

Barracudas rack up 34 medals in St. Jean



The 15-member YMCA Barracudas swim team came away with 34 medals and several personal best times at the regional championships held in St. Jean sur Richelieu April 20 to 23. "I am extremely proud of our athletes ... We are the only team where every swimmer managed a top-six finish and thus contributed to the team's point total, something I have never seen in my 25 years as a coach," head coach Mike Calcutt said. Calcutt also thanked team sponsors Kids Clothing Warehouse, Chartier Grandmaison & Associates at Groupe Financier BNC, Sheahan & Partners, Article 19 and Get Wet Swimshop.

Photo courtesy of the Barracudas

INSIDE



City page p. 18

'Attitude more than a price tag'

Architect Grenier explains LEED gold for arena

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

An architect accredited as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) professional revealed May 3 what it will take for the city's arena/pool project to achieve gold in the building rating system.

Westmounter Paul Grenier, a member of the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), told a public presentation by the Healthy City Project at the Westmount

Public Library that the city has identified a possible 76 points it can obtain in the evaluation process, though 60 are sufficient to qualify.

"And if we do get gold, I think we'll be getting a building the community wants," he said. It will be one evaluated, among other categories, for indoor environmental quality.

Only 36 buildings in Quebec had achieved LEED gold as of March 31 out of a total of

continued on p. 8

Tuscan Sun for Queen E.



From left: organizers of the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex's "Tuscan Sun" charity event May 24 include Westmounters Irene Tschernomor (executive director) and Brian Marcil, and Christine Pickrell of Westmount Florist. See story, p. 12.

Photo courtesy of Queen Elizabeth Health Complex

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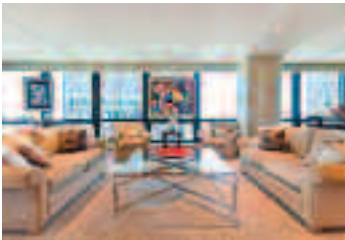
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Arena prep work to include cutting trees, permits expected soon

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Between 38 and 47 trees are expected to be felled shortly to make way for construction of the new Westmount recreation centre, though efforts are ongoing to determine whether or not some can be protected, city officials said last week.

At least four others are to be relocated, including two memorial trees.

City council was slated to issue a permit for “some trees” to be removed at the arena/pool site as part of the regular council meeting May 7, after press time.

Since most of the trees are right in the

work site, “We have to be realistic,” explained Public Works director Marianne Zalzal. The city’s policy is that trees removed must be replaced.

Cottonwood to be protected

The Lansdowne dog run’s large iconic cottonwood tree towering over the arena is to be protected, however.

A Public Works report on the trees identifies 55 trees needing to be removed, four are those the city has earmarked for transplantation. The city plans to protect four others, leaving a total of 47.

“We’re hoping to work with the

contractor to see if we can incorporate another nine into the landscaping,” she said. The project’s design-build approach would allow for this type of interaction. Eight of these trees are in or near the expanded area off St. Catherine and Arena Drive.

Some evergreens in a group near the bike path also may have to be moved for installation of security hoarding. These remain under investigation.

Pool draining diverts traffic

A contractor emptying a swimming pool into the sewer from a house on Claremont near Westmount Ave. April 28 created a hazardous traffic situation at 8:30 am, Public Security officials said. He was using a large fire-type hose stretched across the street and was diverting the traffic. Draining pools by allowing water to flow down the street is not permitted.

Leading it directly into the sewer is recommended.

Night march through Westmount



During the late evening of May 2, about 400 students marched west along The Boulevard, down Victoria Ave. to Sherbrooke St., then down Grosvenor Ave. to St. Catherine St., returning downtown east on St. Catherine. The group snaked its way past Premier Jean Charest’s home, shouting and blowing horns to the background beat of a police helicopter hovering overhead. The march was seen to be peaceful within Westmount. Students chatted amongst themselves and consulted their mobile phones.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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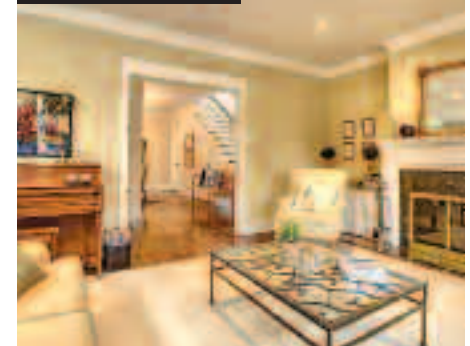


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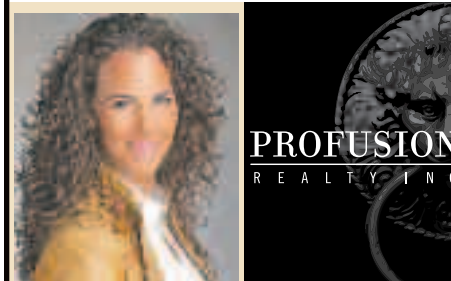
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"The fundamental rule is that each portfolio must be constructed for the specific client," Mr. Matte explains. "You don't let the market environment decide what should be in the portfolio. You take control and carefully select investments that work for each individual situation."

What works for affluent investors in the current environment tends to be yield-producing investments, whether dividend-paying stocks or investment-grade corporate bonds. Balanced portfolios of this nature are able to deliver predictable returns and income regardless of how markets are behaving. Moreover, this strategy is more sophisticated than it would appear on the surface – Mr. Matte has a unique ability to source quality securities that go beyond what a standard broker can do. In addition, he manages these portfolios himself.

"Years ago, I discovered that third-party managers and mutual funds weren't matching the investment results that I was able to generate using my own skills and professional judgment," he says. "Clients began requesting that I dispense with that layer of fees and complexity – and I've been directing all portfolios ever since."

Matte credits the institutional strength of his firm, Macquarie Private Wealth, for providing an extensive range of investments to choose from. The global resources of Macquarie enable him to select stocks and bonds that most other firms simply don't have access to. As a result, Matte and his clients go beyond the standard off-the-shelf products to invest in securities that can provide better yields at a lower cost.

"My clients place a great deal of trust in my counsel, which is why I conduct regular portfolio updates with each of them on a monthly basis," Matte says. "This presents an opportunity to review the investment strategy and make any necessary adjustments. Ultimately, my clients value peace of mind, and that's what my professional counsel provides."

To arrange a private appointment with Denny Matte, visit his website at dennymatte.com for contact information.

Marketing feature



Will 'designer' hoarding set new standard in Westmount?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A unique "designer" hoarding is catching the eyes of passers-by on Lexington at the head of Edgehill Rd., where a new house is to be built at a declared value of \$3 million.

Zigzagging around trees and painted olive green in keeping with the foliage, the decorative hoarding resembles more of an open wood fence than the typically solid plywood installations described by the architect as "out of keeping with the standards of Westmount."

Armand Dadoun, who designed both the house and hoarding, told the *Independent* last week that he had consulted with the owner and they decided to erect "a palisade" in respect of the quality of the home, himself and the neighbours.

"It's the house of his dreams," Dadoun explained. "We're not building a shack. The palisade will be there for some time – 18 months to two years."

So will the hoarding set a new standard?

"Hopefully so," Dadoun replied. "It didn't cost that much more to do it right."

"I hope it inspires others," said Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier, who called the hoarding "elegant." The city has no design requirements for hoarding, she explained, and no plans are "in the books" to adopt any.

The house is to be built entirely of limestone with a roof of black slate and some bronze, which will weather into a chocolate brown colour, the architect explained. "It is such a special location that the house will be very dominant."

The property actually comprises three building lots, but the new house will cover less than the maximum permitted by the zoning, Dadoun said. There are still two adjacent lots that might be developed some day and the plan is to provide as much privacy as possible for the new house.

The plan received a favourable recommendation from the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) on October 18, 2011. The permit was approved by city council November 7 but was not issued for three months, city records show.

Construction is expected to start this summer, Dadoun said.



This olive green construction hoarding surrounds a three-lot property at 737 Lexington at the top of Edgehill Rd. where one large single-family dwelling is to be built.

Transformer blows out power

Houses were blacked out in a large section of the city for two hours April 27 when a transformer blew at 1:30 am in the lane behind Upper Belmont Ave., Public Security officials said. Streets affected included

Upper Belmont, Edgehill, Lexington, Sunnyside and Belfrage. Power was restored by 3:36 am. The incident was reported to be related to a similar outage in the same area April 22.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

For story,
see paper archive.

EMBRACE NEIGHBOURLY BEHAVIOURS

Westmount news is full of two things these days: dog parks and hockey arenas. Many letters to the editor are negative,

which is odd because in my experience these are two areas that have improved my life. I have gotten to know my neighbours.

Sitting on my front porch, glass of wine in hand, I realize that the only people I know on my street are dog owners and hockey players.

We have lived here for three years and never communicated with the family who lives across the road. Last month they got a gorgeous puppy and now we are smiling, and chatting. I go to the dog park, twice a day, 365 days of the year, and I have met some wonderful people because we immediately connect. Welcome to the dog world!

I play hockey with five guys who live on my block and doubtless we would never have otherwise met.

Hockey and recreational activities are essential in today's society where it is increasingly difficult to meet neighbours.

As a child growing up in Westmount, my wife visited almost every house on Metcalfe Ave. She had played with their kids or had tea with some kindly old party. Our four kids hardly know any neighbourhood kids and have never visited anyone's house.

It is a different world. We are lacking street culture (with the exception of Arlington and Springfield avenues!) and there are few neighbourhood schools. Our society doesn't seem to value these things,

but it seems to me that the city of Westmount, with its three dog parks, does, and it's another reason I feel privileged to live here.

Let's be more neighbourly and less intolerant. Please support the dog park being moved to a new location – at city hall, May 7.

MIKE FINKELSTEIN, KENSINGTON AVE.

TO BE CLEAR

At the end of last week's article by Dan Lambert, "In support of Master Traffic Plan," you refer to my article on April 24 as expressing "different views." I would like to make a couple of clarifications.

First, the title of Mr. Lambert's article is misleading in that it suggests that the plan exists. As I understand it, preparation of a plan is a work in progress pending consideration of comments such as those offered by Mr. Lambert and myself, as well as possibly many others, including those who have responded to the city's questionnaire.

Second, I am not opposing improvements for cyclists and pedestrians. As far as cyclists are concerned, I am simply saying that they need to clean up their act with regard to observance of current traffic regulations before more advantages are offered to them. Is the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association offering any educational materials on this subject?

Finally, I do not think it would be impossible to address concerns raised both by myself and Mr. Lambert in any final plan. Not everyone in Westmount has access to a bicycle. Many are simply unable to use one. Westmount, with all its hills, is not the friendliest terrain for cycling.

So I venture to say we will never get the entire population out of their cars and onto bicycles! I hope this will be borne in mind by the drafters of the plan so that it is proportionately fair to all groups: pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

ROBERT COWLING, PARKMAN PLACE

Editor's note: Please read news story on the traffic plan study, p. 10. – KM

RADIOWAVES

Re: "Resident seeks public debate on new hydro meters" (May 1, p. 12), it is not only the meters of Hydro Quebec and

Westmount Hydro that transmit radio frequency information. Starting several years ago, the meters of Gaz Metro have been read remotely and pose absolutely no health hazard. Gaz Metro's meters only transmit their readings when they are paged to do so, which typically happens once every month or every two months. The small batteries in Gaz Metro's meters last for years, which is clear evidence that the power radiated by the gas meters must be negligible compared to that from cordless phones and cell phones, which require frequent recharging.

A person's exposure to radio frequency radiation decreases as the square of the distance from the transmitting antenna. For example, the exposure to radiated power from a cell phone held to the ear would be more than 10,000 times greater than from the same phone located 10 feet away. While electric meters do not have the inherent power limitations of battery operated gas meters, it is very unlikely that they pose any health hazard. Compared to cell phones, which are carried on a person's body throughout the day and held close to the ear when in use, electric meters are generally installed in a fixed location at a much greater distance from anywhere that a person would remain for a significant period of time in a 24-hour day.

Before jumping to an unfounded conclusion that radio frequency emissions from electric meters might pose a health hazard, it would be necessary to determine the level of radiated power, the percentage of time that the meters are transmitting and the number of hours per day that anyone would be close enough to where the meters are typically installed to receive any significant proportion of the total power being radiated. Then compare the results with the radiation that people are content to live with during a typical day from their own cell phones and from the cell phones in use by nearby people.

JOHN DOREY, VICTORIA AVE.

One law fits all – city contractor included

Public safety officers ticketed one of the city's own contract gardeners April 26 when he was found blowing grass clippings onto Dorchester from the median. He had previously been warned not blow debris onto the public roadway outside the library April 17. On the second offence he was given a \$146 ticket under nuisance By-law 257.

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Trent briefs Rotarians on ‘Greek chorus’ of opposition to new recreation centre

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

“Under ground, under attack and now under way.”

That’s how Mayor Peter Trent described the Westmount recreation centre project when he addressed members of the Rotary Club of Westmount during its weekly noon-time luncheon at Victoria Hall on May 2.

Although Trent said that the low number of signatures gathered during a loan by-law register for the project in August 2010 suggested to him that the city had the backing of most people, he said he hadn’t anticipated the “Greek chorus bent on stopping the project” over the past 18 months.

While maintaining that the city’s allegiance was to the majority in favour of the project, he described the main opponents as a group of about a dozen people who wrote letters to the editor almost non-stop for the past two years, and who also used social media, YouTube videos and a traditional petition.

“If good projects are forged in the fur-



Mayor Peter Trent spoke to the Rotary Club of Westmount on May 2.

nace of media, then this must be the best project going,” said Trent, adding that if the issue got as much coverage as it did, it was because “controversy in Westmount is always sexy to the media, and this is why even the *Globe and Mail* covered this controversy.”

Trent said he would not have been in favour of building a new recreation centre were it not for the \$20-million government grant former mayor Karin Marks obtained for the \$38-million project, “and if it weren’t for the fact that I decided that it should be under ground. The two basic elements to me would mean that we would not go ahead if we did not get them.”

PSOs, cops stop man

A shoeless man on Somerville Ave. was kept under surveillance at 8:30 am by public safety officers April 26 when his description matched that of someone allegedly trying to open house doors the day before. Public Security officials said police were called and intercepted him after a brief foot chase in front of the old train station at the foot of Victoria.

A friend of the man who arrived at the scene told officers he was suffering from a mental illness. The man, a nearby resident of NDG, was reported to be agitated at being caught.



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Grenier on LEED

continued from p. 1

104 certified at any level – including basic certification, silver and platinum. The total at all levels in Canada was 620.

Projects shooting for LEED certification are evaluated on a baseline of 100 points in five categories, Grenier explained. These are: sustainable site development, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality. Additional bonus points are given for innovation and regional priorities.

Documenting every step

It's a complex process from start to finish that requires heavy documentation at every step. A candidate must record the way the construction site is handled in such areas as water run-off and sustainable disposal of materials and packaging, and even – in the case of Westmount's demolition – the way used equipment is being recycled (see separate story, p. 10).

"It's more an attitude than a price tag," Grenier explained. Building to LEED generally adds 1 percent to 2 percent of construction costs.

"Green buildings may cost more but yield many times their investment over the entire life of the building. People are often more concerned about the cost on Day 1. And where you get the real payback is in having a healthy building."

There are balances and counter-balances in the way Westmount will score. Some characteristics of the project will benefit its number of points; some of the same ones will prevent it achieving others.

The city expects to accumulate important points, he said, through redeveloping the site, having an innovative concept, controlling water run-off through good absorption due to the underground and green-roof structure and in ventilation and natural light.

The complex will also be "super energy efficient" by being underground and using heat from making the ice to heat water. "You have to have a saving of 23 percent less than the Model National Energy Code of Canada, and we're going to get 48 percent less."

Some drawbacks

On the other hand, in the same category the city won't be able to gain points available for using renewable energy sources such as putting up wind turbines or solar panels, he explained.

It also won't be able to capitalize on being able to recycle building materials from the above-ground arena because of the underground nature of the new design.

Westmount has an opportunity to gain bonus points for Innovation and Regional Priorities, though the latter is a new category "so we're not sure how it will apply," Grenier said.

For Westmount, the leap in cost aiming for platinum, the highest level, rather than gold would be considerable, Grenier explained. The decision to go from silver to gold has added \$1.5 million, according to figures announced by Mayor Peter Trent. But the difference will generate a savings of at least \$100,000 a year in energy.

LEED was introduced to Canada in 1999 in BC, Grenier said. It has evolved from rating new construction and existing buildings to many other areas that now include neighbourhoods, schools and the health care sector.

Westmount registered its project for LEED certification March 3, 2010.



Paul Grenier speaks on the Westmount recreation centre's LEED-gold target at the Westmount Public Library May 3, held by the Healthy City Project.

Points targetted by Westmount for achieving LEED Gold Required: 60

Category	Possible	Target
Sustainable site development	26	22
Water efficiency	10	8
Energy/atmosphere	35	16
Materials and resources	14	9
Indoor environmental quality	15	14
Sub-total	100	69
Bonus points		
Innovation	6	6
Regional priorities	4	1
Total	110	76

Arena construction under way



By the end of last week, the arena site off St. Catherine St. and Arena Drive was blocked off to traffic, the Pomerleau trailer moved in and hoarding installed along St. Catherine and much of Lansdowne.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney

Music heard – and felt

Loud music at an apartment on Stayner St. was turned down April 28 after public safety officers called at the door. The responding officer reported hearing the music and feeling its vibrations on entering the building at 9:18 pm.

Drunken Westmounter arrested twice in two days

BY DAVID GOLDBERG

Station 12 police arrested a drunken 33-year-old Westmount woman twice in the span of 24 hours for two different offences.

At 5:10 am on May 2, the police received a call from a taxi driver who was parked on the corner of Sherbrooke and Rosemount. He told them he had a client who was drunk and refusing to pay her fare.

“When the officers arrived, the suspect was in the back seat of the cab,” said Constable Adalbert Pimentel. “She and another fare had been picked up earlier by the taxi in Old Montreal. They went to St. Lambert and the other fare got out, but the suspect said she wanted to go to Sherbrooke and Rosemount.”

The suspect, who had urinated in the back of the cab, told police she had no cash on her to pay the \$28.80 ride. She said she had to go to her apartment on the corner to get the money.

“The suspect was being very verbally aggressive with the officers, when they got to the apartment she began to get physically aggressive. She was placed under arrest,” said Pimentel.

Charged with theft

The suspect, who never paid the taxi driver, was charged with theft.

The previous day at 5:15 am, the same suspect was outside of 1 Wood. The police responded to a call regarding someone making noise.

“When the officers arrived, the suspect was very drunk, incoherent and chanting very loudly,” said Pimentel. “The officers asked her to tell them where she lived so they could take her home, but she refused.”

The suspect was arrested for breaking a municipal by-law of disturbing the peace while inebriated. The offence carries a \$75 fine.

“The suspect was taken to the operational centre and held there until she was no longer under the influence of alcohol, and she was then released,” said Pimentel.

Placing Old Age Security on a Sustainable Path

Canadians are living longer and costs for the Old Age Security (OAS) are rising. On April 1, 2023 the Government of Canada plans to start raising the age of eligibility for OAS and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) from 65 to 67.*

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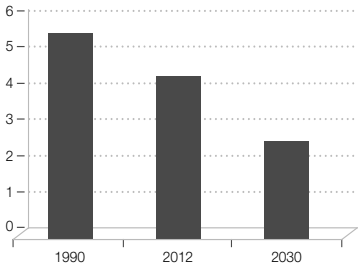
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The number of working-age Canadians for every senior is decreasing**



**Source: 9th Actuarial Report on the Old Age Security Program

The number of working-age Canadians per senior is decreasing, placing additional pressure on the OAS program.

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More than 725 submitted traffic opinions

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

More than 725 residents weighed in on the city's traffic plan survey with opinions, comments and priorities, city officials said last week. The deadline for returning questionnaire response cards mailed to all households was April 15.

The survey followed the preliminary report and data collection by Genivar consultants, including priorities they recommended, which residents were asked to prioritize.

We're now in the process of analyzing all the responses," Mayor Peter Trent said

May 3. "After that, we will ask Genivar to comment and make their recommendations so we can plan the best time to hold a public meeting."

Because respondents were asked to provide their postal codes, "we're now working with a list of postal codes to understand the different traffic issues in specific areas," explained Brigitte Stock, the city's head of Communications.

Of the total number of response cards received, 86 were by email, she said.

The status of the responses was expected to be raised at the council meeting May 7.

Construction work violations pile up, by-laws enforced

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As a seemingly never-ending construction season moves into high gear at many Westmount work sites, public safety officers continued to follow up on complaints about contractors failing to conform to city regulations, according to Public Security officials.

On April 24, a chemical toilet for workers at 4300 de Maisonneuve was found to have been placed too close to the adjacent apartment building at 250 Clarke. And not far away, at 215 Redfern, a truck was parked on the sidewalk to unload building materials. The driver was asked to move it.

The clatter of debris being dumped into a construction container on Grosvenor

Ave. April 25 at 1:09 am annoyed at least one nearby resident whose call to Public Security brought officers to the Bank of Montreal at 4817 Sherbrooke, where five workers were found stripping the interior. They agreed to stop work.

Later the same day, work was discontinued at 4335 Westmount Ave. when a building permit was found to have expired. The contractor said the work had gone on longer than expected and he would renew the permit.

Workers outside 740 Upper Lansdowne were also cautioned to obtain a permit to occupy space on the street April 26, which they proceeded to do. On a previous occasion, trucks were found trailing dirt along the street at the same location.

St. George's lands in top five at national show choir competition

St. George's high school's glee club G Major competed for the first time at Show Choir Canada Nationals and finished fifth.

The only Quebec-based competitor, the show choir competed at the Sony Centre for Performing Arts in Toronto the weekend of April 14-15. The winner was Etobi-

coke School of the Arts.

For their fifth place finish, St. George's was awarded \$1,500 worth of Yamaha products. Three performers from G Major won individual awards: Patrick Park won best male vocalist, and Alexandra Cohen and Sara Diamond tied for "Best Female Triple Threat" (singing, acting, dancing). They receive a one-week scholarship to the Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts.

G Major will be performing on Thursday, May 10 and Friday, May 11 at Oscar Peterson Concert Hall. Tickets are available at www.stgeorges.qc.ca.

See photo story April 10, p. 1.

Arena/pool equipment stored in old train station, sold

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The former Westmount train station now holds most of the hockey and other equipment that Sports and Recreation personnel salvaged from the old arena in a whirlwind effort to clear it out before demolition, according to department director Mike Deegan.

"They did a wonderful job," said Councillor Cynthia Lulham. "There's nothing left there."

In keeping with the LEED spirit to reuse whatever possible, Deegan said last week that netting from around the ice would be used at the outdoor rinks while the bench seats will be moved to park comfort stations.

He's also managed to find buyers for some of the used equipment that won't go to the new facility. A pool supplier has bought the lifeguard chairs, some of the pumps and the diving board, "probably to be reconditioned." More up-to-date types will be acquired for the new pool.

The rink compressors have also been sold though Deegan is still looking for a buyer for the boards and glass.

All the brine, ammonia and Glycol used in rink's refrigeration system has been emptied and disposed of by LEED standards to gain points, he said.

Asbestos used around the hot water pipes and in the mechanical room has been identified and is just awaiting final word from the CSST, the workplace health and safety board, before being removed in a specialized process.

Compost available this Saturday

The city's annual compost distribution takes place Saturday, May 12, at the Public Works yard, foot of Bethune St., from 9 am and as long as quantities last.

"We ask people to bring a shovel and containers with them," said city environmental coordinator Marina Peter. While no limits are put on the amounts that can be taken, "we don't allow trailers, and we ask people to leave enough for others."

It's better to bring several smaller containers that can be more easily handled than a large garbage can, for example, she explained.

Local show takes art into the home and out of the gallery



Westmount mayor Peter Trent points to a detail in a painting by Wayne Larsen during the “art at home” show, an event held from May 3 to 8 at the Claremont Ave. dwelling of Flora-Lee Wagner (seen holding up the painting). Wagner organizes the show each year for local artists to display their work in a home environment rather than a gallery. Seen behind them are contributing artist Sunny Savage, left, and local writer Marilyn Vanderstay. This year’s show featured eight artists.

Photo: Martin C. Barry



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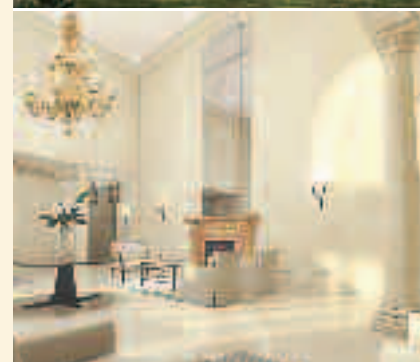
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Robert, Kathryn and Tony Fagnoli, with pup Hurley in front of Tony Shoes on Greene.

Tony's shoes celebrates 75 years

By VERONICA REDGRAVE

Tony Shoes on Greene Ave. is a family affair. It has been owned and managed by one family for 75 years. "It was started by my grandfather, who came from Italy," explained Tony Fagnoli.

"To celebrate our 75-year milestone, every morning this week we are offering free, fun breakfasts (from 8 to 10 am), trunk shows, and wine and cheese in the late afternoons (4 to 6 pm)."

The events take place between Monday, May 7 and Saturday, May 12.

Fagnoli is joined at the store by his wife Kathryn and their son Rob, a certified

pedorthist trained in the use of corrective footwear.

The Fagnoli family is actively involved in the community. "We supply schools with their regulation shoes, then give 5 percent of sales back to that school for their bursary programs," said Kathryn Fagnoli.

Tony Fagnoli is board chair at the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex and is active in its annual fundraiser Under the Tuscan Sun, to be held Thursday, May 24. See story below.

The store has an ever-cheerful greeter: the Fagnoli's wheaten terrier named Hurley.

Tuscan sun shines on Queen E.

The Queen Elizabeth Health Complex (QEHC) is holding its 9th annual Under the Tuscan Sun fundraiser on Thursday, May 24 from 6 pm to 8 pm at Parisian Laundry, located at 3550 St. Antoine St.

Guests will have the opportunity to indulge in Italian food from By George, taste Tuscan wines and bid on exciting items at the silent auction.

The event aims to raise \$200,000 to digitize and modernize the QEHC so that

it can continue providing state-of-the-art ambulatory healthcare.

The QEHC is a unique not-for-profit medical centre, which operates without any government funding. Tickets are \$150 each and are on sale at Tony Shoes (1346 Greene Ave.), Westmount Florist (360 Victoria Ave.), or by calling the QEHC at 514.485.5018.

See photo, p. 1.



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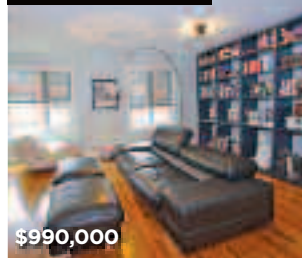
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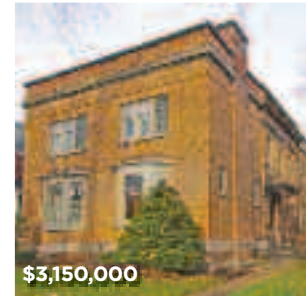
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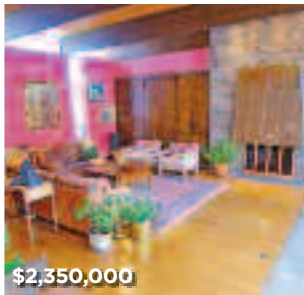
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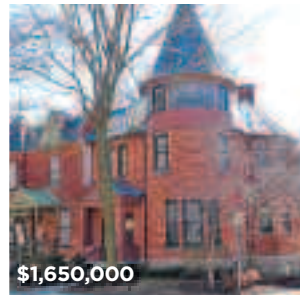
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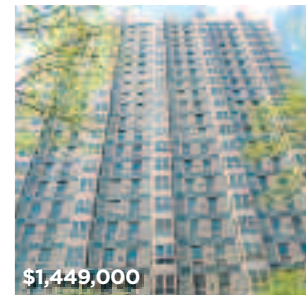
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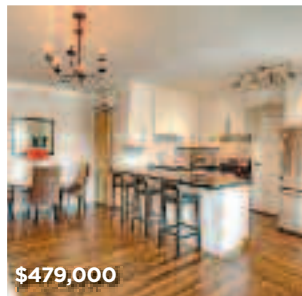
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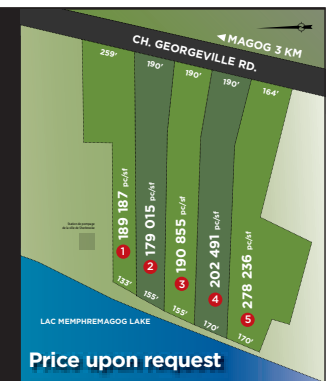
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Trees blown down

Strong wind and heavy rain April 23 was found to have brought down large branches at several locations, according to Public Security officials. Patrollers discovered dents in the roof, fenders and doors of a car smashed outside 396 Grosvenor at 5:16 am. The back window was “blown out” and the interior soaked.

A large fallen limb from another tree blocked most of the street on Edgell at Lexington at 5:29 am. Another branch, from a city tree, was reported to have damaged a lower roof and sprinkler system of a house on Upper Lansdowne. It also broke a magnolia tree.



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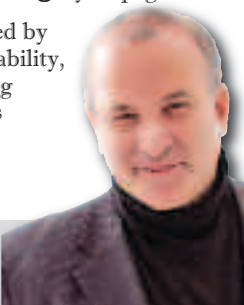
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Adventures in Urban Farming

Soil warms up, growing season starts

BY MARCI BABINEAU

This year spring came early. The snow had really melted by mid-March, and we were seemingly on our way to the kind of spring enjoyed by our neighbours much further south of the border. Then, we had that wildly hot week, and it seemed that we might have jumped south another border. The other day we had a warm wind that reminded me of my childhood in southern California. Then, finally, a month after the snow melted, we got some real rain.

Spring is a time of change. A time to shake off all of the old husks of winter, reunite with our gardens and feel the sun and rain on our faces. It is time to build up the soil in our vegetable and flowerbeds, and mulch our trees. With the early leafing out of the trees, we can also prune off dead wood and open up some light by removing strategic branches from above. We can even sneak out our house plants on the warmer overcast days.

Because the earth has already warmed, we have the opportunity to grow many more things by directly sowing seed into the ground. Putting seed directly where it will be living gives those plants the decided advantage of not having their roots disturbed by transplanting. Because we are often still waiting for the snow to melt at this time of year, it may not register that winter is actually over. Seeds, if protected from extreme temperature drops, can begin to be planted outdoors.

This is not so for hothouse plants that were grown in very warm conditions. But directly sown seed, like the weeds in your garden that have begun to sprout, moder-

ate their own growth based on the conditions they receive from their first sprouting. They don't expect “greenhouse pampering” so are more resilient to fluctuations in temperature. It is a worthwhile risk that will give, particularly vegetables, a longer growing season. Also the early spring gives the opportunity for two or three re-seedings during the season. For those who have begun to look forward to growing a bit of their own food, this is a true advantage.

Edible planters again this year

If growing your own isn't an option for you, you will have a delightful treat again this year when Westmount plants its 44 edible planters down Sherbrooke and Victoria. Last year, we learned that sage was not your favourite herb! We also noticed that when we made the final harvest in October many of the basil plants had been caringly pinched back in just the right way to yield robust plants. (FYI: To pick basil, pinch the top two leaves – called the terminal bud – down to the first branching. This will also stimulate the plant to branch from the place it was pinched and keep the foliage dense.)

In addition, locals happily harvested the peppers and strawberries, as well as the kale and chard. This year the city plans to label the plants when they are first planted.

Good growing Westmount!

Marci Babineau is a long-time organic gardener, and keeps hens and bees in her urban garden in Westmount. You can reach her at sustainthislife@gmail.com.



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Theatre productions ramp up this spring

Westmounters participate in *Rumors*

Several Westmounters are taking part in Neil Simon's *Rumors*, directed by Olivier Donohue and produced by Theater 317. *Rumors* is "a hilarious farce that is bound to keep you laughing from start to finish" about a man found bloodied and unconscious in his bedroom, his wife missing and his friends' attempt to piece

together what happened.

It plays at 8 pm at Théâtre St. Catherine (264 St. Catherine St. E.) on Tuesday, May 8, Wednesday, May 9, Thursday, May 10 and Saturday, May 12. There is also a show at 2 pm on Saturday. Tickets: <http://theatresaintecatherine.com> or 514.284.3939.



Actor Katherine Cleland – lawyer by day, actress by night.

Photos courtesy of Katherine Cleland



Actor Etienne St. Louis, a third-year medical student at McGill.



Rumors producer Munirah Amra. She is a former English professor from Collège Marie de France.

Last chance to see The Dining Room next weekend



Photo: Martin C. Barry

Members of the Westmount-based Dramatis Personae theatre company are pictured in the birthday party scene from *The Dining Room*, an A.R. Gurney play they staged at Victoria Hall last weekend. Directed by Jacqueline van de Geer, the play is being staged again on Sunday, May 13 at 3 pm and 8 pm at Victoria Hall. For info and reservations, visit www.theatrewestmount.com or call 514.486.7423.

Orpheus, in English and French, to be played at Vic Hall



Rodrigo Monardes, on stage, plays Pluto, while musical director Alexandra Fol, right, conducts during the April 30 dress rehearsal of Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld* at the Rialto Theatre. Performances by the Montreal West Operatic Society will held at Victoria Hall on Wednesday, May 16 and Friday, May 18 at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$15 for students. This is the society's first bilingual non-Gilbert & Sullivan production. Andrew Macdougall is among several Westmounters who will perform in the production.

Photo: Ralph Thompson



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Infinite possibilities for Luciani family



From left, Allen Childs (president, Nissan Inc.); Sandro, Camillo and Sabrina Luciani; and Wendy Durward (Infiniti Canada).

Photo courtesy of Group Luciani Automobile

Westmounter Camillo Luciani and his children, Sandro (vice president) and Sabrina (marketing), launched the world's largest Infiniti dealership on April 25.

It is located on Jean Talon, east of Victoria Ave.

Guests toured the filled-to-capacity,

90,000-square-foot showroom as musicians serenaded them and the 15-plus valet staff jockeyed their cars. Camillo Luciani has been in the automotive field for 50 years, most recently with an Acura dealership, which continues to operate just west of the new Infiniti site.

Plant exchange set for May 16 at new outside venue

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

This year's perennial plant exchange and sale May 16 will move to the courtyard in front of the conservatory given the closure and in-progress demolition of the old arena.

"This is a temporary location, and we'll hold it outside rain or shine," said Jayme Gerbrandt, city horticulture and arboriculture inspector.

While the event will be confined to a reduced space, it is being planned along the same lines as other years with a number of outside participants being invited once again to provide information on environmental gardening, obtaining weekly farm products in community sharing programs, and the selling of heritage vegetables.

Any compost left over from the May 12 distribution will be available (see p. 10).

Drop-off 4:30 to 6 pm

The drop-off for people bringing in perennials to exchange for vouchers takes place the same day from 4:30 to 6 pm. A

maximum of six vouchers will be permitted for any one variety of plant. Annuals, shrubs and houseplants will not be accepted; nor will orange day lilies or the invasive gout (bishop's) weed.

People with vouchers will be able to exchange them from 6 to 7 pm. Others will have the opportunity to purchase remaining plants at \$2 each from 7 to 8 pm.

Proceeds will help fund various greenhouse projects. Gerbrandt said some of last year's money enabled the purchase of window baskets as well as the decorative wicker baskets used in the spring flower show.

This year, the city has grown 16 varieties of perennials that will also be available. They include primula (primrose), aquilegia (columbine), lavender, dianthus, arabis (a ground cover), anchusa (forget-me-not), geum, veronica, thyme, gaillardia, oriental poppy, liatris and campanula (bellflower).

The event is organized by the city's Horticultural Advisory Committee (HAC) with assistance from volunteers provided by the Westmount Horticultural Society.



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Ogilvy & Ogilvy to co-sponsor social media conference



Westmounter Tracey Steer (left) and Mila Araujo, director of personal insurance with Ogilvy & Ogilvy in Westmount and Montreal producer of the #140Conference, during the November 30 Montreal reception to promote the upcoming international conference planned for May 15. The aim of the event, of which Ogilvy is a sponsor, is to give participants a chance to learn about how to use social media for social good, improving customer relationships and communicating. Steer will be MCing part of the event. The “140” in the name of the event refers to the 140 characters allowed in a tweet on Twitter.

Photo courtesy of Mila Araujo

Super moon shines May 5



Photographed around 10:30 pm on May 6, the “super moon” was clearly visible as it swept past Westmount at the closest point in its orbit (called perigee). It was also visible Saturday night.

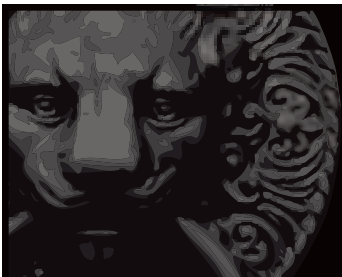
Photo: Ralph Thompson



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<div></div> <div>Westmount vous informe... Westmount vous informe... Westmount</div>				<div>www.westmount.org info : 514 989-5200</div> <div></div>
<div></div> <div>HÔTEL DE VILLE Comités consultatifs du conseil : invitation aux bénévoles Westmount est à la recherche de résidents pour siéger au comité consultatif d'horticulture et au comité consultatif du Bois Summit. Toute personne intéressée est priée de soumettre sa candidature par écrit auprès de la conseillère Cynthia Lulham au 4333, rue Sherbrooke O., H3Z 1E2 ou à clulham@westmount.org.</div> <div>Bureaux administratifs fermés le 21 mai 2012 Les bureaux administratifs de Westmount, soit l'hôtel de ville, le Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount, et les Services de la sécurité publique, des sports et loisirs et des travaux publics seront fermés le lundi 21 mai en raison de la Journée nationale des patriotes. La Bibliothèque publique de Westmount sera fermée les dimanche et lundi 20 et 21 mai. La collecte des matières compostables s'effectuera selon l'horaire normal. 🌿</div> <div></div> <div>SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE Bois Summit : période migratoire Rappel aux propriétaires de chiens : pendant la période migratoire des oiseaux, soit du 16 avril au 15 juin, les propriétaires promenant leurs chiens au parc Summit doivent les tenir en laisse en tout temps. Les officiers de la Sécurité publique patrouilleront le secteur et délivreront des constats de 75 \$ aux contrevenants. Info : 514 989-5222. 🌿</div> <div></div> <div>ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES Échange de plantes vivaces Apportez vos fleurs vivaces fraîchement déterrées à partir de 16 h 30 le mercredi 16 mai dans la cour avant du Conservatoire et recevez des coupons à échanger contre d'autres plantes. Achetez des plantes et informez-vous sur le jardinage écologique. Info: 514 989-5226.</div> <div>Société opératique de Montréal-Ouest La SOMW présente Orphée aux enfers d'Offenbach, sa première production bilingue et qui n'est pas des compositeurs Gilbert et Sullivan, le mercredi 16 mai et le vendredi 18 mai à 19 h au Victoria Hall. Entrée: 20 \$ / 12 \$ (étudiants). Info : www.mwos.org</div> <div>Salon des métiers d'art 2012 de Westmount : appel de dossiers Rappel aux artisans : apportez vos échantillons pour le jury le 23 mai entre 14 h et 18 h au Victoria Hall et récupérez-les le 24 mai entre 16 h et 19 h. Info : westmountartisansfestival@yahoo.ca.</div>		<div></div> <div>CITY HALL Council Advisory Committees: invitation to volunteers Westmount Council is looking for resident members for its Horticulture Advisory Committee and Summit Woods Advisory Committee. Interested residents should send a written application to Councillor Cynthia Lulham at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, H3Z 1E2 or at clulham@westmount.org.</div> <div>Administrative offices closed May 21, 2012 Westmount's administrative offices (City Hall, Hydro Westmount, Victoria Hall, Public Works, Public Security and Recreation) will be closed on Monday, May 21 for the Victoria Day holiday. The Library will be closed Sunday and Monday, May 20 and 21. Please note that the green bin collection will take place according to the regular schedule. 🌿</div> <div></div> <div>PUBLIC SECURITY Summit Woods: migratory period Reminder for dog owners: during the bird migratory period, April 16 to June 15, dogs in Summit Park must be kept on leash at all times. To ensure this regulation is respected, Public Security Officers will carry out random patrols and issue \$75 fines to any violators. Info : 514 989-5222. 🌿</div> <div></div> <div>COMMUNITY EVENTS Perennial Plant Exchange Bring freshly-dug perennial flowers to the courtyard in front of the Conservatory on Wednesday, May 16 from 4:30 p.m. and exchange them for vouchers to obtain new plants. Purchase plants and learn about ecological gardening. Info: 514 989-5226.</div> <div>Montreal West Operatic Society The MWOS presents Offenbach's Orpheus in the Underworld, its first-ever bilingual non-Gilbert & Sullivan production, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday May 16 and Friday, May 18 at Victoria Hall. Tickets: \$20 / \$12 (students). Info: www.mwos.org.</div> <div>2012 Artisans' Festival: call for submissions Reminder to artisans: bring your samples to Victoria Hall on May 23 between 2 and 6 p.m. for the jury and pick them up May 24 between 4 and 7 p.m. Info: westmountartisansfestival@yahoo.ca.</div>		<div>DATEBOOK</div> <div>April 26 to May 18 Exhibition: Works by Graeme Ross (1929-2008) Gallery at Victoria Hall</div> <div>May 12 at 9 a.m. Free compost for residents Public Works Yard, Bethune St.</div> <div>June 4 at 8 p.m. Council Meeting City Hall</div> <div>May 26 at 9 a.m. 37th Annual Family Day Westmount Park</div> <div></div> <div>Art Westmount: Call for Artists Westmount artists are invited to participate in the fourth edition of <i>Art Westmount</i> which will be held September 29 and 30, 2012. Participation forms are available at www.westmount.org and at Victoria Hall. Deadline to register: Thursday, May 31. Info: 514 989-5521 or artwestmount@westmount.org. 🌿</div> <div></div> <div>LIBRARY English Book Club Join the English Book Club at 7p.m. on Tuesday, May 15 as they discuss Room by author Emma Donoghue. Info: 514 989-5386.</div> <div>2 O'clock Series: Mystical Creatures and the Wonders of Nature Photographer Fred Hore has entertained us with his exotic travels; join us Wednesday, May 23 at 2 p.m. to share in his fascination for the wildlife and birds that he encountered. Info: 514 989-5386. 🌿</div> <div></div> <div>SPORTS & RECREATION Westmount Recreation Centre For information about the construction, please consult www.westmount.org/westmountrecreationcentre or contact westmountrecreationcentre@westmount.org. To receive up-to-the-minute information, follow us on twitter:@constructalert.</div> <div>Relocation of offices Please note that the Sports & Recreation Department offices have been relocated to Victoria Hall for the duration of the construction of the new recreation centre. Info: 514 989-5353. 🌿</div>

History of 105 Côte St. Antoine Rd.



History by the house

ANDY DODGE, CRA

Some properties in Westmount appear to have been jinxed from the outset, and certainly that can be said about 105 Côte St. Antoine Rd.

According to city records, the semi-detached house was built in 1898, but the land beneath it had already been the object of some court proceedings. Originally the land had been owned by Samuel Thomas who, in about 1848, subdivided the two 50-foot lots on the northeast corner of Church Hill and Côte St. Antoine Rd., one of this city's oldest streets.

As settlers started moving west from Montreal, it changed hands various times, and by 1884 it was in the hands of Alexander Manson who pledged it – along with other properties – against a loan of \$10,000 from John H. R. Molson, then defaulted in 1890.

The property was sold through the courts to Alexander Ramsay for \$2,001. He turned it over for 8,542.60 in 1891, by which time Church Hill had been established as a street, and the land formed the entire northeast corner of Church Hill and Côte St. Antoine Rd. The Gnaedingers paid \$4,250 for Lots 279-1 and 279-2, of which \$2,250 was a balance of sale for which they agreed to pay five percent interest.

By 1893, the Gnaedingers, described variously as merchants and furriers, sold both lots to Henry T. Jackson, chemist, for \$6,400 with a three-year, \$3,000 mortgage drawing 6 percent. Five years later, in September of 1898, Henry Jackson sold the entire property to Charles James Brown, described as a real estate agent, and Edward Riel, a contractor, a total of 15,532 square feet for which they paid \$8,542.60 with no explanation for the odd number. Still, however, there was no house on either lot.

By May of 1899, Lot 279-2 had two semi-detached houses; apparently two more were built next door. The eastern-most of these houses, next to what is now part of Selwyn House School but which at the time was a newly-constructed St. Andrew's Church, was built and sold off to Thomas Harling, a "steamship agent." Harling paid \$9,500 for the house, which at the time did not have a civic number, including a \$6,000 loan from the Royal Institute for the Advancement of Learning (McGill) with interest at 4.5 percent, and the balance assumed at the same rate by the vendors.

Harling got into trouble and had to take out various loans over the next decade, finally succumbing to a seizure from Alexander Chase Casgrain – who had lent him \$2,500 in 1907 – in September 1910. Casgrain leased the house for a year and then sold it to Thomas M. Reynolds, professor, for \$11,250.

Reynolds sold the house, which by now had the civic number 105, in April 1917, to Dame Edith Hope Robertson, wife of

Valmore T. Traversy, a manufacturer. She paid \$12,300, some \$4,000 of which went to the estate of Sophie Blacklock, who had originally loaned the money to Harling (and which mortgage had been honoured by Reynolds over the years). Even at that, however, Reynolds also offered a balance of sale of \$3,000 for three years at 6.5 percent interest.

Traversy and her family stayed in the house for more than 40 years before selling to Grace Ann Phillips, wife of Richard Hancock, *continued on p. 20*

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105 Côte St. Antoine Rd.

105 Côte St. Antoine Rd.

continued from p. 19

for \$21,000, not even doubling the value when they sold it in February 1958. Obviously, the house was in need of renovation, and Hancock apparently carried this out, selling it in October 1959 for \$37,000 to Joan Scott Rutherford, wife of William John Stauble.

The next sale came in August 1965, this time bringing \$47,500 from Edmond Howard Eberts, a company executive. The 1970 October Crisis had its effect on Westmount real estate prices and in November 1971, Eberts sold the house to Dianne M. Dickinson, wife of Bernard de Vienne, for only \$40,000. She held onto the property for six years, selling to Marvin Louis Kotler, executive, in December 1977, for \$78,000.

If two judgments involving this prop-

erty were not enough, three mortgage companies were forced to seize the property from Kotler in December 1980. The seizure wound its way through the courts for several months, involving Guarantee Investment & Mortgage Ltd., Centron Venture Corp. and Stanco Investments Ltd., all of which were located in Suite 300 at 5180 Queen Mary Rd; the amount of the claim was \$101,500.

Finally Kotler was able to get back the house and to sell it in February, 1981 to Victor Nielson Desaulniers and Barbara Symonds for \$182,500, settling another judgment against Kotler from Joseph Elie Ltd., which may have involved an unpaid oil delivery for \$610.28, with interest added at 18 percent, the going rate at the time.

Those high interest rates finally had their effect on the Westmount market and this was felt by Desaulniers, who tried to sell it in 1982 and finally had to transfer it to A. E. LePage Ltd. in October that year for \$180,000, slightly less than his purchase price; LePage put it back on the market asking \$189,000 but finally had to accept \$150,000 from Jacques Hendlisz, director general of the Douglas Hospital in February 1983.

As Westmount real estate came of age in the 1980s, Hendlisz was able to more than double his investment, finally selling in January 1992 for \$385,000 to Christopher Keogh and Mary Gane.

They held onto the property for just over two years before selling to Rudolf Keller and Juliana Espana for \$519,000, in July 1994. The next sale, in January, 2004, brought \$750,000 from Barbara Pollock,

who set about making renovations and sold the property to Michel Boislard in June 2007, for \$1,170,000.

Despite that price, the 2011 valuation (which is supposed to represent market value for July 2009) is only \$1,033,800.

Andy Dodge is a residential real estate appraiser. His email address is andy@andydodgeassociates.com.

105 Côte St. Antoine Rd. list of buyers

Date	Buyer	Price
16 May, 1890	Alexander Manson	seizure
15 Apr, 1891	Alexander Ramsay	2,001
30 Apr, 1891	Frederick G. and Julius T. Gnaedinger	4,250
4 May, 1893	Henry F. Jackson	6,400
10 Sep, 1898	Charles James Brown & Edward Riel	8,542.6
25 May, 1899	Thomas Harling	9,500
19 Sep, 1910	Alexandre Chase Casgrain	seizure
21 Mar, 1911	Thomas M. Reynolds	11,250
23 Apr, 1917	Edythe Hope Robertson	12,300
27 Feb, 1958	Grace Ann Phillips, wife of Richard Hancock	21,000
20 Oct, 1959	Jean Scott Rutherford, wife of Dr. William John Stauble	37,000
13 Aug, 1965	Edmond Howard Eberts	47,500
15 Nov, 1971	Dianne M. Dickinson, wife of Bernard de Vienne	40,000
2 Dec, 1977	Marvin Louis Kotler	78,000
3 Dec, 1980	Guarantee Investment & Mortgage Ltd. et al	seizure
12 Feb, 1981	Marvin Louis Kotler	101,500
12 Feb, 1981	Victor Neilson Desaulniers & Barbara Symonds	182,500
23 Sep, 1982	A.E. LePage Ltd.	180,000
25 Feb, 1983	Jacques Hendlisz	150,000
10 Jan, 1992	Christopher Keogh & Mary Gane	385,000
7 Jul, 1994	Rudolf Keller & Juliana Espana	519,000
29 Jan, 2004	Barbara Pollock	750,000
18 June, 2007	Michel Boislard	1,170,000

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Ce samedi, venez chercher du compost GRATUIT!

Le compost fabriqué à partir des feuilles mortes ramassées l'automne dernier sera mis à la disposition des résidents de Westmount à compter de 9 h, le samedi 12 mai aux Ateliers municipaux situés au 1, rue Béthune, jusqu'à épuisement des stocks.

Les résidents doivent apporter un contenant (soit un sac de plastique ou une poubelle) et une pelle. Comme la quantité est limitée, nous vous prions d'en laisser pour vos voisins. Interdit aux camions et aux remorques !

Le compostage domestique

Westmount simplifie le compostage encore davantage en offrant des composteurs domestiques au prix modique de 30 \$. Téléphonez au Service des travaux publics pour en savoir plus.

Composteur 'Soil Saver'

Dimensions : 28 x 28 x 32 po (h)
Capacité : 12 pi³
Fabrication en plastique noir recyclée
Coût : 30 \$

This Saturday, come get your FREE compost!

Compost made from leaves collected last autumn will be available to Westmount residents from 9 a.m. Saturday, May 12 at the Public Works yard, 1 Bethune Street, while supplies last.

Residents should bring a container (either a plastic bag or bin) and a shovel. Supply is limited so please leave some for your neighbours. Trucks and trailers are prohibited!

Backyard Composting

Westmount makes composting even easier by offering backyard composters for the low price of \$30. Contact the Public Works Department to learn more.

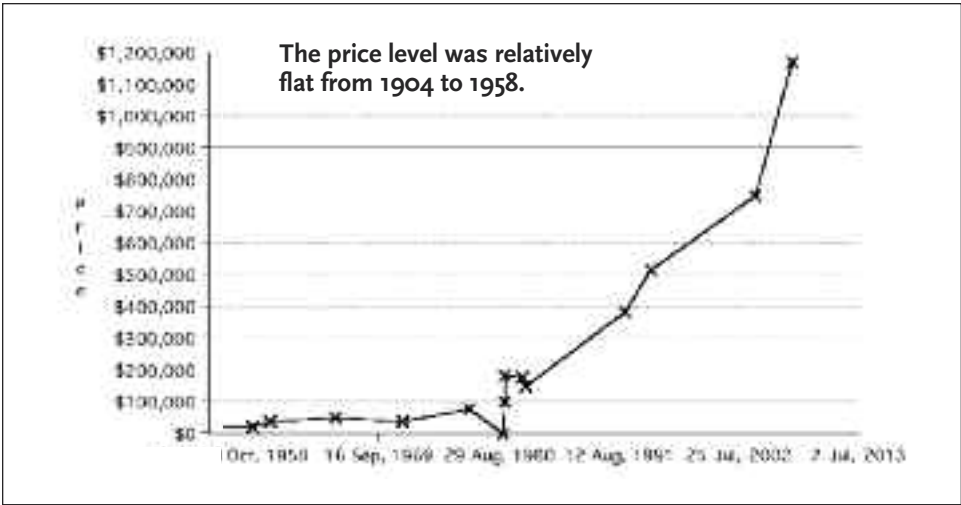
'Soil Saver' Composter

Dimensions: 28"x 28"x 32"(h)
Capacity: 12 ft³ capacity
Black recycled plastic construction
Cost: \$30



Services des travaux publics
Public Works Department

Info : 514 989-5390
www.westmount.org



White furry dog rushes from yard

A Westmount man was walking along Prince Albert in the morning of April 23 when a large white furry dog rushed out of a nearby yard in what was described as an aggressive manner, Public Security of-

ficials said. The complainant was not injured but officers met with the owner, who apologized and said she usually checks the gate before letting the dog out.

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Big, blond, beautiful

The Underdog Club

CYNTHIA LEE

It may look like he has it all but it just ain't so. Big blond and beautiful describe Amazonian movie stars and now a certain retriever named Zip.

Currently under the care of Frontier Animal Society, he is a gorgeous boy with a sunny disposition to match. The middle aged 7-year-old carries himself well and



Zip

gets along fine with people and critters alike.

But upon closer inspection, deep inside his huge heart, lives (drum roll) ... a puppy. A boisterous, rambunctious puppy trapped inside his mature canine body. He simply can't keep up with himself.

Zip is not the most trained dog given his years on the planet but much of this can be attributed to his start in life.

Dropped off with his siblings at a shelter to compete for homes, Zip was chosen and then, for some inexplicable reason, returned. After that, he has remained a ward of the state, or shall we say a ward of the rescues for the last four years.

And so he has remained, and though well liked by cast and crew, his puppyhood can get the better of him at times. In his middle years, it has been said that Zip is getting wiser and even mellowing but he still can revert to his younger years in a blink of an eye.

Once this is known, his people can adjust and get on with enjoy their time with this glorious loveable guy. If you or someone you know likes them young at heart, look no further than Zip. He is overdue for a place to hang his hat and will repay you tenfold with years of devotion and companionship. Contact carolinekemp2009@gmail.com to learn more about Zip.

Visit more underdogs at www.underdogclub.org. We feature the best of the old, the ugly and the unpopular dogs in need of homes.

Underdog Petite Puce soon to be a familiar face in Westmount

A Westmount resident read about Petite Puce from Eleven Eleven rescue in the issue of May 1, p. 21 and said “she sounds lovely from the Underdog write-up. I fell in love with the description.” The resident says she will change her new dog's name.

University Women's Club helps mark 70 years of women in law



From left, back row: Westmounter Nicole Duval-Hesler, chief justice of Quebec; Johanne Desrochers; Westmounter Elizabeth Annesley; Louise Maillhot, former Court of Appeal judge; François Rolland, chief justice of Quebec's Superior Court; Anne-Marie Trahan, former Superior Court judge; Elisabeth Corte, chief justice of the Court of Quebec; Dominique Racanelli; Louis Masson, bâtonnier of Quebec and Westmounter Lesley Forrester. Front row: Sheila Horn Bisailon; Westmounter Margaret Jackson; Beverly Rowat; and Elizabeth Greene, bâtonnier of Montreal.

Photo: Katherine Taron

A gala dinner at the Intercontinental Hotel organized by the women's committee of the Bar of Montreal marked the 70th anniversary of one of the first three women, Elizabeth Monk, to be called to the Montreal bar, which took place in 1942.

The March 21 dinner was attended by members of the legal community and of the University Women's Club of Montreal (UWCM), which contributed \$5,000 towards the dinner and a fall lecture series on women in law.

House cleaning to Madonna

A resident of Grosvenor Ave., who turned up her Madonna music while doing house work, was told to lower the

volume April 28, Public Security officials said. The woman complied. A neighbour lodged the complaint at 12:25 pm.

Quebec classifieds

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Rats!

Ruminations

GEORGE BOWSER



Westmount is home to some 20,000 people and probably as many rats. The province of Alberta has 3.6 million people and no rats. What's the secret of their success? How did they do it? Can Westmount do it too?

The answers to those questions are: They started decades ago, they had legislation and applied it ruthlessly, and ... no.

Alberta started its rat control program when rats first crossed the borders and were seen in farm buildings in 1950. There was existing provincial pest control legislation, which made every person and municipality responsible for eliminating animal pests, and the province added rats to the list, and went to work.

They began by educating the public about rats, because most people couldn't correctly identify a rat if they saw one, and

they informed the public about the provincial law, what it intended to accomplish, and why. Then they systematically destroyed rat habitats and eliminated rats wherever they found them. Because the rat population was not already established, this was an attainable goal.

The initial cost was high. Also, a lot of other animals were accidentally poisoned (this was euphemistically called "non-target livestock fatalities") until the introduction of warfarin improved the situation. Alberta still runs a very effective rat control program, and there are still no rats in Alberta.

I'm guessing about the rat population of Westmount – it's probably more than one per person – but you can bet they're here in large numbers because humans provide rats with everything they need to survive. Heck, we even package it for them, calling it "garbage" and "compost," probably much to their amusement.

Yes, rats can laugh. Rats have metacognition, which means that they not only know stuff, but they also know that they know stuff, and that means they can be *continued on p. 25*

Brothers Monty & Milo

9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER



Monty and Milo are two brothers, just over a year old. They are very healthy, have had all their shots and have been neutered. They have found themselves homeless in the typical case of the owner moving and not being able to take them.

These young brothers have always been together and it would be best that they stay together. They play together, sleep together and keep each other company when alone.

These kittens were born with a physical deformity, which does not impact their health but does impact their mobility a bit. There is a physical malformation in their front paws; it basically looks as if they have two elbow joints. They frequently hop around like bunnies and are very silent in doing so!

Monty and Milo should remain indoors due to their physical disadvantage, which renders them defenseless in an attack.

They are couch potatoes who purr and squeak when they are happy! If you are in-



Milo



Monty

terested in adopting them, please email estelleblais@hotmail.com.

Your neighbour, Lysanne

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

- **Westmount Municipal Association** annual general meeting at Victoria Hall. Reception at 7 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Presentation of the volunteer of the year award (see "Thompson is volunteer of year," May 1, p. 1). Speaker is Owen Rose on ecology and urbanity. Open to all. Info: • Claire Rothman reviews *By Nightfall* by Michael Cunningham, 9:30 am at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom (395 Elm Ave.) for coffee and pastry; review at 10 am. Cost: \$8.
- Lieutenant Colonel **John Shone** speaks to the Rotary Club of Westmount on "The Canadian Regimental System," 1 pm at Victoria Hall. 12 noon preamble, 12:30 pm lunch. Cost: \$20 lunch and presentation. RSVP: 514.935.3344 by the Friday before.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

Jean Bélisle, Concordia University art history professor, gives a talk on aspects of **Montreal's maritime history**, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. Free. Info: www.atwaterlibrary.ca.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

- The Thomas More Institute presents an interview with **Antonia Maioni** on health care, 7 to 9 pm. Second of four-part interview series on "Canadian Anxieties." 3405 Atwater. Cost \$10. Reserve: 514.935.9585.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

- **Free compost** available for Westmount residents, 9 am at Public Works Yard on Bethune St. Bring a container, shovel and proof of residence. Info: Marina Peter 514.989.5390.
- **Orpheus Singers**, directed by Westmounter Peter Schubert, features the Missa "Dum complerentur" by Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611), 8 pm at St.

Matthias' Church, 131 Côte St. Antoine. Tickets: \$18 (\$20 at door); seniors and students: \$10 (\$12 at door). Info: 514.577.9292 or orpheusmontreal.org.

- St. Matthias' Church's annual spring **rummage sale**, 10 am to 1 pm in the lower hall. Clothing, toys, linens, small appliances, books, CDs, household items. 131 Côte St. Antoine Rd. Info: 514.933.4295.
- **St. Margaret's annual spring sale**, 10 am to 3 pm at St. Margaret Residential Centre, 11 Hillside. Books, bake table, household items and "treasure and boutique" rooms. Info: Mazie McKay 514.488.1654.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

- **Books & Breakfast** with authors Kim Thúy, Noah Richler, Jeff Rubin and Taras Grescoe, 10 am at Le Centre Sheraton. Event is co-sponsored by the Westmount Public Library and Paragraphe Bookstore. Tickets: 30\$ for library members. Available at the circulation desk.
- *The Dining Room* by A. R. Gurney, presented by **Dramatis Personae** and directed by Jacqueline van de Geer, 3 pm and 8 pm at Victoria Hall. Reserve: www.theatrewestmount.com, 514.486.7423 or 514.484.2016. See story, p. 15.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

- Author **Paul Almond** reads from and discusses the latest book in his Alford series, which covers 200 years of history from the perspective of a family who settled on the Gaspé coast, 6 pm at the Atwater Library.
- **Poetry workshop with Ann Lloyd**, 2 pm at Westmount Public Library. Info: Donna Lach at dlach@westmount.org.
- "What kind of art would an internationally renowned circus collect?" featuring **Martin Bundock** of the Cirque de Soleil, 7 pm at McClure Gallery (350 Victoria Ave.). Part of the Norma Morgan lecture series. Info: 514.488.9558. Free.

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schedules*

Spring awards banquet fills Vic Hall

The evening of April 18 brought out some 350 young athletes and their 150 fans to Victoria Hall for the semi-annual awards banquet, complete with a pizza dinner.

Following a welcome from Sports and Recreation director Mike Deegan, 66 awards were given out, and nine championship hockey teams received recognition medals and/or banners from city council-

lors Victor Drury, Tim Price, Nicole Forbes and Cynthia Lulham, and recreation program coordinators Anitra Bostock, Andrew Maislin and Matthew Lawton.

Most improved skating: *Beginner:* Isabel Lubarsky, Krystyna Blaikie-Tomiuk, Lynn Dabboussy, Hana Sophia Joo, Valentina Rosales-Mejia, Roberto Morelos, Ayden Dorey, Xavier Couture-Trudel, Max Garson, Yang Shuo Cui, Junior, Hanako Brierley, Sogand Tavakoli, Alan Kaufmann, Hanmin Yun. *Senior:* Aurelia Mir-Orefice, Olivia Hallett, Olivia Chiovitti, Nicole Frankel. *Powerskating:* Chloe Walter, Morgan Doke.

Girls indoor soccer (9-11 years) season winners: Comets (pink) – Grace Anderson, Camille Battista, Olivia Battista, Elina Burgos, Gigi Gelgor, Vivian Maas, Alexa Nantel, Sophie Poirier, Chella Price, Danielle Sager. *Play-off winners:* Lynx (green) – Megan Bernier, Faye Essaris, Madison Filion, Morgan Geyer, Sofia Hashemi, Amanda Kuflik, Claudia Lighter, Tara Mintzberg, Miriam Pateron, Chloe Walter, Emma Westenberg.

Girls indoor soccer (12+ years) season winners: Fury (pink) – Caroline Anber, Melissa Anber, Annisa Burgos, Mia Sarah Drummond, Noa Feldman, Annika Horner-Borsu, Caroline Kuflik, Rosalie Quinn, Emily Simard, Sophie Waxlax. *Play-off winners:* Sounders (blue): Melissa Bell, Madeleine Bienvenu, Helen Bitz, Isabelle Buchanan, Chloe Dluhosh, Keili Moore, Rebecca Trudeau, Sarah Williams, Amelia Travis.

Girls indoor soccer sportsmanship award 9-11 years: Vivian Maas (Comets), Bronwen Moisan (Flash), Madison Filion (Lynx), Alexa Zadeh (Ravens). *Sportsmanship award 12-15 years:* Gabrielle Saint (Breakers), Amelia O'Connor (Frenzy), Noa Feldman (Fury), Melissa Bell (Sounders).

Boys indoor soccer sportsmanship award: Victor Elliott.

Midget A inter-city Wings: EHL playoff winners.

Midget inter-city sportsmanship awards: Nicholas Sugden, Max Rabinovitch. *Most improved player awards:* Max Hallickman, Ryan Alexander

Bantam A inter-city Wings: EHL season winners, Lac St. Louis Regional Champion.

Bantam inter-city sportsmanship awards: Bronte Viens. *Most improved player award:* Jean Westenberg

Pee wee A inter-city Predators: EHL season winners, EHL playoff winners, tournament, regionals.

Pee wee B inter-city Wings: EHL season

winners, EHL playoff winners, tournament.

Pee wee inter-city sportsmanship awards: Ariel Rosen, Wesley Osterland, William Bouchard. *Most improved player awards:* Paul Westenberg, Michael Robb, Max Mashaal.

Atom A inter-city Wings: EHL playoff winners, tournament.

Atom inter-city sportsmanship awards: Gil Salzman, Emma Westenberg. *Most improved player awards:* Sebastien Lalonde, Adrien Garcia.

Novice inter-city sportsmanship award: Matthew Eiley. *Most improved player award:* Sebbie Johnson.

The rest of the awards will be published in a subsequent paper.

Bowser

continued from p. 24

amused. Most of the rats you see (or smell) are probably female or juvenile, as they do most of the rat work. Old male rats mostly hang out together, talking politics, ogling the younger females, and telling rat jokes (If a squirrel bothers you, just grab his nuts).

Westmount cannot eliminate its rats because the rats are already here, as they are in every large urban centre. The best we can hope for is to keep them out of our houses and public spaces by denying them reasonable accommodation and free grub. At the very least, we can stop feeding them on purpose. That means obeying By-law 257 concerning feeding wildlife (don't do it), and keeping your garbage and compost in closed, rat-proof containers.

If you don't, someone will rat you out.

George Bowser is a former Westmount city councillor and an entertainer.

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MOSD inaugural gala kicks off at Bourgie concert hall



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmount’s Montreal Oral School for the Deaf (MOSD) held an inaugural benefit in the Bourgie Concert Hall of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts on March 27. The \$250 cocktail concert raised funds for the school, which helps children with hearing impairments to hear and speak. “Voices: From Silence to Song” honoured former Westmounter **Hugh Hallward**, there with his wife **Martha**. Honorary co-chairs were Westmounter **Linda Birks**, who with husband **Tom**, were donors of

distinction, and **John Rae** of Power Corporation, a major event partner. Co-chairs were Westmounters **Christine Stamegna** (with **Raphael Kertesz**) and **Jeniene Birks** (with hubby **Randall**), whose six-year-old daughter suffers from hearing loss. MOSD director **Martha Perusse**, Rae, Hallward and Linda Birks praised the school’s skills and how it addresses deafness in children. Westmounter **Kristen Bussandri** sang with amazing grace. **Isabella d’Éloize Peron**, an 11-year-old award-winning vocalist/violinist, was accompanied on the piano by the über-talented **Gregory Charles**. Noted in the crowd were Westmounters **Karma** and **John Hallward**, **Constance Pathy** and her son **Paul Pathy**, **Kate** and **Geoff Molson**, **Beverley Webster**, **Julie** and



John Rae, Jeniene and Randall Birks.



Raphael Kertesz, Jack Lang and Christine Stamegna.

Claude Bedard, **Ann Birks**, **Diane** and **Claudio Bussandri**, **Pen** and **John Bridgman**, **Elaine** and **Calin Rovinescu**, **Elisabeth Roux** and **Roger Beauchemin**, **Analisa** and **Brad Birks**, **Colleen** and **Mirco Wicha**, **Hema Patel** and **Serge Gouin**, **Sara McKenna**, owner of **Cabana Séguin** – a diamond sponsor; **Martine Gadbois**, **Anne Vroom** and **David Lank**, **Jill** and **Shane Velan**, **Gigi Cukier** and **Jay Sala**, and **Nancy Dufour** and **Anthony Zitmann**. Also attending were **Maria Birks** and her daughter **Alexandra**, New Yorkers **Elizabeth** and **Evan Birks**, chair of **Birks Family Foundation**, and a donor of distinction; **Alexia** and **Anthony Calvillo**, **Letko Brosseau** (a diamond partner), guests **Daniel Brosseau** and **Suzanne Caron**, and **Peter Letko** with **Deborah Josephson**. Noted from CTV Montreal (also a diamond partner) were **Louis Douville**, general manager; **Aphrodite Salas**, emcee; and reporters **Cindy Sherwin**, **Caroline Van Vlaardingen** and **Stéphane Giroux**. The event raised \$435,000, which will



Tom and Linda Birks.

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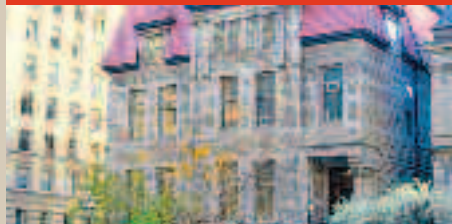
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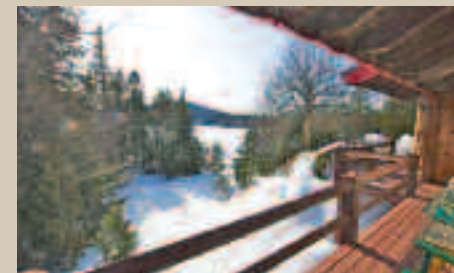
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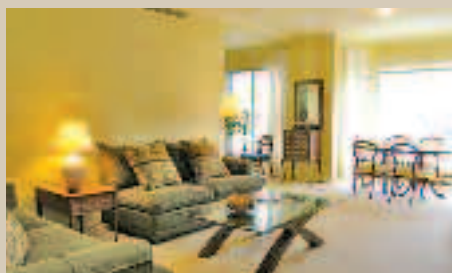
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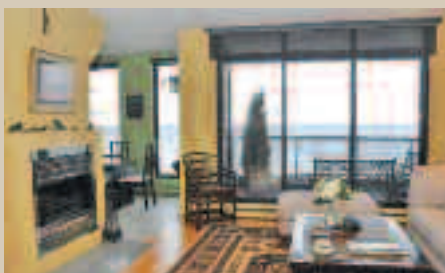
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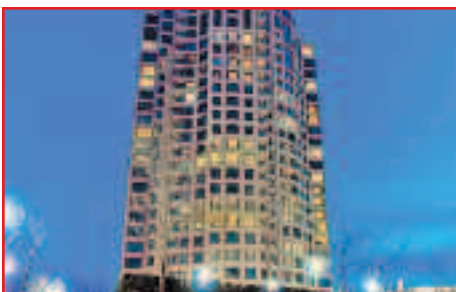
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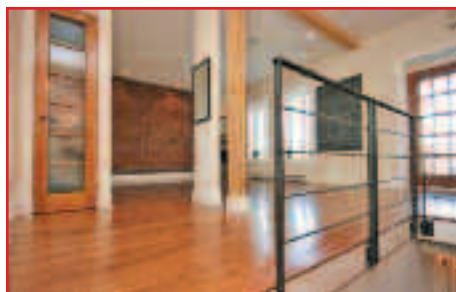
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