICLES” the object of which is to authorize a loan in the amount of \$245,600 to carry out work for the Hydro Westmount aerial and underground network restoration programs and for the purchase of vehicles.

These loan by-laws shall come into force today.

Any interested person may consult those by-laws 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 April 5th, 2011.

Mario Gerbeau
City Clerk

Cooking with Love for Maimonides



Local kitchenware shop Wilfrid & Adrienne, at 4919B Sherbrooke St., is selling Cooking with Love, a cookbook whose sale proceeds support the Maimonides Geriatric Centre. Pictured above are retail assistants Amanda Simpson and David Hutman, who along with the rest of the staff have sold over 200 copies. At a cost of \$50, Cooking with Love features 150 recipes from Montreal's "finest cooks." The store also contributed to the production of the cookbook by lending some of its kitchenware for the photographs.

Photo: Lauren O'Loughlen

Edgehill party broken up

About 20 youths "were sent on their way" March 26 outside a house on Edgehill Rd. near The Boulevard, Public Security officials said. The noisy group was apparently leaving a party at about 11:30 pm.

The father of the young host told officers many of those who showed up had been unwelcome at what was to have been a smaller get-together, and he was reported to be "grateful" for the assistance.



Westmount Park United Church
4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W
corner Lansdowne
(514) 937-1146
westmountparkunited@bellnet.ca

Good Friday Service –
Friday, April 22nd, 3 pm

Easter Service –
Saturday, April 23rd,
4:30 pm

All are welcome
Rev. Frank Giffen, Minister
Children welcome
Come relax and enjoy
worship & warm fellowship
at WPUC.

Check out our website at:
www.westmountparkuc.org

Holy Week & Easter at St. Matthias'

St. Matthias' Church welcomes you to worship



Palm Sunday April 17

8:00am – Palm Sunday Liturgy
10:30am – Palm Sunday Liturgy
& Choral Eucharist
5:00pm – Choral Evensong
for Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday April 21

7:30pm – Pedilavium,
Commemoration of the Last
Supper, Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday April 22

12pm (Noon) – Good Friday Liturgy
with Reading of the Passion
7:30pm – Tenebrae Choral service

Easter Day April 24

8:00am – Holy Eucharist
10:30am – Easter Choral Eucharist

St. Matthias' Anglican Church
The Revd Kenneth M. Near, Rector

131 Cote St. Antoine Rd.
(corner Metcalfe in Westmount)
514-933-4295



The Parish of the Ascension of Our Lord

(Sherbrooke St. at the corner of Clarke Ave.)

Welcomes all to our Easter Celebrations!

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Wednesday, April 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Passion Sunday Weekend: Saturday, April 16 at 5 p.m.,
Sunday, April 17 at 10:30 a.m.

Holy Thursday, April 21: Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8 p.m.

Good Friday, April 22: Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 23: Sacrament of Reconciliation from 3 to 4 p.m.
Easter Vigil at 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 24: Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord at 10:30 a.m.

We invite all parishioners, former parishioners and visitors to join in celebrating with us this Holy Season.

Msgr. Sean Harty, Parochial Administrator

Rev. Patrick Donnelly, Associate Pastor



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WESTMOUNT



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WESTMOUNT



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N.D.G.



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Asking \$2200/mth

514-937-8383



www.mcguiganpepin.com



Bought & Sold: Real estate transferred since February 17, 2011

Address	Price	Evaluation	Buyer	Seller	Date
157 Edgehill Rd.	\$2,850,000	\$3,420,000	Tasa Holdings Inc.	Helen Olesker	23-Feb
64 Belvedere Rd.	\$1,950,000	\$1,888,900	Patrizia Ciancotti & Odile Cloutier	Carmen Zuckerman Robinson	28-Feb
777 Upper Lansdowne Ave.	\$1,515,000	\$1,359,700	Vita Scalia & Houssam Assaf	Monica Wolf	01-Mar
4350 Westmount Ave.	\$1,250,000	\$1,161,700	Robert Nelson	Bill Kyres	10-Mar
642 Murray Hill Ave.	\$1,100,000	\$1,330,300	Paul Keleny & Anuja Singh	Michael Wilson	09-Mar
437 Mount Pleasant Ave.	\$1,040,000	\$1,060,700	Sophie Savoy & Louis Crevier	David Lank	28-Feb
457 Clarke Ave.	\$1,000,000	\$775,500	Sandrine Hyenveux & Stéphane Garcies	Natalie Couet & Richard Lamer	21-Feb
57 Windsor Ave.	\$1,000,000	\$1,005,000	Michael Paquette	The MC Trust	11-Mar
383 Prince Albert Ave.	\$950,000	\$862,600	M-A. Novy & P. Mancini	Takashi Seida	02-Mar
384 Metcalfe Ave.	\$930,000	\$844,100	Adam Gavsie & Hope Seidman	Jean-Pierre Slakmon & Diane Kalyta	01-Mar
426 & 428 Grosvenor Ave.	\$850,000	\$840,400	John Kreuzer & Sandra Carvalho	Jean Bedard & Gloria Di Francesco	17-Feb
417 Mount Stephen Ave.	\$750,000	\$761,300	Dorith Toledano	Estate of Esther Goldenberg	11-Mar
373 Claremont Ave.	\$600,000	\$540,200	Benoit Moreau & Geneviève Higgins	Stephen Morse & Margaretha Zuur Deeg	21-Feb
536 Lansdowne Ave.	\$510,000	\$548,300	9160-3100 Quebec Inc.	Fred Chano	11-Mar
18 Weredale Park	\$487,069	\$550,100	Mohamed Jamali & Tatiana Demtchenko	Christ Church Cathedral	02-Mar

Real estate, on average

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

	April 5	March 1	Feb. 1	Dec. 1	Nov. 2	Oct. 5	Sept. 1
Semidetached on the flat	\$826,667 (3)	\$925,000 (1)	\$640,000 (1)	none	none	947,500 (1)	\$547,500 (2)
Semidetached, Mid-Westmount	\$1,020,000 (5)	\$950,000 (1)	\$1,239,222 (9)	\$1,171,750 (8)	\$1,220,000 (1)	1,159,333 (3)	\$1,183,965 (12)
By type							
Detached	\$2,105,000 (3)	\$2,483,333 (3)	\$1,729,621 (4)	\$2,290,000 (3)	\$1,371,000 (5)	\$2,530,000 (4)	\$2,064,545 (11)
Semidetached	\$947,500 (8)	\$937,500 (2)	\$1,179,300 (10)	\$1,171,750 (8)	\$1,220,000 (1)	\$1,106,375 (4)	\$1,093,041 (14)
Townhouse	\$775,000 (2)	\$812,400 (5)	\$722,333 (3)	\$903,000 (5)	\$722,667 (3)	\$658,250 (4)	\$875,136 (11)
Duplex/triplex (1 unit)	\$445,690 (3)	\$424,300 (3)	\$373,125 (8)	\$540,000 (2)	\$475,833 (6)	\$415,150 (8)	\$476,938 (8)
Condo	none	\$617,500 (2)**	none	\$573,650 (6)	\$527,000 (1)*	none	\$720,000 (4) ***
Commercial	none	\$24,100,000 (1)	\$1,519,167 (3)	none	\$1,200,000 (1)	\$4,000,000 (1)	\$3,000,000 (1)
Land	none	none	\$3,700,000 (1)	\$150,000 (1)	none	none	none
By area (excl. commercial and land)							
Upper Westmount	\$2,105,000 (3)	\$3,550,000 (1)	\$1,573,317 (1)	\$3,800,000 (1)	\$1,371,000 (5)	\$2,310,000 (2)	\$1,497,000 (5)
Mid-Westmount	\$937,500 (8)	\$1,038,738 (8)	\$1,403,180 (12)	\$1,115,267 (15)	\$909,333 (3)	\$1,065,615 (13)	\$1,277,003 (31)
On the flat	\$741,767 (4)	\$688,333 (6)	\$681,500 (8)	\$593,988 (8)	\$673,667 (6)*	\$506,675 (4)	\$855,208 (12) ***
All transactions	\$1,118,805 (15)	\$2,505,619 (16)	\$1,284,839 (25)	\$1,017,236 (25)	\$939,063 (16)	\$1,224,985 (20)	\$1,146,692 (49) ***
Average price/evaluation, arithmetic	1.02	1.08**	1.45	1.23	1.35*	1.34	1.28***
Average price/evaluation, \$ weighted	0.99	1.04**	1.41	1.27	1.22*	1.31	1.26***

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

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

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

*** Excludes condo transaction at \$1.

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

Electronic *Independents* available

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¹This is not intended to solicit properties currently for sale by a broker. Offer expires June 1st, 2011. ²Subject to certain conditions. Moving executed by Meldrum The Mover Inc., (member United Van Lines) ³Administered through Ogilvy & Ogilvy and underwritten by Aviva Insurance.

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Lacasse's fashion raised



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

In early March, guests were invited to take a trip to Egypt, and what a fashionable moment it was. The March 9 evening was a benefit for the St. Justine's hospital foundation's "Mission Égypte 2011".

The foundation's 2011 destination is Egypt, where MDs will teach sophisticated operation techniques to benefit more than 500 children waiting for medical procedures. The foundation's first mission was in Morocco.

Happily, the snowy eve was quickly left behind as the Egyptian mood started the minute one left the car with VIP valet. Guests were greeted with a warming tea called karkadé – a traditional tea made with an infusion of dried hibiscus. How exotically delicious!

In honour of the St. Justine mission, Westmount fashion designer **Yves Jean Lacasse** created pieces inspired by this an-

cient land: caftan shapes, soothing sand colours and brocades.

The show was a swirling blur of rich fabrics and cleverly-cut shapes.

Before the fashion show, party-goers enjoyed a beautiful slide show of Egypt: sunsets, streets of Cairo, archeological treasures and wide-sailed feluccas on the Nile. Then the ENVERS Collection was modeled on the catwalk by many of the doctors and nurses going on the Egyptian mission – doubly talented and doubly devoted individuals!

Noted amidst the cocktail chic crowd were model/doctors **Sylvia Abadir**, **Geneviève Côté**, **Ismael El-Hamamsy**, **Nancy Poirier**, **Mounir Riahi** and **Daniel Velasco**; nurses **Émilie Forget**, **Jacinthe Lafond**, **Catherine Mercure** and **Olivia Truong**, as well as **Dominique Hébert**, **Nathalie Ishmael** and **Laurence Vaujois**.

Award-winning Quebec actor **Michel Côté** modelled with his wife, the elegant actress **Véronique Le Flaguais**, who wore Lacasse's simple column of green brocade, a gorgeous gala gown.

The standing-room-only crowd applauded vigorously for each appearance, and the group finale of doctors, nurses and mod- *continued on p. 31*



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funds for Cairo medical mission



Cheryl Goffman and Nicole Poirier.



Nathalie Lucas and Westmount designer Yves Jean Lacasse.

.....
continued from p. 30

els brought an appreciative audience to its feet. Proceeds from the cocktail fashion event will help pay for the medical team's

transportation, as well as equipment for the clinics.



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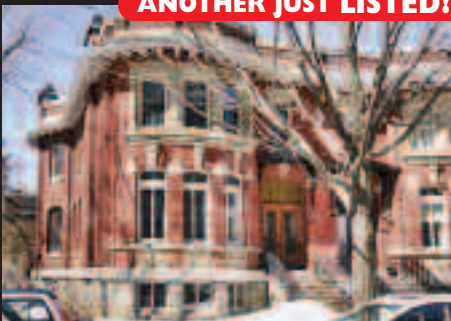
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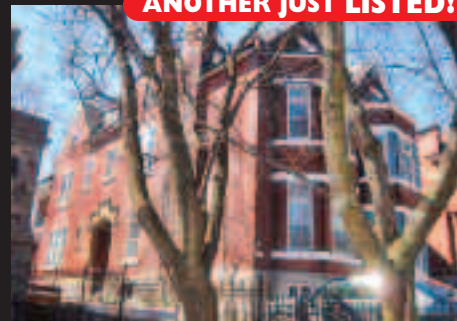
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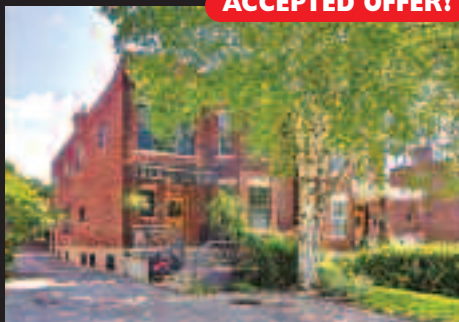
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