

## Lemay out, consortium sought

*Tenders to call for new design/build approach for arena/pool project*

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

In a surprise move, city council was slated Monday to cancel the remainder of the Lemay architectural contract, and launch the search for a consortium to complete designs and build the arena/pool complex.

The afternoon council meeting was to take place, September 19, after press time.

The new design/build approach is expected to jump-start the process that had encountered a number of delays in the

final design. It also means the chosen consortium would accept the risk of completing the project on budget.

"This is the best way to ensure we meet our \$37-million budget," Mayor Peter Trent told the *Independent* in explaining the rationale.

The "all-in-one" contractor/architect team would design and build in parallel as the work unfolds, explained project chair Patrick Martin "This should save several months on the overall schedule."

The process to find a consortium is to start immediately with the launch of "pre-qualifying" tenders to pre-select interested parties based on their experience and financial backing. Those would then be allowed to bid, likely by ..... year-end.

*continued on p. 26*

## Welcome back Roslyn



Photo: Martin C. Barry

Magic was in the air at Roslyn School on September 16, when students and their parents got together in the schoolyard for a back-to-school event. There was food, ice cream, music, inflatable games and a magic show courtesy of Ishkabibble the magician, seen here doing a rope trick.

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## Police, city await details for Sherbrooke plan

# Reserved bus lanes expected to have huge impact

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A plan to create reserved bus lanes on Sherbrooke St. during morning and afternoon rush hours will have a "huge impact" on Westmount, local police commander Stéphane Plourde told the *Independent* last week.

The plan would be implemented by the STM to help ease traffic congestion though it was not known by police or city officials whether or

not it directly related to the upcoming demolition and reconstruction of the Turcot interchange.

While details are lacking at this point, Plourde said that Cst. Steven Goldberg – the local station 12 traffic officer – had recently attended a meeting on the initiative, which probably would reduce regular eastbound traffic to one lane in the morning

*continued on p. 25*

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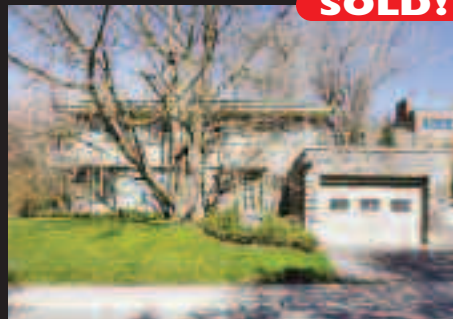
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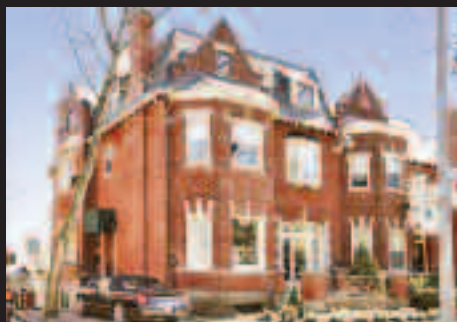
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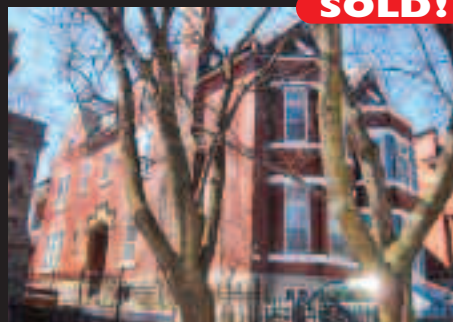
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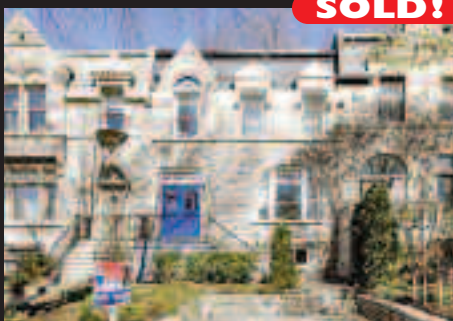
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# Educational board on the way for Summit Woods

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

An ecological information board depicting seasonal highlights of Summit Woods could be ready for installation this fall.

Designer Christina Idziak, an urban forestry consultant and former curator of McGill's Morgan Arboretum, agreed to create it for the volunteer Summit Woods Advisory Committee (SWAC), at the initiative of John Fretz, the group's founder and chair.

"It's an important element in our second step to help sensitize people to the value of protecting our urban forest as a nature sanctuary," Fretz said. The first step was the establishment of the group. The second is education.

Interestingly, Idziak, whom Fretz reached through the arboretum, had not

been introduced to Summit Woods before she met with him in June, even though she had been to Mount Royal many times. And she was immediately taken with the urban forest.

"It stood out for how natural it looks for a small area in the middle of a city," she told the *Independent* last week. "It was very quiet, and there were really nice areas looking the way they should to me. Though everyone has an idea of how an urban forest should look, I like the fallen trees – and the nice specimens."

As a result, Idziak hopes to feature, through illustrations and descriptions, the range of plants, birds and wildlife to be seen, with a special focus on the trees during the winter "which is when they really stand out. Some of the bark is so distinctive."

The large L-shaped board will consist of

two sides each measuring 30 by 40 inches, she said. The plan is to install it at an area called "Le Carrefour" – the crossroads of the main trails. One half of the board will be a permanent map with historical information. The other will be changeable seasonal panels.

As a result, it will differ from the seasonal interpretation stations installed in spring 1998 dedicated to birds.

A progress report on the new project

will be discussed by the SWAC at its meeting September 26, Fretz said.

It took more than 15 years to rebrand the Summit Park as Summit Woods last November (see November 2, 2010, p. 1). Records show that the "woods" designation had been the first of six key proposals made to city council on March 31, 1995, emanating from a meeting the same day on the urban forest and detailed in a report by then director general Bruce St. Louis.



Photo by John Fretz

Jane Atkinson of the Summit Woods Advisory Committee, left, and urban forestry consultant Christina Idziak plot the location of the new nature information board at the Summit reserve. Inset photo: In April 1998, new seasonal bird interpretation signs were installed in the Summit park.

Photo by Laureen Sweeney



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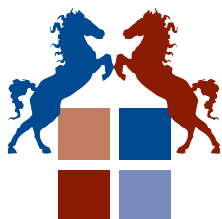
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Leaves a legacy of artwork

# Robertson drew on his love of the outdoors

A wide community of friends, tennis players and artists are mourning the sudden death, September 14, of longtime Westmount resident and athlete Doug Robertson. He was 83.

Survived by his wife Angela, he was a championship tennis player, avid skier and

hiker, as well as a former sailor, ski jumper and semi-professional musician, who only a few years ago, began turning his experiences and interests into pastel art that included everyday scenes of Westmount. (See his drawing to the right.)

His success was immediate. At his first

exhibit in July, as part of a group showing at the Gallery in Victoria Hall, he sold all he had displayed.

“He was determined to be successful at whatever he did,” said former councillor Tom Thompson who had taken classes with Robertson at the Visual Arts Centre and had spoken to him only a couple of days before his death.

Born in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, Robertson grew up in Ontario and moved to Montreal to pursue his career as a printing broker as age 23.

He set up his own graphic arts and printing business agency, D.C. Robertson Productions, moving to Westmount more than 30 years ago.

He played tennis at the Monkland tennis club for 48 years – up to three times week until last week. For more on his life, see an *Independent* profile, September 7,



Pastel drawing by Doug Robertson in June 2010.

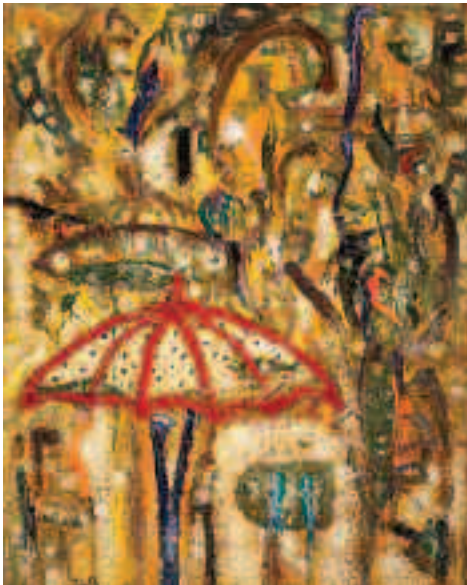
2010, p.1.

Final arrangements had not been announced by press time Monday.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## \$37M ARENA MIGHT MEAN \$52M

The *Independent* reported on the September 6 council meeting (“Mayor’s response to arena skeptics dominates council meeting,” September 13, p. 1) contained a number of inaccuracies originating from the council, which were then further skewed by distortions in reporting.

One error merits special attention. Councillor Patrick Martin is reported as indicating that the petition “Change Westmount Arena Plan” has claimed “the project would cost \$52 million.” The councillor must have been referring not to the “preamble” of the petition, as reported, but to a link listed on the petition, the YouTube video “The Arena and the Park.”

At nine minutes and 40 seconds into that video, there is a panel containing three projected estimates for the arena/pool project. Target cost: \$37 million; Below target: \$30 million; Above target: \$51.8 million.

No one has built such an underground facility in Canada before, so the video presents the three possibilities, in part because no one can fully predict the future costs of this project.

And the high estimate – \$51.8 million – is based on information from two Westmount officials.

Councillor Martin has said that council is not “allowed” such over-runs because By-Law 1397 (2010) only permits the project to reach \$37 million. However, the worst case scenario would mean that a couple of years down the road there will be cost over-runs in the middle of an incomplete project and a second by-law would be required. Such an outcome, however unlikely, needs to be contemplated now – unless one believes in a doctrine of municipal infallibility.

PATRICK BARNARD, MELVILLE AVE.

## MAYOR MUST STAND FIRM

Regarding Patrick Barnard’s arena opposition, I would ask Mayor Trent to stand firm, despite a segment of the population that is against investing in our community’s infrastructure, which will benefit generations to come.

The opponents are obviously media savvy so you must have a thick skin.

My partner and I have no children nor do we use the hockey arena or pool, yet we fully support this project, which is a result of Westmount’s forward thinking and “can do” attitude.

It would be amazing to see these opponents channel their energy into building something lasting.

JOHN EDWARDS, CHESTERFIELD AVE.

## FOCUS ON ARENA ISSUES, NOT NAME OF PARK

Concerning your article “Arena built in no name park” (September 13, p. 18), we would like to point out that no citizen has said, despite claims in council, that the south area of Westmount Park dated from 1898. That part of the park dates from 1910 when council passed By-law 221 to extend Westmount Park by authorizing the purchase of the land south of Western Ave. (now the bike path) for “the purpose of a public park.” By-law 221 gave the list of properties bought for this purpose. The list included the properties where the arena is now situated.

However, the point of this discussion is not so much about whether the arena is in a centennial park, in Westmount Park, or in a “no-name park,” but to focus far more profoundly on the broader eco-impact of a two hockey rink project on the park as a whole.

An example of this impact was given by a citizen at the last council meeting. The new arena will hold 300 seats. And of course, there will be players, coaches and staff added to this number. There will be an increase in both in cars and people that will bring noise, traffic and pollution to an already saturated park and the residential neighbourhoods around it.

Moreover, there is another very important issue: the additional parking that was to be underground and covered will now be outside and exposed in an area just off Lansdowne outside the church.

We think that energy expended on debating about the definition of the park could be much better spent looking for an alternative solution that would satisfy a much broader cross-section of stakeholders and the population.

GOTHAM HOOJA, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.  
AND MARILYNN GILLIES, MELVILLE AVE.

## ACADEMY DRAINS TO LANSDOWNE

In reference to your article in September 13 issue (“Backing up sewers to be studied and meeting held, p. 6), and specifically to comments made by Mr. David Parsons at the September 6 public meeting, all buildings on Academy Rd. are connected to a sewer that was not affected by the August 1 collapse on St. Catherine.

All drainage from Academy goes directly to the Lansdowne collector and would not have been blocked as a result.

DUNCAN CAMPBELL,  
DIRECTOR GENERAL

## SUMMER READING AT LIBRARY A HIT

I would like to send an enormous thank-you to the staff of the Westmount Children’s Library for the success of its summer reading program. As a mother of three, I can’t tell you how much I appreciated the incentives your program offered for getting my kids into the library this summer, trying new books, actually reading them and writing a bit about what they liked.

The weekly draws, prizes, mystery and clues, murals, stickers and stamps were a definite draw! I think most parents are grateful for new, creative ways to keep kids busy during the summer and your program was the perfect mix of fun and learning.

The end-of-summer party on September 10 at Victoria Hall was a tribute to the vibrant community we have here in Westmount and the dedication of public institutions such as our libraries. Great job! We will definitely participate again next summer.

STEPHANIE GARROW,  
CLANDEBOYE AVE.

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# Trent defends democratic referendum process

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Mayor Peter Trent, as president of the Association of Suburban Mayors (ASM), called on the Quebec government September 15 to change portions of a draft update to the law governing Land Use, Planning and Development – especially in allowing the creation of referendum-free zones and the need to curb urban sprawl.

The presentation took place on the last day of National Assembly hearings on Bill 58, chaired by Municipal Affairs minister Laurent Lessard, and went well, Trent said the next day.

“There were two things they found interesting that seemed to be unique to us,” he explained. One was being the only elected officials to challenge the referendum-free zones. The other was equating the linguistic issue to urban sprawl by explaining it was largely francophones who were moving off the Montreal island in search of lower taxes. As a result, the island needed financial assistance to correct the fiscal imbalance.

“Lessard said we were the first group representing elected officials to adopt a position against allowing referendum-free zones – all others applauded it,” Trent

said. “I told him that I didn’t want to remove from my citizens the right to override a council decision.”

There would have to be some tweaking to prevent a small group from doing this, however, he explained.

Allowing citizens to participate by means of a referendum about how land is to be developed, especially when it implicates residential areas, is a “fundamental” hallmark of democracy, the brief stated. Otherwise, elected officials would be empowered to do whatever they deemed ap-

propriate.

Trent travelled to Quebec City with Town of Mount Royal mayor and co-presenter Philippe Roy and was accompanied at the hearing by ASM director general Bruce St. Louis and legal advisor Marc-André LeChasseur.

On the issue of curbing urban sprawl, he asked for provision of a green belt around developed areas to prohibit further development, similar to Ontario’s Greenbelt Act that protects the “Golden Horse-shoe” area anchored by Toronto.

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## Police Beat

# Suspects still missing from Greene robbery

BY DAVID GOLDBERG

Montreal police are still looking for two suspects involved in a robbery on Greene Ave. last week, and the nearly \$40,000 that was stolen.

The incident began on September 12 at 10:20 am in front of the TD Bank at 1289 Greene Ave. A gas station employee had just parked his car and was heading into the bank to make a deposit.

"He told us that as he approached the bank, he saw two men looking at him and he had a strange feeling about them," said Constable Adalbert Pimentel. "The victim grabbed a hold of the strap on his deposit bag, placed it over his shoulder and kept going." But before he got into the bank, the two suspects attacked him from behind.

"The victim said he felt a shot to the back of the neck followed by an electronic charge," said Pimentel. "The victim and the suspects then began to struggle over the deposit bag, and he was hit a second time with the same device, again to the

back of the neck."

The second jolt caused the victim to lose control of his body, and he tumbled to the sidewalk. The suspects grabbed the deposit bag containing the money and ran off, heading east on de Maisonneuve.

"When our officers arrived on the scene, a witness told them he saw the suspects get into a red car," said Pimentel. "Minutes later, our officers spotted a car matching the description – a red Acura – and they stopped the vehicle on Sherbrooke and Strathcona."

Using their loud speakers, the officers told the driver to exit the vehicle, but the driver had a brief talk with one of the passengers, and the car sped off, going west on Sherbrooke.

Police say the driver of the suspect vehicle lost control of the car at the corner of Sherbrooke and Melrose in NDG, and the Acura hit a Dodge heading east on Sherbrooke. The Acura bounced off the Dodge, hitting a Toyota parked on Sherbrooke.

"All three suspects fled from the car and started running," said Pimentel. "Con-

stable Marco Joseph and Emmanuel Provencher tracked down one of the suspects near the Jean Coutu store at 5815 Sherbrooke. After a struggle, they managed to place him under arrest."

Arrested was a 25-year-old Chateauguay man. He had 10 outstanding warrants and will be charged with resisting arrest. Police believe other charges will follow.

The two other suspects are described as black males, 20, 5'9" and thin.

The driver of the Dodge, a 27-year-old LaSalle man, was suffering from pain to his neck and back after his collision with the suspects.

Police say the stolen money has not been recovered.

### Senior wrestles suspect to the ground

An 85-year-old Westmounter managed to wrestle a suspect to the ground after she allegedly broke into a Grey Ave. home and also into his car.

Police got a call for a home alarm that was activated on Grey Ave. shortly after noon on September 1. When they arrived on Grey, just north of Sherbrooke, they saw an elderly man lying on top of a woman.

"The victim, an 85-year-old man from Westmount, told police he had approached his car and found a woman sitting in the front seat," said Constable Peter Mandelos from station 11 in NDG. "When the victim got to his car, the suspect tried to run away. The two got into an altercation, and the suspect bit the man on the hand, but after a short scuffle, he managed to sit on top of her, holding on to her hands."

The victim yelled for help, and a passerby called 911.

Meanwhile, the other officers responded to the original call for the alarm, and were told that a woman had broken into the home. After getting a list of what was stolen, they checked the suspect's backpack and found some of the items, including jewellery.

"The suspect had a strong odor of alcohol, and we also found three empty liquor bottles in her backpack," said Mandelos. "In fact, she was so inebriated that at one point she asked one of our constables, 'Do you sell coke?'"

Arrested was a 33-year-old woman, who lives downtown. She has been charged with breaking and entering, breaking into a vehicle, possession of stolen goods and assault.

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Secondary I  
Admissions Testing  
Oct. 5, 12, 19 & 26



# Dawson inaugurates peace garden in memory of 'o6 shooting



Photo: Djelloul Meziani

Dawson students, as well as Anastasia De Sousa's parents, look on as the Peace Pole is presented to the Dawson College Ecological Peace Garden by a representative of the World Peace Prayer Society at the United Nations. The pole is inscribed with "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in six languages.

By VERONICA REDGRAVE

A commemorative ceremony on September 13 marked the inauguration of Dawson College's ecological peace garden to remember the victims of the Dawson shooting that took place five years ago to that day.

The garden is described as a living memorial to Anastasia De Sousa, who was killed in the attack, and also as message of peace and an example of biodiversity in an urban setting.

The dedication was attended by the Dawson community and invited guests, members of the Montreal police, staff from Urgences Santé, the McGill University Health Centre and Jean Trudel, president of Cercle du Paix.

The hundreds of bouquets left at Dawson's doors after the September 13, 2006 shooting rampage were gathered at that time, made into mulch and now have been dug into the earth under the flowering almond tree, donated by the Montreal police in memory of De Sousa. The tree was strewn with pink ribbons for the event – De Sousa's favourite colour.

The emcee of the event was Bruno Mital, chair of Dawson's board of gover-

nors. He introduced Richard Filion, director general of the college, graduate Charles Brenchley and current student Audrey Deveau.

A highlight of the moving event was when Algonquin chief Dominick Rankin and his companion and apprentice medicine woman Marie-Josée Tardif presented the CEGEP with a white eagle feather. They had travelled around the world with the feather and prayed with others to give it "healing strength."

The tree was blessed *continued on p. 24*

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## Greene Ave. merchants prepare for sidewalk sale



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*Chez Nick's owner Rob Callard is one of the merchants taking part in the Tony Shoes owner Tony Fagnoli, middle, with salesmen Luc Pelletier, left, and Robert Brecher, right, will also be participating.*

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The merchants of Greene Ave. are gearing up for their first sidewalk sale in a long time next weekend, with hopes of holding the event twice yearly in the future.

On Friday September 23 and Saturday September 24, participating merchants will be displaying their wares outside.

They'll also be giving away recyclable shopping bags bearing the merchants' association logo and will be distributing copies of a directory listing all the association's members.



"We're encouraging all participants to do something unique for this event," said West End Gallery owner Michael Millman, who heads the association. "We're hoping at some point to turn this into a sort of cultural showcase."

All day Saturday, Greene Ave. from the parking lot near Sherbrooke St. down to de Maisonneuve Blvd. will be closed to allow pedestrians to walk freely. Musicians will be performing during the afternoon and a number of community groups will also be participating.

Since the completion of a three-year

Greene Ave. improvement project by the city of Westmount nearly a year ago, which saw parts of Greene closed for months, the merchants have been trying to catch up, said Millman.

However, ongoing changes on Greene, such as the temporary closing of the 5 Saisons grocery store and the loss of the SAQ outlet, are affecting business patterns on the street.

"We're trying to make Greene Ave. more dynamic and with a more coordinated approach," he said.

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# Running Room jogger okay after hit-and-run

By MARLENE EISNER

A woman struck by a car recently while jogging with a group from the Westmount Running Room says she is feeling better and hopes to participate in a September 25 marathon.

“I’m okay, I’m recovering, but it’s too early to say,” said 32-year-old Nazish Saleem, who suffered a concussion, lacerations to her face and a broken nose. She was running with six women along Cavendish Blvd in Côte St. Luc Sunday, September 11 and was heading back to the Running Room when a car jumped the curb and hit her from behind. The driver left the scene without stopping.

“We were running 100 percent safely,” said Saleem, who moved from Ottawa to Montreal in May to study health care management at McGill. “It was an accident. You can’t prevent them; it’s how you deal with them afterward that’s important.”

Saleem has been a member of the Running Room for years, has registered for their courses and has been with the Westmount group since the spring.

“I usually come on Sundays,” she said, to join a practice run to train for half and full marathons.

Westmount Running Room manager Chris Ochiai told the *Independent* that accidents such as the one involving Saleem

are rare.

“We don’t see many injuries, and that’s why it’s so shocking to us,” he said.

“This one, I think, was just a freak accident.”

Nonetheless, last week he sent out safety tips – such as carrying ID and a cell phone – in the Running Room’s weekly newsletter to its 1,900 members. But other measures can be taken as well.

“Black is a very popular colour with women, but this is the least visible to wear at night,” said Ochiai.

“Obviously you want to be wearing the most reflective colours and maybe even a night light that flickers. Also, the rule of thumb is to run on the sidewalk and try to be alert and to not have music. You’re there to run and keep all your senses alert. It’s nice to zone out and listen to all that nice rock and roll music, but if someone is yelling at you to watch out or if there is a predator behind you, you can’t hear it.”

Other tips include: Run in a group in well-lit areas; run facing traffic; don’t run on the road; don’t “go blindly” through a red light; and tell someone where you will be running.

“We never think of anything bad happening; it’s just naïve. These are common sense things to do that everyone knows, they just don’t follow.”

# Police to hold baked bean day on September 30

Local police station 12 personnel are organizing their annual meal of baked beans to help collect funds for community organizations in the district and to feed those in need of a hot meal.

Last year 300 meals were sold, many of which were provided to the Open Door on Dorchester and Atwater. Proceeds collected were used to buy sports equipment for Centre Greene (see story September 13, p. 9). This year the goal is 500 meals.

Organizers said that businesses or in-

dividuals wanting to participate can order meals in advance – hopefully by September 21 – at a cost of \$7 each by calling the station at 514.280.0412.

Participants should be ready to specify whether they want the meal delivered to their address on September 30 or choose to donate it. Tickets may be purchased at the station, 21 Stanton St.

Donated meals will go to the Open Door and Chez Doris.

# Garneau, cont’d.

continued from above

The fall session will be of great importance as we navigate through difficult waters. It will require the best of each of us

# Focussing on economy, jobs



## Our Man in Ottawa

MARC GARNEAU, MP  
FOR WESTMOUNT-VILLE  
MARIE

Had you asked me in June how the political landscape would appear on the eve of parliament’s resumption, I would not have anticipated certain events.

Yes, certain facts remain unchanged since parliament rose in June: the Conservative government has a majority, the NDP is the official opposition and the Liberal Party of Canada is in the process of renewal.

The economy, however, is becoming a much greater concern for Canadians as both Europe and the US struggle to control debt while trying to create both growth and employment. There is a sense that even we, in Canada, are not standing on solid economic ground and that many jobs are at risk. Flexibility and pragmatism will be necessary if the government’s growth projections turn out to be too optimistic. My sense is that they are.

While deficit elimination and debt re-

duction remain priorities for any responsible government, there must also be an intelligent approach when circumstances change unexpectedly. That will be the first true test of the current government, which, up until now, has either benefited from healthy surpluses or has been given a green light to stimulate the economy.

And yet, we know that Mr. Harper did not see the recession coming in 2008, and that he was also reluctant at first to provide any economic stimulus in order to minimize its impact. Hopefully, some lessons have been learned.

Beyond all of that, of course, the political landscape has also suffered an unexpected change following the tragic death of Jack Layton, a leader much admired by Canadians. His departure means that the NDP is now preoccupied with the search for a new leader.

Meanwhile, my own party begins the fall session with its attention clearly focused on four issues: the economy and more specifically short- and long-term job creation; healthcare and its relentless growth; the government’s ideologically-driven proposed omnibus criminal justice bill; and finally, party re- .....

continued below



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# Library's summer reading club signs off with a splash



A party was held for the Westmount Public Library's summer reading club on September 10 in Victoria Hall. Over 200 people celebrated the joys of reading at the closing party. In keeping with the club's water theme, Rag & Bone Puppet Theatre performed A Promise is a Promise, kids and adults played Jeopardy H2O and a number of prizes from sponsors were handed out, before finishing the afternoon with cake and juice. This year, 284 children participated in the club.

Photo courtesy of the Westmount Library

## Lost a wheaten terrier?

A wheaten terrier was taken to the SPCA September 7 after it was found wandering around outside 4864 St. Catherine at 9:55 pm, Public Security officials said. It was not wearing a licence or any other form of identification.

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## Saba recognized for advancing dentistry



Dr. Sebastian Saba

Willow Ave. resident Sebastian Saba was recently recognized for his contributions to the advancement of dentistry, volunteering and clinical publications by the International Association of Dentists.

A graduate of the faculty of dentistry of McGill University, Saba specialized in prosthetic dentistry at Boston University. He is scheduled to appear in the 2012 edition of *Leading Physicians of the World*.



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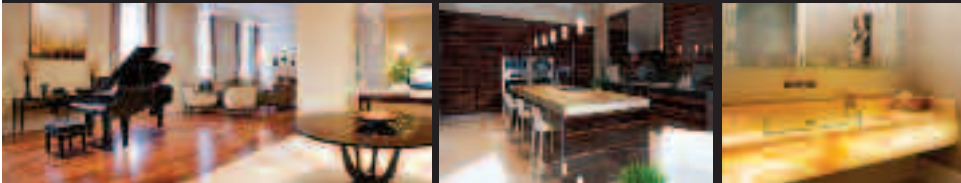
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Westmounters get ready for Fulford fundraiser on Sept. 21



Westmounters serving as directors on the board of Fulford House were at work on the fundraising gala and silent auction to take place Wednesday, September 21 between 6 pm to 9 pm. Hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and music were planned for guests, who could mingle in the garden and on the front balcony. Tickets cost \$125 and are available at the door. Proceeds will go to continue the restoration of the historic house. The Fulford Residence, located at 1221 Guy St., is a private, not-for-profit home for senior women, providing appropriate levels of autonomy, security, activity, comfort and spiritual solace. From left, top to bottom: Alan Greig, Mary Jane MacDonald, Arnold Sharp, Judy Heathcote, Sheila Robertson, Pat Kinnear, Pam McLernon, Eva Novotny, David McEntyre, Helen Wiegand, Kitty Lackenbauer and Douglas Dawson.

Photo courtesy of Andrea Ritchie



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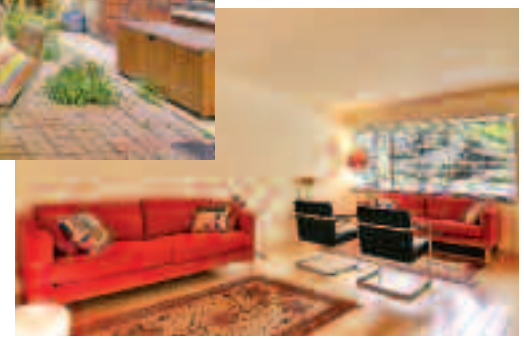
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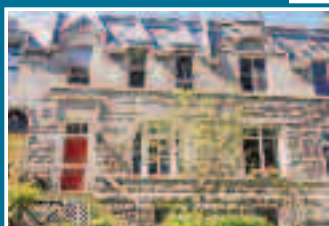


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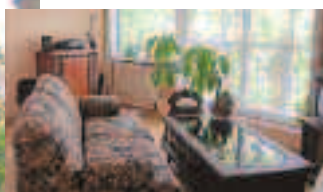
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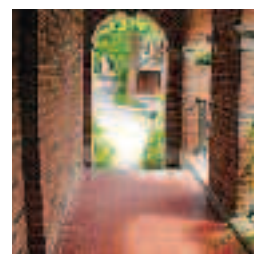
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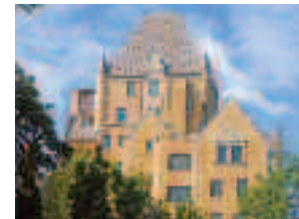


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## Adventures in urban farming

# It's time to harvest the fruit (and veg) of our labours

By MARCI BABINEAU

Now is that fleeting time of year in Canada when everything we want to eat year-round is ready to be harvested. One can find tomatoes, basil, squash, garlic, onions, broccoli, kohlrabi, cauliflower, beets, potatoes – all available in mass quantities. The markets are burgeoning with local produce.

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There is kind of a fever about it. I like to think the spirit of harvest recalls a time when our ancestors experienced the frenzy of picking and storing to provide for the long winter ahead. When we moved to Westmount from the southern United States 10 years ago, I remember realizing that if my family was to eat locally during the fallow months, we would have to seriously stock up in August and September.

Initially, this brought up visions of old wrinkly rutabagas in the basement during the depths of April, but I have long since made my peace with root vegetables. Canning, freezing, dehydrating, cold rooms, cold frames and sprouting were my future. If we were going to enjoy the local harvest throughout the year I would need to buy bushels of what is coming in from the fields right now to process.

Most direct harvesting is a matter of pulling the ripe fruit or vegetable off its stem or vine and getting it on to the table. It's always a bit of a surprise to see what has been growing underground with root vegetables. Invariably pulling beets and carrots leads to lecturing myself about

more vigorous thinning next spring. Potatoes are always a treasure hunt. I recently learned that parsnips could be left in the ground even after the first light snows as a way of preserving them.

Now is also the time to harvest many cooking herbs for drying and collecting seeds of your favourite plants. This should be done on a dry day before it gets too cold and the plants die back. It is best not to wash herbs, as the water will cause mold.

If you notice that the lower leaves are especially dirty, simply remove them. Then spread them out on a big open surface below a window if possible. Once the herbs are dried, remove the leaves or seedpods. Make sure that they are crispy dry before you store them away from the light to protect their nutritional value.

### Freezing vegetables

Freezing harvest is easy and if done properly can retain much of the nutrition. It is a particularly good way to preserve low acid vegetables, such as greens, broccoli, cabbage, green beans, squash, leeks, pumpkin, herbs and peppers, for example.

Most freezing is done by a process of "blanching" the vegetable (briefly putting



*A harvest at its best.*

it into boiling water, then cooling it – times vary with each different vegetable), putting it into a container for freezing and labelling it. Food is good for several months this way and can be pulled out and used for things like soups and casseroles with great success.

Canning and cold room storage are a little more like a science experiment and must be approached more methodically. The best way to learn this is to watch over the shoulder of someone who cans every year or reading up about it.

Whatever you decide to do with your harvest, be sure to enjoy it and rest assured you will be walking in the well-worn footsteps of our ancestors.

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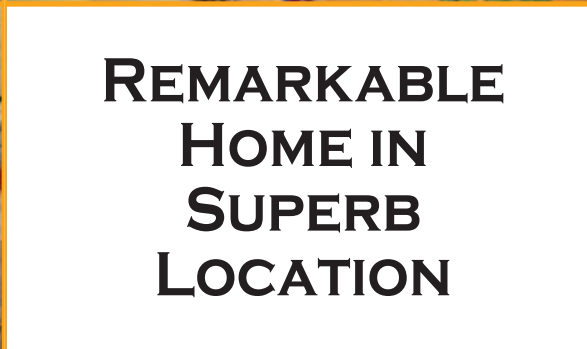
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# Off the streets, out of the alleyways



*The Underdog Club*

KRISTIN McNEILL

One might think that a dog living off the streets would be tough and resilient. Not so Jasper. He was found by a kindly woman after weeks, maybe months, of

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wandering the gritty alleyways of downtown Montreal. Likely he was surviving off dumpster scraps for some time because when he was finally vetted, he was half the weight he should have been at his young (puppy) age.

This mastiff, maybe even a purebred, is now off the streets, but is seeking either a foster or a permanent home. He weighs a much healthier 100 pounds and is thought to be about one year old.

Not only was he homeless, but it is thought he was badly abused. He has burns on his belly, and he is just now learning he doesn't need to be cowed by a simple touch. And he has been recovering from his state of near emaciation.

But, whoa is this guy is needy! Now that he has regained some love and trust in humankind, he can be on to you like a fly on sticky paper. But Reach for the Stars rescue has been diligently teaching him the basic commands, including the "stay" so that his new owner won't constantly have a small pony in her shadow.

The best foster home would be one that includes a man. Jasper needs a healthy male influence in his life, so that he can learn not all men are abusers. He needs someone who will be consistent and re-

laxed but experienced in dog training. From what this guy has been through, one can't ask too much of him. He can't handle the pressure. Despite his humongo size, Jasper is ultra submissive and needs to regain some confidence.

A simple outreach of the hand to pet him, and he gets the message. The next thing you know, he's in your lap.

Jasper has a sweet disposition, is as eager to please as the best brown-noser you ever did know, and is good with cats and other dogs (even pet rodents) as long as he is not constantly dominated.

This guy, who acted like an old-man dog when he was first rescued, is now embracing his once lost puppy-hood and is a big, bouncy boy. He just needs a loving and relaxed home in which he can thrive and forget his days on the streets.



Jasper

Photo: Antonina Cagara

To know more about Jasper, please email Reach for the Stars rescue at [reachforthestarsrescue@gmail.com](mailto:reachforthestarsrescue@gmail.com). Oh yeah, if you have a laptop to donate, this rescue could use it. The underdogs thank you.

Visit more underdogs at [www.underdogclub.org](http://www.underdogclub.org)

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## Dog on the loose – four times in a week

The owner of a freedom-loving cocker spaniel was issued a \$75 ticket September 11 after its fourth escape from a house undergoing renovation on Rosemount Crescent, Public Security officials said. While the dog was not wearing a collar when found by a pedestrian on Grove Park, it was no stranger to officers.

The spaniel had already spent two hours at the station on its first recorded escape a week earlier, September 4, when it was spotted by PSOs at Clarke and The

Boulevard. Unlicensed at that time, it was eventually sent to the SPCA in the hopes its unknown owner would claim it.

This obviously occurred, since two days later it was again picked up by officers after being found on Severn by a resident. The owner subsequently obtained a dog licence the same day. And on its third escape, September 8, its safe return from Montrose and Mountain was hastened by the tag it wore. By the fourth run about town, the dog was already well known.



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# Westmount Park School students deliver thank-you to police, firefighters

By JODY WILSON

The trip up to station 12 came about as an extension to our class discussion on the events of September 11, 2001.

I was shocked to learn that more than half of my class was unaware of what this day even represented. My students are in grade 6, so their ages range from 10 to 12. They were just babies when this occurred, so it was eye opening for me to see this through their innocent eyes.

We had a class discussion on the Friday before, September 9, and watched a wonderful short video from a children's web site in the UK, which explained the September 11 events in cartoon format in a way that was easier for kids to understand. (Let's face it, even as an adult, I find the events hard to comprehend!)

Then we watched another video done by students from a high school within our school board that had real footage of the towers falling, as well as the firefighters and police rushing to rescue people.

I could tell it really touched a lot of the kids, and I encouraged them to go home and speak with their parents about it and watch more coverage.

When they returned to class on Mon-

day, we discussed it some more, and I suggested writing to the firefighters and police officers here in Westmount to thank them for what they do every day to make us feel safe. (I had found this idea on a website from the US.)

I was able to incorporate a letter-writing lesson into the assignment, in which the students expressed their appreciation for the men and women who work in this field. The letters were mainly thanking them for being brave and risking their lives for us, as well as a few students expressing their desire to go into the profession when they were older.

Our walk over to Stanton St. on September 14 went really well. The kids met with two police officers, Joanne Matte and Jean LaForce and a representative from the fire department. The kids were invited to sit in the fire truck and have a look around the fire house.

The officers and firefighters seemed touched by the gesture, and the kids were thrilled to be there.

I would like to make this an annual activity in my class, maybe delivering to different stations in the city. It is unfortunate that it took a tragedy like 9/11 to bring about this recognition, but it was a gen-



Westmount Park School students paid a visit to station 12 police and the fire station on Stanton St. on September 14, delivering letters to thank them for their public service. Photo courtesy of Westmount Park School

uine sentiment felt by all students. My hope is for the students to be more aware of what this date will forever mean in our

history.

Jody Wilson is a grade 6 teacher at Westmount Park School

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## Man drives onto church property

A public safety officer managed to stop a motorist driving west on Sherbrooke September 11 when he drove up on the sidewalk and grass of the Church of the Ascension of Our Lord and onto Kitchener at 11:50 pm. The man was described as being confused and disoriented and possibly on some sort of medication, Public Security officials said. Urgences Santé was called and transported the man, a 30-year-old resident of St. Luc sur Richelieu, to hospital.

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# Indie's sister paper Free Press turns 2



From left, Free Press editor David Goldberg and chief reporter Isaac Olson at the paper's offices, September 9.

Photo: Westmount Independent

The Free Press, a Westmount-based, free-distribution newspaper, turned two last week. It originally targeted NDG only, but has been distributed in and covered Hampstead for over a year.

The Independent and The Free Press share a parent company, Sherbrooke-Valois Inc.

"In two years, the Free Press has become firmly entrenched as an important and valued voice in both NDG and Hampstead," said editor Goldberg. "We have had a lot of positive feedback from our readers, who tell us they appreciate our fair and balanced reporting, and we plan to continue and grow as the years go on."

The Free Press distributes over 15,000 copies per issue. Hot topics in the first two years have been what to do with the old Empress theatre on Sherbrooke at Girouard, Hampstead's first condominium building (which is going ahead, but has yet to be built) and graffiti, including a law to fine owners for not cleaning it up that is currently under discussion for NDG and Côte des Neiges.

"The Free Press targets two evolving West End communities: NDG and Hampstead," said publisher David Price.

"Our newspapers are in English, so we are often asked about linguistic demographics. Many people don't realize that there are more anglos in NDG (30,000) than there are residents in Westmount (20,000). And the allophones of NDG are another 15,000 people. Income-wise and linguistically, Hampstead is a smaller version of Westmount.

"At The Free Press, we work the way we do in Westmount: intensive, truly local coverage and high quality distribution.

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# Dawson peace garden

continued from p. 9

by the Dalai Lama while he was in Montreal.

Chris Adam, a teacher in the community recreation and leadership training program at Dawson, who had the idea of the garden, spoke eloquently about gardening, which he described as “an act of love and caring,” as did Nicolas Lemieux, a student in the program.

Deborah Moldow, representative of the World Peace Prayer Society to the United Nations, arrived from New York to present a peace pole, inscribed with “May peace prevail on earth” in six languages.

Visitors touring the garden witnessed the mixture of native plants, grasses and flowers accented by large cedar bushes donated by Westmounter Tom Nacos’ Restaurant Group.

A moment of silence was observed at

12:41 pm in memory of De Sousa.

Among the politicians who attended were Mayor Peter Trent; MP Marc Garneau; Line Beauchamp, Quebec’s minister of education and deputy premier; Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay and Côte des Neiges city councillor and Helen Fotopulos.

## Free Fire!

In her capacity as board chair of KANPE, a charity committed to re-building Haiti “one village at a time,” Westmounter Dominique Anglade is organizing a free outdoor Arcade Fire concert at Place des Festivals on September 22. The show is a part of Pop Montreal. KANPE sold VIP passes to support its work in Haiti. The word kanpe means “to stand up.”

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## Comin' Up

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- **The Good Neighbourly Communications Committee** meets from 7 pm to 8:30 pm at 5100 de Maisonneuve. The date was changed from the previously scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 13.
- **Tumbling Tots** at Centre Greene: An indoor playground for parents and children under 5. Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11 am. Cost: \$3.50 per morning drop-in. Coffee and snack provided.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- **Greene Ave. merchants are having a sidewalk sale.** Also on Saturday, September 24.
- **Pedagogical day** at Centre Greene from 8 am to 6 pm. Activities include sports, arts and crafts, games and outings. Snack provided. Pre-registration and minimum enrolment required. Reserve: 514.931.6202.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- Guided tours of the **Hurtubise House** (563 Côte St. Antoine Rd.), between 11 am and 4 pm. Also Sunday, September 25. Free. Information: 514.989.5219. The 30-minute tours are organized by the city of Westmount and the Westmount Historical Association in association with the 2011 Montreal Architectural Heritage Campaign.
- **Centre Greene Café** opens today. Home-made soups, snacks, coffee, tea and hot chocolate served at reasonable price.
- Montreal Press Club presents **Jay Tunney**, journalist and author of *The Prizefighter and the Playwright*, from 4 to 6 pm in the auditorium of the Atwater Library. 1200 Atwater. Reserve: btreserve@gmail.com. Free.
- Author **Peter Behrens** will read from his new book *The O'Briens* at 3 pm at the Westmount Public Library.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Learn about the **potential impacts the new MUHC hospital** will have on surrounding neighbourhoods, 7 pm at 5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd. Organized by the Concertation Interquartiers, NDG Community Council, Westmount Municipal Association and Solidarité St. Henri. Info: Sarah Hrdlicka at 514.484.1471 or organiser-sarah@ndg.ca.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

**Seniors' luncheon** at Centre Greene served at 12:15 pm. Cost: \$5. RSVP 514.931.6202.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

“The new librarian and the social media” by journalist and radio host **Anne Lagacé Dowson**, 12:30 pm at Atwater Library. 1200 Atwater. Free; donations invited.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Westmount-based **VivaVoce** presents “Dinner with the Dukes of Bavaria with La Rose des Vents,” 7:30 pm at Redpath Hall, McGill University (3461 McTavish St.). Cost: Regular \$30; age 65 and up \$25; students \$10. Subscriptions and group rates available. Info: 514.489.3739 or Admissions at 514.790.1245, or www.admission.com.

Valerie Aitken, president Chateau Ramezay Guides Association, invites anyone interested in becoming a guide for a living-history school program, weekend guiding or group tours for students/tourists to take a nine-week training session that begins on Thursday, September 29. For more information, contact Leslie Brooks at 514.761.2469 or email info@chateauramezay.qc.ca. Several Westmounters were guides or presidents of the English Guides Association in the past.

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# Bus lanes

continued from p. 1

and apply similarly to the westbound flow in the afternoon.

With traffic already backing up on Sherbrooke at peak times, this could shift traffic to other streets such as Côte St. Antoine, Plourde said. "It's complicated." The alternative, he added, "is for people to take the bus."

City director general Duncan Campbell added a host of other ways in which the change would affect Westmount. He hoped there would be financial assistance.

These involved traffic lights, parking – hot zones such as outside the Y and in the commercial districts – as well as garbage collection and snow cleaning priorities.

While timing of the change is also up in the air, Campbell said: "If it's to do with remedial plans for Turcot, it will be sooner rather than later." Plourde suggested it might be "on the radar for next month," while Public Security director David Sedgwick said he understood it would be in effect by year end.

The city has referred the issue for study by the Genivar consultants preparing the city's master traffic plan.

## School fire drills to start Sept. 19

Evacuation drills at many Westmount schools and daycares will begin September 19, fire prevention chief Sylvain Jalbert announced last week. While not all institutions will be covered, he expected a large number would.

This coincides with the launch of this year's Fire Prevention Month, the second year that an entire month has been dedicated to the subject by the Montreal agglomeration. During this time, Fire Prevention Week will be marked nationally and provincially from October 9 to 16.

This year's theme for the month-long activities focuses on the importance of families maintaining an evacuation plan in addition to a functioning smoke detector.

A video explaining how to prepare and practice a home evacuation plan may be seen on the fire department's website at [www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/sim](http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/sim).

A contest for elementary school children to draw an escape plan from their home can be viewed on the same website by clicking on "Mois de la prevention."

– LS

# Verdun office continues to cover fire prevention in Westmount

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Eyebrows were raised at the city council meeting September 6 over the fact that fire prevention in Westmount is run out of a base in Verdun – despite its move there three years ago, as reported at the time by the *Independent* (see November 25, 2008, p. 1).

The subject was brought up when Maureen Kiely, a resident of The Boulevard, stated she had just learned that the "community relations officer" covering Westmount for the fire department worked out of Verdun. "Have we lost some people?"

Mayor Peter Trent asked city director general Duncan Campbell to look into it. Campbell said his counterparts had asked that a fire inspector "show up once a year" at a council meeting. It was pointed out that police commander Stéphane Plourde attends almost all of them.

Fire prevention chief Sylvain Jalbert, who has been in charge of the section covering Westmount since the departure of prevention chief Daniel de Vries in 2008, told the *Independent* last week that little had changed since the restructuring that moved the prevention arm to Verdun. This happened as part of the move of the fire department's south region's headquarters into the Stanton St. offices (see March 5, 2008, p. 1).

Fire inspector Benoit Choquette was continuing to cover Westmount, where he had previously worked under the direction of de Vries. The department, however, never did have a community relations officer.

Asked about fire inspectors attending city council meetings, Jalbert said this was the first he had heard of it. But if there were to be fire department representation,

it would not be from his group.

Jalbert's inspection team of nine is responsible for the combined area of Outremont, Westmount and the southwest areas of Montreal. These include St. Henri, Ville Émard, Verdun and Nuns' Island.

In a co-operative city-sponsored program with Westmount's Public Security Unit, the fire prevention section has just completed a summer smoke detector program, he noted. This involved homes and apartment buildings in the southern half of Westmount (see September 13, p. 1).

## Wires in bathroom ceiling the cause of Argyle fire

The fire that broke out at 448 Argyle September 8 was caused by electrical wires in the ceiling of a bathroom in the upper of two condominiums in the grey-stone, fire officials said last week.

The next day, fire prevention personnel went door-to-door in the neighbourhood advising residents of the importance of maintaining functioning smoke detectors, explained fire prevention chief Sylvain Jalbert. He said he had not yet learned whether or not firefighters had found detectors ringing on their arrival at the fire.

The door-to-door visits are fire department procedure for fires involving a second-alarm fire or more. The Argyle incident was a third alarm. No one was home at the time and a dog was rescued by Public Security (see September 13, p. 3).

– LS

## Contractor ticketed for blocking street

A contractor was issued a ticket for \$267 September 12 for blocking two lanes of Aberdeen with gravel pallets, a tractor and other building items, Public Security officials report.

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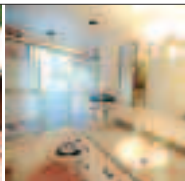
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# Arena/pool project

*continued from p. 1*

Much of the design work has already been undertaken by Lemay & Associés, and most of the \$1 million in additional architectural fees voted by council July 4 would now be applied to the work of the winning consortium, he said.

The Lemay contract contained a cancellation clause, he pointed out, and “we’re parting on good terms.”

This will enable the contractor to begin construction in parallel with completion of the detailed drawings for the later stages of construction, according to Councillor Patrick Martin, project chair.

The design/build process was used recently with success by Côte St. Luc in the construction of its indoor pool complex, Trent said. It is also supported by the Genivar project managers.

“It’s a way of dealing with concerns expressed by a number of people – including many in favour of the project – who worry about possible over-spending.”

The project’s \$37-million budget remains unchanged. It provides for actual construction costs of some \$30 million augmented by fees, taxes, contingencies and other items. It is to be offset by a \$20-

million government infrastructure grant, a \$5-million fundraising campaign and \$12 million in financing over 10 years.

## Work starts soon on new arena’s water/sewer lines

“The shovel will soon be in the ground to launch construction work for the Westmount Recreation Centre,” according to arena/pool chair Patrick Martin.

This is the city’s Public Works’ project planned for late October to install the water and sewer lines for the new facility. The Public Works tenders are now in the process of being launched. The installations are required to replace those currently running beneath the existing arena.

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## City design group chaired by Gersovitz

A “strong” city design committee will oversee the new design/build approach for the arena/pool facility, Mayor Peter Trent said.

Set up a few months ago, this committee meets weekly, chaired by architect Julia Gersovitz, the former chair of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), who designed The Gallery at Victoria Hall and interior restoration of the Westmount Public Library, not to mention more recent restoration work of the federal parliament buildings.

Other members, in addition to Trent and arena/pool project chair Patrick Martin, are PAC chair Carole Scheffer, Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier, Genivar project manager Gilles Desrochers, city director general Duncan Campbell and Sports and Recreation director Michael Deegan.

## Break-in discovered on Belvedere

A resident of Sunnyside called Public Security September 11 to report an insecure door at a house for sale on Belvedere. A side door was found open and the window smashed. Police were called and went through the uninhabited dwelling with the owner. The only items reported stolen were power tools. The house is vacant.

## 104 for Lou



From left, Ngaire Metcalf, Lou Pacaud and Ian Metcalf.

Photo: Maggie Shaddick

Former Westmounter Lou Pacaud was back in town to celebrate her 104th at the house of friends Ian and Ngaire Metcalf. Coincidentally, the two women were covered in the same *Independent* issue (August 15, 2007, p. 5 and 8). Pacaud was being profiled on the occasion of her 100th

and Ngaire on her retirement from managing the Hospitality Corner for the Auxiliary of the Montreal General Hospital – where, to complete the circle, Pacaud volunteered until the age of 102. She now lives downtown.



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# Westmounters celebrate at new concert hall



*Social Notes  
from Westmount  
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE



Westmounters Nancy Engels and Jewel Lowenstein.

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom is continuing to celebrate its 100 years in Westmount. On September 14, a cocktail-concert fundraiser marking this occasion was held at Place des Arts before a concert in the new hall.

LBDs (little black dresses) were the order of the day, with most women wearing ladylike to-the-knee outfits – and many Chanel accessories: watches, necklaces, purses, shoes – and pearls, of course.

The centennial committee was overseen by Rabbi Leigh Lerner and had Westmounter Jewel Lowenstein as chair.

Westmounters on the committee were Rona Davis, Nancy Engels, Sheila Garfield, Vivian and Brian Grant, Martha and Mark Oppenheim, Julia Reitman, Sara Riesman,



Stephen and Lana Harper

Laurie Samuelson and Charlene Laprise Weiser, along with Sheila and Victor Goldbloom, Marilyn Green, Denise Grossman, Steffi Halton, Helen Kahn, Barry Katsof, Susan Levine, Sandy Martz, Lillian Mauer, Heidi Reinblatt, Jane Adams Rothstein, Risa Scherzer, Stephen Schneider, Lillian Shiller, Rachelle Shubert, Nancy Strohl, Susan Szalpeter, Cynthia Telio, Lillian Vineberg, Nancy Weiss, Karen Wertheimer, Elaine Paperman Woolner, Sally Yaffe and Stephen Yaffe.

Donors to the creative jewellery/music silent auction included Greene Ave.'s Lou Goldberg Jewellers, Tony Shoes, Coach House Antiques, Nicholas Hoare Books, P & P Parfums et Porcelaines, and Coral Montreal.

Some of my favourite things? Lana Harper's snazzy shoes with stylish bling toes, Bryant Schiller's Versace tie and Lowenstein's beautiful pearls.

Everyone loved the new concert hall, as well as meeting the charmingly charis-

matic Maestro Kent Nagano at the dessert reception after the performance. He related how Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco allowed him to practise on the synagogue's piano when he was a poor student living there.

The funds raised will go to support the Temple's interfaith and outreach education programs.

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## HÔTEL DE VILLE En ville sans ma voiture

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## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES La galerie du Victoria Hall

La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter une exposition spéciale des œuvres de Liselotte Fisher du 8 septembre au 1<sup>er</sup> octobre 2011. Info : 514 989-5521.

## Concert : Ensemble QAT : 1938

Le 21 septembre 2011 à 19 h 30 au Victoria Hall. Ce quatuor présente des sélections musicales de 1938 produites dans le contexte historique de la veille de la 2<sup>e</sup> guerre mondiale. Entrée : 20 \$ ; billets disponibles au Victoria Hall. Info : 514 989-5226.

## Visite guidée de la maison Hurtubise

563, ch. de la Côte-Saint-Antoine (à proximité de l'avenue Victoria) les samedi 24 septembre et dimanche 25 septembre entre 11 h et 16 h. Entrée gratuite. NB : les places sont limitées à un maximum de 15 personnes par visite. Info: 514 989-5226.



## BIBLIOTHÈQUE Rencontre d'auteur – Peter Behrens

Le gagnant du Prix du Gouverneur général pour *The Law of Dreams*, Peter Behrens parlera de son nouveau roman *The O'Briens* le samedi 24 septembre à 15 h.

## Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Littérature et humour sont au programme cet automne avec l'atelier « *Thou shall not....* », une exploration des 7 péchés capitaux à travers la poésie et la prose. Cet atelier vous permettra de vous exprimer en vers et de libérer votre créativité dans une ambiance décontractée. Prochaine rencontre : le mardi 27 septembre à 14 h. Info: 514 989-5386.

## DATES À RETENIR

### Le 21 septembre à 19 h 30

Concert : Ensemble QAT : 1938  
Victoria Hall

### Le 3 octobre à 20 h

Séance du conseil  
Hôtel de ville

## Community Newsroom avec David Johnston

Venez rencontrer David Johnston, rédacteur au service des communautés à la *The Montreal Gazette*, qui présentera le projet pilote de réseau social sur le site Web du journal. Le thème de la soirée : « Est-ce que notre français est aussi bon que nous le croyons une génération après le début des programmes d'immersion en français? », le mercredi 28 septembre à 19 h. Info: 514 989-5386.



## TRAVAUX PUBLICS Compost gratuit le 1<sup>er</sup> octobre

Du compost fabriqué à partir de feuilles mortes ramassées l'automne dernier sera disponible pour les résidents de Westmount à compter de 9 h le samedi 1<sup>er</sup> octobre 2011 aux ateliers municipaux situés à la rue Bethune, jusqu'à épuisement des stocks. Apportez-vous un contenant, une pelle et une preuve de résidence. Interdit aux camions et aux remorques. Info : 514 989-5390.

## Collecte RDD le 15 octobre

Disposez en toute sécurité de vos restes de peinture et de solvants, de vos piles usagées, de vos pesticides et autres substances dangereuses en les apportant au le stationnement de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount le samedi 15 octobre entre 9 h et 17 h. Une collecte de vêtements usagés et d'équipements électroniques usagés aura également lieu à cette occasion. Info : 514 989-5390.

## Travaux de réhabilitation d'une conduite d'eau principale

La Ville de Montréal effectuera des travaux de réhabilitation de la conduite d'eau principale située dans le boulevard De Maisonneuve entre des avenues Melville et Lansdowne jusqu'à la fin du mois de novembre. Des entraves de circulation et de stationnement sont à prévoir dans les rues adjacentes. Consultez [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org) ou [www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/chantiers](http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/chantiers) pour plus de renseignements.



## CITY HALL Car Free Day

Celebrate Car-Free Week... Visit Greene Avenue's Car-Free Zone on Friday and Saturday, September 23 and 24 for special activities, sidewalk sale, promotions, entertainment and more, including a car-free zone on Saturday. Details at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).



## COMMUNITY EVENTS The Gallery at Victoria Hall

The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present in a special exhibition from September 8<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 featuring works by Liselotte Fisher . Info: 514 989-5521.

## Concert: Ensemble QAT: 1938

September 21 at 7:30 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Four musicians present various musical pieces from 1938 produced within the context of a world on the brink of World War II. Admission: \$20. Tickets available at Victoria Hall. Info: 514 989-5226.

## Guided Tours of the Hurtubise House

563 Côte-Saint-Antoine Road (near Victoria Avenue) on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Free admission. Please note that each tour will be limited to a maximum of 15 people. Info: 514 989-5226.



## LIBRARY Author Event – Peter Behrens

Governor General Award winner for his book, *The Law of Dreams*, Peter Behrens will speak about his new novel, *The O'Briens*, on Saturday, September 24 at 3 p.m. Info: 514 989-5386.

## Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Have fun with literature this fall with *Thou shall not....*, an exploration of the 7 deadly sins through poetry and prose. Get creative in these monthly, light-hearted workshops that will get you to express

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Vol. 5/17

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## DATEBOOK

### September 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Concert: Ensemble QAT: 1938  
Victoria Hall

### October 3 at 8 p.m.

Council Meeting  
City Hall

yourself in verse. Our next session will be on Tuesday, September 27 at 2:00 p.m. Info: 514 989-5386.

## Community Newsroom with David Johnston

Join *Montreal Gazette* Communities Editor David Johnston as he explains the new social networking pilot project on the *Gazette's* website on Wednesday, September 28 at 7 p.m. The theme of the evening will be “Is our French really as good as we think it is, a generation after the start of French immersion?” Info: 514 989-5386.



## PUBLIC WORKS Free compost October 1<sup>st</sup>

Compost made from leaves collected last autumn will be made available to Westmount residents from 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 at the Public Works yard, Bethune Street, while supplies last. Bring a container, a shovel and a proof of residence. No trucks or trailers. Info: 514 989-5390.

## HHW Collection October 15<sup>th</sup>

Safely dispose of your leftover paints, solvents, used batteries, pesticides, etc. by bringing them to the parking lot of Westmount Library on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Used clothing and used electronics will be collected the same day. Info: 514 989-5390.

## Water Main Rehabilitation work

The City of Montreal will carry out work on the water main located at De Maisonneuve Boulevard between Melville and Lansdowne Avenues until late November, affecting parking and traffic flow in the immediate area. To find out more, consult [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org) or [www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/chantiers](http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/chantiers).



# Beautiful night for stargazing from Summit Circle



On the evening of September 17, the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada set up telescopes at the Summit Circle lookout. Astronomer Santiago Lopez (wearing hat) gets his enormous reflecting telescope prepared while Westmount residents Andrew Tiede (left) and his children Raymond and Tatiana get ready to do a little stargazing.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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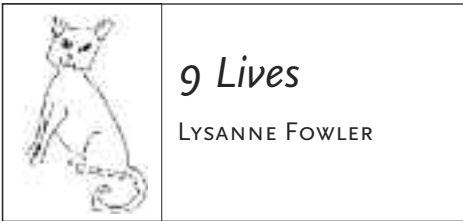
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Whisper had a difficult beginning to her life and was likely undernourished as a kitten. She was saved by Gerdy's Rescues and Adoptions when her owner passed away. She has received all the necessary care at the veterinarian's, including vaccinations and sterilization. She has been tested and is very healthy.

Whipser is a gentle little indoor-only cat though, very affectionate and quiet. She loves to curl up near people, settle on a friendly lap or play catch with a feathery cat toy.

If you would like to find out more about

Whisper, please contact Gerdy's on her pager at 514.203.9180 or email [info@gerdysrescue.org](mailto:info@gerdysrescue.org). You can also look at the adoption section of their website at [www.gerdysrescue.org](http://www.gerdysrescue.org).

Your neighbour, Lysanne



Whisper

# OPEN HOUSE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup> 2011



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## Priory starts school year with gusto



Grade 4 Priory students enter their classroom for their first day of school on September 8. Students from each grade entered their classrooms in ribbon-cutting ceremonies and then toured the school's additions, which includes four classrooms, a dedicated space for French programs, a new art room, music room, and a new and expanded gym.

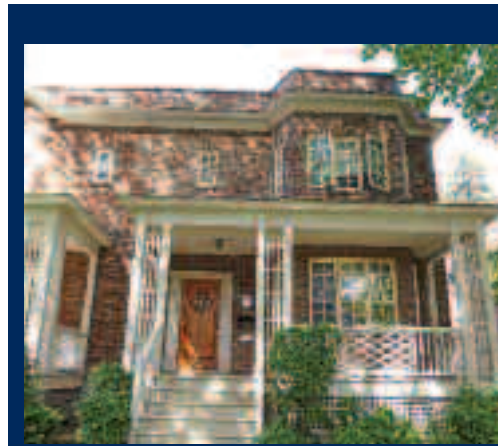
Photo courtesy of The Priory

## Car hits planter in street

A concrete flower planter that somehow made its way onto the roadway at Sherbrooke and Grosvenor September 8 was scraped by a car, damaging the vehicle along one side, Public Security officials said. The unit received a call at 7:28 am from the driver, a resident of Longueuil, reporting the incident. "For some reason, the planter was on the street where it wasn't supposed to be," explained assistant director Greg McBain.

## Man looking into cars raises suspicions

A man dressed in black was seen behaving suspiciously on Upper Roslyn Ave. September 11 at 3:42 am, Public Security officials said. A resident saw the individual walking on private property looking into cars and informed the unit. The dispatcher called police. But when it was reported a few minutes later that police were unavailable to respond, a Public Security patrol searched the area but found no one matching the description.



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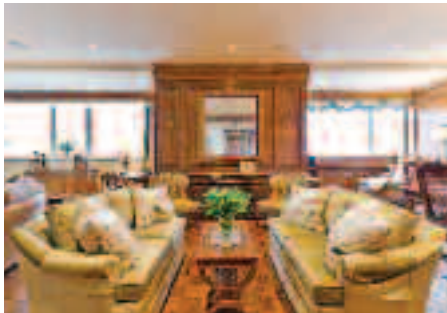
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