WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount Weekly. Vol. 6 No. 10b October 9, 2012

'Special exploratory attention' of flooding extends to Grove Park, Springfield, Summit

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Residents of Springfield and the area of Grove Park experiencing ongoing flooded basements during heavy rain will now be included among those receiving special exploratory attention, city director general Duncan Campbell told the city council meeting October 1.

While a group of Springfielders did not attend the meeting as previously forecast,

Comin' Up p. 23 Underdog BY C. LEE p. 18 Social Notes by V. Redgrave p. 24 Letters p. 6



a survey of their problems had been submitted by resident Diana Bruno by email

In updating the city's action to search for flooding causes, Campbell said the city was continuing to explore the problem by putting a camera into sewers on Irvine, Abbott and Hillside, and shortly would extend the city's focus to Grove Park and Springfield. "Also, up on Summit Crescent, a number of homes were affected by flooding," he added.

"In 2005, the city also put cameras through the continued on p. 2



Grade 11 students from Westmount High get out of the classroom and onto the streets on October 1 to harvest the edible food planters set up by the city of Westmount. See p. 7.

Social workers 'retreat' from Montreal park

Crime low but police target Cabot Sq. influence

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With reports of six break-and-enter incidents in August - one more than the previous month - criminal activity in Westmount remained relatively constant and relatively low, according to figures released recently by local Station 12.

While reports to the station of thefts from vehicles dropped from 13 in July to 9 in August, that type of incident tends to

seesaw up and down, especially when a rash of thefts occurs from cars left, often unlocked, around Summit Woods.

What the crime samplings don't show, however, is an increasing number of socalled anti-social behaviour incidents involving the homeless and other park regulars at Cabot Square on the east side of Atwater, just over the border from Westmount and resulting from loitering to the west. continued on p. 10



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Shortening of construction hours deferred a month

A proposed shortening of permitted construction hours has been delayed, probably until the November 5 council meeting, Councillor Cynthia Lulham told the Independent last week. They were expected to have been announced at the October 1 meeting (see September 18, p. 6).

The recommendations were only ready in time for presentation to the closed-door committee meeting of council October 1, Lulham explained. They stem from the complaints of many residents annoyed, in

Found pug unclaimed

A beige-coloured pug was found September 27 at Claremont and de Maisonneuve at 7:10 pm. It was kept a couple of hours at Public Security and when no one called for it, the dog was taken to the SPCA. Officers described it as an overweight female.

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particular, by construction continuing until 9 pm on weekdays.

Date of traffic meeting finally made: October 22

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After a long wait by Westmounters requesting traffic changes or new bike paths, the public meeting on the city's Master Traffic Plan will take place Monday, October 22 at Victoria Hall.

"We'd like to present you with some of the recommendations beforehand," said Councillor Theodora Samiotis, commissioner of the Environment in announcing the date at the city council meeting October 1. Information is to be posted on the city website.

Overview from Genivar

The meeting is set to start at 7 pm with an overview from the Genivar traffic consultants. This is expected to be followed by a general question-and-answer period before the session breaks into focus groups divided by priorities identified by residents in a survey mailed out to households in March at the end of the first phase of the project (see "Traffic study finds levels back to pre-Ville Marie days," March 27, p. 1.)

The meeting is the second phase, during which the city will solicit input from residents on proposed solutions to go with

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the priorities.

Recent requests on hold

Current traffic flow, signage and bike paths are among many areas that have been studied for more than a year. Requests for changes have generally been put on hold awaiting results of the traffic plan. Others judged to require immediate action have been undertaken, such as safety measures on Church Hill.

"The idea is to set a vision for the future in traffic planning," said Samiotis. Potential changes would be fit into a blueprint rather than being made piecemeal.

Flooding, continued from p. 1

system and said everything was okay," Bruno said of Springfield.

The city is looking at the feasibility of taking remedial action in some areas in 2013, Campbell said. "We'll be prioritizing what we'll be doing."

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LA RÉFÉRENCE POUR LA LITERIE

Residents call for more parking, integration of train station

City asked, got variety of ideas for sprucing up Vic Village

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Ideas abounded on how Victoria village should be developed in the future when the city asked citizens for input on updating the urban plan for the southwest sector at a meeting on the subject October 3 at Victoria Hall.

The area is bounded by Sherbrooke and St. Catherine, and Claremont and Grosvenor, described during the meeting as a "unique" neighbourhood mix of mainly row houses, apartments, small shops and office buildings.

Should the old train station become a farmers' market, centre for community events, extension of the library or even an information and historical centre? Whatever its future, most people agreed it needed to be integrated into the neighbourhood as the missing end-point to Victoria Ave. and a needed drawing card to walkability of the street.

But should it be a "destination" for others coming into the "village" or more of a venue to bring local residents together?

It was one of many points on which attendees presented different opinions re-



Jon Breslaw presents his concept for a village square during the meeting's question period October 3.

garding needs, although they generally agreed during what evolved into probably

one of the most spirited and well attended of recent public city meetings.

Many of those who spoke up from the audience of the some 60 "village" residents, merchants, business people and shoppers cited innovative ways to further harmonize the district, improve its retail viability, walkability and drawing card for young families.

Almost all agreed on the need to increase parking, integrate the train station and to set up ways for safe-guarding the district as quickly as possible against an anticipated onslaught of up to 12,000 people expected to converge on the MUHC super-hospital.

Boon or nightmare?

Would it be a boon for retail revitalization or a "nightmare" for traffic and parking, as warned by Maureen Kiely a resident of The Boulevard, whose concerns were underlined by Councillor Cynthia Lulham, the city's Urban Planning and Parks commissioner who chaired the meeting.

"This is the biggest problem facing the area, bar none," Kiely stated.

Suggestions for in- creasing parking ranged continued on p. 21





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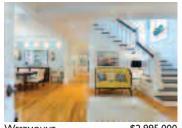
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'ZONE A' ON LANSDOWNE A TICKET BONANZA

The city of Westmount has created a restricted parking area called "Zone A" adjacent to the arena construction site on the east side of Lansdowne Ave. between St. Catherine and de Maisonneuve, which is very poorly demarcated.

To inform people that parking is restricted to Zone A permit holders, there are only two small inconspicuous signs located very high up on poles. One sign is located at the south end of the zone near St. Catherine. The second is located about 115 feet south of a no-parking sign that demarcates the north end of permitted parking to the south of de Maisonneuve.

However, a person parking in the previously unrestricted area just to the south of that no-parking sign would not normally look back, up to 100 feet, to observe a small sign located high up on a pole.

There should be conspicuous Zone A signage in the immediate vicinity of the no-parking sign that demarcates the north end of the restricted parking zone. The city designates the bike path in the same area with very conspicuous large signage and should do the same in Zone A.

The signage is so inconspicuous that it is common to see two or three cars parked at any time during the day near the north end of the area without the necessary per-

mit. People attending functions at Westmount Park Church, who have habitually parked in the previously unrestricted area on Lansdowne just south of de Maisonneuve, are being ticketed \$52 for parking there.

Because of inadequate signage, these tickets are not justified and should be withdrawn.

John Dorey, Victoria Ave.

ILLUMINATING SAFETY

Police and Westmount Public Security are to be congratulated on last week's "Operation Éclairage" on the de Maisonneuve bike path. During the operation, cyclists were stopped and reminded of the risks of riding at night without a light, noting that a high percentage of incidents are a result of limited visibility.

The officers were extremely effective because of their positive attitude in their discussions with cyclists. The officers made it clear that their main concern was the safety of the cyclists – this ensured that the cyclists were engaged and receptive.

In addition to the safety message, cyclists were given an SAAQ safe-cycling booklet, their bikes were given a safety check (reflectors, etc.) and they were offered free front and back lights. A total of 186 lights (93 sets) were installed.

The bike lights were installed by offi-

cers on the spot. This was helpful because some cyclists were unsure about how to correctly install and operate the lights.

The lights were much appreciated by the cyclists and several passing pedestrians who went home to get their bikes so they could have the lights installed.

Most cyclists were also informed that an enforcement campaign (tickets) will follow – violators will receive a \$37 ticket and lose three points on one's driver's licence.

In addition to the immediate benefits, "Operation Éclairage" will have a safety multiplier effect because of peer pressure. When a cyclist without a light passes a cyclist with a light at night, it reminds that cyclist that he is not being safe.

Good work by the authorities!

Dan Lambert, President of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association

ART WESTMOUNT A GREAT EVENT

Mon nom est Loran, artiste peintre. Pour la première fois, j'ai participé à Art Westmount 2012, le 29 et 30 septembre, à Victoria Hall.

Je viens témoigner de ce magnifique événement, mais surtout remercier tous les bénévoles et les autres invisibles du magnifique travail qui fût effectué par ceux-ci pour préparer et assister tous les artistes dans cette évènement d'envergure – quel énorme travail.

Ceci nous permettant, comme artiste, une grande visibilité, nous faisant aussi partager et rencontrer d'autres artistes de notre communauté, aussi la possibilité de faire découvrir notre démarche et notre travail.

Encore un gros merci à tous.

Laurent Ménard, Westmount Square

Abandoned dog taken to SPCA

A white dog tied outside 4421 St. Catherine near Kensington was taken to the SPCA by public safety officers September 27 after it remained unclaimed at 12:15 pm. It was reported to have been left tied without identification for two hours when officers were called to the scene at 9:15 am. The dog was described as having a curly coat, long tail and drooping ears.

City responds to blue box question from letter writer

Marina Peter, Environmental coordinator with the Public Works department of the city of Westmount, responded to the question in resident Yves L'Espérance's letter "Why aren't blue boxes picked up from both sides of street at once?" (October 2, p. 8).

She said the reason the recycling truck collects from blue boxes on one side of the street before returning to do the other side is laid down by the CSST (the workers' health and safety board) so that workers – in this case a lone person on the recycling truck – do not crisscross streets carrying the boxes. The same rules apply to regular garbage collection.

Clarification

In the food column "Chinese food cleaned up: Simple sichuan for fall," (September 25, p. 17), while it is correct that the restaurant Village Szechuan is closed, a restaurant called Red Ginger is currently located on that corner of Monkland and Decarie.

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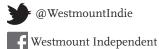
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Westmount 'not in a bubble'

Anti-collusion strategy to develop contract safeguards

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Crumbling sidewalks after 20 years, subcontractors who subcontract: all raise questions about the quality of infrastructure work, materials used and even the bidding process itself that will now go under the microscope in Westmount to ensure it is conducted "according to Hovle."

That's how Mayor Peter Trent at the city council meeting October 1 presented the need for the city to develop a strategy to

improve the awarding of contracts and protect itself against corruption and collusion (see also October 2, p. 7).

"There are a number of things we'll be looking at to try to avoid the problems in Montreal," he explained, referring to recent revelations from the Charbonneau Commission into corruption and collusion in the construction industry.

"Westmount is not in a bubble," he pointed out. The city's bids and procurement can be affected or influenced by market prices, bidding or other factors at play in the region.

While the city is hoping that anti-fraud legislation from the provincial government in Bill 35 will be strengthened by the end of the year, Trent said, at present, municipalities are required to accept the lowest conforming bid.

Even if a city wants to reject a low conforming bid, it cannot do so and issue a new tender call for another six months unless the specifications of the project are substantially changed, according to Councillor Patrick Martin, who is vice chair of

the Montreal/agglo contracts review committee, Trent noted.

At the July 3 Westmount council meeting, Martin requested the city defer a request to purchase copper cable for the electrical utility until he had more time to look into a low bid that had been withdrawn, effectively overturning a recommendation of the administration. Following his review, the bid was reinstated saving the city some \$80,000 (see August 14, p. 4).

Water meters a long way off due to cost

Westmount adopts first-ever water conservation by-law

By Laureen Sweeney

While water meters would go a long way in conserving water, their installation in Westmount is probably a long way off, it was reported at the city council meeting October 1.

"We're wasting money by wasting water," said Councillor Patrick Martin, commissioner for Public Works and Utilities, during comments leading to the adoption of a revised water conservation

by-law (see "Softened water by-law now slated for adoption," October 2, p. 10).

But, according to his calculations, installing them for all Westmount households would cost between \$6 million and \$8 million, a major capital expenditure.

Metering water entries can act to conserve water as people tend to reduce consumption when they pay by quantity used. But Quebec is "behind the world" in water meter installation and efforts to reduce water consumption, Mayor Peter Trent

Presenting statistics from 2006, he stated that in Quebec only 16.5 percent of residential buildings had meters, compared with 91.2 percent in Ontario.

Montreal's per capita consumption of water per day of 1,036 litres was far more than the national figure (including Que-

bec) of 696 litres and twice that in Ontario of 491 litres and, he said, "Ontario has meters everywhere."

During question period, Paul Marriott, of Grosvenor Ave., suggested that "Quebec was probably not so far behind" when leaking infrastructure was taken into consideration.

Edible planters harvested for Depot

Westmount High students helped to harvest planters in Westmount containing edible plants on October 1, along with Westmounter Marci Babineau, who helped start the project three years ago.

All of the food collected went to the NDG Food Depot. The yield was less this year, according to Babineau because of the dry weather and also "possibly because more people are harvesting."

Teacher Karen Kleihauer said students were excited to be part of the project,

Scooter driver injured in accident

A Westmount man hurt his right knee when he fell off a Vespa scooter while trying to avoid a large container being pulled into the lane behind 4274 Dorchester, near Bruce, September 27, Public Security officials said. The accident occurred at 7:38 am bringing out fire department first responders, Urgences Santé and police. The victim lived on Sherbrooke.

which was part of a new grade 11 course called "Ecological Choices, Health and the Outdoors." She described it as "an activitybased course where students have the opportunity to learn many practical skills based on the environment, healthy living and outdoor education."

Since the start of the school year, students learned orienteering skills that helped them complete a course on Mount Royal two weeks ago and will soon leave on a camping trip designed to teach them wilderness survival skills.

Kleihauer is keen on raising funds to build a kitchen for students to use at school, so that someday "they will be able to see the cycle from seed to harvest to their own plate!" See photo p. 1.

Newspaper accident

A car rolled onto property at 72 Belmont Crescent early September 29 when its driver left it to deliver a newspaper, Public Security officials said. Damage to a car parked in the driveway was described as minor.



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Westmount Art Scene

Hannah Franklin and Leopold Plotek: In retrospect

BY HEATHER BLACK

This month, a retrospective of paintings and sculpture by Westmounter Hannah Franklin adorns The Gallery at Victoria Hall. Similarity at Han Art, an exhibit of paintings by Montreal artist Leopold Plotek celebrates four decades of work.

Hannah Franklin at Vic Hall gallery

Over the span of her career, Franklin has turned her talent to performance, painting and sculpture. For the bronze "Ascent," Franklin reached deep into our collective unconscious.

Here, figures balance on rungs of a ladder to create an interesting juxtaposition of geometric and free shapes. Another, "Angel Dance #1," features a delicate but textured figure perched on a black-granite

For the mixed-media relief "Desert Dance," Franklin combines sculpture with painting. Created in plaster, four dancing



"Journey's End" by Hannah Franklin

figures are set within a central gold band surrounded by white panels.

The dancer is a reoccurring theme for the artist. In the work "View from Above," one soars over an upside-down photograph of a winter landscape, suggesting escape from a topsy-turvy world.

Large paintings from "The Train Series" dominate the show. The bright yellow of "Journey's End" chronicles her return to Poland from Uzbekistan following World War II, and her hope for a new life. The exhibit also features the acrylic and resin cocoon of painted figures "City People," once photographed for a cover of *Espace* magazine.

Best known for her sculptures, Franklin's work as been purchased by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and the Fine Arts Museum of Quebec. The Franklin exhibit runs until Saturday, November 3 at 4626 Sherbrooke St.

Leopold Plotek at Gallery Han Art

Painting large geometric shapes in oil on canvas, this Montreal painter's work spans four decades. Often brooding with deep mythological references, in this exhibit, many of the large canvases are lighter, brighter and more whimsical.

Painted in 1981, "Morning, Sea, Meteor" is a vibrant, red-on-red, abstract composition. Here a pale red shape surrounds a darker shape to suggest a rhythmic dance. Another "Parva Regina" is an elegant and graphic, grey and white design.

The show stopper "Corinthian Virgin," completed in 2001, is a lively yellow and gold composition set against a baby blue background. The most complex of the series, ambiguous forms suggest figures, crowns and laurels within a labyrinth of shapes. The intricate and wavy lines of "La

Down with the buckthorn



Westmounters Jon Breslaw and Anna O'Connor were hard at work October 3 on the southern side of Summit Woods as part of a team of more than a dozen volunteers who were uprooting as many common buckthorn bushes as they could find. Once regarded as an ornamental shrub, the buckthorn is now regarded as "highly invasive," and the city of Westmount's Public Works department is coordinating efforts to reduce its presence in the reserve. The volunteer activity was organized by the Summit Woods Advisory Committee and was conducted under the direction of Public Works.



"La Californie, 56" by Leopold Plotek

Californie, 56" recalls flowers, grapes and muscular forms. Painted in 2011, a burst of coral pink adds vitality and interest to the gold and black composition.

This retrospective provides an opportunity to view the masterful work of this well-known Montreal artist. Organized as a travelling exhibit, it is on display until Saturday, October 20 at Han Art, 4209 St. Catherine St., before moving on to galleries in Quebec City and Ontario.

Making their mark

These shows provide a unique opportunity to follow the progress – and twists and turns – of an artist's career. In their creations, both Franklin and Plotek reveal a deeply personal and original style that withstands the test of time.

Would you like to be a part of bettering your community? Are you interested in federal politics?

If so, make your voice heard!

The Westmount-Ville-Marie Conservative Riding Association is hosting a members only policy meeting to voice ideas in preparation for the CPC's Policy Convention in June 2013.

Join us and help shape the Canada of tomorrow! New and past members welcome.

Membership subscription available at the door (\$15 for new members)

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Webster Hall – Westmount Park United Church 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West

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Désirez-vous être actif dans votre communauté? Êtes-vous intéressé par les enjeux de politique fédérale?

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L'Association conservatrice de la circonscription de Westmount-Ville-Marie tiendra une assemblée afin de discuter de divers enjeux et propositions politiques en vue du Congrès national du Parti conservateur du Canada en juin 2013.

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Corner of Lansdowne and Côte St. Antoine now



History by the house

ANDY DODGE, CRA

The corner of Côte St. Antoine Rd. and Lansdowne Ave. was part of the St. Germain farm in the mid-19th century, purchased by Francis Dolan, who intended to develop the land and actually to have the north-south street named "Dolan Avenue," one of the first streets to intersect Côte St. Antoine, which was the original street between Montreal and Lachine.

Lot 220 reached all the way from Côte St. Antoine to at least St. Catherine St. and probably further south, before the Village of Notre Dame de Grâce was incorporated in 1874.

Dolan sold the vacant land on the southwest corner of the two streets to Robert McCready in 1876, and it appears he did nothing to develop it before he died, leaving a young family led by his wife, Catherine O'Halloran, who chose to auction off the property in 1885. The purchaser, John Hill, an architect, paid 7 cents per square foot for a total \$816.27, then immediately turned it over to William Grieg for \$860, of which \$408 was a mortgage to the McReady children with interest paid until they reached the age of majority.

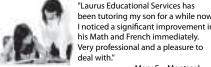
Dolan had already sold the lot to the west to Adeline Barrett, wife of David



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Crawford. Grieg bought that land back at the same time, paying 10 cents per square foot and presumably built a house there. By 1906 he sold to James Bailey a property "with the dwelling house thereon erected," but never declared an address. The price was \$15,898, a substantial price in those days.

The price is difficult to track through the early history of the house, since it was sold two years later to Mary Jane Mackin, wife of Herbert Beatty, along with a piece of land on Clarke Ave. At this point, the lot had been reduced from 11,661 square feet to 7,112 square feet, 64.25 feet along Côte St. Antoine and stretching 102.4 feet down what has now been renamed Lansdowne

Mackin owned the property only for a year and sold to William Wyman for \$12,500; four years later he turned it over to Joseph Letourneux, a merchant on Notre Dame St., for \$11,750 (the house still had no address declared on the deed).

On April 9, 1925, in a single deed, Letourneux sold his house, his store on Notre Dame St. and all the merchandise as well as five land lots in other parts of Montreal to Letourneux, Fils et Cie. for \$151,145; a year later the real estate was





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From left: 550 Lansdowne, 552 Lansdowne and 400 Côte St. Antoine.

taken over by Société d'Administration Générale and turned over to Banque Provinciale du Canada. While we are not sure what happened to the other real estate, Banque Provinciale held on to what was by now 400 Côte St. Antoine for 23 years – less 220 square feet, which was ceded to the city of Westmount to enlarge the corner.

Finally in August 1949, the bank sold the property to Emilie St. Onge, wife of Roméo Béliveau, for \$14,000, including a \$12,000 loan from the bank. Three years later continued on p. 18



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Chrétien Desmarais awarded



Westmounter Chrétien Desmarais was recognized as a member of the Order of Canada by David Johnston, governor general of Canada, at an investiture ceremony at Rideau Hall September 28. The level of "member" to which she was appointed recognizes "her tremendous support her community through her involvement philanthropic and action." There were 27 members, 15 officers and one companion who were invested as recipients into the order this year.

Photo: Ronald Duchesne

Graffiti spree hits west end

The western end of Sherbrooke St.'s markings were commercial strip was hit by an overnight graffiti spree discovered at 8 am September 30, public safety officers report. Black markings were on the north sequence of the seq

markings were found on store windows on the north side from numbers 4833 to 4945 (Grosvenor to Claremont). It was later removed.

Crime stats, continued from p. 1

In fact, police themselves lack statistics on the numbers of fights, sexual assaults, thefts and numbers of victims who fall into the silence of park life. "Because they don't call us, we don't have statistics," Plourde said. "It's like a black hole."

And why does that involve Westmount? The answer has been apparent for some time now as park frequenters spill over into the southeast sector of Westmount, on to St. Catherine, Tupper, nearby lanes and even as far as Stayner Park.

Police know, however, that the problem has been escalating and that "it's unsafe for the social workers in the park and some have had to retreat." As well, there are many complaints from nearby residents and the Module du Nord at the Y residence on Tupper, he said. Also, Public Security officials recently said they have started calling police now for many of their incidents of alcohol consumption, fights and loitering in the area.

As a result, Plourde said, the Cabot Square campaign he had announced last month (see August 28, p. 17) was launched to contain the problem to the park. "We're working on changing social behaviours. We don't want to empty the park or push the people to the east or west but to bring peace to the park."

For many there, he noted, "homelessness is a way of life. They know where the shelters are but choose not to use them."

A special team of five – four constables

and Sergeant-Detective Stéfan Bisson – has been formed as a GIL – a Groupe d'intervention locale – that police can establish to deal with a particular issue.

New officers

On the subject of police personnel, in a recent rotation of officers in the Montreal force, Station 12 lost five officers, but received eight including three recruits. These are full-fledged officers called auxiliaries because they have not yet been hired on a permanent basis.

Westmount crime samplings

	2011		2012	
Type of crime reported	July	Aug	July	Aug
Break and enter	6	6	5	6
- residential:			3	4
- commercial:			2	2
Robbery	0	1	3	2
Theft from vehicles	7	3	13	9
Theft of vehicles	1	1	1	1
Graffiti	13	6	20	6
Hit-and-run	14	10	16	10



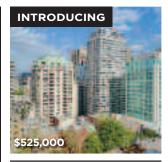
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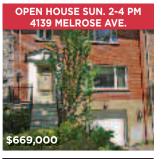
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SNC Lavalin responds to noise complaints about superhospital construction at Glen site

By Isaac Olson

Back in August, several Westmounters went before the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee to complain about the all-night noise emanating from the McGill University Health Centre's (MUHC) super-hospital project on the Glen site. On October 2, SNC Lavalin came back before that committee with a new plan to mitigate the problem.

The new approach means barring any unauthorized workers or deliveries from entering the site between 11 pm and 5:30 am, said Chantal Sorel, a vice president and project manager with the construction company. While there are occasionally projects like cement work that cannot be stopped when night falls, the gates will be closed to all workers, she said, and unless specifically authorized, work will not start before 7 am. However, after 5:30 am, workers will be allowed to enter the site to get ready for the day.

One of the strongest complaints from the August meeting came from Marilyn and Robert Moskovic, who live on the 16th

floor of a high-rise apartment building overlooking the construction project. All night long, they said, full-sized delivery trucks are pouring into the site and, without fail, reversing as early as 2 am, with the typical piercing beeping noise.

"We heard you well," said Sorel. "I can tell you, we got the message that we have to do something about the noise. So I got everybody from the management team together and we discussed this but, we have to be realistic. This is one of the largest construction projects in Canada, and it's in an urban setting. It's not a small project. So, to say we will eliminate everything is not realistic."

Sorel said trucks, between 5:30 am and 11 pm, will be required to make a full loop around the site rather than going directly to their specific delivery spot. This, she said, will greatly reduce the amount of reversing. This will last until the end of the month when, she said, a traffic light will be installed at the southeastern entrance to the site – an entrance that runs from St. Jacques St. under the 720's newly reopened eastbound/westbound exit to that

That entrance, she said, will feed all trucks directly to a delivery area on the southern side of the massive buildings. Any sound the trucks make in that area, she said, will be deflected by the buildings.

Sorel said she has stood at the northeastern-most tip of the site and listened for the sounds and, she said, the noise is not only deflected but also drowned out by the highway.

Said Westmounter Maureen Kiely, "I want was probably one of the

most vocal people in regards to noise." It was Kiely who demanded a guarded gate be installed at the site's entrances.

"I think you're at least making a deter-



to thank Madame Sorel Chantal Sorel, a vice president and project manager with SNC Lavalin, as, at the last meeting, I said her company is working to reduce noise at the Glen site.

mined effort to cool things down for everybody. It's a long project. It's going to take a long time to finish, and I am grateful for whatever efforts are made here because I know it's not easy to do."

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Overnight rail work generates Thief breaks into home with strong words from city

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Overnight work to install a third railway track west of Irvine Ave. raised ire from residents at the city council meeting October 1, as well as from Mayor Peter Trent in a letter to CP three days earlier.

David Schachter, of the Westmount

Train Action Group (WTAG), who lives at 4700 St. Catherine (the "Pom"), said he understood there were only a couple of more nights of work remaining but asked about the letter.

The situation was indeed "intolerable" Trent acknowledged, while Councillor Cynthia Lulham said the city definitely needed to speak to CP about it regarding more work "moving forward."

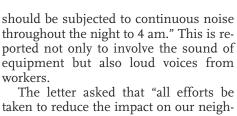
In Trent's letter dated September 28 to Randy Marsh, manager community relations with CP, he said it was "unacceptable that residents

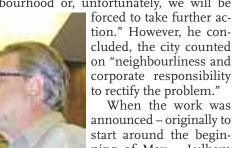
throughout the night to 4 am." This is reported not only to involve the sound of equipment but also loud voices from workers.

bourhood or, unfortunately, we will be

tion." However, he concluded, the city counted on "neighbourliness and corporate responsibility to rectify the problem."

announced - originally to start around the beginning of May - Lulham was quoted as saying CP had been told the city wanted "workers be sensitized to the fact that people are sleeping at 3 am and don't want to hear loud voices and laughter" (see March 27,





In what is described by police as a rare incident, a thief broke into a home while the residents were still inside, and stole a laptop and car keys. With the car keys, the suspect drove off with the residents' car. The break-in happened in lower West-

By Isaac Olson

mount, just off Dorchester around 11:30 pm on October 3, reported Station 12 Constable Adalbert Pimentel. It appears the residents were sleeping, he said, when one heard glass shatter. One resident looked out the window, saw nothing suspicious and went back to bed, he said.

The next morning, however, the residents discovered their basement window had been broken and their car was stolen, the constable said, noting a bicycle, which may have belonged to the thief, was left in the yard. The bike, he said, is being dusted for prints.

For now, the investigation indicates the suspect went in through the basement and up to the kitchen, where the car keys were on the table and the laptop nearby.

This, said Pimentel, is a good example

as to when an exterior light, controlled by a motion detector, may have helped. If it didn't scare off the intruder, he said, it would have at least let the resident know something continued on p. 16

Update on car-surfing incident

In the October 2 edition of the Independent (p. 13), it was reported the man who fell from a moving SUV was 19 years old. This information was obtained through various media reports as the local police department was not available as of press time.

In fact, said Constable Adalbert Pimentel of local Station 12, the car-surfer was 17 years old and, if police haven't found the Land Rover involved in the incident already, they will soon as it doesn't usually take long to track down people in cases like these.

The surfer will be ticketted for hanging from the moving vehicle and, as accident investigators dig further into the matter, the driver could face a gamut of criminal and traffic code violations.



David Schachter addresses city council. Oct. 1



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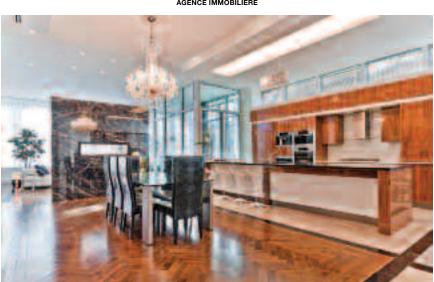
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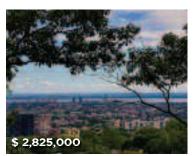


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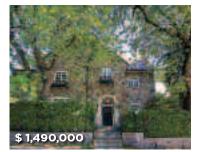
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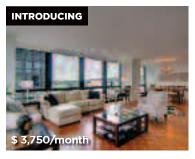
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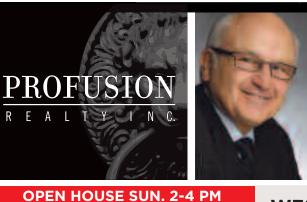


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WWCA joins local organizations in pedestrian/cycling rally

By Isaac Olson

Members of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association (WWCA) joined dozens of others representing similar interests from around the region in an awareness-building rally outside the and Montreal to work together on installing a bike path behind the MUHC-owned buildings at 5100 and 5252 de Maisonneuve. Proponents say that path would ideally connect to a bridge over the Decarie intersection. Another option, Lambert and Jochym agreed, would be to

From left: Margaret Guest, from MP Marc Garneau's office, speaks with Westmounter Dan Lambert and Derek Robertson, founder of the Alliance des Piétons et Cyclistes Sud-Ouest Montréal.

Vendôme Metro station on October 2. Their aim was to continue the fight for safe and easy travel around the incoming super-hospital.

"We're concerned about two things, really," said WWCA's Roger Jochym. "One being good, active transport access to the new hospital complex and, equally, how cyclists are going to get from Decarie to Claremont safely along de Maisonneuve." He and fellow member Dan Lambert joined hands with the NDG Cyclist and Pedestrian Association (NDGCPA) and the Alliance des Piétons et Cyclistes Sud-Ouest Montréal (APCSOM).

The hope is to inspire officials with the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC)

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close de Maisonneuve, from Decarie to Claremont, to personal vehicles and only allow buses, taxis, cyclists and pedestrians.

Beyond that, explained Jochym, the plans for the second hospital entrance from de Maisonneuve are still incomplete. (The other entrances are on Decarie and St. Jacques.) Hospital officials have said the plan is to have a tunnel connecting the Air Canada building to the metro and hospital. This entrance, which is still unfunded, would be second to the tunnel under the Vendôme train station, and

Break-in, continued from p. 13

suspicious was afoot. A house alarm, he said, should also be activated even when residents are home. Alarms, he added, can be set to go off only if a door is open or window is broken.

This was not the only break-in recently as, on September 27, a suspect entered a home through a screen door on de Maisonneuve near Prince Albert between 11:50 am and 2:20 pm. The odd thing about this break-in, Pimentel noted, is, while no person was home, there was a dog in the house, and it is rare that a thief will target a home with a dog.

In this case, a laptop computer, camera and camera accessories were stolen from the home, said Pimentel. would connect to the hospital's front plaza.

Lambert said he worries the MUHC plans to build more facilities along the entire stretch of de Maisonneuve – including the space over the Vendôme Metro station – without incorporating foot and bike traffic into the planning. However, according to MUHC officials, de Maisonneuve's future remains uncertain as planning for the area continues to develop "on the go."

Pierre Major, associate director of infrastructure for the MUHC, confirmed the hospital has been in discussion with the Société de transport de Montréal about building over the Metro station, but nothing has been decided. The same can be said about the MUHC-owned buildings on either side of the station, explained spokesperson Julie Paquet.

"We need, this fall, to refine our vision," said Paquet, noting the community will be included in the planning process. "At this point, we don't have a firm plan as to what we want to put there."

Rumours about empty lot

Rumours abound regarding the empty lot at the southwest corner of St. Catherine and de Maisonneuve. (For the *Indie*'s findings, see story on p. 21.)

During the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee meeting later that evening, Lambert asked Montreal officials

if they could do more to improve the Decarie/de Maisonneuve intersection as it is now. Currently under heavy construction as the city rebuilds the train bridge and installs large sewer conduits, de Maisonneuve has been reduced to one way, cyclists are expected to walk their bikes and pedestrians are limited to one side of the street.

People at the meeting suggested the pedestrians and cyclists be protected by cement barriers or, like some places downtown, that cyclists should have a different traffic light sequence so they can get out of the way faster.

'Remove car lane?' asks Lambert

"Is there some reason you couldn't remove part of a car lane and allow cyclists to ride through the intersection?" Lambert asked city officials. "When you are asking people to do something that isn't reasonable, you can't be surprised when they don't do it."

Alain Trudeau, who manages Montreal's projects in the area, said the temporary set-up at the intersection is designed to be safe, and there is continually a police officer on site to direct traffic as needed. It is up to the cyclists, he said, to respect the signage and walk their bikes. That, he concluded, has been decided by city planners to be the safest option.

New arena now set in concrete



Westmount city councillor Patrick Martin told the Independent that concrete pouring began the week of October 1 at the new arena. Pictured here is concrete being poured via a pump and mechanical arm.

Photo courtesy of the city of Westmount

City's long-service employees honoured at Quarter Century Club

By Laureen Sweeney

The city's 69th Quarter Century Club banquet on October 4 brought together long serving employees with retirees who also served 25 years or more, demonstrating the continuity of Westmount as a city and the dedication of its personnel, Mayor Peter Trent told some 140 at the event in Victoria Hall.

"This is why we fought so hard to get our city back," he said, referring to the forced merger with Montreal – a period through which all had worked, including those the event also recognized for service of 15, 20 and 30 years.

Suzanne Chapman, customer service agent in Sports and Recreation, spoke of the Westmount "traditions and values that have meant so much to us all," in thanking the city on behalf of what emcee Mike Deegan, Sports and Recreation, called "the class of '87."

Along with Chapman, those honoured for the special 25-year milestone were: Alain Deslongchamps (IT senior project coordinator), Robert White (Sports and Recreation specialized land labourer), Joanne Poirier (Urban Planning director), Ma- continued on p. 19



Honoured for 25 years of service to the city of Westmount October 4 by Mayor Peter Trent (right) are, from left: Marianne Zalzal, Gino Ciampelletti, Suzanne Chapman, Robert White, Joanne Poirier, Alain Deslongchamps and Marina Peter. John Monteiro also was inducted into the Quarter Century



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Lansdowne house history, continued from p. 9

552 Lansdowne Ave. list of buyers

Date	Buyer	Price
29 June 1970 28 January 1975 22 August 1977 15 May 1984 4 November 1985 28 December 1988 29 April 1992 23 August 2000	Josephine Hadley (Lantier) John Browne Colette Pinsonneault, wife of Jacques Peladeau Olivier Pelletier and Raymond Theriault Michael Catford and Margaret Mather Sydney Stone and Christopher Wright Manfred Krull and Gesa Schafer Michel Fleury and Johannes Labrosse	\$43,000 \$81,500 \$75,000 \$155,000 \$260,000 \$340,000 \$300,000 \$450,000
13 September 2007 28 July 2011	Marc-André Godard and Patricia Brissette Maral Taak and Mark Tabah	\$633,000 \$790,000
28 July 2011	IVIATAL TAAK ATIU IVIATK TADATI	\$750,

she sold to Maurice Hébert, who moved in and took over the bank loan as well as another for \$10,000 to Stanislas Wilfrid Laroche, but otherwise no cash changed hands. He gave up the loans and title to the property to Pauline Béliveau-Bernath and Ioanne Béliveau in 1954.

The Béliveau family switched the title back and forth several times, apparently while planning to shear off the back yard (along Lansdowne Ave.) before finally giving up the property to Green Investments Limited in 1958. Still, Hébert is listed in Lovell's Directory as the occupant of 400 Côte St. Antoine through 1964.

By 1967 three new lots had been created, and the city issued permits for construction of three buildings, including a new 400 Côte St. Antoine and 550 and 552 Lansdowne Ave., reaching down the hill, apparently built by Alfred Valée Ltée., after various companies including the estate of Joseph Masson, Lynadan Corp. and Stem Holdings Inc. had tried to handle the fi-

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nancing of the new construction.

Valée sold the new 400 Côte St. Antoine to Wendy Patricia Vaughan, wife of Reginald Rideout, in April 1970, for \$50,000, and though she died in 2006, her family continues to own the property and rents it out.

550 Lansdowne was sold in November 1968, to Valerie Aimer, wife of John Pasztor, for \$43,000. Though she divorced him in 1977, she held onto the property until January 2004, selling to Robert Gordon and Béatrice Bousser for \$490,000, more than 10 times what she paid for it. The final sale of that property was in March 2010, when it went for \$810,000 to Nicolas Touchette.

Much more history is found in the middle property, 552 Lansdowne, which initially sold to Josephine Lantier, a well-known Westmount real estate agent, for \$43,000 in June 1970. Nine sales since then have seen the price grow to \$790,000, paid by Maral Taak and Mark Tabah in July last year.

The list of buyers and prices shows how the market has grown over the past 40 years, including slides in 1977, after the election of the Parti Québécois, and in 1992 as the world broke into recession and the Parti Québécois was re-elected.

Le divorce



The Underdog Club

CYNTHIA LEE

Divorce. Likely you've heard the word before and know what it means. Anyway in this day and age, it's pretty banal really. But for Mickey, an 8-year-old miniature



Mickey

schnauzer, the moment the D word was sprung on him, it had a chilling and devastating effect.

Imagine your loved ones busting up and ripping to shreds what little calm you were used to. Suddenly, like a vagabond, you find yourself out in the street with no yard to play in, no bed to cuddle up in and no rug to roll on.

It's fine if people want to split up, but can't they be more considerate to their dogs? Clearly not! After his humans di-

vided up the furniture and CD collection, they shook their heads when it came to dealing with their formerly beloved Mickey. And they walked away from him.

But the strange thing is what they both were so quick to abandon. Because Mickey is actually one stellar dog fully worth keeping. Other than the obvious and recently inflicted abandonment issues, Mickey is truly a delightful little guy to have around the house. He is a cuddler's dream with some funny quirks to fill time when things get slow. Like the way he likes to carry

away his kibble mouthfuls at a time and then feast on it slowly not far from his bowl, or the manner in which he enjoys beating everyone to bed – jumping in with his fosters and feigning sleep just so they won't be tempted to move him.

If Mickey were an athlete, he would certainly be a curler because he has practice enough curling up in chairs, beds, laps and arms to qualify as an Olympian. His new humans would, of course, need to work on building up his confidence and earning his

trust because after all, he is in the end, a victim of divorce with the scars to prove it.

But he deserves a new start just like anyone else. Do you like to cuddle up and curl yourself into furniture? Are you a victim of *le divorce* like Mickey? Let the healing begin and share time with Mickey.

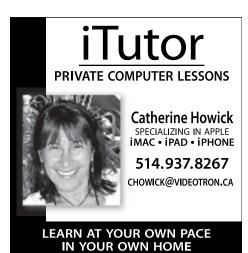
He is currently in foster care through Gerdy's Rescue and Adoptions. Please page them at 514. 203.9180 or email info@gerdysrescue.org.

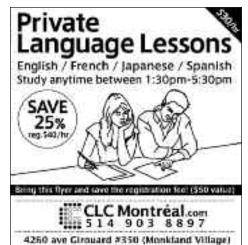
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Researcher highlights the building blocks of sustainability

BY MICHAEL MOORE

With environmental issues set to become a hot topic in the presidential race south of the border, international researcher Alex Aylett returned to the Westmount Public Library October 3 to speak about the role of municipalities and communities in shaping a more sustainable world.

"We have some great ideas," said Aylett, research director for Sustainable Cities International based in Vancouver and a post-doctoral fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "The place we get stuck is moving from planning to implementation."

Titled "Exceptions that change the rules," the talk was the latest in a series of speakers presented by the Westmount Healthy City Project, an advisory committee that raises awareness on health issues and works to ensure the community's health is a key factor in public planning decisions.

Former library employee

A former employee of the library, the hour-long talk proved a homecoming of sorts for Aylett.

Honours, continued from p. 17

rina Peter (Public Works environmental coordinator), John Monteiro (Public Works superintendent), Marianne Zalzal (Public Works director), and Gino Ciampelletti (Public Works chef de groupe).

30-year recognition

Two employees already inducted into the Club were recognized for three decades of service: Patricia Weight (administrative assistant in the City Clerk's office) and Alan Kulaga (HR director).

20-year service

Marking two decades were: Sergio Velardo, Peter Jay and Jean McKenzie (Public Security); David Lapointe, Bruce Stacey and Claude Danis (Sports and Recreation); Robert Goyer and Denis St-Pierre (Public Works), Richard Heppell, Stéphane Bergeron and Salvatore Lipari (Hydro Westmount), and Wendy Wayling and Dawna Hobbs (Library).

15 years

Serving 15 years were James Pierre Guimond (Sports and Recreation), Joseph Heisler and Dino Zagari (Public Works) and Denis Roy (Hydro Westmount). "If I ever called you to tell you that the book you took out is overdue, please don't hold it against me," he joked.

In front of about 30 audience members, Aylett highlighted the efforts in four cities around the world to demonstrate how various local projects can help increase a city's sustainability.

"Every place is going to create their own weave, their own tapestry, that makes sense for them and meets whatever their needs and conditions are," said Aylett.

World tour

Beginning in Portland, Oregon, Aylett showcased the city's bioswales, roadside gardens designed to remove pollutants from rain water before it washes back into the drain system, and the success of "Solarize Portland," a bulk-purchasing program run by neighbourhood associations that installs solar panels on residential homes to generate power.

Aylett then shifted across the Atlantic to Durban, South Africa, where turbines were installed in the city's over-pressurized water distribution system, generating power for tens of thousands of homes.

After briefly touching on the conversion of Vancouver's Olympic village to

what has been described as the "World's Greenest Neighbourhood," Aylett concluded his talk with Drummondville's "rebel gardeners," Michel Beauchamp and Josée Landry.

In July, the couple refused to back down in the face of \$350-a-day fines for violating town code after converting their front lawn into a sprawling vegetable garden; after the story went viral on the internet, the town retracted its demands.

"We're not talking about one or two changes, one or two good ideas," said Aylett. "We need *all* of these ideas, and we need more of them. We need to be able to innovate and learn in the face of changing circumstances."



learn in the face of Alex Aylett, a former Westmount Public Library employee, is an urban changing circum-sustainability researcher, who has worked in North America, Europe and Africa.









AVIS PUBLIC CODE D'ÉTHIQUE ET DE DÉONTOLOGIE DES EMPLOYÉS

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné qu'un projet de règlement intitulé « **Règlement sur le code d'éthique et de déontologie des employés** » a été présenté par monsieur le conseiller Victor M. Drury lors de la séance ordinaire du conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount tenue le 1^{er} octobre 2012.

Ce projet de règlement vise à adopter un code d'éthique et de déontologie des employés qui soit conforme aux exigences de la *Loi sur l'éthique et la déontologie* en matière municipale (L.R.Q., chapitre E-15.1.0.1).

Ce code énonce les principales valeurs de la ville en matière d'éthique ainsi que les règles de déontologie qui doivent guider les employés. Les règles énoncées dans ce code concernent notamment l'intégrité, la loyauté, le respect d'autrui, le respect de la confidentialité, les conflits d'intérêt ou autres inconduites, les dons et autres avantages, l'utilisation des ressources de la ville ainsi que la propriété intellectuelle. Ce code prévoit également les sanctions que peut entraîner tout manquement à l'une ou l'autre de ses règles.

Ce projet de règlement sera présenté pour adoption au cours de la séance ordinaire du conseil devant se tenir à la salle du conseil de l'hôtel de ville de Westmount le lundi 5 novembre 2012 à 20 h.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter ce règlement et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffier situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 9 octobre 2012.

Mario Gerbeau Greffier de la ville

PUBLIC NOTICE CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCT APPLICABLE TO EMPLOYEES

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that a draft by-law entitled "BY-LAW RESPECTING THE CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCT OF EMPLOYEES" was tabled by Councillor Victor M. Drury at the regular sitting of Council held on October 1, 2012.

The object of this draft by-law is to adopt a code of ethics and conduct applicable to employees that meets the requirements of the *Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act* (R.S.Q., chapter E-15.1.0.1).

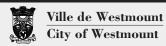
This Code sets out the main ethical values of the City and the rules of conduct that must be observed by employees. The rules framed in this code addresses such issues as integrity, loyalty, the respect for others, confidentiality, conflicts of interest, breach of trust and other misconduct, gifts and other benefits, and intellectual property. This Code also provides for the sanctions that a violation of any of its rules may entail.

This draft by-law will be submitted for adoption at the regular sitting of Council which will be held in the Council Chamber at City Hall on **November 5, 2012 at 8:00 p.m.**

Any interested person may consult the said by-law 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 October 9, 2012.

Mario Gerbeau City Clerk





AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné à tous ceux qui peuvent être concernés que le règlement n° 1436 intitulé « RÈGLEMENT MODIFIANT LE RÈGLEMENT SUR LA DÉLÉGATION DE POUVOIRS À CERTAINS FONCTIONNAIRES DE LA VILLE DE WESTMOUNT » a été adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount, lors d'une séance ordinaire tenue à l'hôtel de ville le 1er octobre 2012.

L'objet de ce règlement vise à :

- déléguer au directeur général le pouvoir d'autoriser des dépenses et de passer des contrats comportant une dépense n'excédant pas 25 000 \$ au nom de la municipalité;
- permettre au directeur général de nommer par écrit un directeur pour le remplacer durant son absence, lequel pourra, au cours de cette période, exercer les mêmes pouvoirs; et
- permettre aux directeurs de nommer par écrit un directeur adjoint ou un employé pour le remplacer durant son absence, lequel pourra, au cours de cette période, exercer les mêmes pouvoirs.

Ce règlement entre en vigueur en date d'aujourd'hui.

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

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 9 octobre 2012.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION BY-LAW 1436

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to all who may be concerned that By-law No. 1436 entitled "By-Law to amend By-Law on the Delegation of Powers to Certain Employees of the City of Westmount" was adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount at a regular sitting held at City Hall on October 1, 2012.

The object of this by-law is to:

- Delegate to the Director General the power to authorize the spending of money and enter into contracts on behalf of the municipality where the value does not exceed \$25,000;
- Provide that the Director General may appoint in writing a Director to replace him during his absence and therefore be able to exercise the same powers during that period; and
- Provide that the Directors may appoint in writing an Assistant Director or an Employee to replace her/him during his absence and therefore be able to exercise the same powers during that period.

This by-law shall come into force on this day.

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

GIVEN at Westmount, this October 9, 2012.

Mario Gerbeau Greffier de la ville / City Clerk

Vic village discussed, continued from p. 3

from allowing angled parking on wider streets to construction of underground parking, particularly at the Metro supermarket lot with the building of retail shops at ground level to harmonize with the streetscape and fill in the retail "gap."

While some speakers called for ways of increasing the number of small shops, others pointed out a large number of vacancies already existing.

Merchant Denis D'Etcheverry of Flore spoke about skyrocketing taxes. "And what am I getting for it?" he asked. "Not even commercial recycling," he added, discounting a small on-street mobile trailer provided on certain days by the city.

Opening backgrounder

The meeting opened with a lengthy review of the district's historical and planning development since 1890 from urban planning consultant Cécile Baird of Atelier B.R.I.C.

Guiding principles from the city's Urban Planning department were outlined to include revitalizing the commercial area to provide convenient local services, ensuring that new building or modifications harmonize with the existing area, and an efficient use of land, and that any new project should contribute to the walkability of the area.

Five "key issues" already identified by the city were outlined by Carole Scheffer, who chairs the city's Planning Advisory Committee.

These were: the greening of the area, walking and cycling, the commercial aspect, future of the train station and the effect of external development, on which the question-and-answer period was based.

The city also identified several areas for possible redevelopment, including the Metro supermarket parking lot, the former Darmo auto repair property on Somerville, the train station and the city parking lot at St. Catherine and Prince Albert.

One highlight was the city's plan to re-

develop the "dead-end" of Prince Albert at Sherbrooke into a public square.

"I love the idea of a Victoria green," said Jon Breslaw of Grosvenor Ave., who passionately presented a plan to use the entire area from Sherbrooke south to the lanes to incorporate Bixi stands along with a focus point: a tall freestanding clock modelled after one in Knowlton. "We could make it larger and take it back to the lanes," Lulham said of the square. "We didn't want to rush into it without consulting."

But a skeptical resident feared such a public square would attract large numbers of people to which Lulham replied that "a buffer" would be created to prevent this.

Victoria LeBlanc, director of the Visual Arts centre, was one of those calling for Victoria south of de Maisonneuve to be redeveloped in better harmony with the streetscape and leading to a vital use of the

Bringing people together and providing interest for young families was an important need that could be addressed in developing the train station, suggested Germain Gauthier of The North Face store "not that continued on p. 26

Elephant Cromwell?

LMNOP owner Shelley Kerman's comment that major residential and commercial landlord Cromwell was the "elephant in the room" when it comes to factors affecting the future of Vic village elicited applause from members of the audience. Many merchants and residents blame Cromwell for higher rents and higher real estate prices and evaluations in the area. LMNOP is not a Cromwell tenant, and no one from the firm spoke at the meeting. For some background, see "Has Cromwell conquered Vic village?" (March 15, 2011).

- Westmount Independent

No plans filed

de Maisonneuve lot owned by Provigo

By Isaac Olson

The Westmount Independent has confirmed that the empty, fenced-in lot at the southwestern corner of St. Catherine St. and de Maisonneuve Blvd. in eastern NDG, just west of the Westmount border, is owned by Provigo, a Quebec-based grocery subsidiary of Loblaws Quebec, but the company's media relations team refuses to answer any questions about the prop-

CDN-NDG borough spokesperson Isabelle Lord said the land, with civic addresses 5010 and 5012 de Maisonneuve, belongs to Provigo Inc., and that there are currently no permit applications in process. Zoning for the area does not include supermarkets, she said, but it does allow for housing, special schools, offices, medical clinics and personal care. In some cases, the borough council can change the zoning at the request of a developer.

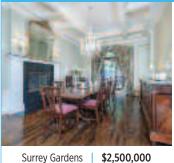
The property falls within the PR@M-Industry borders – a city program that offers property tax breaks of up to \$1 million annually for five years to developers who build specific types of facilities. According to Lord, owners have until December 31 to apply for the grant if they wish to build a commerical structure of more than 50,000 square feet and higher than three storeys. The zoning allows for certain types of continued on p. 26



This lot at the corner of St. Catherine St. and de Maisonneuve Blvd. is owned by Provigo Inc.

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Comin' Up

Wednesday, October 10

- Westmounter and artist Hannah Franklin exhibits her work at The Gallery at Victoria Hall. Runs until Saturday, November 3.
- Julija Sukys, author of *Epistophilia: Writing the Life of Ona Simaite* to speak as part of Westmount Public Library's fall author series, 7 pm in the Westmount Room of the library. Tickets available at the circulation desk.

Thursday, October 11

- Montreal Storytellers' Guild event, 7 pm at the Westmount Library. Free and open to all adults and children over 12.
- Artist, curator, writer and critic **Léopold Foulem** speaks at the McClure Gallery, 7 pm. Open to public. Presentation is followed by a question-and-answer period. Info: 514.488.9558.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

- Household hazardous waste drop-off in the parking lot of the Westmount Public Library, 9 am to 5 pm.
- Fall rummage sale at St. Matthias' Church (131 Côte St. Antoine Rd.), 10 am to 1 pm in the lower hall. Clothing, shoes and boots, linens, housewares, toys, etc. Info: 514.933.4295.
- Free compost pick-up for Westmount residents, 9 am at the Public Works yard, on Bethune St. Info: 514.989.5390.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

- Tour of the first farms in Westmount a guided tour of Côte St. Antoine Rd., from 1 to 4 pm, for one hour, every 20 minutes. Rain or shine. Depart from 563 Côte St. Antoine. Held in conjunction with the city of Westmount, Westmount Historical Association and Canadian Heritage of Quebec. Info: 514.989.5226.
- Elizabeth Waterston, author of *Blitzkreig* and *Jitterbugs: College Life in Wartime*, 1939-1942, speaks at 2 pm as part of the Westmount Public Library's Fall Author Series. Enquire about tickets at the circulation desk. Info: 514.989.5386.

Monday, October 15

Westmount Municipal Association

University Women's Club of Montreal

"Infectious music: How microbes have shaped our music." Talk by Joaqin Madrenas, McGill University. 6:00 pm, Wednesday, October 17, 2012, Atwater Club, 3505 Atwater Ave. Supper: \$30.76, plus \$10 for non-members. Newcomers welcome. To reserve, call 514-288-9765. speaker series presents Peter McQueen, who will talk about Westmount and NDG, 7 pm in the Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library. Free.

• Montreal Camera Club presents "Real Estate and Architectural Photography" with Michel Jarry, 7:30 pm at the Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd.

Wednesday, October 17

- Launch of "Questions, Quizzes, and Quotations" by Benny Beattie, 3 to 6 pm at Westmount Park United Church.
- Book lovers forum: Larry Weller reviews Sebastian Barry's *On Canaan's Side*," 7:30 pm at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom.

SATURDAY, OCT. 20

"Back to the Present: A Retrospective – Dan Delaney and Brenda Kennedy," 1 to 6 pm; also Sunday, October 21, 1 to 5 pm. 440 Mount Stephen, Apt. 25 (3rd floor walk-up. Info: 613.360.5123.

Monday, October 22

Public meeting on the city's **Master Traffic Plan**, 7 pm at Victoria Hall. See story, p. 2.

Early Bird Bazaar

The Auxiliary a

Montreal General Hospital
will host their annual
Early Bird Bazaar

on Thursday October 18, 2012 9 am - 4:30 pm

in **Livingston Hall**, 6th floor. 1650 Cedar Avenue, Montreal

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Chocolate, and other 'prohibited' delights at MAC gala



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The annual Musée d'art contemporain (MAC) gala on September 15 was over the top. Sold out at \$1,000 a ticket to 570 glam guests, the ball took its artistic direction from décor guru **Dick Walsh**.

The theme was Prohibition, which lent itself to the glamour of black, not to mention interesting illicit ideas. For example, caterer Queen Elizabeth Hotel, under the guidance of director **Armando Arruda**, served dinner hidden under a parcel "shipped from Columbia." (Lest anyone

Correction

In the Social Notes column of September 25 ("Beyond Realism' draws together art enthusiasts"), it was reported that Bonnie Franklin attended the event from New York. The name should have been Elizabeth Harris.

miss the idea, there were also "smuggling" teddy bears with little candies stuffed inside their bulging seams!)

Guests arriving via the valet parking, walked the classical red carpet and brushed through hanging black ribbons to arrive at a row of blacker-than-black stuffed crows, which set the mood for the "underground" night.

The main part was set up like a room that might have been used during Prohibition, offering a secret source of alcohol. Totally dark except for candles, the dining tables had no cutlery or dishes, only bottles of booze – Grey Goose and Dewars. Not to worry, though. Waiters quickly set the tables after the cocktail.

After an amazing meal, ladies were given a Lise Watier redder-than-red lipstick, and gentlemen a rolled cigar. Both were chocolate. The final touch? A black cigarette case, with suspicious looking rolled cigarettes: again, in chocolate.

Ball honorary co-chairs were **François Côté**, president TELUS Québec (attending with his wife **Monique Légaré**); **Isabelle Hudon**, president, Financière Sun Life (with **Gilles Coulombe**); **Alexandre Taillefer**, chair, MAC board of trustees (with his wife **Debby Zakaib**, chair, ball organizing



From left: Debbie Zakaib, Alexandre Taillefer, Paulette Gagnon, François Côté, Isabelle Hudon and François Dufresne.

committee); Paulette Gagnon, director MAC; and François Dufresne, president MAC Foundation (with his wife Valérie Héroux).

Guests in attendance included Emmanuelle Duperré and Daniel Lamarre. Myriam Achard, Danielle Stéphane Sauvage, Aquin, Claudia Barila, Lise Watier and Serge Rocheleau, Sophie Durocher and Richard Martineau. Mitsou Gélinas and Iohann







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From left: Victor Salvaggio, Julie Couture, Marie and Pierre Simard, Vanessa and Guy Laframboise.

Indie's fall social calendar

By Veronica Redgrave

Wednesday October 10

The Action Centre Soirée. The Atwater Club, 3505 Atwater Ave. Honoree is Westmounter Richard Pound. 5:30 pm VIP precocktail (with donations of \$500 and up). 6:30 pm general cocktail. \$150. Silent and live auctions. Information Joanne Heward, 514.366.6868, ext. 222. soiree@centreaction.org

Gala, continued from p. 24

Martin, Lillian and Bill Mauer, and gallerists Pierre-François Ouellette, Rhéal Lanthier, Fréderick Loury, and Anne-Marie and Pierre Trahan.

Westmounters noted included Julie Couture and Victor Salvaggio, Marie and Pierre Simard, Vanessa and Guy Laframboise, Claudine and Stephen Bronfman and Elaine and Calin Rovinescu.

The gala raised \$400,000.

Wednesday October 10

Canadian Haassah-WIZO (CHW) Montreal Art Auction. 6:30 pm. Espace Reunion, 6600 Hutchison. Honoree is Westmounter Roy Heenan. Cocktail dînatoire, preview and art sale. \$100. alanna@montreal.chw.ca

SATURDAY OCTOBER 13

Montreal Chinese Hospital Gala celebrating the Year of the Dragon. 6 pm. Fairmont Queen Elizabeth, 900 René Lévesque Blvd. Black tie event. Cocktails, dinner, dancing, and silent and live auctions. \$188. Sponsorships available. Linda Yee 514.871.0961, ext. 248. linda.yee@hcm.ssss.gouv.qc.ca.

Monday October 15

An evening with Geoff Molson. Montreal and Jewish Chamber of Commerce 16th Business and Professionals Cocktail. 6 pm, cocktails. 4363 Westmount Ave. Valet parking. Minimum gift of \$100. Space limited. Fabienne Salem 514.345.2645, ext. 6402.

Wednesday October 17

Tyndale St. Georges Community Centre Sushi Night. 6:30 pm. Aikawa Restaurant, 55 Brunswick Ave. \$80. Susan McKinnon-Bell 514.931.6265, ext. 25. Or 514.622.9162, susanbell@tyndalestgeorges.com.

Thursday October 18

2nd Annual McCord Museum Wine Tasting. 6 pm. McCord Museum, 690 Sherbrooke St. W. Italian-inspired fundraiser and a chance to discover the McCord exhibit "Mimmo Jodice – Sublime Cities." \$200. 514.398.7100, ext. 248. www.mccord-museum.qc.ca/wine.

Thursday October 18

Tune into YES 6. Benefit concert and silent auction for Youth Employment Services (YES). 6 p.m. L'Olympia Theatre, 1004 Ste-Catherine St. East. \$125. 514-878-9788, Local 307. fa@yesmontreal.ca www.tuneintoyes.com

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20

Trafalgar School's Homecoming Reunion Reception and Dinner. Presentation of the

2012 Distinguished Alumna Award Class Photos. Special Celebrations for Anniversary Classes years ending in 2 and 7. 6 pm. Cocktails and dinner \$125. St. James Club, 1145 Union St. After-party, with D.J. Jess, at Newton,1476 Crescent St. 10:30 pm. Tickets \$20. (Includes cover charge and one drink) Deadline to register is October 5. Christina Marie Phelps 514.934.2644, ext. 219. cphelps@trafalgar.qc.ca.

continued on p. 26



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Calendar

continued from p. 25

Wednesday October 24

- Tête-à-Tête. 6:30 pm. Rib 'n Reef. 8105 Decarie Blvd. Black tie gala supports programs for children with brain injuries at the Montreal Children's and St. Justine hospitals. Co-presidents Nannette and Philippe de Gaspé Beaubien, Kate and Geoff Molson, and Carmie and Joey Saputo. Celebrity athletes will be present. Iron Chef America contender/Food Network celeb David Adjey stars in the kitchen. \$500. Tickets at Rib 'n Reef. Jennifer Roman 514.484.2291.
- Cancerto Benefit Cocktail presented by the Quebec Cancer Foundation. Featuring cellist Stéphane Tétreault. 6 pm. Le Windsor, 1170 Peel St. \$250. RJV Communications. Kat Coric 514.875.1353, ext. 203. kc@rjvcom.com.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

Bal Incognito, Young Leaders Circle of Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation. A masked ball with a lounge feel for young professionals in support of the Foundation. 6 pm. Rialto Theatre, 5723 Parc. \$100. 514.934.1934, ext. 29204.

Thursday, November 1

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Gala. Cocktails 6 pm. Dinner 7:30 pm. Le Windsor, 1170 Peel. Honoree Paul Lepage, senior vice president TELUS Health. Cocktail, dinner, auctions. \$500. Sponsorships \$5,000 – \$25,000. Kim Lacombe 514.744.5537, ext. 225. klacombe@jdrf.ca.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

52nd Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) Museum Ball. Organized by the

MMFA's Volunteer Association. 6:30 pm. MMFA, 1379 Sherbrooke St. W. Guest of honour Michel de la Chenelière. Honourary co-chairs Rupert Duchesne, group chief executive Aimia, and the honourable Michel Fortier, vice chair RBC Capital Markets. President organizing committee: Alix d'Anglejean-Chatillon, partner Stikeman Elliott. Décor: Scott Yetman. \$1,000. Valet parking. 514.842.7436.

Sunday November 4

- It's a Girl Thing Luncheon presented by Gloria's Girls. Benefitting the Gloria Shapiro Endowment Fund for Ovarian Cancer at the Jewish General Hospital. 11 am to 2 pm. Espace Réunion, 6600 Hutchison. Master of ceremonies Lesley Chesterman. Keynote speaker, Bonnie Stern. \$85. 514.340.8222, ext. 3069. siobhanobrien@jgh.mcgill.ca
- Special Needs Celebration of Hope hosted by Donald Berman YALDEI Developmental Centre. 7:30 pm. 6501 Kildare. Host CJAD celeb Tommy Schnurmacher. Keynote speaker, Esther Jungreis. Dessert reception, silent auction. Tickets \$36 and up. \$54 at the door. 514.279.3666, ext. 250.

Tuesday, November 6

LOVE LOVE LOVE, benefit presented by Leave Out Violence (LOVE) and Vidéotron. With Gregory Charles and Oliver Jones. Monument National, 1182 St. Laurent . Honorary chair Donald Lizotte. 6 pm. VIP dinner cocktail and concert. VIP \$200. 8 pm. Mezzazine/concert only \$100. 514.938.0006. info@vivresansviolence.org, info@leaveoutviolence.org.

Vic village, continued from p. 21

I'm against art or history," he said, following its proposed use by the Westmount Historical Association, as championed by its president Doreen Lindsay.

While representatives of the district's merchants' association did not speak during the meeting, Pierre Le Gourriérec of Avenue des Arts, and Tom Forestell of Westmount Stationery told the *Independent* that parking was the prime need of the district and that simply by re-arranging current street parking, it could be increased by 20 percent.

And LMNOP owner Shelley Kerman contended the city had already made up its mind on how the area should be further developed before consulting with resi-

dents and merchants.

But in concluding the meeting, Councillor Lulham said: "We're going to take the comments from tonight and start working from there." She expected to have proposals to present at another public meeting at the end of January.

In response to a comment that citizens had come in "blind" to the city's intentions at this meeting, she said the city would make some of the proposals available ahead of the next meeting. And, she also promised to provide a sound system the next time, after it was pointed out that many people were unable to hear some comments made in the large venue.

Shine brings shiny examples to show during talk at library



Ruth Shine spoke to an audience of some 30 people on October 3 at the Westmount Public Library. Her talk "Get creative and expand your horizons" was "very lively with a lot of interaction from the people who attended," said Donna Lach, programming and outreach librarian. Shine shared examples of memory boxes that were turned into artwork, and answered questions from the audience. She operated Victoria Ave.'s now closed Bead Emporium for 35 years. She is currently using paper as her medium of choice and is interested in embossing, stamping and découpage.

Dog runs loose two days in a row

A dog living on Arlington Ave. was taken to Public Security September 26 and 27 after being found loose twice within a 24-hour period – first on its own street and then on Lansdowne, officials said. The

owner was ticketed \$75 on the second offence and was advised to obtain a new tag, which had apparently fallen off the collar. The dog was licensed.

Provigo and the vacant lot, continued from p. 21

vocations including clinics and commercial care services.

After several email messages exchanged with the public relations department representing Loblaw Companies Ltd. regarding any plans to develop or sell the property, the *Independent* received a note stating: "We have reviewed your request and are respectfully declining comment." Despite a request, the *Independent* was not supplied with a spokesperson's name.

Officials with the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) said they have inquired with Loblaws about buying the property, but according to MUHC spokesperson Julie Paquet, there are no efforts to buy the land at this point. The MUHC already owns 5100 and 5252 de Maisonneuve Blvd.

"We need, this fall, to refine our vision,"

said Paquet. "We need to look at what kind of activities we want to have on de Maisonneuve and what kind of facilities we would need there. At this point, we don't have a firm plan as to what we want to put there."

Pierre Major, associate director of infrastructure for the MUHC, confirmed at the MUHC Good Neighbourly meeting October 2 that the hospital has been in discussion with the Société de transport de Montréal about building over the Metro station, but nothing has been decided.

In terms of future plans, Paquet said the MUHC intends on "having an open dialogue with the community because, ultimately, the hospital belongs to the community, and if we need space or do some development, we need to make sure it aligns with the neighbourhood and is harmonious for everyone."

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