

Make way – again – for ducklings

A female mallard with her 12 chicks were escorted across Greene and Sherbrooke by Westmount Public Security sergeant Robert Forbes, left, and officer Patrice Dion at around 10:30 am May 19. In our June 7, 2011 issue, we ran a photo of a mother duck and her ducklings resting in a Mount Pleasant garden after doing the same trek across Sherbrooke earlier that day.



Photo: Ralph Thompson

\$600K upgrade of WAG to come from Selwyn House  
*City won't 'pay a cent:' Campbell*

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The sports field and running track at the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) are to be completely refurbished and upgraded at a cost of \$600,000 by Selwyn House School, city director general Duncan Campbell announced May 17.

The work is to take place this summer after June 25 but would not affect the community gardens, children's playground, dog run and tennis courts, he said.

The project includes redoing the natural grass field, installing an underground sprinkler system and resurfacing the track with improved drainage. A scoreboard and permanent stands would also be installed, along with provision for removable baseball diamonds and backstop.

While all work and maintenance, other than grass cutting, would be undertaken

by the school, Campbell said, the status of the field and its management by the city would not change.

Selwyn House is the third largest user after the city and Westmount High School. Its "welcome investment" in the upgrade would not provide exclusivity, he explained.

"The benefit to the city is that we wouldn't pay a cent," he explained. "The expenditure for us is not a priority when the \$600,000 would be better spent on sewers and other infrastructure."

"We're still finalizing the agreement with Selwyn House, which will be brought forward for review by ..... council on June 3," he *continued on p. 23*



City page p. 30

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DU CARTIER WESTMOUNT

Building activity hits record \$109M, fuelled by renos

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Record amounts of building activity and soaring construction values hit an all-time high in Westmount last year, fuelled by additions and alterations as well as several large projects for which 1,295 work permits were issued.

The number of building and plumbing permits increased 7.5 percent over the previous year, representing a declared value of \$109 million – a 36 percent rise over the year before, according to annual results issued by the city.

"Everybody who buys a home now strips it," said Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier. "They don't just move in anymore."

Over the past seven ..... years, the estimated value *continued on p. 28*

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Over the past seven ..... years, the estimated value *continued on p. 28*

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# Brickpoint to shut Victoria Ave. door, shift to the web

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

After 51 years in business – the last 15 at the Victoria Ave. location – the Brickpoint Needlework shop will be closing its doors May 31.



Brickpoint Needlepoint's owner Belinda Fox in her store May 10.

Owner, Belinda Fox, who has run the shop for the last seven years after her mother Penelope Papineau's 25-year reign, said clients will be able to continue to shop at Brickpoint on its website.

Brickpoint was started downtown in 1962 by its original owner, Shirley Brickendon, from whose family name the store's name was derived. Since then, it's had four locations in Westmount, including one on Greene Ave. and the current address at 318 Victoria.

According to Fox, who plans to continue running the business much as she does now except for the physical location, the time had come for a change. "I'm not saying I'm closing. I'm changing the format of

the business."

"It had nothing to do with my landlord," she said, adding that she's always been on cordial terms with the building's owner, Brian Newsam of Newsam Construction. Fox said the new occupant will be Newsam, who will be running a design studio.

For needlepoint enthusiasts from Westmount and all over Montreal, Brickpoint over the years has been a place to drop by, work on embroidery, get advice on technique or to pick up supplies.

Fox isn't certain how she'll be able to transpose the ambiance of the boutique to an online environment. "I'm still trying to sort out how it's all going to work," she said.

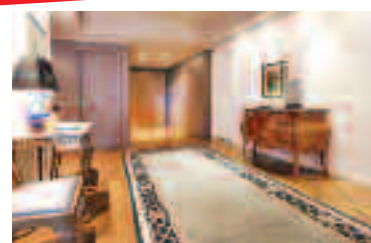
"Obviously there will be more by appointment than people just walking into the store. We're an institution in Westmount and so it's going to be a change."

Until it closes, the store is normally open Tuesday to Saturday from 11 am to 5 pm.

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Budget for new site: \$100,000

Dog run closure comes

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The sudden and permanent closure of the Lansdowne dog run May 15 to allow for work on the new pool took many by surprise.

Among them was Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who had just announced May 6 that the dog run would be relocated to Westmount Park in the future though she didn't know it would shut down before the new one was ready.

"They have to close it sooner than I thought," she told the *Independent*. "I found out the same way you did." This was

by a city e-mail notice sent out Monday afternoon, May 13, after press time. She said the design and plans for the new run were being prepared by Public Works.

"Now that the Lansdowne run has already been closed," said Public Works director Marianne Zalzal, "we're going to have to see how creatively we can get one up and running in the new space as soon as possible."

City director general Duncan Campbell said the budget for the creation of the new dog run is \$100,000.

The closure of the ..... Lansdowne run at this *continued on p. 5*

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# suddenly, tied to pool work

time was required for safety reasons, explained Councillor Patrick Martin. He said that work was taking place to remove earth at the edge of the dog run and would probably require taking down the fence separating the two areas.

It was the reverse procedure from operations almost a year ago that had closed the dog run temporarily on a couple of occasions, he recalled. That was when the same earth that now is being removed was

piled up to prepare the work site for the start of the arena construction.

This time, the run will not be reopened. The decision to move it into the centre of Westmount Park at the site of the former shuffleboard area was made in order to provide a more “appropriate” and larger area for dogs and their owners, Lulham had explained. The move was also thought to benefit users of the pool (see May 14, p. 1).

## WWCA joins bike rally



Two cyclist lobby groups from Westmount and NDG braved downpours to get their message across May 15: “The de Maisonneuve Blvd. bike path in front of the Vendôme Metro station (between Decarie Blvd. and Claremont Ave.) is by far the most dangerous zone for cyclists along that busy east-west commuting route,” stated a press release. The small group, meeting in front of the Metro station, was composed of the NDG Cyclist and Pedestrian Association with 157 members and the Westmount Walking and Cyclist Association, numbering about 170. The organizations are working to bring more safety to the area for walkers and cyclists.

Photo: Isaac Olson

## Taxi's 911 light attracts bus driver, Public Security

A bus driver intercepted a Public Security patroller at Kensington May 14 to alert him to a taxi whose 911 light was flashing as it drove west on Sherbrooke at 3:47 am, Public Security officials said. While 911 was informed, the patroller followed the cab to Harvard where a passenger disembarked and paid the fare. The cabbie told the officer he had turned the light on earlier in the day for emergency assistance but didn't know how to turn it off. The call to 911 was cancelled.

## One woman down, another in shock

An 89-year-old woman refused to be taken to hospital by Urgences Santé May 7 after falling outside 4895 Sherbrooke near Prince Albert, Public Security officials report. While driving her to her home in NDG at 4 pm, a public safety officer came across an accident between a bus and a car at 5201 Sherbrooke and called 911 after tending to the driver of the car, a woman reportedly in shock.



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## DOG RUN MOVE NOW HIGHLIGHTS GREEN TRIANGLE

La ville de Westmount a pris une excellente décision en relocalisant le “dog run” de la rue Lansdowne dans un endroit plus approprié du Parc Westmount. La pointe de verdure tellement appréciée à l’angle de la rue Sainte-Catherine et Lansdowne pourra enfin s’harmoniser en toute tranquillité à l’aménagement paysager du nouveau centre des loisirs.

MARIE-JOSÉE ROUSSEAU,  
LANSDOWNE AVE.

## GET RID OF HARD COURTS, PUT DOG RUN THERE

As the man who escorts Bea the dalmatian to the Murray Park dog run each morning, I believe that even my harshest of critics might accord me the right to voice an opinion on the location of the new lower Westmount dog run, as presented by Councillor Cynthia Lulham.

Every dog owner realizes that our love and devotion to our canines is not shared by all. As unimaginable as it might be, we make accommodations in light of this fact. This said, the re-locating of the [Lansdowne] dog run into the centre of Westmount Park – a place of tranquility by use and design – does not accommodate the

existing users and is generally disrespectful.

Given that the city long ago assumed the cost and responsibility of the reintroduction of the hard surface tennis courts adjacent to the arena/pool project from Pomerleau, I propose that we bank that money and turn it into the future dog run.

Westmount Park already has tennis infrastructure near our decaying greenhouses and the required fencing would better blend with the adjacent soccer enclosure.

I believe this to be a more sensitive and cost effective choice for a park and populace that are already overstressed.

DAVID LUDMER, GROSVENOR AVE.

## BEAUTIFY FOR THE PEOPLE, NOT THE DOGS

About three decades ago, city council relocated the dog run from the centre of the park to the Lansdowne location. This action freed up for leisure activities a large area across from the children’s playground.

Now council is intent on sending a beautiful area in the centre of the park back to the dogs. It has been claimed that the existing dog run can’t be shifted a bit south and east due to its proximity to a busy road. Dogs don’t care whether a road is busy or not. Only dog owners care and I

am one.

An enclosed fence of an appropriate height to prevent dogs from jumping over into traffic is all that is required. This has been an ongoing issue at the Lansdowne run for many years.

As to “echoing” barks, there is no arena wall left off which sound echoes off.

It’s ironic that the city has decided to create a green square at Prince Albert [and Sherbrooke] while, at the same time, removing a beautiful section of Westmount Park from public leisure use.

If the city wants to beautify the area, by all means do it. But make it not for dogs but for people. Leave the Lansdowne dog run where it is.

DENIS BIRO, BURTON AVE.

## NEW DOG RUN SPOT TAKES AWAY ‘FROM MANY’

Regarding the relocation of the dog run, contrary to what Councillor Cynthia Lulham is reported as saying (“We’re not taking it away from someone else’s use”) at the council meeting of May 6 (“Lansdowne dog run moves into new park space,” May 14, p. 1), I can attest that she and her fellow councillors will be taking it away from many.

This is not a random statement, lightly made by someone with an axe to grind with dog owners. My judgement – not opinion – is that of an everyday pedestrian who has been walking through Westmount Park either for convenience or relaxation several hundred times a year since 1973.

It’s probably true that the majority of “users” enjoy it most as a barrier between the playing fields and the tranquil picnic, sketching, birdwatching, woolgathering haven behind it. It’s also likely that more people would gather there more often if some of the now-disused shuffleboard court was removed and the area re-landscaped in such a way as to heighten the sounds of the lagoon’s water features.

At present, it is used as a quiet nook, a private place for reading, conversation and, especially, gentle exercise by people with ambulatory deficits: As a fellow park lover remarked to me a few days ago, “This is a great place to test drive new hips!” He said he had just had his second done.

Others would say the same of their new walkers and wheelchairs. I’ve also observed numerous people of all ages adjusting to crutches after sports injuries (summer and winter) as well as many small children taking their first steps on

hard surfaces.

But this is too limiting a depiction of its users. It’s also a gathering place for parents and nannies with infants who can more easily maneuver strollers as they socialize with one another. On other occasions, I’ve seen my fellow citizens perfecting yoga positions, tai chi movements and even tango steps.

TERRY RIGELHOF, CLARKE AVE.

## CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

To Westmount’s youth: you are one of our community’s greatest assets – from your energy and fresh perspectives on how to solve problems to your understanding of technology and social media, and care and concern for the environment.

According to the latest census data, one third of Westmount’s population is under 30. Unfortunately, while you make up an important component of the Westmount community, youth participation in municipal affairs is, practically speaking, non-existent. Let’s work together to make this change.

Next Saturday (May 25) at Westmount’s Family Day, the Westmount Municipal Association, in conjunction with Westmount’s Healthy City Project, will be running a booth aimed at those of you interested in becoming more involved in your community. Along with information on how to become more involved, you are invited – on large canvas, with lots of paint – to express yourself on the question “If I were mayor...” Of course, don’t miss out on prizes and free food!

In the words of none other than Bono, “this is a time for bold measures. This is the country, and you are the generation”.

JULIA CARBONE, GROSVENOR AVE.

## WHY NOT USE OLD TRAIN STATION FOR PUBLIC ART?

Why is the city of Westmount even considering building a new “pavilion for art works”\* when it has the old Westmount [train] station sitting empty?

What a waste of tax payers’ money when it has the old station empty and only needing renovations?

This has an ideal location, a bungalow design, is spread out, good for large crowds and has lots of street parking. With attractive landscaping, it could be a nice way for Victoria Ave. south to end.

JANE ALLAN,  
CLARKE AVE.

\* Editor’s note: If the letter writer is referring to the art work that is to be displayed in the new

continued on p. 7

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

**We are Westmount.**

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

PUBLISHER & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: David Price  
EDITOR: Kristin McNeill  
CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

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*We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. E-mail any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.*



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## Letters, cont'd. from p. 6

arena/pool centre ("City commissions public artwork for new rec centre," April 23, p. 9), the pavilion forms part of the recreation centre, not a separate structure. – KM

## YEAR-ROUND POOL MORE USEFUL

It was during question period in city hall some years ago that I asked to have to have an indoor pool made. It would have been useful year-round. The mayor at the time did not agree with my suggestion.

The outdoor pool is only useful for three months of the year. ("Trent apologizes for late pool delivery date," May 14, p. 4). At least we could have enjoyed the pool later in the year and everyday next year and beyond.

GERALD GLASS,  
METCALFE AVE.

## GRATEFUL TO HOGG FAMILY FOUNDATION, HOME DEPOT

This year, Prospect Belvedere Residence (4505 St. Catherine St.) was fortunate to receive a grant from The Home Depot Canada Foundation of \$2,500 to be used in buying materials from Home Depot. With this money, we were able to replace counters and repair broken

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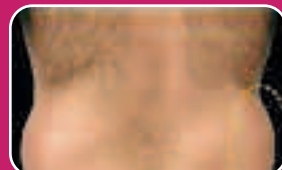
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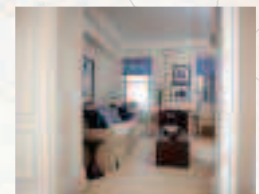
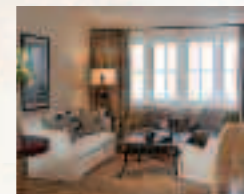
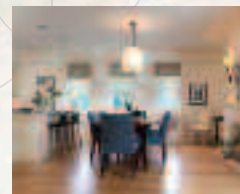
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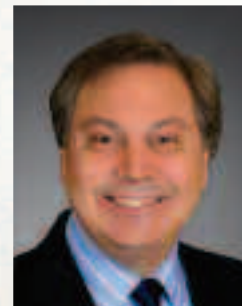


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# Former Expo player Cromartie charms Westmount High

BY MICHAEL MOORE

Though too young to remember the glory days of “Nos Amours,” over a 100 Westmount High students listened attentively May 9 to Montreal Expos legend Warren Cromartie, who spoke about his career, both on and off the diamond, and his plan to bring baseball back to Montreal.

“The reason I’m here is this,” said Cromartie, pointing to the Expos crest on his famous No. 49 jersey. “I’m trying to bring baseball back to this city. Montreal wants its baseball back.”

Cromartie’s goal is to help build support for his “Montreal Baseball Project,” the group spearheading the campaign to return baseball to Montreal, the largest city in North America without a professional franchise.

Originally organized by physical education teacher and die-hard Expos fan Jeffrey Kosow for his grade 11 class, the audience swelled to over a 100 students as other teachers brought their classes to the school’s gym for the talk.

Though the students in attendance were born more than a decade after the man affectionately known as “Cro” played

his final out with the Expos, he hoped the experience would help spark a baseball buzz in the city’s youth.

“I’m talking to the grassroots. You’re my grassroots. I need your support to bring baseball back,” Cromartie, an Expo from 1974 to 1983, told the students.

The Montreal Baseball Project has teamed up with Montreal Board of Trade to co-sponsor a feasibility study to help settle the debate over the city’s long-term financial viability for a Major League Baseball franchise.

According to Cromartie, the time has come for an Expos rebirth after years of disinterest.

“For years after the Expos left for Washington in 2004, it was like the team never existed,” he said.

However, that apathy changed last year, said Cromartie, when his long-time teammate Gary Carter, the first player to be enshrined in the Baseball Hall of Fame wearing an Expos cap, died of cancer.

“To have had a player like Gary and not have anything in the city recognizing him was awful. When he passed away, it added fuel to the fire and everybody wanted to do something,” said Cromartie.

The Florida resident is looking to stoke



Over 100 Westmount High students attended former Expos star Warren Cromartie’s talk at the school May 9.

the interest to ensure the baseball mania is more than a passing fad. This summer, Cromartie will be hosting a four-week baseball camp in Côte St. Luc and has pledged to bring back any and all former Expos he can convince to help with his

cause.

“The spirit of Gary Carter led to this. It’s a long shot, but I want to take a shot,” said Cromartie, who spent over half an hour after his talk signing autographs and posing for pictures with the students.

## Weigensberg awarded ‘Encounters’ scholarship



St. George’s student Miranda Weigensberg delivers her Women’s Canadian Club of Montreal scholarship-winning speech at the group’s meeting on May 6 at The Unitarian Church, just west of Claremont. Based on author Antoine de Saint-Exupéry’s quote that “all grown-ups were once children... but only few of them remember it,” Weigensberg’s speech argued for the importance of the arts in childhood education. The scholarship will send the grade 10 student and co-winner Dustin Kagan-Fleming of Royal West Academy to the week-long “Encounters with Canada” teenage forum in Ottawa.

Photo: Michael Moore




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# Leblanc speaks about McClure at ArtNow evening



Victoria LeBlanc, director of the Visual Arts Centre, presented over seven decades of work by the late Virginia McClure at the May 7, ArtNow Westmount evening event at the Westmount Public Library. McClure, a founder of the Visual Arts Centre and a well-known philanthropist, was a recognized artist and potter in her own right. The ArtNow speaker program also included a presentation by Sunshine Bree Cziment, the artist-owner of Sunshine Gallery on Sherbrooke St. Organized by Branka Marinkovic and Avenue des Arts owner Pierre Le Gourri rec, ArtNow Westmount meets on most first Tuesdays of the month at the Westmount Public Library.

Photo: Heather Black



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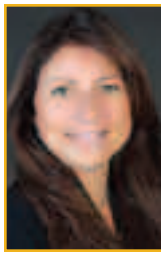


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# Parking inspectors to learn ‘verbal judo,’ PSO traffic control

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A number of Public Security Unit personnel were to undergo unusual training methods starting last week with parking inspectors picking up pointers on the use of “verbal judo” to defuse conflicts and public safety officers learning how to protect themselves and others in traffic control situations.

Assistant Public Security director Greg McBain said both courses were the first ever given to Public Security and were intended to improve professionalism and rapport with citizens.

The two-day conflict management training for Westmount parking inspectors scheduled for May 15 and 16 was tailored to their needs by police technology personnel at John Abbott College, he said.

“How do you react when an angry citizen confronts you over a parking ticket?” McBain said of the one of the issues to be explored. “How much abuse should you take? And how do you defuse a potential assault situation using what we call ‘verbal judo?’”

In a joint four-session program with Côte St. Luc, Montreal West and Hampstead, public safety officers from each municipality were to learn some of the finer points of traffic control from the traffic division of Montreal police.

The first day kicked-off in Westmount May 17 including hands-on training, which means Westmounters may have spotted the group at the intersection of Kensington and Sherbrooke, McBain said.

It’s the first time he knows of that police have provided such training to public safety officers.

While traffic control is not part of Public Security’s mandate, he said, “We’re used to jumping out of our cars at the scene of an accident or to direct traffic when the lights are out and help pedestrians cross until the arrival of police,” he explained.

“But it’s important for us to know how to do it safely without causing another accident and in knowing how to protect ourselves and those we are trying to assist.”

## Westmount hockey players pitch in for fundraiser



From left, back row: Drew Hardy, Bruce Stacey (sports coordinator, Westmount Sports and Recreation), Sean Berry, Luc Poirier, Neal Beauchamp and Vanya Levy; front row: Jean-Loup Barbeau, Greg McBain (assistant director, Westmount Public Security), Ryan MacDougall and Mike Deegan (director, Westmount Sports and Recreation).

Photo courtesy of Public Security

The Montreal Pond Hockey Team, comprising three current Westmount employees and former hockey old boys from the city’s senior league, won 5-2 against the V Télé team May 11 at the annual Media Celebrity Hockey Marathon in Pier-


refonds. Team members, wearing sweaters provided by Westmount Florist, contributed a total of \$500 for the fundraiser in aid of the Otis Grant and Friends Foundation, and the Canadian Women’s Olympic Hockey Team.




Public security officers from Westmount, Côte St. Luc, Montreal West and Hampstead do a traffic control training drill at Sherbrooke and Kensington, May 17.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

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# Contactivity's Stark shows Rotary benefits of their funding

By MICHAEL MOORE

Contactivity Seniors' Centre director Mary Stark provided the Rotary Club of Westmount an in-depth look at the benefits of their investment in the facility, highlighting the services provided at the centre during Rotary's May 15 lunch presentation.

"We are a non-profit organization and a registered charity founded by seniors that is for seniors, by seniors, with seniors," said Stark, who has been the centre's director since 1996.

Using the tagline "Young at heart. Slightly older in other places," Stark told the roughly 25 Rotary members assembled at Victoria Hall for the weekly luncheon about the mental, physical and technological stimulation seniors receive at the Westmount Park Church-based facility.

The centre is partially funded by the Rotary Club of Westmount, the local chapter of the 1.2-million member worldwide Rotary International, which lists community growth and humanitarian efforts among its key tenets.

According to Stark, the Contactivity Centre provides a balance of mentally

stimulating activities like philosophical discussions, art groups and bridge and chess games, with physical classes, including a particularly popular tango class.

Balancing both aspects of the body ensures the seniors remain stimulated and healthy, said Stark, and helps reduce the chance of a life-threatening fall.

## Falls serious for seniors

"Falls are a serious issue. About 40 per cent of people admitted to long-term facilities are placed there after a fall. Mortality rate within a year after a fall is also astonishingly high," she explained.

The centre also fosters friendly relationships between local youth and the seniors, running an intergenerational choir with students at Westmount Park elementary school and encouraging high school students to volunteer.

"They may or may not have contact with their grandparents, but there seems to be a natural affinity between the two age groups," said Stark.

Tapping into youth's seemingly innate understanding of the newest tech trends, the centre also allows seniors to book one-hour lessons with a volunteer to learn about current technology.

"The whole idea is to be in the swing of things, to know what people are talking about and to be able to communicate through the computer with things like e-mail," said Stark.

## Lessons on social media

"Last summer, we even offered lessons on social media because that was something people had heard about but weren't sure how to get a Facebook page, what Twitter is and how to tweet," she added.

To thank her for her talk, the club presented Stark with a year-long subscription to a Rotary magazine and a gift certificate.



Contactivity Seniors' Centre director Mary Stark spoke to the Rotary Club of Westmount on May 15 at Victoria Hall.

## Green thumbs come out for plant exchange



The perennial plant exchange took place outside the Westmount conservatory May 16 between 4:30 and 7:30 pm. The popular yearly event encourages gardening enthusiasts to bring in their perennial plants and exchange them for others. Plants were also for sale at \$2. Proceeds from sales will go towards projects in and around the greenhouse. From left: Julie and Clive Hooton have a light hearted disagreement with the city of Westmount horticulture team, from left: Hélène Bazinet, Jayme Gerbrandt (city inspector of horticulture and arboriculture) and Mélanie Bänninger.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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# Nincheri gives WHA's last spring lecture on his grandfather artist



Roger Nincheri shows a photograph of his grandfather Guido.

BY RALPH THOMPSON

The Westmount Historical Association's last spring lecture in its series "Domes and Towers" was held the evening of May 16 in the Westmount Public Library and featured its keynote speaker Roger Nincheri.

Nincheri has dedicated the past 10 years analyzing and documenting the life and work of his talented grandfather, Guido Nincheri, who was described as "decorator, painter, architect and conceptual artist: the Michelangelo of Montreal."

Roger Nincheri told how he has gone into painstaking detail to trace his grandfathers' work, collecting photographs of stained glass windows, furniture, frescoes and wall paintings in stately homes, bars and restaurants.

Guido Nincheri, who was humpbacked and small in stature, was a highly productive man, according to his grandson. He was knighted by the Italian government, and named "the church's greatest artist of religious themes" by Pope Pius XI and honoured for his contributions during Montreal's 350th anniversary celebrations.

Born in Prato, Italy in 1885, Guido emigrated to Montreal in 1915. His work can be seen to this day in more than 100 churches in Canada and the US. In Westmount, his stained glass can be found in the St. Léon church on de Maisonneuve, in Montreal at the Château Dufresne and

at the St. Viateur d'Outremont church.

Faces that Guido portrayed are often from within his own family, including his son and wife (and even himself), who were used as models.

"Guido charged \$1,500 for a stained glass window. Today, it would cost over \$1 million," said Roger. He has restored Guido's studio and unrolled dozens of his life-sized sketches. These have been photographed and documented alongside photographs of the actual stained glass window or fresco.

## Comin' Up

THURSDAY, MAY 23

• **Alexander Reford** gives a presentation about the Reford Gardens, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. Free.

SATURDAY, MAY 25

• Buster Keaton's *The General*, accompanied by Shayne Gryn on the piano, with guest **Gerald Potterton**, 7 pm at Westmount Park United Church. Popcorn, desserts, coffee, tea, beer. Tickets at door: \$8 seniors/students; \$12 adults. Info: 514.738.FILM.

• **Westmount family day**, 10 am to 4 pm in Westmount Park.

• **"Give & Go"** street hockey tournament and used equipment drive in support of the new arena/pool project, 10 am in Westmount Park. To register a team or for more info: [www.wrc2013campaign.com](http://www.wrc2013campaign.com).

SUNDAY, MAY 26

**Sunday concert in the gallery:** Classical guitarist Éric Lemieux, 2 pm at the Gallery at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. Tickets: \$12; advance tickets \$10.

TUESDAY, MAY 28

• The Westmount branch of Cummings Centre presents Avi Neshet's latest film *The Matchmaker*, 7 pm at Temple Emanu-

El-Beth Sholom. Cost \$10. Info: 514.342.1234, ext. 7216.

• The **annual general meeting of the Atwater Library and Computer Centre**, 6 pm in the main-floor reading room. Also, the launch of "From our Vault" exhibit.

THURSDAY, MAY 30

Mountainside United Church's **teen music group** to host "Mountainside's Scoop on Music," 7 pm at the church, 687 Roslyn Ave. Ice cream, baked goods, tea and coffee. Tickets: \$10 adults; \$5 children under 12; \$20 families. Info: 514.486.1165.

## Montreal Children's Library is moving, needs help

The Montreal Children's Library, located in the Atwater Library at 1200 Atwater, is moving. It is looking for volunteers to help pack books and remove cabinets on Tuesday, May 28, Wednesday, May 29 or Thursday, May 30, between 10 am and 4 pm. Contact Helen Kyne 514.931.2304 or [info@mcl-bjm.ca](mailto:info@mcl-bjm.ca).

## Resident puts garbage in flower pots

A woman living on Westmount Ave. was asked by public safety officers May 9 not to use the city's flower containers as a garbage can, according to Public Security reports. A neighbour had complained at 3:42 pm after witnessing an incident.

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# Chihuahua hoarder full of character



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Souris is a five-year-old, ten pound Chihuahua/mini pinscher cross. This underdog arrived into Sophie’s Dog Adoptions rescue a year ago, spoiled and chubby with a reputation for being a hoarder. While there hasn’t yet been an end to Souris’ thieving ways, her foster mom has been working with her to improve her weight

and manners, thus allowing her bright personality to shine through.

Souris is quite the little character, and, if you have a good sense of humour, just about everything she does will make you laugh. Souris steals *everything*. But don’t worry, you will generally find your missing sock or hair clip hiding under the blanket in her crate.

She once pilfered an entire bag of cat food that was larger than she was, but couldn’t manage to get the bag open. Talk about a lot of work for nothing!

Souris also loves to boss the other, much larger dogs in her foster home around. When her foster mom tells her to “settle down,” Souris walks over to the

other dogs and gives them her patented police-dog look – and they all stop in their tracks. It’s as though she’s saying “You all better listen...or else!”

It’s always funny to watch a 60-pound pit bull acquiesce to a 10-pound Chihuahua. But Souris gets along well with the other dogs because they respect her confident demeanor.

Souris is good with basic commands and is very food-motivated so she will do just about anything for a cookie. She knows that she needs permission to go on the bed or couch and waits politely until she is allowed to jump up. She always gives her foster mom thank-you kisses and then loves to snuggle under the blanket and fall asleep.

Souris doesn’t bark and is house-trained and pee-pad trained. She needs to be in her crate when home alone because this anxious girl can get a bit destructive when she gets bored. But she loves her crate and knows that being in it means quiet time.

Souris would prefer a home with another dog, which would help with her anxiety. She doesn’t like to be alone too much, so a home with a retiree or someone who works from home would be ideal for her. She’s great with cats, but she requires a more quiet space, so no kids. As long as Souris has a clear set of rules and consistency in training, she shouldn’t regress to her old bratty ways. Souris retains just enough of her former diva to keep things



Souris

fun and interesting.  
If you are interested in learning more about this little character, please contact Sophie’s Dog Adoption at 514.523.5052 or sophiesdogadoption@gmail.com.

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A dog that has become accustomed to being caught by public safety officers came up to one May 8 at 1:50 am while it was running loose at the summit lookout, Public Security officials said. The dog wore a licence tag and was walked home. Its owner, described as having received at least five previous tickets for the same offence, was issued another for \$75. He lives on Summit Circle.



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# April sales: Hesitating



*Mood of the Market*

ANDY DODGE, CRA

The following article relates to offers to purchase Westmount residential dwellings, which were reported by local real estate agents as having been accepted in April 2013. 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.

The Westmount real estate market is still uncertain about the current economic climate in Montreal, but volume has evened out and at least two buyers were willing to pay \$2 million plus for local homes, with two others close behind in the \$1.9 million range. Still, it wasn't enough to push up the average price from March, and mark-ups eased off as well.

Real estate agents are less enthusiastic than they should be, since volume is only off by about three sales from the monthly

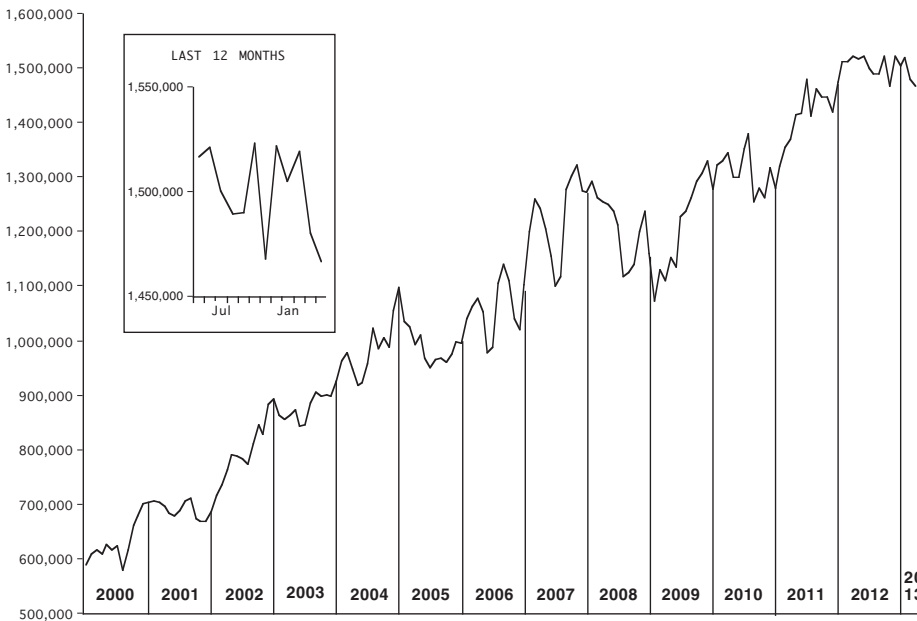
average for April, and three quarters of the 16 sales were over the \$1-million mark, similar to statistics for March. In fact, once the high and low prices and mark-ups are removed from the monthly totals, the remaining sales averaged exactly the same 22.1-percent mark-up in both March and April. Lowest price in April was \$745,000, but the average for the four under-\$1 million sales was \$865,000 – still very high in historical terms.

And while three of the sales were for houses that had been on the market for over a year, six of the reported sales were arranged in 10 days or less – an indication that if houses are properly priced, they will sell right away. In other words, there are plenty of buyers out there, but they're becoming very price-conscious, and with some uncertainty in the market, they are not willing to risk overpaying for such a big investment. And for some reason, this has been a late-blooming spring market, and many owners are only now choosing to list their houses.

### Condos

The condominium market, on the other hand, is bursting. After six sales in

## Average adjusted price of a typical Westmount home by month from Jan. 2000 to Apr. 2013 based on accepted offer dates



Source: Andy Dodge & Assoc. Inc.

the first three months averaging 26 percent above valuation, there were five more in April alone, with an average mark-up of

32 percent. Only one of the sales was over \$1 million and another ..... continued on p. 28



**3075 Le Boulevard, Adjacent Westmount**  
Just Listed and 1st Time. Beautiful very bright 4+1 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom, Fireplace, high ceiling, garage, 3 car parking, in excellent location adjacent Westmount. Very well priced family home. \$1,189,000 MLS 10497149



**473 Ch De La Vallee du Manito**  
Private 6 bedroom lake front estate with 18 acres of land, 4000 sq ft of living space, inground pool, spa, surrounded by Lac Manito and absolutely amazing lake and mountain views. Asking \$2,400,000 MLS 9947341



**637 Av Dunlop, Outremont**  
Beautiful classic 6 bedroom home with high ceiling, lavish wood work and moldings, 4 fireplaces, 2 car garage, inground pool, A/C. 5000 sq ft living space, on a prestigious and quiet street. \$2,150,000 MLS 10155111



**31 Ch Graham, Val Des Lac (pool)**  
Located on Lac Quenouille with 850 ft of beach front. 5 bedroom, 2.5 acres of land, 2 car garage, heated inground pool, ensuite bathrooms. Only 25 min. from Tremblant and 15 min. from St Agathe. \$960,000 MLS 9805334

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# MYST: May 26 groundbreaking for world-class luxury development

ALAN FAWCETT

May 26 promises to be a little earth-shattering: literally. Following one of the most successful luxury condo launches in recent Montreal history (Phase I of MYST is nearly sold out), Phase II will be launched on that day. Coincidentally, it's the day when ground will actually be broken for this project which is the talk of the town, with construction due to be completed in 2014.

Given the saturation of the Montreal market, what could have made the initial launch so successful, and created such a buzz about this project in Montreal, and as we understand it, abroad. What sets it apart? First step, go to the source. MYST is the brainchild of Fadi Melki, president of MelkiLiving and developer of MYST, who brims over with enthusiasm about the project. "Elegance is the hallmark of MYST," he informs us. "From the breadth of its vision to the smallest detail of finishing, the highest quality has been the only acceptable standard. I've spent three years bringing MYST to life, and it's where I plan to live with my family." We're intrigued. We wonder how many developers have that kind of confidence and that kind of commitment.

**"From the breadth of its vision to the smallest detail of finishing, the highest quality has been the only acceptable standard. I've spent three years bringing MYST to life, and it's where I plan to live with my family."**

**Fadi Melki, developer of Myst**

MYST is located on the south side of the Lachine Canal, an oasis of calm that's just minutes from everything the bustling city has to offer. To probe further on MYST's unique qualities, we decided to ask Andres Escobar. He's a world-renowned designer with more than 20 condominium projects to his credit in New York City, and currently working on high-end projects in areas as far-flung as Abu Dhabi and the Seychelles, not to mention here in Montreal. "I've tried to incorporate eclectic elements from various places around the world and fuse them together into a new and surprising whole," he comments. "The exteriors have

hints of South Beach, to give a relaxed, light, almost airy feeling." Indeed, with the vast expanse of huge glass curtain walls, MYST seems not to sit, but rather to hover, on the banks of the Lachine Canal. "The two-storey lobbies are reminiscent of New York," he continues, "and the interiors are inspired by the finest of European architecture."

In addition to its extraordinary silhouette, MYST offers many distinctive features. An interior courtyard is adorned with infinity water basins reflecting the shimmering walls above. The lacquered, modern, European-style kitchens, always a focal point, have quartz countertops and top-of-the-line fully integrated European appliances and fixtures. The assiduous attention to detail and quality never seems to stop, as testified to by MYST's certification by L'Association des Constructeurs du Québec (ACQ) the premier organization of its kind in the province.

But perhaps the most stunning part of the development is its signature glassed-in skywalk that connects the two buildings, containing a fitness area, sauna and a very sleek lounge. And perched on top of that, the sky deck with its enormous infinity pool, offering unforgettable views of the Canal, the city and Mount Royal.

MYST claims to be setting a new standard for the Canal District. It might just be doing exactly that.



Baker 514.947.MYST | 2365 ST-PATRICK ST.

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# Gin cocktails, spring colours for Batshaw event



*Social Notes  
from Westmount  
and Beyond*  
VERONICA REDGRAVE

Stylists were speaking in synonyms as they arrived at the Parisian Laundry on April 25 for the annual Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation fundraiser. Azure, aqua, cerulean, robin’s egg turquoise – all perfectly described the blue

skies that finally came to Montreal in time for this popular cocktail competition. Tickets were \$125 and \$80 for those under 35. Burgundy Lion, Sparrow, Taverne on the Greene, and Bar Le Confessionnal/Brasero Hardi graciously donated staff, time and materials to create delectable concoctions using Ungava gin, graciously donated. Burgundy Lion was the winner with its “Carthusian sling” creation. The eve’s media celeb guests were Westmounter **Andrew Carter**, along with **Terry DiMonte**, ..... **Tarah Schwartz** and *continued on p. 32*



From left: Linda Lemoyne, Tina Khan, Elizabeth Cundill, Karma Hallward and Barbara Molson.



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**Open House Sunday May 26 2-4pm**



**Westmount: 627 Av Belmont** – Exquisite family home with high ceilings and great architectural details. Ideal space for dining, playing & entertaining. The kitchen features top-of-the-line finishings & a large eat-in area. 5 + 1 bdrms 3 + 1 baths. 2 car garage. **\$2,350,000**

**NEW LISTING**



**1414 Chomedey #1101:** Bright and sunny unit on the top floor of the Seville phase 1 building. Immaculate views from every room. 1 bedroom plus den, open concept floor plan, large balcony. Rooftop pool + terrace. **\$399,000**

**COMMERCIAL NEW LISTING**



**4192 ST Catherine W.** One of the most distinguished buildings in the heart of the Westmount business district. The exterior offers an exceptional and renown architectural design and the interior, an abundance of potential. **For Sale/Rent**



From left: Sophie Wilson, Alexia Dlouhy, Carley Sambrook, Alexa Weiser, Chelsea Voronoff and Alix Faraggi.



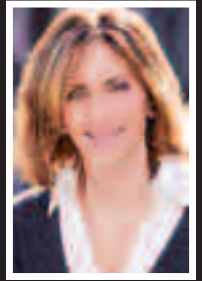
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### DISTINCTIVE PROPERTIES

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\$1,565,000

**WESTMOUNT ADJ. | MODERN TOWNHOUSE**  
Fantastic 4 level town-home beaming w/natural light. 4 bdrms, high-end finishes, priv. grdn, dbl gar. mls 10645244

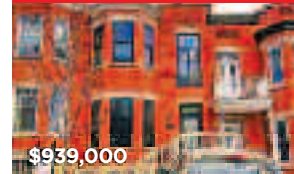
#### OPEN HOUSE SUN. 2-4 PM 427 VICTORIA AVE.



\$465,000

**WESTMOUNT | IN THE VILLAGE**  
Bright & spacious 4 bdrm upper coop w/parking. Walking distance to amenities and new hospital. mls 10102855

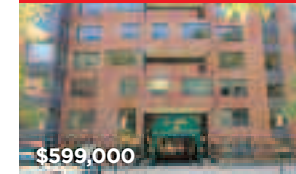
#### OPEN HOUSE SUN. 2-4 PM 487 GROSVENOR AVE.



\$939,000

**WESTMOUNT | GROSVENOR**  
In the heart of Victoria Village, great 4+1 bdrm townhouse w/private parking, fin. bsmt. & arch. details. mls 10022291

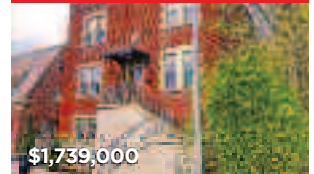
#### OPEN HOUSE SUN. 2-4 PM #1120-1250 PINE AVE.



\$599,000

**DOWNTOWN | GOLDEN SQ. MILE**  
Beautiful 2 bedroom condo in Le Noble. 1350+sf, AC, garage, pool sauna, mountain views. mls 10660632

#### OPEN HOUSE SUN. 2-4 PM 44 ANWOTH RD.



\$1,739,000

**WESTMOUNT | DETACHED DELIGHT**  
Gracious 3 bdrm renovated home with large, bright kitchen, sunroom, finished basement and 1.5 garage. mls10820331



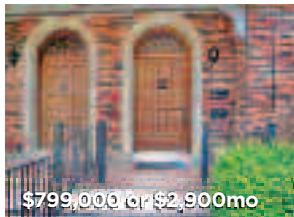
\$7,750mo

**WESTMOUNT | EXECUTIVE RENTAL**  
Renovated w/finest quality materials, 4+1 bdrm detached w/parking located minutes to downtown. mls 9352750



\$599,000

**WESTMOUNT ADJ. | CHARMING COURTYARD**  
Bright 4 bedroom townhouse with renovated kitchen and bathroom, hdwd floors, private int. garage. mls 10164287



\$799,000 or \$2,900mo

**WESTMOUNT | BRIGHT & SPACIOUS**  
Do not miss this great lower co-op on quiet cul-de-sac. unit w/exclusive bsmt, 3 bdrms, double garage. mls 9096769



\$889,000

**WESTMOUNT | COVETED WINDSOR**  
Beautiful 3 bdrm Victorian in vibrant Victoria Village. High ceilings, eat-in kitchen & private garden. mls 10424577



\$918,000

**WESTMOUNT | VICTORIA VILLAGE**  
Bright 3 bdrm semi-detached, spacious kitchen, fin.bsmt, private urban garden & parking. Steps to all! mls 9783723



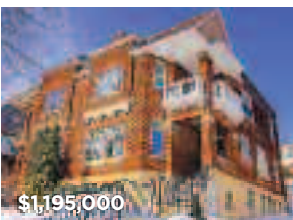
\$975,000

**WESTMOUNT | TOWNHOUSE**  
Ideally located near schools, downtown, sunny 3 bdrm home w/hi-ceiling, reno'd kit. & coveted gar. mls 9099285



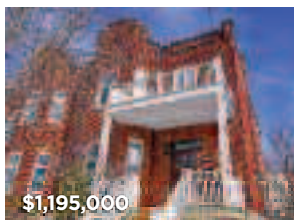
\$995,000

**WESTMOUNT | OPPORTUNITY!**  
Greystone townhouse w/soaring ceilings, 5 bdrm home with huge potential. Steps to Greene. mls 10400643



\$1,195,000

**WESTMOUNT | FAMILY FRIENDLY**  
Lovely semi-det. 4 bdrm family in great neighbourhood. Arch. features, fin. bsmt and double garage. mls 9352292



\$1,195,000

**WESTMOUNT ADJ. | ELEGANCE & COMFORT**  
Most elegant 3+1 bdrm semi on great street. Extensively reno'd w/2-car prkg, close to schools, parks & Sherbrooke. mls 9738164



\$1,225,000

**WESTMOUNT | GREAT INVESTMENT**  
Impeccable duplex with 2 parking, private garden and steps to Victoria Village. mls 9977668



\$1,229,000

**HAMPSTEAD ADJ. | DELIGHTFUL DUPLEX**  
Exquisite and extended det. duplex facing park. Approx. 2000sf, 3 bdrms, 5 garages & mature garden. mls 10292671



\$1,349,000

**WESTMOUNT | ARLINGTON**  
Renovated 4+1 bdrm Greystone on family street. AC, garden, double parking pad & steps to all! mls 9534786



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**WESTMOUNT ADJ. | DOUBLE LOT**  
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Beautiful 3+1 bdrm detached home with large solarium family room. Arch. features, AC and garage. mls 10859473



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**WESTMOUNT | ON THE FLAT**  
Beautiful 3 level home, 4 bdrms, high ceilings, FP, terrace, mature garden and detached double garage. mls 9732001



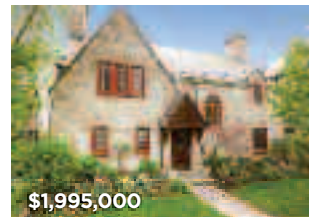
\$1,625,000

**WESTMOUNT | MURRAY HILL**  
Beautiful and bright det. 4+1 bdrm home near Murray Park, arc. details, finished basement and garage. mls 9564558



\$1,850,000

**WESTMOUNT | BY THE PARK**  
Superb 3 storey house across from Wst Park, 5 bdrms, high ceiling, open floor plan and double parking. mls 10607878



\$1,995,000

**WESTMOUNT | TRUE ELEGANCE**  
Bright stone residence w/city and river views. 4+1 bdrms, sol., fin. basement, central AC and garage. mls 9027577

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# Cutler hosts McDermott



Dylan McDermott, second from right, with Westmounters, from left, Philip Cutler, Marina's son; Independent publisher David Price; Marina Cutler and Sonia Besner.

Westmounter Marina Cutler hosted the opening night of actor Dylan McDermott's début photo exhibition, "The Dylan Project: Make Some Noise, Stop Violence Against Women," on May 10. The event took place at her Old Montreal gallery, Avenue Art, where the exhibition runs until the end of May. On show and for sale were

McDermott's photographs of the Masai people of Kenya and a home for abused women in the Congo. Proceeds will benefit the V-Day organization. The group aims to end violence against women and girls and is inspired by *The Vagina Monologues*, which was written Eve Ensler, McDermott's adoptive mother.

# Seen better days



This mangled bicycle was seen May 8 tethered to a post on the corner of de Maisonneuve and Melville. It had been there for several weeks.

Photo: Ralph Thompson







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**9009 Boul. Gouin O., Bois de Saraguay, \$1,495,000**

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**10823-10825 Av. D'Auteuil, Ahuntsic-Cartierville, asking price \$849,000**

"renovated duplex"



**33 Ch. Chapman, Lac-Brome, \$2,195,000**

"Well located, only an hour away from Montreal, this special 13 room home on 98 acres has amazing views, vast lawns adorned with ponds, mature trees & rock statues, a guest house, 4 car garage, heated pool, outdoor sauna, meandering rock walls and gardens."



**5697 Queen-Mary, Hampstead, \$1,745,000**

"Beautiful stone front cottage totally rebuilt with extension on a large lot"

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**445 Av. Viger O., apt. 904, Ville-Marie, \$499,000**

"Stylish 2 storey open concept condo/loft"



**6150 Av. du Boisé, apt. 2J, CDN/NDG, \$519,000**

"Great condo in the Sanctuaire du Mont-Royal,"



**4411 Rue St-Denis, apt. 209, Le Plateau M Royal, \$325,000**

"Large newly renovated condo"



**72-74 Rue Dufferin, Hampstead, \$869,000**

"Beautiful large duplex in sought after location"

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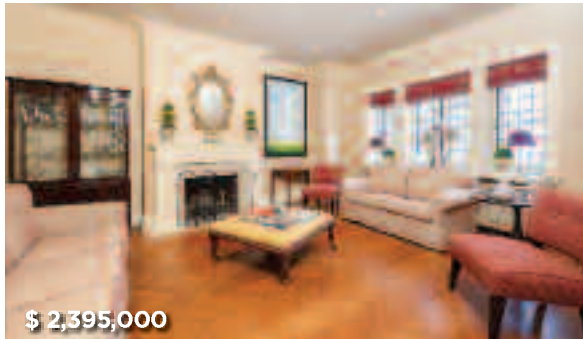
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**WESTMOUNT | UPPER BELMONT** Superb single-family home on a prime street in Westmount. Boasting spectacular features & design, this 4+1 bdrm home includes 1 gar. and 2-car driveway.



**WESTMOUNT | FORDEN CRESCENT** Nestled on a quiet crescent and enjoying a choice corner lot, this charming and intimate detached stone cottage sits only steps from Murray Hill Park.



**WESTMOUNT | RARE OPPORTUNITY** Perfect for a single family home - 6,000 sq.ft lot in a prime Westmount location.



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## Signage efficiency



Spotted in the Metro grocery store May 2 was an innovative solution to a missing letter "E" in the bakery section.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

### WAG, cont'd. from p. 1

told the *Independent*.

Selwyn officials were unavailable for comment by press time.

Campbell said the school had approached the city with the offer and will do

the work "entirely on its own." Summer softball games and the national soccer camp will be relocated elsewhere.

Along with its investment, Selwyn House will continue to pay rent as usual to the city for use of the field.

The upgrade will make the WAG the first city field to be irrigated.



Looking westward from the Westmount Athletics Grounds towards Westmount High, May 17.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

## Car towed after blocking garage

A ticket for \$190 was issued May 7 for a car parked across the garage entrance of the commercial building at 4444 St. Catherine, corner of Metcalfe, Public Security officials report. After checking with police and trying to locate the owner, offi-

cers had the beige Toyota towed three meters just after 9 am. The driver, a woman, arrived soon after claiming she hadn't seen the garage door. The ticket included a \$90 fine, \$25 administration fee and \$75 towing charge.

## Noisy party warned twice, ticketed

An apartment resident at 4278 Sherbrooke was issued a ticket for \$146 for failing to tone down a noisy party in the early hours of May 12, it was reported by Public Security. Officers warned the woman initially on a complaint from a neighbour on Olivier at about 1 am when the music could be heard from the street. But after a second complaint at 3 am, they told her she would receive a ticket.

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## Lacrosse player Boyd heads to IMG Academy

BY MICHAEL MOORE

Westmounter Taylor Boyd, a long-time lacrosse star of the city's recreational and club programs, is heading south of the border next fall to enrol in a prestigious athlete training prep school, IMG Academy, in Bradenton, Florida.

"I went down to look at the campus and really loved the atmosphere and the way the whole program is run," said Boyd. "[IMG lacrosse coach] Bill Shatz took his whole day with me, which made my experience really enjoyable and made me want to go to IMG."

After narrowing down a list of potential suitors, the 17-year-old midfielder opted to accept a two-year scholarship from the school, which has 560 acres and over 700 students from around the world.

IMG started in the late 1970s as the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy, which trained future professional tennis champions including Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi and Monica Seles. Entertainment giant IMG purchased the school in 1987, expanded into several other sports, including football, baseball and basketball, and added its own lacrosse team in 2012.

A former baseball player, Boyd was originally introduced to lacrosse by McGill head coach Tim Murdoch, the co-founder Westmount's recreational lacrosse program in 2006 and head coach of the Westmount Lynx lacrosse club.

"Tim had a lacrosse stick in his hand and was playing with his son [Boyd's future Lynx teammate Maxime Murdoch]. They had me try one game and I fell in love with it. I love the rushes, the passing, the creativity," said Boyd, who will be joined at IMG by Lynx teammate Cougar Kirby, a Kahnawake resident.

Murdoch, who served as an advisor to Boyd during the teenager's recruitment process, has witnessed Boyd's growth on and off the pitch over four years with the recreational program and two more with the Lynx.

"On the field, Taylor is intense, hard working and totally dedicated," said Murdoch. "Off of it, he's really polite, well-mannered and has great leadership skills. He's just a real delight to be around."

To supplement the skills developed with the Lynx, Boyd has reached beyond Westmount's borders, attending lacrosse camps and joining other teams to showcase and hone his talent.

"He's played for Team Quebec in both field and box lacrosse, for organizations in Canada and the US over the summer and with a team out of Ottawa. He's an example of somebody who invested himself heavily to become better," said Murdoch.

Boyd will play one final season with the Lynx this spring before moving to Florida this fall, where he hopes to catch the eye of some American colleges.



Westmount Lynx team member Taylor Boyd, number 12, plays against Kahnawake in the 2012 club finals. The game took place in October at the Ozias-Leduc School in Mont St. Hilaire.

Photo courtesy of Taylor Boyd



# Kids sing for kids at Mountainside



For the second year, Mountainside United Church held a benefit concert for Sun Youth April 13. Various young choral and instrumental ensembles from Montreal took part this year, including the choir of Mountainside, which was joined by the junior chorale of the English Montreal School Board, the Montreal Chinese Children's Choir, Le Petit Choeur de Rosemère, the Montessori School of Montreal Choir and the Face School Chamber Orchestra. This year's event raised \$6,126 for Sun Youth, up from \$4,500 last year. "We were quite excited about the musical and financial success of the event this year," Margaret de Castro, director of music at Mountainside told the Independent.

Photo courtesy of Mountainside United Church

## Toonie challenge brings in \$14K so far



Jonathan Meakins, director of the Heritage Centre at the McGill University Health Centre, speaks during a kick-off event held May 7 at the hospital's Glen site administration building on de Maisonneuve Blvd. The "Toonie Challenge" is a fundraiser involving several Montreal schools. Students from participating schools (including Westmount's ECS, Selwyn House, The Study and Vanguard) collected \$14,012 (7,006 toonies) to support the ongoing construction of the Glen site, whose total cost is estimated at \$1.3 billion. The challenge's long-term goal is to raise \$138,000 in toonies, which would be enough to circle the Glen site if placed end-to-end.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

## Residents report 'noxious odour'

A "noxious odour" reported to be infiltrating apartments at 4300 de Maisonneuve May 2 was checked out by Public Security at 8 pm. It was not found to be

coming from the sewer but possibly from the spreading of manure on fields and blowing in from a distance by steady winds.

## Soccer beginnings



Westmount Sports and Recreation coach Mikeala O'Brian puts 4- and 5-year-old soccer players through their paces the evening of May 8 in Westmount Park. The young players are part of Introduction to Soccer, which runs from April 27 to June 20.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

## Young doorbell ringer scolded

One of three youths ringing doorbells on Lexington and Surrey Gardens May 7 was caught by public safety officers with the help of a complainant, Public Security officials said. The 15-year-old boy from Town of Mount Royal claimed they were

doing it as a incident. He was sent on his way after being warned not to repeat the prank, and his parents were informed. The other two could not be tracked down. The incident generated three complaints to Public Security just before 11 pm.



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# ON THE SHELVES

Among recent reading and audio-visual material at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

## Magazines

“Blooming wonder” by Helen Pilcher in *New Scientist*, April 2013, p. 42. What made the first primate evolve the special features that paved the way for human evolution? There is a surprising answer. The role of flowers is explored.

“Tendances plantes: Top 20 d'experts” by Jasmine Kabuya-Racine in *Fleurs, plantes, jardins*, May 2013, p. 49. Des producteurs de végétaux québécois dévoilent leur plante coup de cœur pour cette année. Des suggestions d'experts pour garnir tous les coins du jardin!

“A garden guide” by Mary Lou Shaw in *Urban Farm*, March/April 2013, p. 38. A good garden begins with a plan, proper crop rotation and no chemicals.

## E-books: travels to France

*Paris* by Edward Rutherford – Taking readers on a journey through Parisian history, this sweeping multigenerational saga, filled with romance, danger and rich detail, beautifully illuminates the “City of

Lights,” from its founding under the Romans to the hotbed of cultural activity during the 1920s and 1930s.

*The Perfect Meal: In Search of the Lost Tastes of France* by John Baxter – Part grand tour of France, part history of French cuisine, this book takes readers on a culinary hunt for the most delicious, bizarre and endangered French foods.

## Adult English – Non-fiction

*Fabricated: The new world of 3D printing* by Hod Lipson – Based on hundreds of hours of research and dozens of interviews with experts from a broad range of industries, *Fabricated* offers readers an informative, engaging and fast-paced introduction to 3D printing now and in the future.

*O.J. in the morning, G&T at night: Spirited dispatches on aging with joie de vivre* by A.E. Hotchner – You don't have to be in your seventies or eighties to enjoy Hotchner's elixir for aging happily, but after reading this charming collection of essays, you may wish you were.

## Adult French – Germany and the War

*La colère du faucon* by Hans-Jürgen

Greif – A German officer is made prisoner at the end of World War II. Upon his release, he has ambitious plans for a new career, but he will clash with the new powers in place. His despotic personality will antagonize his wife and lead to a merciless battle with his son.

*Retour indésirable* by Charles Lewinsky – Kurt Gerron, a director and actor who played opposite Marlene Dietrich in *The Blue Angel*, was famous in Europe between the wars and was even courted by Hollywood. A Jew, he was sent to a concentration camp when World War II broke out. He was ordered to make a propaganda film that painted a rosy portrait of life there.

## Activity books for children

*Unbored: The Essential Field Guide to Serious Fun* by Joshua Glenn and Elizabeth Foy Larsen – With chapters like “Train Your Grownup to be a Ninja” and “Soak and Destroy Remote-Controlled Water Blaster,” this book is sure to be a hit with kids of all ages.

*60 nouvelles expériences: faciles et amusantes!* by Delphine Grinberg – Full of easy and fun experiments, this book makes learning about science fun.

## DVDs

*I Served the King of England* – A young restaurant worker does whatever it takes to become a millionaire, only to realize that by accomplishing his goal he has wound up in prison.

*Shakespeare Uncovered* – These six episodes combine history, biography, iconic performances, new analysis and the personal passion of their celebrated hosts (Ethan Hawke, Jeremy Irons, Derek Jacobi, Trevor Nunn, Joely Richardson, and David Tennant) to tell the story behind the stories of Shakespeare's greatest plays.

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## School's coming, get reading



Judy Tytler, literacy coordinator and grade 4 teacher at Westmount Park School, reads to her daughter, Cara Herring, left, and prospective kindergartner Gavin Aitherley, who was one of many attendees at Getting Ready for Reading on May 8. The school and the English Montreal School Board organized the event to "celebrate reading," according to one of the organizers, teacher Pamela Price, and to let parents of next year's kindergartners know how to best prepare their children for school. The secret? Lots of reading.

Photo: Westmount Independent



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# Building boom reported

cont'd. from p. 1

of construction costs has risen 192 percent – far out-stripping inflation – as additions and upscale renovations are untaken with the result that former residents might not recognize the interior of their former dwelling.

Last year's increases are also reflected in revenue the city reaped from the work permits issued in 2012 of some \$700,000 – an increase of 75 percent over the previous year.

Among the more significant construction projects listed for permits issued were the Westmount recreation centre totaling \$15 million, and condo projects at 215 Redfern for \$14.8 million and at 350 Selby for \$6 million.

Permits were also issued for the installation of MUHC water towers on Glen Rd. at \$5.5 million and renovations for the new Target store at Alexis Nihon for \$6.4 million.

Three new housing starts were reported at an estimated cost of just under \$6 million on a vacant lot on Lexington and at 51 Surrey Gardens and 28 Devon, where a house was demolished to build a larger one.

The lion's share of the building boom, however, relates to renovations, alterations and additions to private dwellings, ranging from window replacement and masonry work to pools and major extensions.

Among the larger projects was a rear extension at 64 Sunnyside declared at a cost of \$1.75 million, interior and exterior renovation at 205 Edgehill for \$1.2 million, and restoration and renovation of Braemar (a heritage property at 3219 The Boulevard) for \$1.1 million.

Other work over \$1 million included renovations to the garage at the 4300 de Maisonneuve apartment complex (\$1.1 million), interior renovations at the RCMP building (\$1.1 million) and at Dawson Col-

lege for \$1.6 million.

The 1250 Greene condo development for which \$25 million in permits had been issued in 2011, also obtained a plumbing permit last year for \$1 million; another was issued for \$400,000 for interior renovations for the National Bank quarters in the building. A third one was issued to Metro Richelieu for just under \$1 million for interior work for its quarters in the building.

All four demolition meetings held in 2012 translated into permits and work starts at the arena/pool site, 42 Belvedere Rd., 28 Devon and 3219 The Boulevard (Braemar).

### More inspections

In other information detailed in the Urban Planning annual report were 52 meetings of the board of inspections, which carried out 5,834 inspections, 109 more than the previous year. The board also studied 1,696 project submissions.

Among various permits issued by Urban Planning other than for construction were 10 for filming, 101 for occupancy, 17 for signs, 31 for tree removal and three for ice cream vendors.

Permits were also renewed for the operation of five rooming houses established by vested rights at 37 Chesterfield (five rooms), 4144 Dorchester (three rooms), 4262 Dorchester (nine rooms), 425 Mount Pleasant (three rooms) and 9 Weredale Park (seven rooms).

### 32 court proceedings

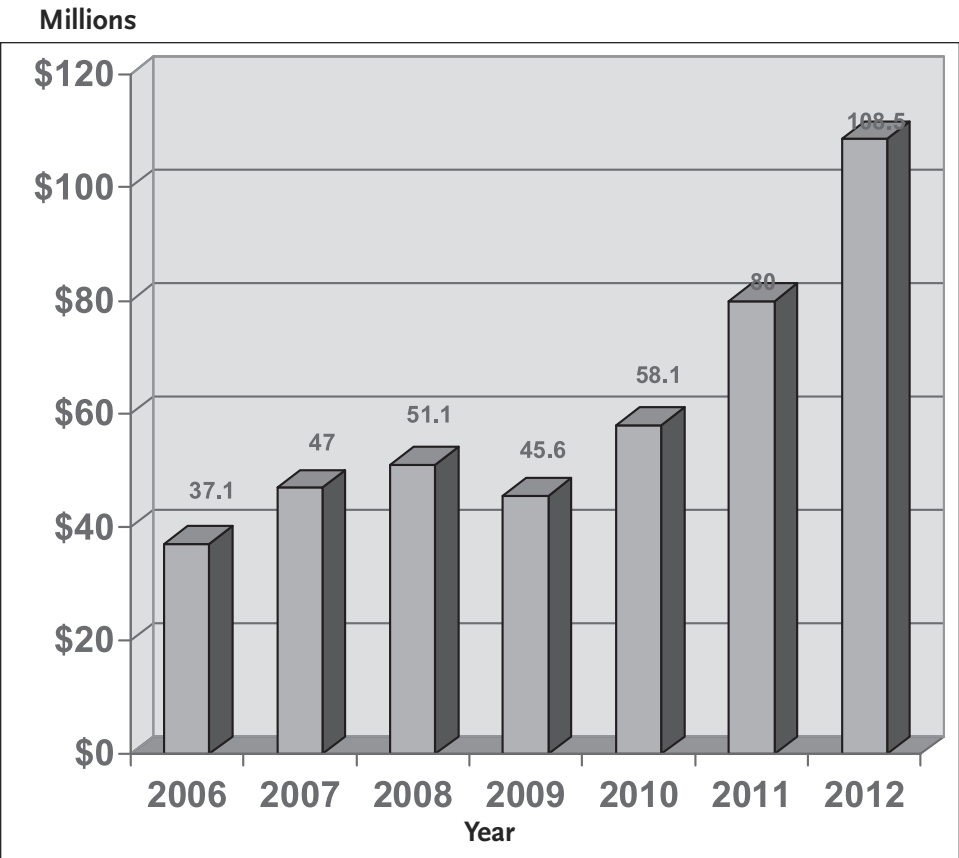
There were 32 court proceedings launched or carried over from previous years with most still pending. Many involved commercial establishments and all related to alleged failure to conform to By-law 1300 regarding permits and certificates.

## Permits reached \$37M in 2006

As building activity in Westmount last year reached \$109 million as declared in 1,295 permits issued, it was only seven years ago in the *Independent's* inaugural issue May 16, 2007, that the headline read "Building projects push limits, heading for busy year."

The feature story also related to 2006 building activity reporting that it had "reached a level unprecedented in at least five years." That record high was \$37.1 million involving 636 work permits.

# 7-year comparison of work permits in \$ millions



Declared values of estimated construction costs to \$108.5 million in 2012.

Graph courtesy of Westmount Urban Planning

Among 12 cases in which fines were imposed was one against the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) for non-conforming and unfinished work at 93 Hallowell (\$1,307). Another four resulted in fines totaling \$5,000 against Les Condominiums Redfern Inc. for removing four trees without authorization.

### PAC approves 373

In 2012, the city's Planning Advisory

Committee (PAC) approved 373 projects at 33 meetings. It also studied and made recommendations on eight by-law amendments.

These ranged from the installation of telecommunications cabinets and garden storage containers to the preservation of Category 1\* heritage buildings and a planning vision for the south west sector (Victoria village).

## Construction noise on Sunday

The sound of construction annoyed neighbours at two locations April 28, Public Security officials said. One involved a resident on Upper Roslyn working with a hammer at 2:46 pm. He stopped after being informed of the Sunday restriction. Workers were also found building a fence on Grosvenor just south of Sherbrooke at 4:59 pm. With only 15 minutes left to complete the job, they were allowed to finish.



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### Real estate, cont'd. from p. 16

only \$369,000. The others were fairly close to the average \$751,025.

April saw four house sales in the Circle Road area and one more on Roslyn Ave. north of the city limits, two in eastern NDG and one on Cedar Ave. just east of Westmount. Prices are down about 10 percent year-over-year in the latter two districts, about even in the northern area of adjacent-Westmount, where volume has doubled compared to last year, while it is only half what it was last year to the east and west of the city limits.



# Firefighters respond to Roslyn Ave. gas leak



Firefighters from the Montreal Fire Station 76 on Stanton St. were called to a Roslyn Ave. address between Côte St. Antoine Rd. and Sherbrooke St. at around 4:45 pm May 10. It was reported that a construction contractor using a backhoe ruptured an underground gas pipe. The firefighters finished the operation by around 6:30 pm, said Lieutenant James McAllister, a senior staff member at the fire station. According to Public Security, the leak caused power to be cut in a wide area for about two hours before it was restored. Public safety officers unfolded stop signs on Sherbrooke between Grosvenor and Claremont, where traffic lights were not operating.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

# Spotting a merlin



A merlin, a type of falcon, sits on a chimney top near Montrose and Ramezay, May 16. Possibly, the bird was nesting a couple of hundred feet away in a fir or pine tree, which is where they tend to nest. This kind of bird hunts other birds and anything smaller than a pigeon.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith



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- 5835 Place Decelles #5 1 bdrm – Fully furnished A-Z \$1,425
- 5530 Cote St-Luc #31 2 bdrms – Heating, Hot Water, Appliances \$1,220
- 4861 Grosvenor 2 bdrm 2 baths – Upper, appliances, garage \$1,800
- 3436 Draper #310 2 bdrm 1+1bath– Furnished or unfurnished \$1,800

## Other

- 689 Ch. Burnett (Sutton) 2 bdrms – Fully Furnished \$1,200
- 945 Av. Muir #203 (Saint-Laurent) 1 bdrm – appliances, garage \$1,200
- 1950 Av. Champlain (Montreal-Est) 2 bdrm – locker, balcony \$1,175
- 4950 Boul. Assomption (Rosemont) 2 bdrm – garage, pool, gym \$1,800
- 5790 Rand (CSL) 4 bdrm – garage, bsmt, garden, appliances \$1,950

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# infoWestmount

## HÔTEL DE VILLE

**Plan directeur de la circulation : commentaires acceptés jusqu'au 31 mai 2013 - DERNIER APPEL !**  
La Ville invite le public à soumettre leurs commentaires à propos du **Plan directeur de la circulation et du transport actif de Westmount**. Consultez les documents au [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), à l'hôtel de ville et à la Bibliothèque. Envoyez vos commentaires au 4333, rue Sherbrooke O. H3Z 1E2 ou à [plandirecteur@westmount.org](mailto:plandirecteur@westmount.org) **au plus tard le 31 mai 2013.**

**Horaire estival en vigueur à compter du 3 juin**  
**Entre le 3 juin et le 6 septembre 2013**, les bureaux administratifs de Westmount, soit l'hôtel de ville, Hydro Westmount, le Victoria Hall et les services des travaux publics, des sports et loisirs et de la sécurité publique sont ouverts **du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h**. De plus, la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount et la galerie du Victoria Hall sont fermées le dimanche pendant cette période.

## CENTRE DES LOISIRS DE WESTMOUNT

### La construction du CLW en images

Des photographies de toutes les étapes de la construction sont en ligne au [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org). Suivez le projet via [Facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre](https://www.facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre) et [Twitter@constructalert](https://twitter.com/constructalert).



### Schéherazade - une soirée au Souk

**Le vendredi 31 mai à 18 h** au Victoria Hall. Une soirée éblouissante de vin, de bonne bouffe, danse et un fabuleux enchanement silencieux, au profit du CLW. 140 \$ par personne. Un nombre limité de billets est en vente au Victoria Hall et par téléphone au 514 989-5226. Info : [wrc2013campaign.com](http://wrc2013campaign.com)

### Campagne pour le CLW: compte à rebours !!

Il ne reste que quelques jours pour vous inscrire au **TOURNOI DE HOCKEY DE RUE**, alors visitez le site web [wrc2013campaign.com](http://wrc2013campaign.com) dès maintenant ! Inscrivez-vous au **TOURNOI DE TENNIS** en même temps et achetez vos billets pour la soirée **SCHEHERAZADE** au Victoria Hall. Tous les profits seront affectés à notre nouveau Centre de loisirs.

## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES



**Journée familiale de Westmount le 25 mai**  
**Le samedi 25 mai de 9 h à 16 h** au parc Westmount. Soyez des nôtres lors de la 38<sup>e</sup> Journée familiale ; il y a des activités pour tous ! Surveillez votre courrier pour le dépliant ou consultez le [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).

**Série concerts du dimanche au Victoria Hall**  
**Le dimanche 26 mai à 14 h** à la galerie du Victoria Hall. **Éric Lemieux**, guitare classique. 12 \$, 10 \$ en pré-vente. Avec rafraîchissements. Info : 514 989-5226.

## Prochaine séance du conseil : le lundi 3 juin

**Série concerts du dimanche au Victoria Hall**  
**Le dimanche 9 juin à 14 h** à la galerie du Victoria Hall. Concert pour enfants par **Isabel Belina**. 12 \$, 10 \$ en pré-vente. Avec rafraîchissements. Info : 514 989-5226.

## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Writers Out Loud : Linda Kay

**Le mercredi 29 mai à 19 h**. Une soirée organisée conjointement avec la Bibliothèque et la *Quebec Writers Federation* avec Linda Kay, auteure du livre *The Sweet Sixteen*. Info : 514 989-5299.

**Conférences de 14 h : The Case for Reincarnation**  
**Le mercredi 5 juin à 14 h**. Avons-nous eu des vies antérieures? Si c'est le cas, pourquoi n'avons-nous pas de souvenir de ces vies passées? Quel est le but de nos vies? Qu'est-ce que les grands maîtres du passé ont à dire? Richard James explore ces sujets lors de sa conférence. Info : 514 989-5299.

### Cercle de lecture

**Le mardi 11 juin à 10 h 15**. Aucune liste de lecture, seulement des discussions au sujet des livres que vous avez lus. Info : 514 989-5299.

## SPORTS ET LOISIRS

### Camp de sciences de Westmount : inscrivez-vous dès maintenant !

**Camp à compter du lundi 8 juillet**. Le camp de sciences pour les jeunes de 6 à 13 ans est de retour en 2013 avec un programme excitant d'activités et de visites en partenariat avec, entre autres, les universités McGill et Concordia et l'institut neurologique de Montréal. Inscription au Victoria Hall. Info : 514 691-9307 et [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).



## TRAVAUX PUBLICS

**Réaménagement de l'av. Greene : Phase II**  
**Du 21 mai au 9 juillet 2013**. La dernière phase du projet inclut la reconstruction de trottoirs, de nouvelles traverses piétonnières, le remplacement de feux de circulation avec des arrêts, une réparation de chaussée et la pose d'asphalte. L'accès aux commerces et aux résidences sera assuré au cours des travaux. Info : [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)

### Réservoir Côte-des-Neiges : travaux

**Du 21 mai au mi-septembre 2013**. La Ville de Montréal effectuera des travaux de réfection du réservoir Côte-des-Neiges pendant l'été 2013. Ces travaux se déroulent sur le terrain du réservoir et n'impliquent aucune entrave à la circulation ni aucune interruption de l'approvisionnement de l'eau. Pour en savoir plus, consultez le [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org) ou la page **Info-travaux** du site [www.ville.montreal.qc.ca](http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca).

## CITY HALL

### Traffic Master Plan: deadline for comments extended to May 31, 2013 - LAST CALL!

The City invites comments on its proposed **Westmount Traffic and Active Transportation Master Plan**. Consult the documents at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), City Hall or the Library. Send comments to 4333 Sherbrooke St. W., H3Z 1E2 or to [trafficplan@westmount.org](mailto:trafficplan@westmount.org) **by May 31, 2013.**

### Summer Schedule in effect beginning June 3

**Between June 3 and September 6, 2013**, Westmount's administrative offices at City Hall, Hydro Westmount, Victoria Hall, Public Works, Sports & Recreation and Public Security will be open **Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.** The Westmount Public Library and the Gallery at Victoria Hall will be closed Sundays during this period.

## WESTMOUNT RECREATION CENTRE

### Construction of the WRC in pictures

Photographs of the construction to date are posted online at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org). You can also follow the project via [Facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre](https://www.facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre) and [Twitter@constructalert](https://twitter.com/constructalert).

### Scheherazade - une soirée au Souk

**Friday, May 31 at 6 p.m.** at Victoria Hall. A dazzling evening of wining, dining and dancing, plus a fabulous silent auction, all in support of the WRC. \$140 per person. A limited number of tickets is available at Victoria Hall or by phone at 514 989-5226. Info: [wrc2013campaign.com](http://wrc2013campaign.com).

### WRC Campaign Countdown !!

**With only a few days to go** to the **STREET HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**, visit [www.wrc2013campaign.com](http://www.wrc2013campaign.com) now to register your team! You can also register for the **TENNIS TOURNAMENT** or visit Victoria Hall to purchase your tickets for the **SCHEHERAZADE** event. Proceeds will go to our new Recreation Centre.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS



**Westmount Family Day May 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Saturday, May 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** in Westmount Park. Join us for the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Family Day - there's something for everyone! Watch your mailbox for the programme, or visit [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).

### Sunday Concert Series at Victoria Hall

**Sunday, May 26 at 2 p.m.** in the Gallery at Victoria Hall. **Éric Lemieux**, classical guitar. \$12, \$10 in advance. Refreshments served. Info : 514 989-5226.

### Sunday Concert Series at Victoria Hall

**Sunday, June 9 at 2 p.m.** in the Gallery. Concert for children by **Isabel Belina**. \$12, \$10 in advance. Refreshments. Info : 514 989-5226.



## Next Council Meeting: Monday, June 3

## LIBRARY

### Writers Out Loud : Linda Kay



**Wednesday, May 29 at 7 p.m.**

An evening in conjunction with the Library and the Quebec Writers' Federation featuring Linda Kay, author of *The Sweet Sixteen*. Info: 514 989-5299.

### 2 O'Clock Series: The Case for Reincarnation

**Wednesday, June 5 at 2 p.m.** Have we lived before? If so, why do we not remember our past lives? What is the goal and purpose of our lives? What did the great teachers of the past have to say? This and other topics will be explored in this talk by Richard James. Info: 514 989-5299.

### Readers to Readers Book Club

**Tuesday, June 11 at 10:15 a.m.** Join our morning book club to talk about great books recently read. Info: 514 989-5299.

## SPORTS & RECREATION

### Westmount Science Camp: register now!

**Camp begins Monday, July 8**. The Science Camp for 6 to 13-year-olds is back in 2013 with another exciting programme of activities and field trips in partnership with McGill and Concordia Universities, the Montreal Neurological Institute and others. Registration takes place at Victoria Hall. More details at 514 691-9307 and at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).

## PUBLIC WORKS

### Greene Avenue Refurbishing: Phase II

**From May 21 to July 9, 2013**. The last phase of this project includes the construction of new sidewalks, new pedestrian crosswalks, the replacement of traffic lights with stop signs, a roadway repair and the repaving of the street. Access to businesses and to residences will be maintained throughout the work. Info : [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)

### Repairs to the Côte-des-Neiges reservoir

**From May 21 to mid-September 2013**. Ville de Montréal will carry out repairs to the Côte-des-Neiges reservoir this summer. The work, which takes place on the grounds of the reservoir, is not expected to have an impact on local traffic nor interrupt the drinking water supply. Info:

[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org) or the *Info-travaux* page at [www.ville.montreal.qc.ca](http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca).



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WESTMOUNT



## Lawn bowling primer

# Westmount's lawn bowling history

BY SHELLEY KERMAN

Westmount's tradition of lawn bowling dates back to the late 1800s.

In 1884, a young Scottish gentleman, James Brown, immigrated to Canada and settled his family in Westmount. Back in Scotland, Brown was the founder of the Scottish Lawn Bowling Association and

brought that expertise to the Westmount community. He went on to become the founding father of the Westmount Lawn Bowling Club.

Today, we enjoy this on-going tradition brought to our corner of the world thanks to Brown and the wave of Scottish immigrants who followed.

Early in the 1900s, the neighbourhood

was changing rapidly as the population grew. The first electric streetcar track was extended along Sherbrooke St. to Victoria Ave. and then was directed southward to the newly opened CP railway station. At the same time, after consultation with the municipal officers of the day, three gentlemen, including Brown, proposed the site at Kensington and Sherbrooke as a "suitable piece of level ground" for a lawn bowling green.

### First clubhouse built for \$500

The first clubhouse was built shortly after on a budget of \$500, with club members meeting for the first time on May 28, 1902.

Originally, lawn bowling was a strictly male-dominated sport. Initial discussions to admit women began at the Westmount club in 1908, at which time it was considered daring to even suggest that "consideration be given to permit ladies to take part in the game."

Years of discussion followed which, regrettably, resulted in ladies having to wait

until 1940 before they were permitted to join.

In 1996, the original clubhouse was torn down and the greens were dug up as part of Hydro Westmount's project to build an electrical substation underneath. Although the club lost two seasons as a result, it gained a beautiful new clubhouse and first-class bowling greens, which we continue to enjoy today.

In 2012, we celebrated the 110th anniversary of our club.

The Westmount Lawn Bowling Club will be holding its annual open house on May 27, 28 and 29 from 6 pm to 9 pm, and June 1 from 10 am to 4 pm. The club will be having a pancake breakfast on the Saturday beginning at 10 am. Details about the open house and information about the club are available at [www.bowlswestmount.ca](http://www.bowlswestmount.ca).

Come on down and see what lawn bowling is all about. It really is a game for people of all ages.

*Shelley Kerman is a Westmounter, who is new to the sport.*

## Two white cats at Annexe



In two of our last 9 Lives columns, we featured some wonderful cats from a group which were removed by the Montreal SPCA from a sad hoarding situation and prepared for adoption by the SPCA Annex. As all the cats are ready for new homes, it is now time to present Lionel and Jada for adoption.

Lionel is quite handsome, a snow white domestic shorthair with golden eyes. He loves to have his head held and stroked, and is a very loyal and attentive cat. He is a sweetheart who loves to join in activities during the day and snuggle at night.

He is healthy, has had all his shots and is neutered. Like a number of white cats, Lionel is deaf, but he is alert, aware and curious. He looks forward to a normal and



Lionel

has had all her shots and has been spayed.

Jada was also born deaf, but you would never know it. She compensates with heightened senses and is quite companionable.

For more information on Lionel and Jada, please contact Summer at [cyposia@gmail.com](mailto:cyposia@gmail.com) or Marilyn at [adoptions.spc@gmail.com](mailto:adoptions.spc@gmail.com). Both are with the Annexe.

If you would like to drop by, it is located at 7314 Mountain Sights (south of Jean-Talon) and is open from 11 am to 5 pm every day.

### 9 Lives update

Tyson and Bella were featured in this column April 23 ("Cats rescued from outdoors," p. 26). We subsequently ran in an update to say they were adopted. But the adopting family insisted on returning them because they said they wanted affectionate cats and claimed these two were too frightened to be cuddly. It brought back memories of my two cats hiding under my bed for almost a week when I moved, but they eventually came out when they became comfortable with their surroundings. So, Tyson and Bella remain available for adoption, with a family who can wait patiently for them to get used to a new home. Please contact Lina Drasse at 514.573.2020 or [linadrass@hotmail.com](mailto:linadrass@hotmail.com).

*Your neighbour, Lysanne*



Jada

happy life in a family in our neighborhood.

Jada is an exquisite and elegant snow white domestic shorthair with light green eyes. She is graceful and gorgeous. Jada is happy to receive attention, loves to be petted and adores people. She is very healthy,



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**Social Notes, cont'd. from p. 18**



Brian and Leslie Dunn.



Carolina Gallo Laflèche and Stuart Webster.

**Sue Smith.** Event sponsor was Jarislowsky Fraser.

As a nod to early spring flowers, ladies' outfits had plenty of colour! Okay, there were a few black outfits, but happy-hued dresses and snappy skirts brightened up Parisian Laundry's spacious room.

Volunteering from Westmount were **Sophie Wilson, Alexia Dlouhy, Alexa Weiser, Chelsea Voronoff, Alix Faraggi, and Carley Sambrook**, sporting one of her fun, chunky necklace creations.

Seen amidst the hordes of coat-less Westmounters were the foundation's executive director **Margaret Douek** and president **Karma Hallward**, as well as **Karen and Peter Cooke, Claire and Stuart Webster, Leslie and Brian Dunn, Sue Khan, Pat Houston and Stine Linden, Joshua Cundill, Christina Smith, Amanda Jelowicki and Adrian Dunn, Cynthia Gordon, Gail Johnson, Sally McDougall, Lindsay Holmgren and Marty Algire, Tori Schofield, Willa Leus and Nick Martire, Anthea Dawson, Stephanie Garrow, Janet Faith and her father Robert Faith, Mary Gallery, Anna Goth, and Susan Sambrook.**

Also noted were **Carolina Gallo Laflèche**, as well as **Nissa, Jenni, Tina and Wendy Khan** – a quartet of former Westmounters.

The event raised a record \$60,000.

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## Westmount Art Scene

# Zawaneh and Polidori: Design and details

BY HEATHER BLACK

Westmount painter and furniture designer Randa Zawaneh brings the patterns of Jordan to Galerie V-Trimont, while Robert Polidori's photographs of Château de Versailles grace Galerie de Bellefeuille.

### *Zawaneh At Galerie V-Trimont*

Zawaneh creates strong images with distinctive, fine black lines that zig and zag. Reflecting the geometric designs of Jordanian textiles, these intricate lines create texture on cut paper or boundaries for text and coloured figures.

"Hands Up" is an abstract pattern of graphic lines on red, blue and green paper. Small jeweled-tone squares create instant interest and a focal point for the image. Another, "Matador," is similarly composed with red and pink patterns set against a rich olive background.

For "Tendre," the artist's application of graphic lines and patterns on plexiglass is modern and dynamic. Predominately

black, shapes with hues of purple, orange and green denote the eyes, mouth and a nose. Two smaller plexiglass paintings – one with text and the other, a geometrical design – are also exhibited. Protruding from the wall, shadows created by a background light on this series create a three-dimensional effect.

But Zawaneh is also a furniture maker and the show includes several of her coffee tables. Hand-carved in Jordan, the distinctive shapes are painted and then finished with a hard cellulose surface. The exhibit continues to Saturday, May 25 at 4259 St. Catherine St.

### *Polidori at Galerie de Bellefeuille*

Known for his architectural photographs, Polidori images are sharp and three-dimensional. Photographed on sheet film, these images of "Versailles" detail beautiful corridors and stairwells, carved sculptures and panelling of what was once the centre of power of the "Ancien Régime."

One image from 1986 depicts an elegant hallway with a chandelier centered in a mirror. Tilted on the floor are four royal portraits in round frames.

Another from 2007 features a royal portrait on its side against red and green distressed wood and an image of Napoleon's army. Both images remind the viewer of the blood of the revolution and toppled power.

Polidori's unusual cropping also lends to commentary. In one image, a king's portrait reveals only a stockinged leg with dainty, heeled shoes. In another, Napoleon is photographed only with his hand on the hilt of his sword. However, these details also serve to convey the beauty of the rendered brushstrokes or their elaborate frames.

For the "Versailles" exhibit, Polidori photographed the restoration of the chateau over a 26-year period. The result is a series of beautiful and thought-provoking images that feature both the interiors and portraits. The exhibit .....  
"Versailles" continued on p. 34



Randa Zawaneh "Hands Up"

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# Westmount art scene...

cont'd. from p. 33

continues to Tuesday, June 25 at 1367 Greene Ave.

### In the details

These exhibits remind us of Charles Swindoll's maxim: "The difference between something good and something great is attention to detail." Zawaneh's intricate lines add design and texture to her work, while Polidori captures the nuances of the scene and uses detail as composition.

Heather Black is a Westmount communications designer. Contact her at: [blackheajea@gmail.com](mailto:blackheajea@gmail.com).



Robert Polidori from the "Versailles Series"



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