

Cottonwood to come down

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The diagnosis came in. Westmount's iconic cottonwood tree in Lansdowne dog run was dying rapidly and had to come down for safety reasons. City officials said this would take place as soon as possible – maybe even by the time this news is received by readers.

A report dated June 7 from forestry engineer Luc Nadeau concludes that only the

central part of the tree is alive and the crown is 80 percent dead. It recommends the tree be cut down between now and mid-summer.

But after the report was received, a large branch fell June 13, hitting one construction worker, who already was extending the dog run, and the tree removal was imminent, director general Duncan Campbell said June 15. The worker was not injured but the dog run was closed.

"Considering the tree has five years of life at the most, it has reached a point where there is a high risk of a section breaking off at the middle or end of summer," the report states, "especially if it is subjected to stresses of nature, such as a summer drought."

The cottonwood has also been shedding smaller branches.

Its deterioration is attributed mainly to climate stresses in the last decade related mainly to periods of drought, which led to a *continued on p. 10*

For story,
see paper archive.



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Traffic study results BY L. SWEENEY p. 8

Social Notes BY V. REDGRAVE p. 14

Comin' Up p. 17

Potter spins magic at Art Walk



Potter Marko Savard demonstrates his craft outside the Visual Arts Centre during Westmount Street Festival's Art Walk. For more photos, see p. 11.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Groups tackle itinerancy, homelessness at city meeting

Stayner Park neighbours discuss the tough issues

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Concerns of residents around Stayner Park over the behaviour of some people at the comfort station led recently to a meeting convened by Public Security on the increased presence of itinerants coming into southeast Westmount.

Among items discussed were how to improve security in the short term for res-

idents and the clientele of neighbourhood groups and institutions, while looking for longer term solutions to the larger social issue of the homeless.

Held May 30 at the offices of Batshaw Family Services on Weredale Park, the session brought together representatives of police, Public Security and organizations in the immediate area. These included Batshaw, *continued on p. 22*

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Residents request changes to water reduction by-law

Allow blowers and more flexibility, water meeting hears

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Most residents at a city public information meeting June 11 urged the city to press forward with “the gist” of a draft by-law to reduce water consumption but questioned details restricting lawn sprinklers and washing of driveways, patios and walls.

Maureen Kiely, a resident of The Boulevard, expressed concern over the number of regulations being imposed on Westmounters and called on the city to lift current out-of-season bans on leaf-blowers as an alternative to water for exterior cleaning.

Some suggested the use of grey (recycled) water. Others proposed the city obtain buy-in to the by-law by positioning it as part of the city’s larger action plan for mitigating water loss through leaky infrastructure as well as water conservation programs.

“It’s important for council to have a meeting to obtain feedback,” said Coun-

cillor Theodora Samiotis at the start of the session attended by some eight residents and six city representatives from Public Works, Public Security and Legal Services.

Required by Quebec

The by-law was tabled May 7 to comply with Quebec government criteria requiring all municipalities to reduce drinking water consumption 20 percent by 2017 (see June 5, p. 1). Quebecers are the largest consumers of water in Canada.

While Councillor Patrick Martin, Public Works and Utilities commissioner, did not attend the meeting, he later told the *Independent* the draft by-law “obviously requires a lot of fine-tuning and in its current form does not have the support of all the council.” He said he had received many calls and emails “mostly in opposition to certain clauses.”

And it was restricting the washing of driveways, patios and outside walls to between April 1 and May 15 that kicked off several questions at the meeting.

Susan Kazenel of Kensington Ave. said the wording “should be clearer,” specifically to prohibit apartment building maintenance people from “just living with the hose” to ensure their properties were “totally immaculate.”

Another citizen, who no longer lives in Westmount, asked if tickets could be issued for using a hose to clean grass clippings off a driveway outside the designated period. “That is the intent,” replied Andrew Duffield, assistant director of Public Works, who conducted the by-law presentation.

There were other means of cleaning away grass clippings, he suggested, such as leaf blowers and brooms.

The problem with this, Kiely noted, is that leaf blowers are banned under Westmount’s noise by-law except for early

spring and late fall clean-up periods. Given there are now quieter models on the market and that the blowers have become standard use by hired garden contractors, she asked that they be governed by sound level rather than season.

Public Security director Dave Sedgwick confirmed his department had been issuing “lots of tickets” for out-of-season leaf-blower use.

Kiely also asked that the city adopt

more flexible times for allowing the use of lawn sprinklers, as well the proposed regulations governing automatic sprinklers.

In his presentation, Duffield explained that Westmount was one of the last municipalities to adopt a water by-law. Many communities have had water restrictions in place for years. Most required alternate day use of oscillating sprinklers as Westmount would require but impose different time re-

continued on p. 12



Andrew Duffield of Public Works answers questions at the information meeting June 11.

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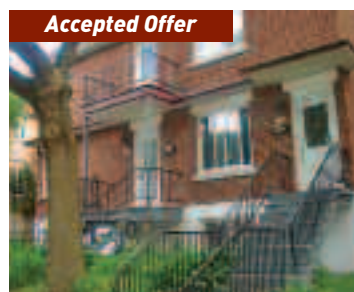
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Bell work closes bike path access through park

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Work to relocate a Bell manhole at de Maisonneuve and Academy Rd. was expected to take about three weeks, resulting in the closure of the bike path through Westmount Park. It began June 8.

The barricades at Lansdowne and Melville entry points caught many cyclists and pedestrians by surprise, as the city at-



With closure of the bike path's park entrance at Lansdowne eastbound, signs reroute cyclists north or south. Flagmen close or open passage in front of Westmount Park Church for use by work equipment.

tempted to find alternate routes other than detouring them to Sherbrooke or St. Catherine.

The manhole, which provides access to Bell's fibre optic conduit through Westmount Park, is positioned in the way of the new arena and has to be moved, city director general Duncan Campbell said.

Ongoing efforts were under way last week to provide pedestrian access to the front door of Westmount Park Church as well as to find a way for pedestrians or cyclists pushing bikes to walk safely through the excavation area. The actual park paths are not affected, he said.

Initially, some cyclists were told they could get off their bikes and walk them through the parking lot behind the church to circumvent the work area. "But that was deemed by police to be too unsafe and was shut down," Campbell explained. The parking lot is used for drop-off at the church daycare.

"It was chaos and confusion in the morning," said Dan Lambert of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association

continued on p. 6

Reduced to rubble



Looking east towards the armoury just visible, the rubble pile at the former arena is bigger than a cyclist, a car or a backhoe. June 15.

Photo: Westmount Independent

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Hamilton 'very confident' about second underground link to MUHC

BY ISAAC OLSON

Robert Hamilton, a senior director of the incoming super-hospital's construction project rising from the former Glen Yards, has confirmed that the McGill Uni-



Standing on the roof of 5100 de Maisonneuve on June 14, Julie Paquet (left), a spokesperson for the McGill University Health Centre, explains some of the incoming super-hospital's features. The MUHC hosted a general assembly to update invited guests about the project's progress.

versity Health Centre (MUHC), in collaboration with Quebec and local transportation agencies, is planning a second tunnel access to the site from de Maisonneuve.

While final planning and funding are being sorted out, Hamilton told the *Inde-*

pendent that he is “very confident” this project will materialize – giving people on foot direct access to the hospital without having to face the throngs of commuters likely to fill the narrow tunnel on the western side of the Vendôme Metro station (a plan already exists to extend it to the plaza in front of the hospital).

However, Metro users,

Hamilton continued, will also use the new tunnel as it will, with elevators and stairs at both ends, connect to the MUHC-owned 5100 de Maisonneuve (once known as the Air Canada building), to the street and the east end of the Metro platform. This, he explained, will relieve some of the pressure on the station as it is already at capacity and ill-equipped for the expected hospital traffic come 2015.

Originally, there had been much talk about a bridge over the train tracks connecting right to the hospital's main corridors but, because the Metro station is going to need renovations for the increased crowds, planners have since been pushing for a tunnel to ease commuter congestion in the Metro station and provide a direct link to de Maisonneuve.

Noting the hospital is working closely with the Société de transport de Montréal and the Agence métropolitaine de transport, Hamilton said the MUHC is continuing its mission of softening the barriers surrounding the hospital site and finding ways to improve integration with the neighbour-

..... continued on p. 16

continued on p. 16



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STOP WITH THE MINUTIAE

Allen Rubin, in his letter of June 12 (“Where will city-monitored water use end?” p. 6), hit the nail right on the head.

Instead of legislating every minutiae, the city should spend the time properly managing infrastructure.

CHRIS FEISE, CHESTERFIELD AVE.

CYCLISTS IN HARM’S WAY

It is with regret that again we must be critical of Westmount, whose stated intentions are laudable but whose execution is not there.

We had hoped that having learnt how to design a pedestrian and cycling path detour around the construction site at Greene and de Maisonneuve that that knowledge would have been carried to the supervision of Pomerleau’s work for the rec. centre.

But Monday morning Pomerleau, unannounced, without proper detour signage, without flagmen, closed de Maisonneuve right up to the church façade with construction fencing. Even handicapped access to the church was denied. Pomerleau is under obligation to provide clear, safe, free-flowing detours for pedestrians and cyclists.

Inexperienced new urban cyclists are being sent unprotected to fend for themselves amongst buses and heavy, impa-

tient commuter traffic on Sherbrooke or construction trucks and speeding traffic on St. Catherine. I have cycled those routes during the morning and evening rush hours. They are being put in harm’s way.

Montreal would not accept this. Whenever construction happens at sites adjoining the de Maisonneuve cycling path, Montreal does not allow the work to proceed without protected detours in place using moveable concrete separators and taking a lane from vehicular traffic.

We know Westmount values active transport. It is an integral part of the new transportation plan for Westmount that is being considered. And Westmount has sponsored many initiatives that have contributed to giving value to pedestrians and cyclists. This year we are even witnessing a true surge in urban cycling amongst all parts of society. The tide against the ever increasing volumes of traffic now has a chance of turning.

But the senseless treatment of these new urban cyclists by Pomerleau is undoing those efforts. And it does not bode well for the coming months of construction.

ROGER JOCHYM, LEWIS AVE.

AND MEMBER OF THE WESTMOUNT
WALKING AND CYCLING ASSOCIATION

PRIORITIES, FLOODS AND SCHADENFREUDE

Of the many human vices that one should avoid or at least fight is *schadenfreude* (schadenfreude: “malicious joy in the misfortunes of others,” 1922, from Ger., lit. “damage-joy”).

We have some history between us and schadenfreude is always a very worthy opponent. To my knowledge, there are no pills or support groups for those who suffer from its ills.

So upon reading that one of the parties who suffered flooding as a result of our recent downpour was Councillor Cynthia Lulham, I was once again thrust into conflict with my vice.

In her opening remarks to council, Ms. Lulham painted herself as a victim of a long neglect of our drainage network by various Westmount councils. However, her exasperation seems a bit unfounded and two-faced, as she has been at the very heart of governance in Westmount for many years. These have been years with skewed priorities that have left Westmount with parks in decay, greenhouses almost beyond salvation, roads resembling those of a developing nation and yes, sewers and

drainage systems incapable of addressing the needs of today and the dawning of the age of global warming.

At the same time, we have seen \$20 million of provincial and federal infrastructure grants allocated to the support of a game, of which less than 5 percent of our citizens are active participants.

Elected councillors have decided to support other priorities and now, should not Ms. Lulham do as she has instructed others, mainly to suffer in silence?

I will fight the urge to embrace schadenfreude, as I understand the violation of home and emotional and financial costs that she has suffered. Though, I will save my compassion for the members of the Westmount Park United Church and others, who have suffered similar damage and who are far less deserving of harm.

DAVID LUDMER, GROSVENOR AVE.

EFFECTS OF RF CAN ADD UP

Last year I took issue with my wireless meter that was installed before my family moved into our Westmount townhouse. I even had a Hydro Westmount employee come to my home to test the radiofrequency (RF) emanating from the device. It registered only a tiny amount.

The gentleman used that as a basis to exclaim that it was harmless. I then explained to him that the reading needs to be done when the meter is actually broadcasting, not when it is lying dormant.

This experience proves that even Hydro employees have zero understanding of the technology and its side effects on the human body.

Also not considered yet is the added RF signal from neighbouring meters, as some meters are capable of transmitting from miles away. Our bodies could be swimming in this RF frequency, thousands of times stronger than we think.

I surely will opt out of this wireless device as soon as I can.

There should be liability laws with technology of this kind, much like that of prescription drugs that list all the side effects observed before making it available to the patient.

NEIL HOPLEY, ABBOTT AVE.

OTHER WAYS TO READ METERS

Rather than debating the relative health risks associated with radiofrequency-emitting meters, I would like to remind readers that it is possible to measure electricity consumption by means that do not employ radiofrequency radiation.

MEGAN DURNFORD, VICTORIA AVE.

Bike path

continued from p. 4

(WWCA) June 12. No detour other than arrows had been posted initially, he said.

Lambert claimed that since the city had advance knowledge of the work, arrangements should have been made to provide cyclists with on-street protection along the detour route: Lansdowne, Sherbrooke, Melville and St. Catherine. He suggested temporarily removing parking on one side of these streets.

Alternatively, he said, cyclists could have been routed through the lane behind Manoir Westmount and the north-south one through the park behind houses on the east side of Lansdowne.

This is a route cyclists could choose to use anyway, Campbell said, though the distance is the same as the detour route.

Some six or eight trees also had to be removed for the Bell work. A permit for this work was approved by the city’s Board of Inspections, which they have the authority to do, Campbell said. Two other tree-cutting permits for work on the arena/pool site were previously approved by council following the standard process.

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Restaurant ticketed for terrace party

A loud party on the sidewalk terrace outside Vago's at 1336 Greene ended up costing the restaurant a ticket for \$267 June 8 after a warning was given earlier in the evening to tone it down, public safety officers said.

The restaurant has a terrace permit to occupy a portion of the city sidewalk on a trial basis for the first time this year, according to Urban Planning officials. The permit allows for 18 seats.

Officers answering the first complaint from nearby residents at 8:48 pm reported finding some 50 guests smoking and eating in an area extending beyond the seating area. The owner was asked to tone down the noise or a ticket would be issued.

While the party quieted down at first, officers were called back around 11 pm reporting that 20 to 25 people were laughing and talking loudly while loud music could be heard from inside the establishment. A ticket was subsequently sent by mail.

The guests had also been asked to move away from the building while smoking since they were next to apartments.

Club du Village winds up June 23 after 23 years

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After more than 23 years at Somerville and Victoria, one of Westmount's most established restaurants is closing. Le Club du Village is calling it a day on June 23.

The decision to close now is due to "aging," not because of declining business, explained Mina and Nazzareno Comodini, who started and ran it themselves.

"It's time," Mina said last week. "Better



Mina and Nazzareno Comodini, June 15.

to do it when we're both well and business is good."

Nazzareno has spent the last 23 and a half years in the kitchen doing the cooking – staying to the tried-and-true menu of what he calls "the basics" for which the restaurant is well known. Over the years, the lamb and liver have become its trademarks.

And the fact that it has been run by the husband-and-wife team could be said to be one of the secrets of their success. The restaurant has retained a home-like atmosphere along with the pomp and style the clientele expects when dining out.

Because the Comodinis own the building, they are hoping to rent out the restaurant space, they said. They already rent the lower corner to a dry cleaner and the second storey to a lawyer while they live on the top floor.

If the restaurant space is not rented, Mina said she will use it to open a retail clothing shop.

And in retirement, will Nazzareno do the family cooking? "Oh no!" Mina replied quickly. "He's too messy" – a remark that brings a smile to his face.

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Traffic survey results released

Residents say crack down on speed, ‘cowboy’ cyclists

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Residents responding to the city’s traffic survey have rated traffic reduction and speed as first and second priorities respectively out of 13 objectives provided. But they didn’t want to give up their cars, ranking alternatives to vehicle ownership at the bottom.

Results by street were released this week, including written comments of some 550 residents out of the 700 respon-

ders to the survey sent to all households last March.

“It is revealing to study the concerns of those responders who bothered to write comments,” said Mayor Peter Trent.

Among them, enforcement of speed limits and cycling regulations were cited in that order, according to a tabulation prepared by Trent.

Speed enforcement

Of the nine most commonly expressed comments, speed enforcement appeared 17 percent of the time, from 23 percent from those living above Sherbrooke and 12 percent below from Sherbrooke and below.

So-called “cowboy” cyclists, as dubbed by Trent, appeared as the second most frequent problem commented on by 10 percent of responders. Of these, 5 percent came from above Sherbrooke; 14 percent from Sherbrooke and below – further broken down to 4 percent from residents on de Maisonneuve (the bike path corridor) and 10 from elsewhere.

Wide-ranging concerns

Aside from the nine more common

Priorities

Objectives (first 6 as prioritized by council)	Residents’ ranking
1. Reduce through traffic, especially on local streets	1
2. Reduce and manage vehicular speeds	2
3. Ensure the provision of a safe transportation system	8
4. Enhance walking conditions	3
5. Enhance cycling conditions	5
6. Ensure public transit is an alternative choice	4
7. Better manage parking	6
8. Minimize congestion and travel delays for all users	9
9. Minimize the effects of external projects	12
10. Provide alternatives to vehicle ownership	13
11. Ensure proper management of truck routes and deliveries	10
12. Optimize traffic on collector and arterial streets	11
13. Reduce noise and pollution of transit system	7

Table of common comments

	% of total comments		
Most common comments			
	Above Sherbr.	Sherbr. & below	All Wstmt.
Enforce speed limits	23	12	17
Enforce cyclist laws	5	14*	10**
Parking problems	6	7	7
Synchronize traffic lights	5	7	6
Enforce stop signs/lights	8	4	6
Too much traffic (volume)	7	4	6
Problems of pedestrian crossings	5	5	5
Fix the roads	4	3	4
Double parking	1	3	2
	64	59	61

* 4% de Maisonneuve; 10% elsewhere
** 2% de Maisonneuve; 8% elsewhere



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comments listed in the accompanying table, is a wide range that includes acquiring photo radar, limiting overnight parking permits to one per household, reducing the cost of permits, removing mid-block stop signs and improving winter walking conditions on Westmount Park paths.

Côte doesn't want bike path

Many comments reflected residents’ own streets. Côte St. Antoine residents didn’t want a bike path; those living along the highway corridor wanted a sound barrier. But a resident of Sunnyside wanted

Dorchester renamed for its Montreal counterpart, René Lévesque.


And not everyone agreed. A resident of Windsor wanted speed bumps eliminated while one on Chesterfield wanted them added.

Among the ranking of the 13 objectives, survey results showed that in general residents identified the same top six that had been identified as city council’s priorities with the exception of ensuring a safe transportation system, which residents removed from the top six, adding instead better management of parking (see table).

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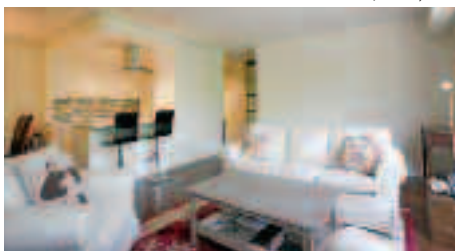
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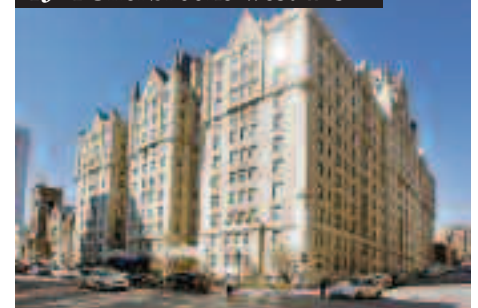
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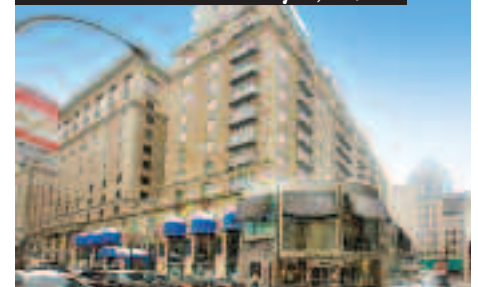
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Fate of cottonwood

continued from p. 1

dying root system. Damage to the crown from the ice storm of 1998 was also a contributing factor.

Thermal imaging and other diagnostic inspections were conducted May 14 and 23 by Nadeau (see May 29, p. 1). Results showed the tree's structural decline is expected to accelerate quickly. Five cracks were found within the trunk.

One significant cavity was reported in

the fork of the tree's two tall sections where a third section had been removed.

Known to be dying for several years, the tree was pruned back severely three years ago in hopes of regenerating it.

Nadeau measures the tree at a diameter of 230 cm (more than 7 feet) and a height of 30 metres or almost 100 feet. It is believed to be about 70 years old or more.

An Eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoids*), the tree is a member of the poplar family, a softwood that grows rapidly.

Cottonwoods grown in the open – like Westmount's tree – “develop massive trunks, which are sometimes divided near the ground into several stout gradually spreading limbs and very broad open crowns,” according to the federal government's *Native Trees of Canada*.

They are further described as requiring considerable moisture and therefore mostly “confined to the banks of streams and bottoms of river valleys” – an environment reminiscent of yesteryear's streams and ravine through Westmount Park and the Glen. The city removed another dying cottonwood almost two years ago that likely once thrived in the same conditions immediately east of Westmount Park Church (see July 20, 2010, p. 1).



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Amongst local elementary schools, six winners out of 18 came from Roslyn in the McEntyre Creative Writing Competition. Pictured above are, from left: Thomas Hallett, grade 3 (third place); Esme Bonnell, grade 6 (third place); Erica Sun, grade 6 (second place); Sofia Watt Sjöström, grade 4 (third place); and Chloe Martin, grade 5 (first place). The competition was born out of an endowment left by a former mayor of Westmount, the late Peter McEntyre, and awards prizes annually for essays written on specific topics by students from local elementary and high schools.

Photo courtesy of Irma Alvarez



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Street fest lively and musical in its 32nd year



From left: Tim Smith, Nic Power, Marc Charbonneau and Richard Clarke (known collectively as The 444s) make their way along Sherbrooke St. playing tunes during the street festival.



Portrait artist Richard Ancheta demonstrates his craft on Victoria Ave. during the Victoria Village Art Walk during the street festival.

PHOTOS AND STORY BY MARTIN C. BARRY

There was great weather for shopping, enjoying art or relaxing to a range of outdoor music during the Westmount Street Festival, held on June 16, 17 and 18 by Sherbrooke/Victoria Merchants' Association. Apart from the sidewalk sales, there were musical performances on stage and along the streets, and the Victoria Village Art Walk showcased the work of more than 60 artists. Vendors sold their wares on the sidewalks. See other photo, p. 1.

Inspector spots fire behind National Foods

Parking inspector Richard Lamer spotted smoke coming from the back of a garage on Prince Albert behind the National Food store on Sherbrooke June 8. Firefighters were called at 11:49 am.

Public Security officials said firefighters reported finding two stovetops in the garage used by the store for cooking and the fire was described as electrical in nature. The garage was also used as a warehouse for the store.



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INTRODUCING



Water

continued from p. 3

strictions.

Westmount's proposed by-law would allow sprinkler use during off-peak hours from 8 pm and 11 pm. On the other hand, Town of Mount Royal provides for two sessions from 6 am to 8 am and 6 pm to 10 pm. Dorval sets 7 pm to 7 am; Longueuil, 7 pm to 11 pm. Beaconsfield times are 9 pm to midnight.

Automatic sprinklers would be allowed only on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday from 3 am to 6 am.

Duffield said that because Westmount's water network is so intricately connected to Montreal's, Westmount may not be able to achieve the 20-percent reduction – at least without installing water meters in commercial and institutional buildings in 2014.

Five of Montreal's six water supply systems run through Westmount, he said. These had been installed many years ago by the former Montreal Water Works, and Montreal thereafter maintained the entire network. It was only in 2006 as part of merger agreements that Westmount assumed ownership and responsibility for the water infrastructure on its territory.

Cathy Richards of Melbourne suggested that the by-law should be presented in a more global perspective as part of the city's overall action plan and suggested the city do more promote the use of grey water.

Duffield replied that grey water installation systems were easier done in new construction "such as the new arena." There are, however, no plans to use recycled water at Westmount's recreation centre (see May 8, p. 1). A retention basin/lagoon is planned to catch runoff during heavy rain, diverting it from the sewers rather than for use as grey water.

The new by-law will affect the continuously running play sprinkler in Melville Pond, Samiotis told one questioner. Because the water does not circulate, it will require a "demand" button.

Tom Thompson, of the city's Healthy City Project, said that while citizens "may have other things on their minds," the time was ripe for this initiative. "We have to get started somewhere, and this is a good start."

"We appreciate the comments," said Public Works director Marianne Zalzal in concluding the meeting. "It helps us fine-tune the by-law."

Reducing consumption of drinking water, Duffield added, will be "an on-going process."

Bostok says goodbye to city and hello to Cedars Cancer Institute

By JOANNE PENHALE

Anitra Bostock admits some kids have come up to her eyes and noses streaming upon hearing she would no longer be a sports coordinator with Westmount's Sports and Recreation department.

She's already begun her new job as special events manager at Cedars Cancer Institute, and formally leaves her Westmount position on June 21.

"After 10 years, it's good for renewal professionally," said Bostock.

She's most recently been a sports coordinator, managing activities including soccer, skating and community gardening, and coordinating volunteers for Family Day. But she's also worked various jobs in the department since 1991, and as a child participated in Westmount's day camps. "They're my extended family," she said of her co-workers in the department.

She's watched many of Westmount's kids grow up and has been particularly focused on involving girls 13 and older in sports – to keep them active and build their confidence, she said.

Said Bruce Stacey, who has worked



Anitra Bostock in Westmount Park, June 13.

with Bostock in the department for 20 years, "She fit in so well with the dynamic of the team." He described her as having a great sense of humour, and said the whole department is extremely proud of the path she's taking.

At Cedars Cancer Institute, Bostock will be managing events like an upcoming golf tournament and dragon boat race. "I've hit the ground running there," she said.

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Ville de Westmount
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Heures d'affaires et services municipaux Fête nationale du Québec et Fête du Canada

Veillez noter que les bureaux administratifs de la Ville de Westmount, soit l'hôtel de ville, le Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount, la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount et les services de la sécurité publique, des sports et loisirs, et des travaux publics seront fermés **le lundi 25 juin 2012** en raison de la Fête nationale du Québec et **le lundi 2 juillet 2012** en raison de la Fête du Canada.

La collecte des résidus alimentaires s'effectuera selon l'horaire en vigueur.

Business Hours and Municipal Services Fête nationale du Québec and Canada Day

Please note that the City of Westmount's administrative offices at City Hall, Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount, Westmount Public Library, Public Security, Sports & Recreation and Public Works will be closed **Monday, June 25, 2012** for la Fête nationale du Québec holiday and on **Monday, July 2, 2012** for the Canada Day holiday.

The kitchen waste collection will take place according to the regular schedule.



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The Y celebrated



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The 100-year-old Westmount Y never looked so good! A silent auction/dinner dance was held on May 4. Tickets were \$125. No gym clothes that night, only stylish ladies with elegant escorts.

The silent auction took place at the Y during the early part of the event, and the normally bustling community centre was transformed into a magical party-scape with draped white fabric and billowing bouquets of balloons – totally South Beach-chic, thanks to Westmounters **Suni Hope-Johnston** (“I sewed,” she recalled!) and **Susan Jamieson**, who donated the fabric, along with committee members **Susan Doherty**, **Rosalind Davis**, **Nicole Forbes**, **Nicole Barcelos**, **Marie-Claude Fournier**, **Margot Kyle** and many other hands-on helpers.



Katie Kostiuk and Vanessa Valente.

Tse-Lalonde on guitar, **Reid Hannaford** on drums and **Angelo Rizzoli** on keyboard. Selwyn head master **Hal Hannaford** stood proudly by.

Guzzo Cinemas offered movie certificates for the balloon raffle, which meant that everyone who purchased a \$20-ticket got their money’s worth as they won a pass worth the same amount, if not more.

The centennial celebration continued across the street in Victoria Hall for a sit-down dinner sponsored by **By George Catering**. Guests were greeted by a string quartet from the Westmount Youth Orchestra. Pretty petals were by Westmount Florist; wine sponsored by Barefoot. Live entertainment was The Fundamentals, with guitarist/singer **Gary White**, director of the Westmount Y.

The evening attracted a bevy of Westmounters, including Superior Court judge **Tom Davis** and his wife **Rosalind** (just awarded the Jubilee Medal for volunteerism); Mayor **Peter Trent**; MP **Marc Garneau**; former city councillor **George Bowser**; city councillor **Victor Drury**; **Stéphane Vaillancourt**, president and CEO of the YMCAs of Quebec; **Claire Webster**; **Sarah Ivory** and **Guthrie Stewart**; and **Lorna** and **Michael Denholm**.

The money raised,

continued on p. 15



Marc Garneau and Gary White.

Katie Kostiuk worked with Westmount Y Community Initiatives coordinator **Vanessa Valente** to ensure all ran smoothly. And it certainly did. Performing Selwyn House jazz musicians were **Cairn**

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its 100th in style

.....
continued from p. 14

over \$16,000, supports the Westmount Y Centre's Strong Kids Campaign, which raises money to ensure that its programs

remain accessible to children with special needs who require one-on-one support, or to children who cannot afford the full cost of programs.



Rosalind and Tom Davis.



Suni Hope-Johnston and Susan Jamieson.



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In an uncertain economy that has created challenges for many investment advisors and their clients, Denny Matte, Senior Vice President and Investment Advisor with Macquarie Private Wealth in Montreal, has delivered a steady investment approach that draws a dedicated following among the city's top entrepreneurs, business leaders and medical professionals. During the course of 25 years serving Montreal's high-net worth individuals and families, he has become one of Canada's leading experts in crafting customized investment portfolios that are built to last.

"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



Volume in Westmount real estate stays strong in May



Mood of the Market

ANDY DODGE, CRA

The following article relates to offers to purchase Westmount residential dwellings that were reported by local real estate agents as having been accepted in May 2012. Because they are not final registered sales, the addresses and prices cannot be made public, but give a good idea of current trends in local real estate activity. The graph offers a picture of these trends over time.

Volume stayed strong in Westmount real estate in May, proving there is no end

in sight to buyers' interest even though prices are reaching a new peak. While last year the spring season started slowly and ended very late, this year the volume has been even throughout the past four months and the average price of a Westmount house has stayed above the \$1.5-million mark during all of that time.

Only one of the 16 sales posted in May involved a price below \$1 million, an indication that buyers are no longer insisting on bargains, which are getting harder and harder to find.

There were four houses which had been on the market for more than 250 days, but those were mainly from vendors who had insisted on not dropping the asking price even when the house failed to sell. Because of those holdouts, the average days-on-market jumped to 180 from 114 days in April; only three houses sold in less than 10 days during May.

The highest price in May was \$2,695,000, but we also learned of another Westmount house that sold in late April for \$5 million – the fourth house this year to get a price of more than \$4 million. Last year there were no settlements for more

than \$3.8 million (though one November 2010 sale closed in May of 2011 for \$4,237,500), so it would seem that those prices are no longer as far-fetched as we once thought.

The lowest price was \$808,000 in lower Westmount, as stated by the only one- or two-family dwelling to go for less than \$1 million. The average markup over valuation was 30 percent, with only one sale at less than tax value and the highest at 58 percent above.

Condominium prices, too, have been steadily rising, and five condo sales in May plus one more in April brought an average 34 percent markup in the second quarter with June still to come. Prices range from

\$355,000 to \$1,120,000 with the average just over \$780,000.

Sales were slow in adjacent-Westmount areas except for the district of Ville Marie just east of the city limits, which saw four house sales for prices between \$1,185,000 and \$1,780,000, an indication that there, too, prices are pushing through the \$1-million level. So far this year, 10 sales have been reported in the eastern section of NDG averaging \$917,742, only four in the southern portion of Côte des Neiges averaging \$859,250.

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

Owner alerted to open door

A garage door was found open on Roslyn north of Sherbrooke at 12:23 am June 7 by an overnight Public Security patrol. The owner was notified by the dispatcher to have it closed.

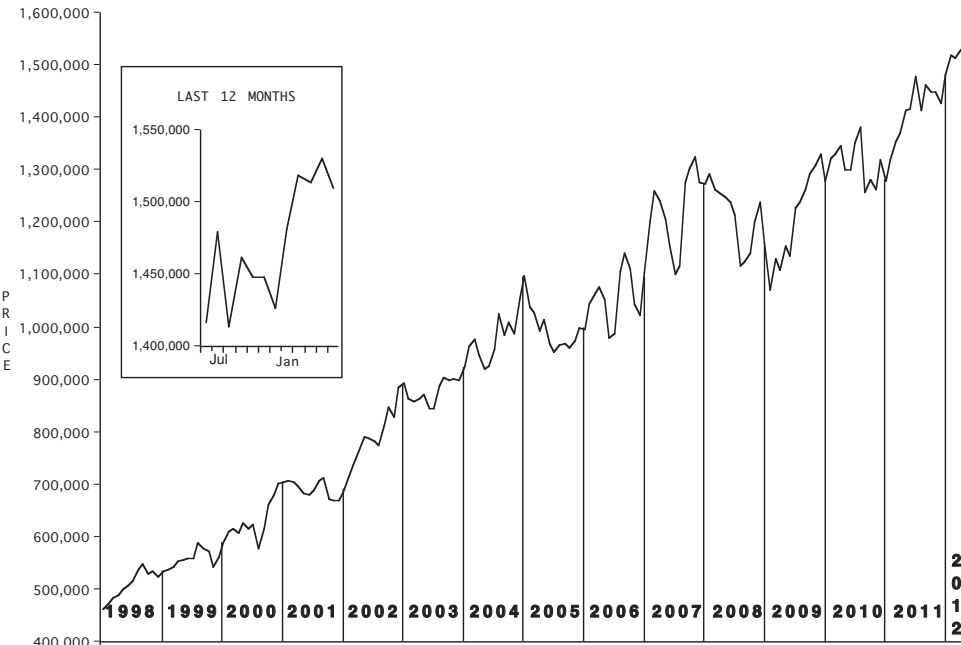
MUHC

continued from p. 5

hood. Already, he added, the retaining wall along St. Jacques has been removed to open up the site, which is faced with barriers on all sides, such as the train tracks, the Glen Rd. and the Turcot.

"It's the responsibility of the transport agencies to design and build that project," said Hamilton. "We're collaborating with them. We're helping to facilitate the ideas and we're pushing all the partners involved to get the best outcome and to get this work done as quickly as possible."

Average adjusted price of a 'typical' Westmount home by month – January 1998 to May 2012, based on accepted offer dates



Source: Andy Dodge and Associated Inc.

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Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

Public consultation meetings at city hall on two draft by-laws: one to rezone street level occupancies in five south-west zones for commercial-only use, 7 pm; the other to integrate a conservation strategy for Category 1* heritage buildings, 7:15 pm. See story, June 12 p. 4.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

Westmount Historical Association presents **"Hockey in Westmount"** and the Ross Trophy with Mike Deegan, director of Sports, Recreation and Community Events, 7 to 9 pm in the Westmount Public Library. Info: 514.989.5510.

• Author **Robert Landori** reads from and discusses his latest work *Mayhem on the Danube*, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater. Free.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Fête de la St. Jean by the city of Westmount, 5 to 10 pm in Westmount Park. Activities, cake and bonfire, and refreshments for purchase. In case of rain: Victo-

ria Hall. Info: Community Events 514.989.5226.

JUNE 28, 2012

"Words after Dark," 5 to 7 pm. **Serge Chapleau** and **Aislin** present three *New Yorker* cartoonists: Barry Blitt, Anita Kunz and Matte Diffie at Moyse Hall in McGill University's Arts building, 853 Sherbrooke St. W. Tickets: \$10 if purchased at the Westmount Public Library.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

City of Westmount hosts **camping in Westmount Park** – rain or shine. Family activities, live entertainment, campfire, songs and marshmallows. Registration and tent set-up, 4 pm to 8 pm. Reserve tent site at Victoria Hall or call 514.989.5226. Cost: \$10.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

Pancake breakfast, 8 to 9:30 am in Westmount Park. Cost: \$2 for coffee, juice and pancakes. Info: 514.989.5226 or www.westmount.org

For story,
see paper archive.

Travaux de réfection Remplacement d'une conduite d'aqueduc

Rue Sherbrooke entre les avenues Greene et Clarke

La Ville de Westmount remplacera la conduite d'eau principale sous la rue Sherbrooke à compter du **18 juin** dans le cadre de son programme de renouvellement du réseau d'aqueduc municipal. Ces travaux s'étaleront sur une période de six semaines.

Pendant les travaux, la circulation sur la rue Sherbrooke sera dirigée sur le côté sud de la rue. De plus, l'accès à la rue Sherbrooke sera bloqué via les avenues Mount Pleasant et Rosemount au cours de la première partie des travaux, et via Mountain et Grove Park au cours de la deuxième partie.

Les trottoirs des deux côtés de la rue Sherbrooke seront accessibles aux piétons en tout temps.



Infrastructure Work Replacement of the water main

Sherbrooke Street between Greene and Clarke Avenues

As part of the City's ongoing effort to renew the municipal water distribution network, the water main on Sherbrooke Street will be replaced **beginning June 18**, with work continuing for six weeks.

During the project, traffic on Sherbrooke Street will be diverted to the south side of the street and access to Sherbrooke Street via the following cross streets will be blocked: Mount Pleasant and Rosemount during Phase 1 and Mountain and Grove Park during Phase 2.

Sidewalks on both sides of Sherbrooke Street will remain accessible to pedestrians at all times.



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Next 'Art Westmount'

The next Art Westmount is scheduled to take place September 29 and 30. Since the May 30 deadline for submissions, the Community Events department reports 65 artists will be participating in the fourth edition of this every-other-year event, which introduces the community to artists living in Westmount and their work.

Place Kensington will be participating again this year with six artists. The city is looking for sponsors for the event and advertisers for the brochure by June 30. Contact artwestmount@westmount.org or 514.989.5226.

Hooton takes a hack at the Montreal Fringe Festival

By LAUREN O'LOUGHLIN

Rebecca Hooton, 21, born and raised in Westmount, is the director of *HACK*, a play that is part of the line-up at the 2012 Montreal Fringe Festival.

The play is a horror comedy produced by the Sentinel Theatre group from Toronto's York University, where Hooton is a third-year student of Devise Theatre. She is the director of Sentinel.

The title "Hack" is a triple entendre alluding to the violent act of hacking something to pieces, hacking into classified information and hack – as in a hack or novice comedian. The plot is structured on the classic joke format: three men walk into a bar. It then delves into the individual lives of each character, exploring their manias, phobias and paraphilias. What makes this piece different however, explained Hooton, is its avant guardist nature. "Devise is a new way of creating theatre. It is not a forced structure like straight theatre [...] it is more about the process than the product.

"We are the first year of our program both in York and in Canada. We create a piece from the ground up [...] We have actually collectively written the play. [Devise] is a form that is big in London, England."

Hooton has been a theatre lover since her days at The Study, and had already di-



Rebecca Hooton at her home on de Maisonneuve Blvd., June 7.

rected a school play by the time she was in grade 11. She attributes her love of theatre to her parents, whom she describes as avid theatre goers.

HACK premiered on June 16 and continues until Sunday, June 24. Tickets at \$10 are available through the Fringe festival website www.montrealfringe.ca or at the central box office on the corner of St. Laurent Blvd. and Rachel Ave.

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Pitbull/boxer has pricey bark

A pitbull/boxer was reported to have been left barking "non-stop" June 7 on Clarke Ave. near Montrose, Public Security officials said. No one seemed to be home that day and a ticket for \$75 was issued.

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U13 Wanderers fall 3-0 during home opener

By Michael Moore

The U13 Westmount Wanderers suffered the first setback of their young existence June 3, dropping their home opener 3-0 to Lakeshore at Westmount Park.

Embarking on their inaugural season as the signature team of the newly founded Westmount Soccer Club, (see “New soccer club forms in Westmount,” April 24, p. 5), the Wanderers had opened their year with back-and-forth 5-4 victory in Île Perrot over Trois Lacs, but couldn’t replicate the offensive explosion against Lakeshore’s well-organized defense.

“We took some nice shots,” said Tarek Bari, whose incisive crosses led to many of Westmount’s best chances, “but to score more goals we have to be passing and get on the ball before the other team.”

Head coach Mila Felcarek believes his players’ relative inexperience at the competitive level is an issue that will only be rectified over time.

“Many of the kids came from house league teams and are adjusting to playing in a competitive league,” he said. “[Lakeshore] was smarter in terms of knowing tactics and being physical.”

Dominating possession early in the game, Lakeshore finally broke through midway through the first half, sending a free kick skidding past Westmount goal-tender Zackary Gilmore.

The Wanderers gradually regained their footing on the rain-soaked field in the latter part of the first half and into the second as they pushed for an equalizer but were unable to capitalize on their scoring chances.

“It was hard [playing on the muddy field],” said midfield Arian Dehnavi. “But we need to complete more passes and take more shots.”

Punishing the Wanderers for their squandered opportunities, Lakeshore scored a pair of quick goals late in the second half to secure the victory despite a flurry of saves from Gilmore.

The Wanderers continue their summer-long campaign on Monday, June 25 when they travel to face Hudson-St. Lazare before hosting Trois Lacs at Westmount Park on Monday, July 2 at 7 pm.

The Wanderers’ full schedule is available on their website, westmountsoccer.org.



Westmount Wanderers play against Lakeshore June 3 in Westmount Park.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

For story,
see paper archive.

Trio ejected from Stayner Park

Three people were asked to leave Stayner Park June 8 at 2:27 pm when found drinking beer. All three were staying on Tupper St.

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Vol. 6/12

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DATEBOOK

June 25 and July 2

Administrative offices closed for
la Fête nationale du Québec and Canada Day

July 3 at 8 p.m.

Council Meeting
City Hall

Superheroes Wanted!

Come dressed as your favourite superhero as we tell stories and you create a superhero cape to take home on Thursday, July 12 at 4 p.m. in the Storytime Room. 4 years and up. Info: 514 989-5229.

Summer Reading Club: Imagine!

Imagine a summer of books, games and activities that will give free rein to your imagination. You will be charmed and enthralled by tales of wonder this summer! Ask for your Summer Reading Club Kit at the Children's Desk beginning June 1st. Info: 514 989-5229.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Summer Concerts in the Park

The first of six Sunday afternoon concerts will take place July 8 at 2 p.m. in Westmount Park featuring the Sheila Smith Quartet. Consult the schedule for the series in the events calendar at www.westmount.org. Info: 514 989-5226.



CITY HALL

Summer hours in effect

Westmount's administrative offices in City Hall, Hydro Westmount, Victoria Hall, Public Works, Sports and Recreation and Public Security will be open Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. This schedule is in effect from June 4 until September 7, 2012.

Bicycle path: Westmount Park section closed

The De Maisonneuve bicycle path is closed between Melville and Lansdowne Avenues to carry out the relocation of a telecommunications manhole. The project is expected to last three weeks. Detour signage is now in place at appropriate locations. Receive updates on the bicycle path by following @westmount_cycle on Twitter.



LIBRARY

Magic Workshop with Magician Louis Jutras

Impress your friends with magic tricks as you learn the secrets behind the magic on Thursday, July 5 at 4 p.m. in the Westmount Room. Don't forget to bring a deck of cards and two coins (loonies work best). Info: 514 989-5229.

Movie Madness: The Last Unicorn

Saturday, July 7 at 2 p.m. in the Storytime Room. Six years and up. Info 514 989-5229.

DATES À RETENIR

Les 25 juin et 2 juillet

Bureaux administratifs fermés pour la
Fête nationale du Québec et la Fête du Canada

Le 3 juillet à 20 h

Séance du conseil
Hôtel de ville

Super-héros recherchés!

Viens déguisé comme ton super-héros le jeudi 12 juillet à 16 h dans la salle des activités. Nous raconterons des histoires et tu créeras une cape de super-héros pour apporter à la maison. 4 ans et plus. Info : 514 989-5229.

Club de lecture d'été TD : Imagine !

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ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Concerts d'été au parc Westmount

Le premier de la série de six concerts du dimanche après-midi aura lieu le 8 juillet à 14 h avec le *Sheila Smith Quartet* en specacle. Consultez l'horaire pour la série au www.westmount.org dans la section calendrier. Info : 514 989-5226.



HÔTEL DE VILLE

Horaire d'été en vigueur

Les bureaux administratifs de l'hôtel de ville, d'Hydro Westmount, du Victoria Hall et des Services des travaux publics, des sports et loisirs et de la sécurité publique seront ouverts du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h. Cet horaire est en vigueur du 4 juin au 7 septembre 2012.

Piste cyclable : fermeture du tronçon parc Westmount

La piste cyclable De Maisonneuve est fermée entre les avenues Melville et Lansdowne pour une période approximative de trois semaines afin d'effectuer le déplacement d'un puits d'accès de télécommunications. Des panneaux de signalisation de détour sont placés aux endroits stratégiques. Recevez les mises à jour en vous abonnant au compte Twitter @westmount_cycle.



BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Atelier de magie avec le magicien Louis Jutras

Apprends les secrets de la magie le jeudi 5 juillet à 16 h à la salle Westmount. Tu impressionneras tes amis avec tes tours! N'oublie pas d'apporter un paquet de cartes et deux pièces de monnaie (les pièces de \$1 fonctionnent mieux). Info : 514 989-5229.

La folie des films : *The Last Unicorn*

Le samedi 7 juillet à 14 h dans la salle des activités. Six ans et plus. Info : 514 989-5229.

FÊTE DE LA SAINT-JEAN 2012 PARC WESTMOUNT PARK

Soyez des nôtres le vendredi 22 juin au parc Westmount pour la Fête de la Saint-Jean. Il y aura des activités pour tous ! Apportez-vous un pique-nique ou achetez une collation sur les lieux.

- 17 h** Bricolages, jeux et activités
- 17 h 30** Pique-nique, BBQ et barbe à papa
- 18 h** Spectacle : Les Imprudanses
- 19 h 30** Concert : *Just Ladies*
- 21 h** Gâteau de la Saint-Jean
- 21 h 30** Feu de joie

En cas de pluie les activités se tiendront au Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest. Info : 514 989-5226.

Join us on Friday, June 22nd for the *Fête de la Saint-Jean* celebration in Westmount Park - there's something for everyone! Bring a picnic or purchase refreshments on site.

- 5 p.m.** Crafts, games and activities
- 5:30 p.m.** Picnic time, BBQ and cotton candy
- 6 p.m.** Show by *Les Imprudanses*
- 7:30 p.m.** Concert by Just Ladies
- 9 p.m.** St-Jean cake
- 9:30 p.m.** Bonfire

In case of rain, activities will take place at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke Street West. Info: 514 989-5226

FÊTE DU CANADA 2012 CANADA DAY PARC WESTMOUNT PARK

Une nuit de camping au parc Westmount

Venez fêter le 145^e anniversaire de notre pays les 30 juin et 1^{er} juillet au parc Westmount ! Activités pour tous, beau temps, mauvais temps. Réservez votre site en composant le 514 989-5226 dès le 18 juin (places limitées). Rafrâichissements en vente à partir de 17 h.

Le samedi 30 juin à partir de 16 h

Inscription et installation des tentes, musique et feu de camp avec guimauves

Le dimanche 1^{er} juillet de 8 h à 9 h 30 :

Petit-déjeuner de crêpes dans le parc (2 \$)

Overnight camping in Westmount Park

Celebrate our country's 145th birthday on June 30th and July 1st in Westmount Park. Rain or shine, there's something for everyone. Reserve a tent site by phoning 514 989-5226 beginning June 18th (places limited). Refreshments available to purchase from 5 p.m.

Saturday, June 30th from 4 p.m.

Registration and tent setup, music, bonfire and marshmallow roast

Sunday, July 1st from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

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Stayner: more security, lighting short-term solutions

continued from p. 1

the Atwater Library, the Module du Nord and the YMCA refugee centre on Tupper, and the Open Door Mission at St. Stephen's Church.

"The city is taking steps to address the concerns of residents and become part of the dialogue in understanding the larger issues and learning more about referral services," said Councillor Theodora Samiotis, who represented District 8 around the

table. She was one of several participants interviewed by the *Independent* following the event.

Complaints from residents around Stayner Park, she said, include consumption of alcohol, substance abuse, public urination and other behaviours deemed inappropriate in a family park.

Increased surveillance and more effective lighting are seen as being among the solutions.

And in the last few weeks since police and Public Security summer bike patrols have been present at the park along with more frequent regular patrols, the problems seem to have almost disappeared, said Public Security director David Sedgwick.

"I was very pleased with the tone of the meeting, that people were all on the same page," said Caleb Clark, director of the Open Door, a drop-in centre serving some 100 homeless people a day.

"The meeting was more oriented to how we can get help for addiction and other problems rather than just moving the Stayner Park problem somewhere else," a practice called "displacement" as people with no homes are moved from one place to another.

This is considered one of the reasons for an increase of itinerants spilling over from the area of Cabot Square into Westmount in the lanes behind Tupper and St. Catherine, and west to Batshaw and Stayner Park, Hallowell and the Westmount Athletic Grounds (see April 24, p. 11).

"It's sad," Sedgwick said. "As they're pushed out of the Atwater Metro, the parks and away from under the Ville Marie Expressway, where are they supposed to go?"

Most of the regular frequenters at Stayner Park, however, are well known to public safety officers as a core group in the general area.

Clark was able to provide Public Security

with valuable information from his work at the Open Door, said assistant director Greg McBain. "He knows the people we're dealing with."

Addiction and mental health issues are two of the biggest problems, explained Clark. "I can understand how people feel around Stayner Park. Shooting up [drugs] and public urination are unacceptable behaviours."

Module du Nord concerns

Protection and increased security was a request made at the meeting by Céline Laforest, director of the Module du Nord, which just one year ago moved into quarters at the YMCA residence for refugees. This is the former Reddy Memorial Hospital building on Tupper St. (see story March 29, 2011, p. 7).

The centre, which accommodates mostly Inuit coming to Montreal for medical treatment, recorded some 5,000 visits last year. Average stays are seven to 10 days, she said.

Coming from a different culture to a big city, some visitors have become targets. "Our people [visitors] are sometimes scared," she said. "There are people who come over from Cabot Square and walk around our building asking for money. It's the same problem for the clientele of Batshaw, so we did ask police and Public Security to increase the security."

Again, improved lighting in lanes may be necessary, Sedgwick said. And Public Security plans to set up a partnership with the Module du Nord to open lines of communication.

Local police community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel also told the meeting about his orientation work with refugees at the Y centre and visitors staying at the Module to Nord.

Police are also continuing to work on the longstanding problems of vagrancy around Cabot Square through a team of

police and social workers known as EMRII (Équipe mobile de référence et d'intervention sur itinérance), said local Station 12 commander Stéphane Plourde.

He related news of a pilot police emergency support program aimed at dealing with persons with mental problems that was launched last month with three officers teamed up with three psycho-social workers. They will work evenings across the island of Montreal joining or following patrol officers at incidents involving troubled persons. The program is called ESUP for Équipe de soutien en urgence psychosociale.

Station officers will also be undergoing special training in these areas in the future, Plourde said.

Romilda Martire, a civilian researcher with the police department's south region in which Westmount is located, also participated in the meeting and is conducting a study on "who we are really dealing with," Plourde said.

A follow-up session is planned to take place in six months, Samiotis said.



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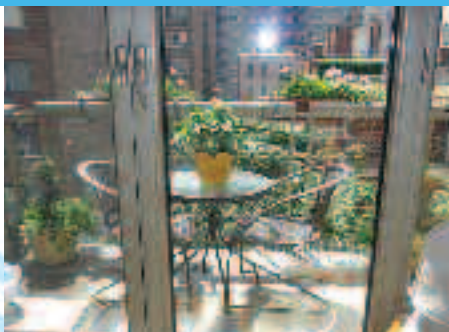
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