

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 7 No. 9c

We are Westmount

September 17, 2013

Election 2013



Cllr. Patrick Martin is first incumbent to say he's running, see p. 9

Late-breaking news: Rosalind Davis is running in District 4. Look for coverage in future *Independents*.

Face painting, music, circus-type, entertainment Greene festival this weekend celebrates 'renewed' street

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A three-day Greene Ave. street festival to mark the "reopening" of the refurbished shopping district starts mid-day Thursday, September 19.

The city-sponsored event takes place in collaboration with the Greene Avenue Merchants Association and features entertainment and sidewalk sales. Most of the activities geared to children are scheduled to take place late Friday and throughout the day on Saturday.

Square open

"Now that construction is pretty-well finished and 5 Saisons and the public square are open, the city wants to celebrate Greene Ave. and help merchants re-ap-

propriate the street as a destination for shopping," said Councillor Nicole Forbes, commissioner of Community Events.

She and Councillor Theodora Samiotis, who represent the area, have been going door to door on Greene and east on St. Catherine delivering posters for the festival and encouraging merchants to participate.

Music and balloons

Musical entertainers include the Westmount Youth Orchestra and the Under the Tree jazz trio. Juggling, animal balloons and unicycling are also to be provided by 3.2.1. Cirque, and there will be face painting and other activities. A number of community organizations are also expected to partici- *continued on p. 30*

Drinking young people 'run in all directions'

Some 40 to 60 young people were reported to have started "running in all directions" September 6 when public safety officers showed up at the tennis courts in King George Park, Public Security officials said.

Officers were responding to a complaint from a resident of Belmont at 9:32 pm for noise and drinking.

Officers locked up the courts and cleared away a number of bottles and cans.

Miss Vicky's zoning dispute not over yet, moves closer to litigation, see p. 21

Don't Miss It

Open house at the new arena,
Sunday, September 22
See Comin' Up, p. 10

Youths caught on roof, linked to graffiti

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A Westmount teen and his friend were caught September 3 climbing down from the roof of a building at 4914 Sherbrooke, just west of Prince Albert, Public Security officials said. A third one fled.

The pair stated they were hanging out practising climbing and jumping, and proceeded to demonstrate how they had scaled along a narrow edge to reach a ladder to get to the roof. They were cautioned about the dangers of their activity. Described as about 14, the boys denied in-

volvement in multiple graffiti found on the roof.

Following a subsequent investigation the same day, officers were able to link the pair to climbing and tagging incidents on other buildings in Westmount. Both mothers were advised. They claimed they were unaware of the boys' actions and were co-operative.

The call had been made to Public Security at 5 pm for a group of teens on the roof of the building and the pair had already been intercepted by the caller when officers arrived.

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Westmount, 642 Victoria Ave.
Comfortably spacious, 1910 built 5 bedroom, 2½
bathroom home. Freshly repainted + new stainless
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ANOTHER JUST LISTED!



Westmount, 4006 Montrose Ave.
A rare combination of some of the most desirable
features + location! Huge master suite, ground floor
family room, central A/C, + VIEWS! **\$1,498,000**

ANOTHER JUST LISTED!



Westmount, 357 Melville Ave.
One of THE most spacious, elegant apartments I
have EVER seen. AMAZING location + fabulous
views of Westmount Park. **\$3,200/mo. (heated)**

NEW PRICE!



Westmount Adj., 4736 Victoria Ave.
Ideal 1-2 year rental, conveniently located and
very affordably priced! Det. 3+1 bdr home,
2½ baths, A/C, + 2 CAR GARAGE! **\$3,000/month**



Westmount, 451 Strathcona Ave.
#1 on everyone's wish list! THE most desirable
family oriented street. 5 bdr, 3 baths, A/C, garage,
+ parking for 2. **\$1,450,000**

1st OPEN HOUSE SUN 2-4



Westmount, 3238 The Boulevard
Spectacular! 1913 "Percy Nobbs" renov. 5 bdr
+ den home. A/C, Marvin windows. Stunning
architectural details. Great value! **\$1,565,000**

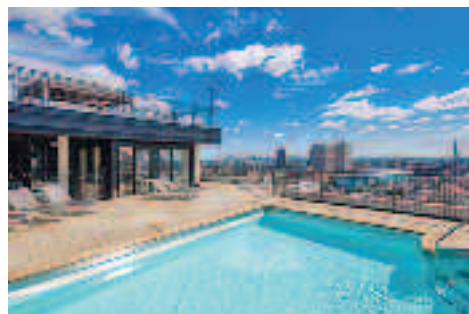


Westmount, 671 Grosvenor Ave.
EXCEPTIONAL value + beauty! 3 storey "John Hand"
home. Gorgeous mahogany woodwork + floors.
5 bdr, 2 dens, 3½ baths, 2 garage, A/C. **\$1,385,000**

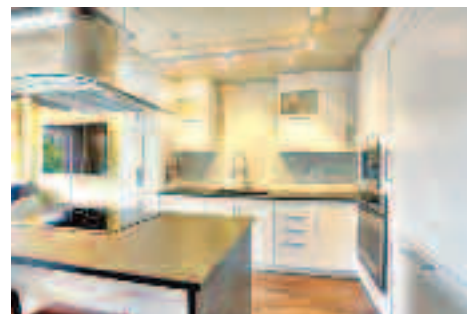
NEW PRICE!



Westmount, 4893 de Maisonneuve O.
4 bdr, 3½ bath 1983 built TH. A/C, fireplace,
rooftop terrace. Garage + parking for 2 cars.
Immed. occupancy. **\$935,000**



Plateau, 333 Sherbrooke E., 607 M1
Super sleek + elegant 900 sf, 1 bdr executive condo.
Peaceful courtyard/mountain views. Garage. A/C.
\$485,000



Verdun, 3995 Rue Bannantyne, apt. 311
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kitchen + baths. Balcony. 2 garages. **\$478,000**

ANOTHER JUST SOLD!



Westmount, 561 Grosvenor Ave.
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in 2009. The most exquisite blend of old and new.
Move in + enjoy! **\$1,398,000**

ANOTHER JUST SOLD!



ANOTHER JUST SOLD!



Westmount, 382 Roslyn Ave.
The ULTIMATE in sophisticated design +
refinement. TOTALLY renovated + restored
to a standard rarely seen. **\$2,395,000**

Griffintown, 2265 Sainte Cunegonde
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Lachine Canal. Rooftop terrace, VIEWS! Garage
+ parking. **\$799,000**

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*"Individual" broker for Re/Max ***"Individual" broker for Re/Max Quebec cumulative Jan-May 2013.
Source: Re/Max Quebec

City seeks new HR director

Kulaga retires, sets up private practice in labour law

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After a 31-year career with Westmount, lawyer Alan Kulaga has quietly retired to go into private practice. His planned departure at the end of June went unannounced, but had been well known within city hall.

Kulaga, who served in many positions, including director of Legal Services and interim director general, had been director of Human Resources during and after the merger with Montreal. It was in that role that he carved out a niche and expertise in labour negotiation.

"The city has asked me to continue to act on its behalf in a handful of legal files I had been working on prior to my departure," he explained. "I'm very pleased to be serving my community in this fashion, albeit in a lesser role."

Long-term goal

Kulaga, 54, had worked night and day over eight years during his time as clerk of the Westmount municipal court to obtain a law degree from the University of Montreal and UQAM with the aim of one day practising full time as a lawyer. He was called to the bar in 2003 (see profile, December 19, 2007, p. 9).



Alan Kulaga.

"It's always been my passion," Kulaga said of going into private practice. He's also going to be consulting in human resources "given my many years in that area."

He said he was happy to have been asked by the legal firm of Casavant Mercier to join them. The firm specializes in labour and employment, insurance, municipal and general civil liability law.

In line for top job

At one point, Kulaga was considered to be in line to become the city's next director general on the retirement of Bruce St. Louis in 2008, but the timing was not right in his personal life and to the surprise of many, he did not apply for the position.

Kulaga loved Westmount so much that he and his wife, Fern, moved more than 15 years ago from Hampstead to Westmount, which he refers to as "my home and my little village."

"Westmount provided me with an extremely fulfilling career and the opportunity to grow as a professional and develop business acumen, especially during the challenges of the merger years."

With Kulaga's retirement, the city is actively recruiting to fill the position of director of Human Resources.

Man rifles through garbage for personal papers

Public safety officers were called to an apartment building at 225 Kensington September 8 by a neighbour reporting someone going through garbage bags at 3 pm. On arrival, they found a man rummaging through the bags outside who claimed to have just moved out and was

trying to retrieve confidential papers his friends had tossed in the garbage by mistake. He also wanted to recycle some of the throw-outs. Public Security officials said a resident of the building confirmed the man's identity and he was given until 4 pm to clean up the mess.

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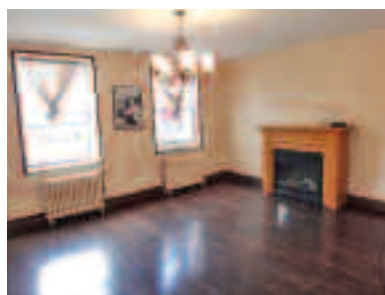
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OH SUN 2-4
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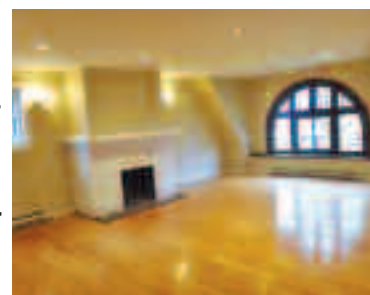
WESTMOUNT: 4462 St. Catherine W. #2 \$1,475/mo.

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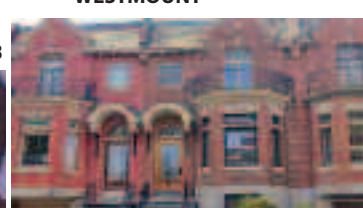


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WESTMOUNT

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514 895-1614



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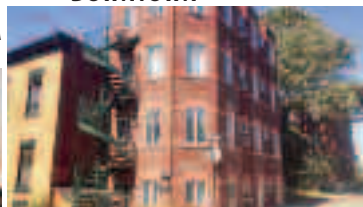


5648 Melling

LARGE elegant split level on great location. Huge pool-size lot. 4 large bdrms upstairs. Oak floors. Maple Kitchen, granite counters. **\$789,000**

DOWNTOWN

ALEKSANDRA MIESZKOWSKA
514 623-9068



1197 Dorion

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514 623-9068

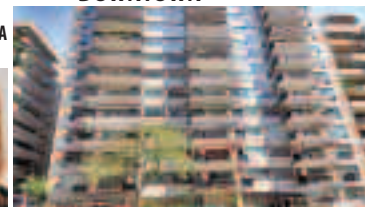


3470 Simpson #305

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DOWNTOWN

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GOLDEN SQUARE MILE

LUC DESROSNIERS
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3470 Rue Redpath #207

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3470 Rue Redpath #104

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OLD MONTREAL

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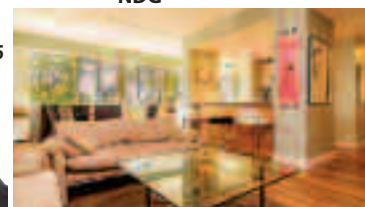


7383 St-Laurent #305

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Hockey season approacheth



The city's natural gas Zamboni was lowered to ice level on September 11. "It will be needed to test the performance of the icemaking equipment over the next weeks," explained Councillor Patrick Martin. The machine weighs about four tons, and was lifted through the building's ventilation shaft at Lansdowne and de Maisonneuve. The new electric Zamboni has not yet arrived.

Photos courtesy of the city of Westmount.



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<p>Now \$399</p>  <p>Compare at \$2,200.00</p> <p>Super 90 Line Chinese</p> <p>8'0" x 8'0"</p>	<p>Now \$899</p>  <p>Compare at \$8,500.00</p> <p>Persian Lilian</p> <p>11'5" x 7'9"</p>	<p>Now \$199</p>  <p>Compare at \$1,500.00</p> <p>Persian Gabbeh</p> <p>3' x 5'</p>	<p>Now \$699</p>  <p>Compare at \$4,800.00</p> <p>Persian Farahan</p> <p>9'7" x 6'11"</p>	<p>Now \$599</p>  <p>Compare at \$4,400.00</p> <p>Jaipour</p> <p>8'9" x 6'3"</p>	<p>Now \$199</p>  <p>Compare at \$1,200.00</p> <p>Kazak</p> <p>3'8" x 2'10"</p>



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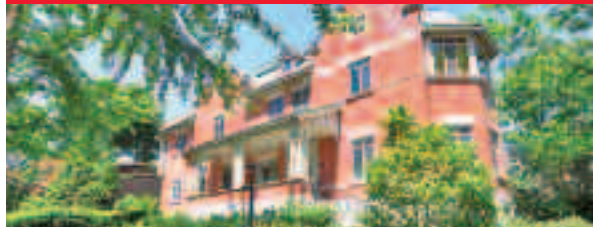
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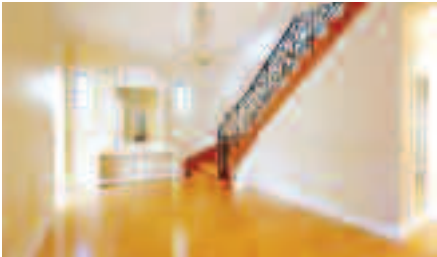
Cote St. Luc The fabulous **Rothchild 2** 5850 Marc Chagall Sunny 2+1 Bedroom Corner Unit on 8th Floor with Gorgeous Views to the East 2 Garages – Easy to Visit – Immediate Occupancy **\$449,000**



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Rain fails to dampen inauguration of Greene square, redevelopment

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The new public square at Greene and de Maisonneuve was almost filled to capacity September 10 for its inauguration combined with the reconfigured intersection, construction of the 1250 condo project and the return of Les 5 Saisons.

The total project is reported to represent an investment of \$70 million.

And despite an on-and-off drizzle, the official opening continued under a canopy of the terrace's umbrellas marking the redevelopment that resulted from a tripartite entente four years ago between the city, developer Jacob Attias and the owner of Les 5 Saisons, Metro Inc.

"It was a squeaky clean 'collusion,'" that the Charbonneau Commission "would approve of," said Mayor Peter Trent.

It was also "a perfect example" of private and public sectors working together to produce what he had referred to at the September 3 city council meeting as one of two major achievements of the current council, the other being the Westmount recreation centre.

As cyclists, dogs, pedestrians and delivery trucks passed by the area, many people stopped to watch.

A place to go to

Chairing the opening as the city's commissioner of Urban Planning, Councillor Cynthia Lulham said the refurbishment was a fine example of urban planning that gave priority to pedestrians and would make Greene a place to "go to, rather than go through."



Mayor Peter Trent presenting.

Photo courtesy of Jonathan Goldbloom & Associates.



In foreground, from left: Provincial legislator Jacques Chagnon, MP Marc Garneau, developer Jacob Attias, Mayor Peter Trent and councillors Nicole Forbes, Theodora Samiotis and Victor Drury on the terrasse.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney.

Recent completion of the roadwork, elevation of the intersection, narrowing of de Maisonneuve and the previous rezoning to allow for additional small cafés will all contribute to revitalizing the street, she explained.

Among the invited guests attending were Westmount-Ville Marie MP Marc Garneau and Westmount's provincial representative Jacques Chagnon, speaker of the legislative assembly.

Describing how the six-storey condo project was integrated into the streetscape, architect Brian Burrows pointed to the use of "time honoured materials." The building's base is of local St. Marc limestone, the upper façades are of Indiana buff limestone and the roof is of traditional "standing seam zinc." Design features replicated those on nearby buildings.

Inside, he added, "no two units are alike."

Developer's passion

The building "has been a passion of mine for longer than you can imagine," said Attias, noting his development company, Ramco, was celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. Ten years ago he had started architectural plans for redeveloping the site, explained.

"But we would not be here today without the continued on p. 12



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FORGIVE CHIN, BLAME INDEPENDENT FOR OFFENSIVENESS

The letter “Blame the Narcissists” (September 10, p. 8) was offensive.

While there is no excuse for inattentive driving, Mr. Chin’s assertion that “[m]ost car drivers who open their doors into cyclists” faces are women admiring their reflection in the mirror is unfounded and reeks of misogyny.

While I can forgive the ignorance of one individual, I cannot comprehend the *Independent’s* decision to publish such hateful and baseless speculation, especially under the headline “Blame the Narcissists.” It is unfortunate that young Westmount women will have read a letter in which a reader blanketly accuses their sex of dangerous vanity and their local paper refers to women as narcissists.

MARINA SHARPE,
KENSINGTON AVE.

CYCLICAL HYSTERIA

Oh, oh, here we go again: more cyclical hysteria from our ever-victimized cyclists.

I think these guys have their helmets screwed on too tightly; it’s cutting off the blood flow to their brains.

Dan Lambert of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association is quoted in the September 3 *Indie* bemoaning the fact

that cyclists have to walk their bikes for four blocks to get around the construction site between Grey and Decarie. FOUR WHOLE BLOCKS. The poor babies.

“We find it shocking that cyclists are being told to get off and walk their bikes,” says Lambert. I find it shocking that cyclists are such whiners.

Then, to add insult to injury, M. Lambert throws out the ever-present cyclist threat that frustrated cyclists will “return to their cars” and clog up Westmount streets on their way downtown.

It’s four blocks for four months. It’s a construction site. If you’re so environmentally concerned and you can’t handle the pedestrian life for a short walk, then take the bloody bus like the rest of us.

JOHNNY “RED” DAVIDSON,
MELVILLE AVE.

DO FINES GET PAID?

Hardly a week goes by without at least one item in the *Independent* about fines for by-law infractions in Westmount, often for noise disturbances, but also curfew and other park-related violations.

I’m curious: how many tickets issued by Public Security in the past 18 months for such infractions were paid? If a fine is delinquent, does Westmount pursue it? Does city hall know when a fine is in arrears?

It would be a token comfort to know

that someone had to shell out something, even if it amounts to loose change in the sofa cushions, for disturbing residents in the overnight hours.

DOROTHY LIPOVENKO, YORK ST.

WHAT WOULD WE DO WITHOUT THEM?

When in a hurry we do things we regret sometimes sooner rather than later.

I want to thank Westmount Public Security for offering a helping hand, especially to the following: Public Security officer Patrick, Sgt. K. Patel and the parking inspector who also was on the scene offering his assistance.

It is always better to slow down and think.

FLORA-LEE WAGNER, CLAREMONT AVE.

CONGRATS ON GREENE

I wish to congratulate Mayor Peter Trent and his councillors on the impressive re-opening of Greene Ave. As an office tenant [on Greene], I marvel at the improvements – namely the 1250 Greene condo – 5 Seasons project, the landscaped public square, the adjoining bike path, the well delineated two lanes for vehicles, the return and increase of retailing activity, and the timely improvements to the road’s infrastructure, to name a few.

I recall the discussion between 5 Seasons and its landlord, the mayor’s expertise and foresight in brokering a settlement and the garnering of substantial benefits for the citizens of Westmount, including the continued adherence to the uniqueness of our city’s numerous protective by-laws.

This significant achievement arises from a “hands on” mayor, who challenged our talented city management to bring this project to this striking conclusion. Kudos to director general Duncan Campbell, Public Works director Marianne Zalzal and Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier who, together with their diligent, diplomatic and skillful team members, faced numerous complex issues on a daily basis to ensure that the two general contractors and their numerous sub-contractors provided this qualitative and quantitative result.

I believe our mayor and councillors provide us constituents with “top drawer” services and dedication and I am grateful that they continue to shield us from the deplorable antics of the mega city.

Thank you councillors Tim Price and Gary Ikeman for four years of dedicated and unselfish service to our city.

Hopefully, Mayor Trent will decide to

stand for re-election, so that his considerable macro and micro expertise, transparency and integrity will be made available to us for another term.

HOWARD B. HOPPENHEIM,
THE BOULEVARD

DUE PROCESS MEANS NEUTRALITY

Last week’s *Westmount Independent* raises the question of how far the city must go to investigate the eligibility of signatories to a petition to effectively close down Miss Vicky’s in the name of “due process” (“Council legitimizes Miss Vicky’s operation at St. Matthias,” p. 1). One view expressed in the article was that, in order to be fair to the petitioners, the city ought to have sent employees to the doors of claimed signatories. As a lawyer, I write to correct this view, which has the potential to subject the city to unnecessary litigation at taxpayer expense.

The view expressed suggests that due process is only due to those opposing Miss Vicky’s. In fact, it is owed to all parties. With this in mind, *the Act respecting land use planning and development* balances the interests of all concerned by setting out an explicit process that the city must, and did, follow. The act requires the city to give public notice of the eligibility requirements for signing a petition, placing the onus on signatories to ensure their own eligibility. The city gave this notice (see *Westmount Independent*, August 6, 2013, p. 23) and, beyond this, sent letters and telephoned those whose eligibility could not be confirmed through established means (e.g. electoral list, Hydro Westmount), to inform them that they had to establish their eligibility to sign. The signatories having failed the legal standard, the city was obliged to adopt the by-law.

Thus, due process was not only met, but surpassed. If the city had done more, it would have demonstrated bias against Miss Vicky’s and those families who rely on its services. It can only be hoped that the city continue with this example of diligent, yet fair, application of the law and not succumb to *ad hoc* standards that violate due process.

JULIA CARBONE GOLD,
GROSVENOR AVE.

CLARIFICATION

On verification, Public Security officials said a ticket for cutting down a city tree without a permit had been sent to the contractor rather than to the resident as had been previously thought (see September 10, p. 29).

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

PUBLISHER: David Price


EDITOR: Kristin McNeill (on maternity leave)

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

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To seek re-election again in District 1

Martin, first incumbent to declare candidacy

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Councillor Patrick Martin this week became the first sitting member of the current council to announce his intention to seek re-election November 3. He'll be running again in District 1, which he has represented for two consecutive terms.

"I've already made the decision, so I felt it important to let people in my riding know my intentions," he said. "I've had many calls."

Martin, a professional engineer and project manager who has worked closely with the construction industry, said it was important to him to be involved in the closing of the Pomerleau contract on completion of the Westmount recreation centre.



Patrick Martin

"I want to be at the table to help protect Westmount's best interests when we negotiate the credits and debits," he told the *Independent*.

Martin, who was the councillor appointed to chair the Westmount recreation centre's building steering committee at the start of this council's mandate, has also been commissioner of Utilities and

Public Works as well as vice president of the Montreal agglomeration contracts review committee. This is another reason he hopes to be on the next council, he explained.

"I've been advocating the need to improve our streets, sidewalks, sewers, water and electrical networks for four years when we were unable to find the resources to undertake the necessary work," he said. "Now that the WRC is built, I hope this will be the priority of the new council."

Martin, who also chairs council's Demolition committee, said he feels strongly about the need for Westmount to retain a mix of residential, commercial and retail development. With the trend toward re-

cent conversions of commercial space to condos, he's concerned that Westmount will slowly lose its commercial and retail base that adds to revenue and helps create a well-balanced community.

"I'm also concerned about parking and the impending loss of hundreds of parking spots under the Ville Marie expressway when it's lowered as part of the Turcot project." There's also the eventual development of the Tupper parking lot, he added.

Two of the city's eight councillors have given notice they will retire after this term. They are Tim Price (District 2) and Gary Ikeman (District 5). Others questioned, including Mayor Peter Trent, have indicated they won't make their decisions known until at least September 20, the first date for filing nomination papers.

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Four residents recycle very early

A Westmount woman on a regular walk September 10 alerted Public Security to four incidents where curbside recycling was put out early for collection the next day.

As a result, public safety officers cautioned, either verbally or through a written notice, residents of Grosvenor, de Maisonneuve and Melville.

Blue boxes may not be set out before 8 pm the night before; bags not until pick-up day by 7 am.

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Overheard

Woman to a young child in her care, Westmount Park near Lansdowne, September 12 at 6 pm:

"That's disgusting! Put it down. I don't know what it is."

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Counting down to Sunday's open house

Arena/pool to be opened this week, unveiled to residents

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Final preparations were under way this week for the ceremonial opening of the new Westmount recreation centre September 19 and a general open house September 22. Hundreds of residents are expected to preview the new facility that day from 10 am to 4 pm, entering through the Lansdowne door.

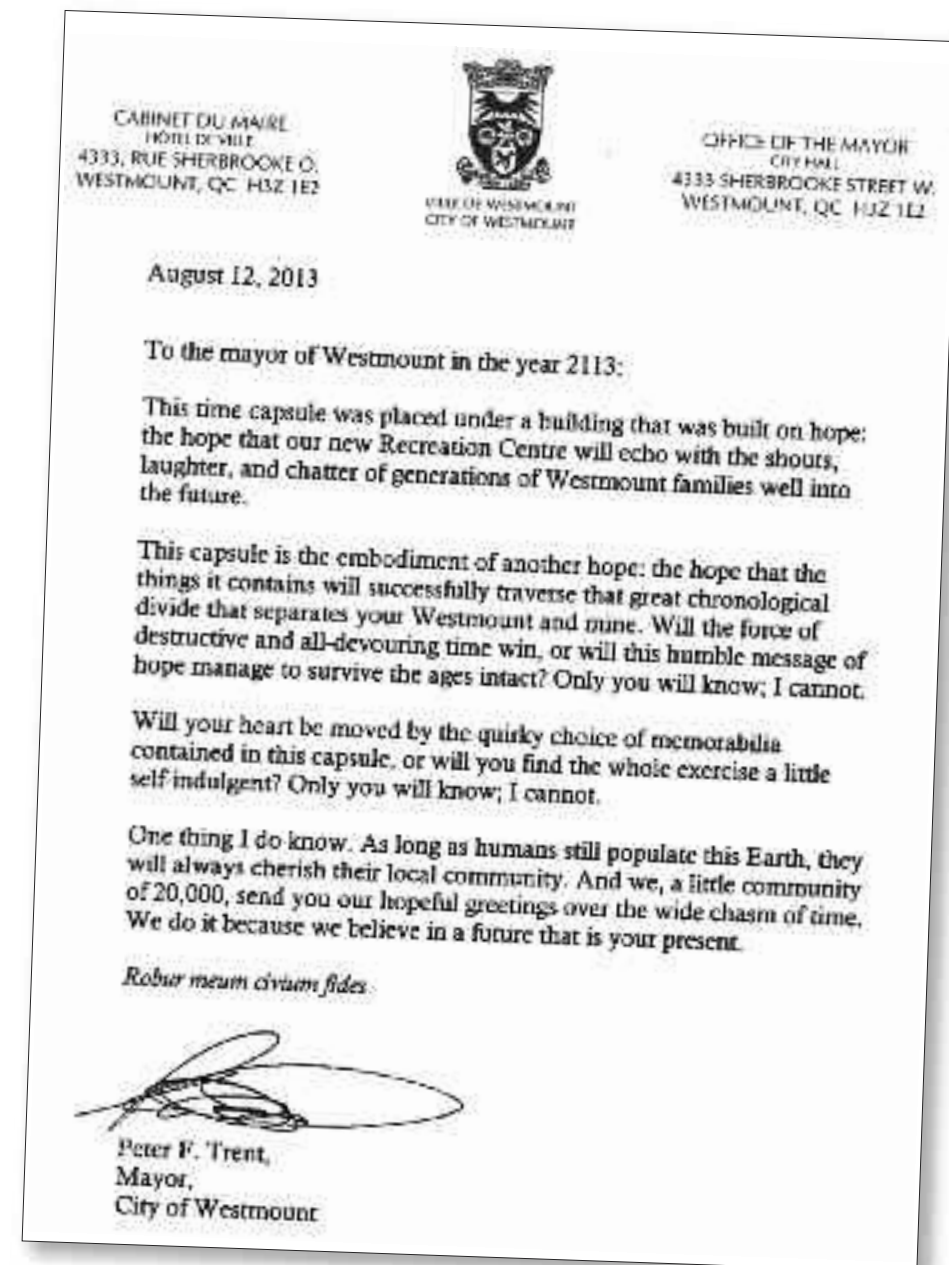
"Construction may not be completely finished, but enough for you to appreciate where everything is and what it does," stated Mayor Peter Trent in a letter sent out to all addresses at the end of last week.

A Zamboni was lowered into place last

week (see p. 5) and an acre of sod is expected to be laid down in time to form the green roof of the two rinks named for two major campaign donor families: Molson and Desmarais.

The focus of the official opening is to highlight the community aspect of the new facility with many of the 100 guests expected to attend representing local schools and community organizations, Trent told the *Independent*.

During the opening, he will read a letter (see inset) to Westmount's mayor 100 years from now that was sealed in the time capsule buried August 12 (see photo, August 20, p. 9).



Mayors come out swinging against values charter

The mayors of Montreal's demerged municipalities headed by Mayor Peter Trent have added their collective voice to others decrying the Charter of Values proposed by Quebec's Marois government.

In a statement September 11, the Association of Suburban Municipalities states that the mayors "unanimously oppose" the charter on grounds the plan "reveals a conscious denial of the multicultural reality of Montreal and will only lead to division and exclusion."

It also threatens the rights guaranteed in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, the statement adds. It suggests the government "focus instead on pressing problems such as Quebec's spiralling debt, crumbling infrastructure, and stagnating economy."

The plans for the charter unveiled last week include a ban on the wearing of certain types of religious insignia by employees at government institutions.



Crack filling, a time-sensitive operation

Residents may continue to see crack filling taking place on city streets over the next few days – but not for much longer.

Though not a new technique, it was introduced in Westmount experimentally a couple of years ago but is now in high gear on the approach of colder weather, explained Alain Cazavant, assistant director of Public Works.

"The cracks can't be filled in July because the weather is too hot. And after it gets colder at the end of September, the cracks close up." So there is a rather short time frame in which to cover the city. The aim to fill as many cracks as possible to prevent their expansion from ice over the winter.



Crack filling on Kensington September 6

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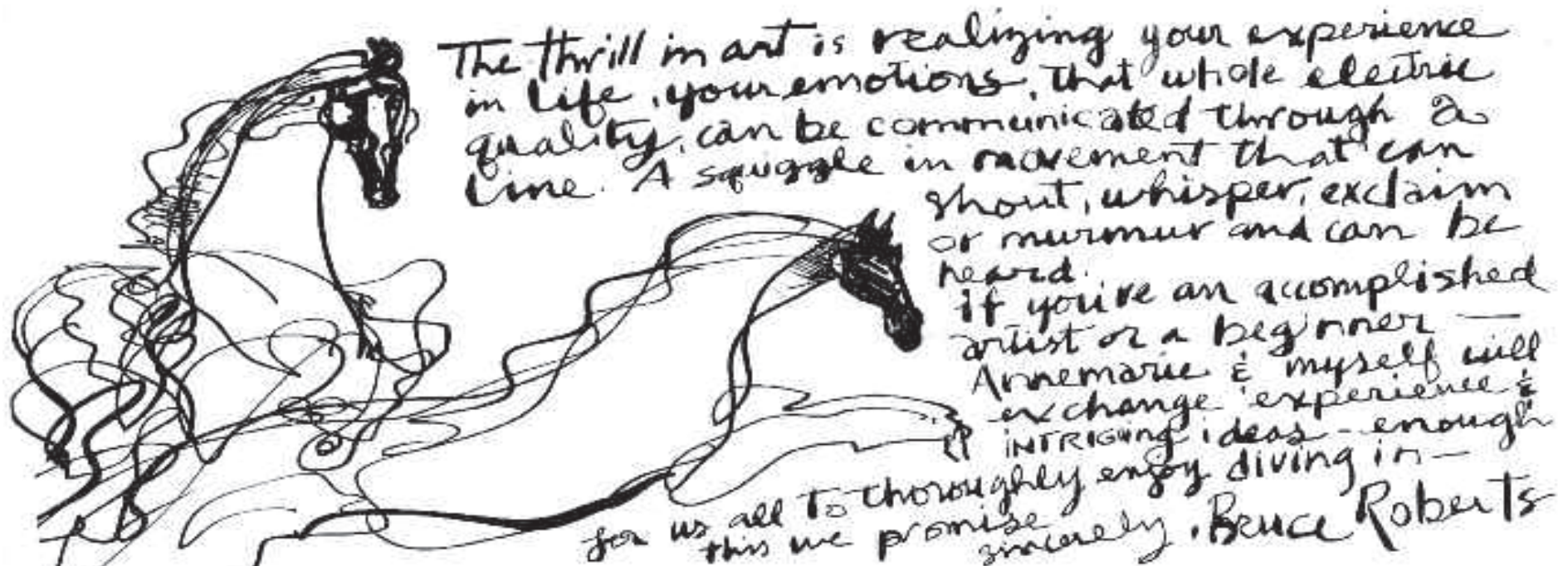
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Greene square, cont'd. from p. 7

work of one man,” he explained. “It was four years ago, from out of the blue,” that he had received a phone call from Trent after the building plans had reached a stand-still, he explained. Trent had received complaints that Les 5 Saisons would be forced to close.

Trent proposed a higher commercial ground floor that would enable the grocery store to remain on Greene in exchange for allowing Attias to add a sixth storey with additional setbacks.

The new 5 Saisons, said Metro VP Martin Allaire, reflects an investment of \$6.7 million and provides the benefit of underground parking. It was officially opened August 15 (see August 20, p. 12).

Architect Carole Scheffer, who chairs the city’s Planning Advisory Committee and was one of the many principals in attendance, later told the *Independent* that the area would really take shape once the newly planted trees matured alongside and behind the public square.

Overtime truck blocks Greene

A boom truck was found blocking Greene Ave. September 6 at 8:18 pm, Public Security officials said.

It was being used to hoist and install “a steel and glass structural item” at the new condo building at the corner of de Maisonneuve. Workers were told to stop and return on Monday. According to city by-laws, no heavy construction equipment may be used after 6 pm on weekdays or on weekends.

Woman helped up from floor

A resident of Prince Albert was helped up September 7 after falling in her bedroom reaching for a walker, Public Security officials said.

She bumped the back of her head and complained of pain in the side but refused medical treatment.

A friend agreed to check in on her. Officers called back at 1:47 pm, at which time the woman claimed to be fine and thanked them for their assistance.

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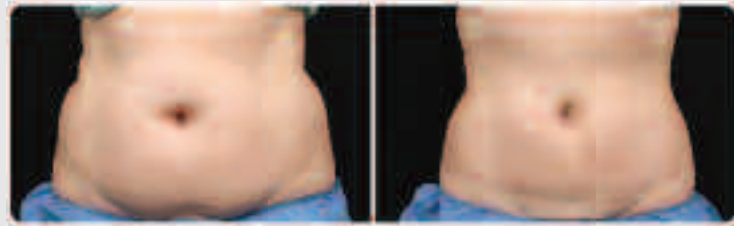
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Obituary: Lloyd Gross dies at age 64

Building manager at 310 Victoria had passion for the arts

BY STEPHANIE O'HANLEY

Lloyd Gross, full-time building manager at 310 Victoria office building for 18 years, has died at the age of 64.

Barry Friedberg, the landlord of 310 Victoria, said Gross fell ill on Labour Day weekend and died Sept. 9 at the Lakeshore General Hospital, barely a week later. The cause of his illness is unknown.

"Everything happened so fast," said Friedberg, who last week went around the building informing people of Gross's passing. "People were crying. People were shaking."

Though Gross lived on the West Island, he made a point of arriving at 310 Victoria early in the morning, Friedberg said. "He

ago," said the *Independent's* publisher David Price. "He was the go-to guy for all sorts of problems and always had a good attitude when you called him, even about false burglar alarms at inconvenient times. His love for photography was well known to all. Every year he gave everyone a calendar of his photographs and also contributed a number to the paper. Our condolences to his family."

Westmount Independent chief reporter Laureen Sweeney said she first met Gross during the 1990s when she visited her father at the Parkview Apartments, 4501 Sherbrooke St., where Gross worked at the time. Sweeney said she saw him more often when she stopped by the *Independent's* offices. "He was jovial, he was always laughing," she said.

Studied at Sir George

Born in Germany, Gross studied Fine Arts at Sir George Williams University (now Concordia). While he worked in electronics for 25 years, and dabbled in painting for a time, he was a largely self-taught photographer – prolific and talented.

Gross's photos appear in a book called *Bathroom Signs* and his photos of Montreal's underground city help illustrate a Dutch course book about underground cities. A Quebec Musée de la Civilisation booklet includes a photo Gross took of the Montreal's Sun Life building and a photo Gross took of a UQAM art installation commemorating the 1989 Montreal Massacre was included on a UQAM website.

Known as fotoproze on the Flickr.com website, Gross's legacy there includes 35,000 photos. Martin Ujlaki, who met Gross through the Flickr Photo Safari Montreal group, said he last saw Gross in 2010 at a classic car show in Hudson.

Ujlaki described Gross as a "family man, often talking proudly about his wife's flower arrangements and his daughter's photography."

Gross is survived by his wife Lise, his daughter Sabrina, his brother Heinz (Ruth), his nephews Mark, Steve and Peter and their spouses, his special family friend Peachy and his favourite puppy Sheba.

His family will receive condolences at the Kane & Fetterly Funeral Home, 5301 Decarie, on Thursday, September 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. In lieu of flowers, his family is requesting donations towards a bench in Lloyd's memory at the Montreal Botanical Garden. Donation forms will be available at the funeral home.



Lloyd Gross displays his photos (and in inset) published in *Bathroom Signs*, June 2011.

was dependable. He was always here. We will all miss him," adding that Gross was a close friend of the Friedberg family.

Friedberg described Gross as a "great person, someone you could talk to about everything. 'Everybody liked him. He enjoyed photography. He loved dogs. We have three dogs in the building. He was always giving them treats.'"

Regular at Cavallero

Gross was a regular at several Westmount eateries, Friedberg said. At Cavallero, Lloyd ordered his favourite sandwich, a chicken cutlet on hollow bread with Dijon mustard, so often it became known as the 'Lloyd special,' he said.

"Lloyd has been a fixture at 310 Victoria since I moved my office here nine years



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Keys ‘rescued’ from car ignition

A city parking inspector found an un-locked car left idling for at least 10 minutes September 4 at 11:37 am in the municipal parking lot on Greene.

The lot is just south of Sherbrooke. Public Security officials said officers removed the keys, locked the doors and left a card for the owner.

The woman picked up the keys at the Stanton St. station at noon.

Westmounters score medals at 2013 Canada Games



Westmounters Eric Laurin, Emma Durham and Craig McCulloch (seen from left to right) returned from the Canada Games, which took place this past summer in Sherbrooke, after competing on teams in the rowing championships. Durham did especially well, winning two bronze medals. Another Westmounter, Angus Cowell (not seen in photo) won a gold for wrestling.

Photo courtesy of Linda Durham.



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Westmount High, EMSB take on values charter



Teachers and students took to the steps of Westmount High School on September 13 to denounce the proposed Quebec “values charter.” Leading the initiative was teacher Rob Green, who organized the rally in support of colleague Furheen Ahmed, who wears a hijab, as well as the dozens of students at Westmount High School who don religious symbols on a regular basis. From left, Furheen Ahmed, Westmount High principal Michael Cristofaro, area school commissioner Ginette Sauvé-Frankel and Rob Green.

Photo courtesy of the English Montreal School Board.

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372 Côte-Ste-Catherine | MLS 10765347



WESTMOUNT \$3,500,000
15 Lansdowne Ridge | MLS 18715621



WESTMOUNT \$3,498,000
19 Lansdowne Ridge | MLS 27414357

INTRODUCING



WESTMOUNT ADJACENT \$3,495,000
3120 Jean-Girard | MLS 14237630

INTRODUCING



WESTMOUNT \$3,100,000/\$16,000 MONTHLY
41 Rosemount | MLS 24587280



DOWNTOWN \$2,999,000
1260 Redpath-Crescent | MLS 10098928

REVISED PRICE



WESTMOUNT ADJACENT \$2,995,000
3140 Jean-Girard | MLS 10150244



DOWNTOWN \$2,988,000
1336 Rue Redpath-Crescent



WESTMOUNT \$2,750,000
6 Forden | MLS 9895348



WESTMOUNT \$2,699,000
3781 Boulevard | MLS 10196529



WESTMOUNT \$2,550,000
565 Victoria | MLS 10960785



WESTMOUNT \$2,398,000
49 Oakland | MLS 9260494



DOWNTOWN \$2,195,000
5 Chelsea Place | MLS 10176177



WESTMOUNT ADJACENT \$1,995,000
3023 Jean-Girard | MLS 10144861



WESTMOUNT \$1,995,000
1 Grenville | MLS 9541824



WESTMOUNT \$1,995,000
3022 Trafalgar | MLS 10442806

NEW CONSTRUCTION



WESTMOUNT ADJACENT \$1,849,000
3115 Jean-Girard | MLS 10239108



WESTMOUNT \$1,745,000
21 Oakland | MLS 9696659



WESTMOUNT ADJACENT \$1,580,000
3560 Atwater | MLS 10523964

INTRODUCING



MONT-ROYAL \$1,395,000
130 Linwood | MLS 26598777



WESTMOUNT \$1,217,000
304 Roslyn | MLS 9121297



MONTREAL \$1,179,000
4942 Glencairn | MLS 12568636

INTRODUCING



WESTMOUNT \$1,089,000
3742 Boulevard



WESTMOUNT ADJACENT \$849,000
3812 Northcliffe | MLS 9654381

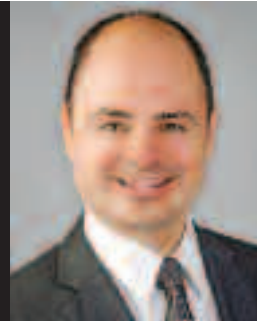
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RECENTLY PURCHASED



WESTMOUNT ADJACENT \$1,649,000*

ACCEPTED OFFER



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DOWNTOWN \$1,249,000*

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PENTHOUSE | REVISED PRICE



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3446 DU MUSÉE | MLS I3671082



MONTREAL \$1,600,000
GLENEAGLES | MLS 26289403



DOWNTOWN \$1,595,000
CHATEAU | MLS 9642761



MONTREAL \$999,000
500 DE LA MONTAGNE #810 | MLS 9627058

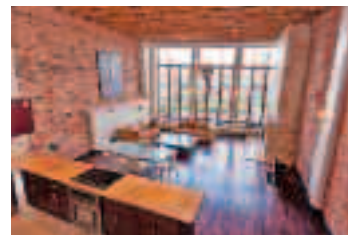
INTRODUCING



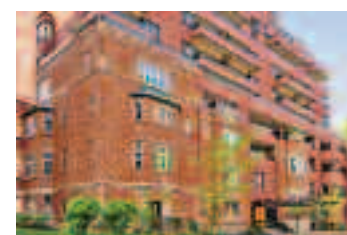
WESTMOUNT \$998,000
4028 BOUL. DORCHESTER | MLS 22945755



MONTREAL \$975,000
6301 PLACE NORTHCREST #3P | MLS I0878413



OLD MONTREAL \$849,000
50 ST-PAUL | MLS 9129160



MONTREAL \$545,000
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PROJECTS



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infoWestmount

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2013.09.18 • Vol. 1/17

HÔTEL DE VILLE

Élections municipales le 3 novembre

Une élection générale municipale sera tenue à Westmount le dimanche 3 novembre. Pour plus d'informations : www.westmount.org/vote2013.

Inscrivez-vous à E-Westmount

Votre connexion à l'information de la Ville. Recevez par courriel des bulletins municipaux et des avis d'urgence. Inscrivez-vous au www.westmount.org ou au ewestmount@westmount.org.

CENTRE DES LOISIRS DE WESTMOUNT

Suivez la construction du CLW

Suivez le progrès du projet avec les photos en ligne au www.westmount.org, par Twitter [@construct_alert](https://twitter.com/@construct_alert) ou par [Facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre](https://facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre).

Journée portes ouvertes au CLW

Venez visiter le nouveau Centre des loisirs de Westmount à l'occasion de la journée portes ouvertes, qui aura lieu le dimanche 22 septembre 2013, de 10 h à 17 h. Prière d'utiliser l'entrée de l'avenue Lansdowne. Info : 514 989-5322.

SPORTS ET LOISIRS

Inscriptions - activités automne/hiver

Présentement en cours au Victoria Hall. Il est encore temps de vous inscrire pour quelques activités. Si vous n'avez pas reçu votre répertoire par la poste, procurez-vous le dans l'un des édifices municipaux ou consultez-le au www.westmount.org. Info : 514 989-5353.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Rencontre d'auteure : Marie-Louise Gay

Le samedi 21 septembre à 14 h. L'auteure-lauréate et illustratrice Marie-Louise Gay présentera son tout nouveau livre, *Read Me a Story, Stella*. Des copies seront en vente et seront signées sur place. Info : 514 989-5299.

Cercle de lecture

Le mardi 24 septembre à 10 h 15. Soyez des nôtres pour une discussion au sujet des livres que vous avez lus! Info : 514 989-5299.

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Le mercredi 25 septembre à 10 h 15. Faites preuve de créativité lors de cet atelier où vous pourrez vous exprimer en vers dans une ambiance décontractée. Info : 514 989-5299.

Rencontre d'auteure – Catherine McKenzie

Le mercredi 25 septembre à 19 h. Venez rencontrer Catherine McKenzie, l'auteure du roman *Hidden*. Info : 514 989-5299.

Prochaine séance du conseil :

le mardi 1^{er} octobre

Après les heures à la bibliothèque

Le samedi 28 septembre à 19 h. Détendez-vous au doux rythme du jazz de Félix Stüssi et Les Malcom-modes. Billets gratuits disponibles au comptoir de prêt. Info : 514 989-5299.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Fêtons l'avenue Greene !

Les 19, 20 et 21 septembre; Avenue Greene, entre les rues Ste-Catherine et Sherbrooke. Venez découvrir la nouvelle Place publique, magasiner dans nos boutiques et profiter des nombreuses activités organisées pour célébrer la revitalisation de cette zone commerciale.

Film : *Gaudi: le dernier bâtisseur*

Le vendredi 27 septembre à 19 h au Victoria Hall. Ce film documentaire, réalisé par Lizette Lemoine et Aubin Hellot, aborde l'œuvre d'Antoni Gaudi, l'un des génies les plus incontestés de l'art mystique. Présenté par le Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée et la Ville de Westmount dans le cadre des Journées de la culture 2013. En français. Info : 514-989-5226.

Opération patrimoine architectural 2013 : Saint-Léon et les Sœurs Grises

Le dimanche 29 septembre à 14 h. Lieu de rencontre : pavillon du Club de bowling, 401, av. Kensington. Visite guidée de l'église Saint-Léon de Westmount et le terrain des Sœurs grises. Gratuit - Sans réservation. Organisé par l'Association historique de Westmount et le Service de l'aménagement urbain de la Ville de Westmount. Info : 514 989-5219.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Sécurité publique de Westmount sur Twitter !

Recevez des avis sur la sécurité ou des rappels de stationnement; signalez des graffitis. Inscrivez-vous dès maintenant : [@Secur_Westmount](https://twitter.com/@Secur_Westmount).

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Collecte des résidus domestiques dangereux

Le samedi 12 octobre de 9 h à 17 h. Disposez en toute sécurité de vos peintures, solvants, piles usagées, pesticides et plus au stationnement de la bibliothèque. Les vêtements et équipements électroniques usagés sont acceptés la même journée. Info : 514 989-5390.

CITY HALL

Municipal Election November 3

A municipal general election will be held in Westmount on Sunday, November 3, 2013. For information, please visit www.westmount.org/vote2013.

Sign up for E-Westmount

Your connection to City information. Receive municipal bulletins and emergency notices by email. Sign up at www.westmount.org or ewestmount@westmount.org.

WESTMOUNT RECREATION CENTRE

Follow the construction of the WRC

Follow the progress of the project with photos at www.westmount.org, via Twitter [@construct_alert](https://twitter.com/@construct_alert) or on [Facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre](https://facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre).

Open House Day at the WRC

Come and see for yourself the new Westmount Recreation Centre at the Open House to be held on Sunday, September 22, 2013 from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM. Please use the Lansdowne Avenue entrance. Info: 514 989-5322.

SPORTS & RECREATION

Registration for fall and winter activities

Ongoing at Victoria Hall. It's not too late to register for certain activities. If you did not receive your fall/winter guide in the mail, pick one up at a City building or consult it online at www.westmount.org. Info: 514 989-5353.

LIBRARY

Author Event: Marie-Louise Gay

Saturday, September 21 at 2 p.m. Award-winning author and illustrator Marie-Louise Gay will present her new book *Read Me a Story, Stella*. Copies will be available for sale and signing. Info: 514 989-5299.

Readers to Readers Book Club

Tuesday, September 24 at 10:15 a.m. Join our morning book club to talk about great books recently read. Info: 514 989-5299.

Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Wednesday, September 25 at 10:15 a.m. Get creative in these monthly, light-hearted workshops that get you to express yourself in verse. Info: 514 989-5299.

Author Event: Catherine McKenzie

Wednesday, September 25 at 7 p.m. Meet Catherine McKenzie, author of *Hidden*. Info: 514 989-5299.

Next Council Meeting:

Tuesday, October 1st

After Hours at the Library

Saturday, September 28 at 7 p.m. Enjoy the sweet sounds of jazz music with Félix Stüssi and *Les Malcommodes*. Free tickets are available at the main circulation desk. Info: 514 989-5299.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Greene Avenue celebrates!

September 19, 20 and 21 on Greene Avenue between Ste-Catherine and Sherbrooke Streets. Come and discover the newly created Public Square, shop at our boutiques and enjoy the numerous on-street activities to celebrate the revitalizing of this main commercial area.

Film: *Gaudi: The Last Master-Builder*

Friday, September 27 at 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall. This documentary film by Lizette Lemoine and Aubin Hellot looks at the work of Antoni Gaudi, one of the most undeniable geniuses of mystical art. Presented by the *Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée* and the City of the Westmount as part of *Journées de la culture 2013*. Screening in French. Info: 514-989-5226.

Architectural Heritage Campaign 2013:

Saint-Léon and The Grey Nuns

Sunday, September 29, 2013 at 2 p.m. Meeting at the Lawn Bowling Club, 401 Kensington Ave. Guide walking tour of Saint-Léon of Westmount Church and the Grey Nun's land. Free - No reservations. Organised by the Westmount Historical Association and the Urban Planning Department of the City of Westmount. Info: 514 989-5219.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Westmount Public Safety now on Twitter!

Receive notices concerning safety, snow removal, follow emergencies or report graffiti. Sign up now [@Secur_Westmount](https://twitter.com/@Secur_Westmount).

PUBLIC WORKS

Household Hazardous Waste

Saturday, October 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Safely dispose of paints, solvents, batteries, pesticides and more in the parking lot of the Library. Used clothing and used electronics will also be collected at the site the same day. Info: 514 989-5390.



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT

Mise en demeure sent in wake of Miss Vicky's decision

City turns over names

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The adoption of a zoning change September 3 to legitimize the operation of Miss Vicky's pre-school at St. Matthias' Church has been met by a legal challenge to the city's disqualification of six signatories requesting a referendum register.

In the city's view, the rejection of six of the 14 names invalidated the petition, which had required at least 12 eligible residents (see September 10, p. 1).

In a *mise en demeure* demand letter dated September 9, the city was given 72 hours to turn over the reasons for the disqualifications along with the names and addresses of those rejected, the *Independent* has learned.

"It appears the city has complied with our request," said Dario Favretto, who along with Shelley Kerman, had collected signatures opposing the zoning change.

Favretto said the information had been remitted September 13 to the law firm of Beauregard avocats September 13 by lawyer Marc-André LeChasseur, the city's legal advisor.

Favretto said the letter had been sent

when the information had been refused to him in calls to both the city clerk's office and the director general the morning of the council vote on the zoning change.

"I'll be speaking to my lawyer to ascertain if (these names) qualify or not," Favretto said. All come from zone R3-15.02, which borders Côte St. Antoine from near the top of Metcalfe west to Strathcona.

Not found on city lists

The city maintained it had rejected the names after they could not be found on the city's list of voters or other lists such as Hydro Westmount's. It had also sent out letters by mail and left phone messages for two of the people to no avail.

More time should have been given for recipients to reply over the August holiday period and ensure they received the letters or messages, contends Councillor Patrick Martin, the lone council member to vote against the zoning change.

He too claimed he had been unable until the night before the council meeting to obtain the rejected names. In the end, he discovered he knew one.

Celebrating good prospects



From left, Prospect St. residents Heather Wyer and Anita Chandan, Westmount-Ville Marie MP Marc Garneau, city councillor Theodora Samiotis, and Prospect St. resident Michael Polak. Photo: Martin C. Barry

Residents of Westmount's Prospect St., which runs parallel to the railway line, gathered with two local elected officials on September 13 to celebrate the location of the new railroad gantry in their neigh-

bourhood.

City and federal elected officials had lobbied that it be moved from a proposed place near the centre of the street to one to the east, which was done.

Open House: Sunday, Sept. 22 from 2 to 4pm



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On the Lighter Side

INGRID KOVITCH-
DANNENBAUM

"Where's my calculator?"

"Where's my Bescherelle?"

"I can't find the highlighters!"

Ahhh, the dawn of a new school year. And with it, the annual excavation of geological strata of school supplies – and other debris – from previous epochs.

Given each child's personal responsibility for their own deposits of artifacts, one might imagine that they ought to be

capable of some vague identification of the ruins.

Rubbish! (Literally).

Nor does the configuration of the rest of the house present any less mystery. This, despite my methodical and systematic arrangement of each and every article, doodad and thingamajiggy that we possess.

Compulsive organization notwithstanding, last winter my husband and I emerged from a four-day back-country ski trip to a series of panicked texts from one of our boys.

"WHERE ARE MY CLEATS??"

I NEED THEM FOR RUGBY!!! YES-TERDAY!!!!!!!"

His distress – pitiful though it sounded – might have evoked somewhat more kindness were his cleats not to be found, *as always*, in the eponymous (*ergo* not inscrutably-named) Cleat Basket.

This is an old laundry basket that we have been using since the dawn of our cleat-wearing children, and which we keep just inside the door to the garage, strategically placed to trip over on the way to the

Bike Rack, the Ball Bin, the Tool Box and/or the Camping Shelf.

Google Maps

I thought back to the previous week, when a friend and I had been marveling over Google Maps. He was showing me his father-in-law's property, in a tiny village on the lower North Shore, accessible only by a series of flights, followed by a 24-hour ferry ride.

"And look", he pointed out, "There's the gazebo he built last year".

Needed: Google House

Now don't get me wrong. I am unspeakably impressed.

Really I am.

It's just that I wish Google would apply this technology in much more productive fashion. Such as – just for an example – *mapping the contents of my house*.

Beginning with the kids' rooms, and working its way to the basement, ideally via the pantry.

No longer would I be called at work to direct my hapless offspring to such exotic

locations as the sofa, or such unfamiliar ingredients as, say, the butter.

"Can you find your way to the fridge?" I begin. "Good... now open the door. And look on the top shelf, just to the left of the eggs, projecting approximately 2 cm beyond and to the right of the cream cheese."

How I long for the day when my kids can simply dial it in. "Destination: Corn Flakes. From: Eli's room."

If only I had a dollar for every time my kids (read: husband) have yowled that they couldn't find something, followed by me finding that very thing, not infrequently in the very place that they were advised to search.

"I swear it wasn't there when I looked!" has become such a common household refrain that it has prompted one of the boys to coin the enlightened adage: "It's not 'not there' until your mom says it's not there."

But I have great faith in Google. And anxiously await the day when I am asked where the dog leash is, and can reply with great glee, "There's an app for that!"

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AND SUNDAY

September 29th
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Westmount Park School turns 100



From left: April Mag, Kadeera McMillan, school caretaker Vince Hoyte and school principal Daniela Lattanzio.

Westmount Park School is turning 100 this year and the first celebratory event was an open house and meet-the-teacher night on September 12. Parents, students,

teachers and at least one city councillor (Cynthia Lulham) enjoyed some corn-on-the-cob on the closed portion of Academy Rd. in front of the school.



From left: Anuraga, Pramod, Ankita and Aryan Jain. "I like the corn!" emphasized Ankita to the Independent.

Photos: Independent.

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Kids from Summer Reading Club get a blast of Bollywood



Children who were members of the Summer Reading Club at Westmount Public Library this past summer got a taste of Indian musical cinema tradition, better known as Bollywood, when performers Mel (left) and Zee from the Montreal-based Bollywood Blast dance company got up on stage at Victoria Hall on September 7 during a year-end party.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Roslyn School begins school year with outdoor celebration



Students who attend Roslyn School were joined by their parents in the schoolyard on Sept. 13 for a celebration marking the beginning of a new scholastic year. Parent Chrissy Bachman did her bit, serving up popcorn. Barbecued hot dogs were also on the menu, as well as cotton candy. For entertainment, Tox the Clown sculpted balloons into interesting shapes, and there was tattooing and inflatable games.

Photo: Martin C. Barry



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OPEN HOUSE
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9:00 - 11:30 A.M. (Tour/See Classes)
4:30 - 7:00 P.M. (Tour/Meet Faculty)

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OPEN HOUSE - FRENCH SECTOR
September 21 - 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

OPEN HOUSE - ENGLISH SECTOR
September 28 - 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm



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Comin' Up

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Alzheimer Café (monthly) For information, contact Beth Symansky at 514-935-7344 ext 206 or beth@atwaterlibrary.ca. Atwater Library (1200 Atwater), 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Seminar on Wills and Estate Planning. Reservation required (contact Beth at 514.935.7344 x 206 or beth@atwaterlibrary.ca). Atwater Library (1200 Atwater), 1 to 4 pm.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Will Aitken speaks on the theme "Another County: Fiction Writing and the Other Place." He will talk about Japan and read from his latest novel, *My Life Burning in the Moonlight*. Atwater Library (1200 Atwater), 12:30 pm.

Greene Ave. merchants' festival. 10 am to 6 pm. Also September 20 and 21.

Westmount Historical Association lecture: "Recognizing and protecting our heritage" by Mehdi Ghafouri. \$5, Westmount Public Library (4574 Sherbrooke), 7 pm.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Centre Greene community corn roast (by donation) – 5 to 7 pm.

Open house at Contactivity Seniors Community Centre (4695 de Maisonneuve). A chance to check out new programs, learn about services, see some activity demonstrations and nibble delicious free snacks and sweets. Door prizes every 20 minutes. Call 514.932.2326 for more info! 1 pm to 3 pm.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Tours of the new Westmount recreation facility. 10 am to 4 pm.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

U.S. author and bereaved mother Sandy Fox gives a talk on coping skills for surviving the loss of a loved one. Her two books are *I Have No Intention of Saying Good-bye* and *Creating a New Normal...After the Death of a Child*. Free admission. Selwyn House School (95 Cote St. Antoine Road), 7 pm.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25

Seniors' Luncheon at Centre Greene – Join us for a three-course, home-cooked meal, served in a friendly environment.

Only \$5, served at 12:15 pm. Please RSVP 514.931.6202.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Brenda Shanahan gives a talk on "Bridging the Income Gap.... Tips on Easing Into Full Retirement". She will discuss different phases in post-employment life. Atwater Library (1200 Atwater), 12:30 pm.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Silent Movie Night at the Atwater Library (1200 Atwater) features the 1932 classic by Japanese director Yasujiro Ozu, *I Was Born, But...*, with Jamie Woollard providing accompaniment. Pay what you can. 6:30 pm.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Presentation by Richard Martin to the Montreal Camera Club. \$10. Westmount Park Church (rear entrance, 4695 de Maisonneuve). 7:30 pm.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Final meeting of current city council, city hall, 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Removal of invasive species removal from Summit Woods under the direction of Public Works. Session lasts two hours. For details on what to wear and bring, please call John Fretz at 514.933.6331, or email supermolto@sympatico.ca. Assem-

bly at 8:45 am at the Summit Lookout. Also on October 9.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

The Phantom Of The Opera (1925) starring Lon Chaney Sr. \$8 students and seniors. A masterpiece of silent horror cinema in a Gothic church with live music. Westmount Park Church (4695 de Maisonneuve). 7:30 pm. Also October 5.

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Station 12 Reports

Muggers return SIM cards to victims upon request

The following news stories are based on information from police reports provided by a Station 12 constable in an interview with the reporter.

BY ISAAC OLSON

Two men violently robbed four others of their cellphones on September 7 but, according to Station 12 constable Adalbert Pimentel, the two muggers were nice enough to return the phones' memory cards upon request before taking off.

The incident happened just after 9 pm in Westmount Park, near the intersection of Lansdowne Ave. and de Maisonneuve Blvd., the constable explained. The four men, all in their early 20s, were approached by two English-speaking suspects who immediately demanded drugs and cell phones. The victims did not know the suspects, he noted.

Three of the victims quickly handed over their phones, but the fourth refused. In response, one suspect put him in a headlock and pulled him to the ground, said Pimentel.

Once on the ground, the other suspect searched the victim's pockets, pulling out the cell phone. There were no injuries in the scuffle but, once the two suspects had all four phones, the victims asked if they could have their subscriber identity module (SIM) cards, which often contain important data such as personal information, photos and videos.

Pimentel said this is the first time he has ever heard of victims asking for their SIM cards to be returned and, more surprisingly, the suspects complied by opening the phones, removing the cards and handing them over to the victims.

continued on p. 27

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Westmount Park School spruces up



Westmount Park School is turning 100 this year and, perhaps coincidentally, it is also getting work done on its brickwork. This crane was photographed on September 8. Work was delayed a bit into the new school year by the June construction strike, explained school principal Daniela Lattanzio on September 12.

Station 12, cont'd. from p. 26

The suspects, described as black males, then headed east on Sherbrooke St., disappearing from view, said Pimentel.

The first man is described as 5' 6" with a black, hooded jacket. The second stood about 6' and was wearing an orange sweater, had an eyebrow piercing and wore a black backpack. Both men were estimated

to be in their 20s. Pimentel said, when approached by suspects like this, the safest thing to do is just hand over the phone to avoid violence and, instead, mentally record a description of the suspects to help police catch the criminals. He said there are all too often incidents of victims being beaten, stabbed or worse when they refuse to give up their phones and, in the end, no material item is worth the risk.



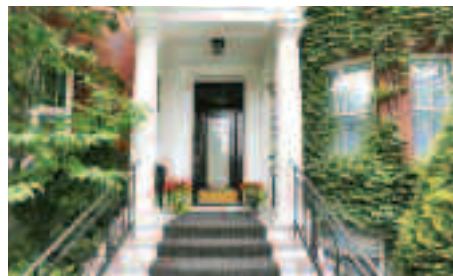
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Centre Greene garage sale becomes a family affair



Several generations of the Cram family, who live on St. Antoine St., were on hand on September 7 at Centre Greene where an annual garage sale to raise funds for the centre featured more than a dozen tables of used wares, including a toy department as seen here. From the left are Sophie Cram, holding one-week-old Ryker, her son Wyatt, 2, and grandma Katie Cram.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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New roll puts Westmount in the middle of island-wide changes



Real estate

ANDY DODGE

The city of Montreal is bearing the brunt of increases in the new valuation roll that was deposited September 11, it appears, and though Westmount's increase is higher than all but two other island mu-



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nicipalities, the 20.9-percent total increase in valuation is only slightly higher than the 19.5-percent increase for the entire island.

Single-family dwellings in Westmount, which have by far the highest average evaluation on the island, \$1,505,700, increased by an average 21.1 percent, lower than the averages for 11 of the 19 boroughs of Montreal, as well as Town of Mount Royal (28.9 percent) and tiny Dorval Island (25.5 percent).

Condominiums, meanwhile, increased 18 percent to an average \$916,700, almost double the \$472,900 average for condominiums in Outremont, but there the average condo went up 24.1 percent.

What all this means in terms of taxes is impossible to say at this point, since the city budget has not been established along with the mill rate that will be applied to the new valuations. For most properties in Westmount the basic mill rate has dropped from \$1.2929 per \$100 valuation in 2003 to 97.43 cents per \$100 this year, for example, so we might expect it to go even lower for next year.

All other things being equal, single-family homeowners with valuation increases higher than 21.1 percent might expect to see tax increases, while those with valuation increases lower than that

might expect to see their taxes remain about the same or even drop somewhat.



The figures released by the city last week show Westmount now has 3,500 single-family dwellings, up 18 from the 2011 valuation roll, while there are 1,298 residential condominiums, an increase of 31 from the last roll. Still to come, of course, are condos at 1250 Greene Ave. and 215 Redfern Ave., among others, and the number of duplexes, triplexes and apartment buildings has dropped as they turn into divided co-ownership buildings. The newly-completed building at 11 Hillside Ave. has yet to be fully evaluated.

The prize for the highest total valuation increase goes to Dorval Island, whose 57 houses jumped 28.1 percent from the 2011 roll, after jumping almost 60 percent compared to 2007. Next highest was Plateau Mont Royal, and actually the average single-family dwelling there jumped 31.1 percent, though condos were lower so the overall average drops to 26.4 percent. Town of Mount Royal came in third with a total 25.8-percent increase, and all the others which were higher than Westmount are boroughs of the city of Montreal.

Bronfman house
most expensive on island

Officials revealed that the highest valuation for a single-family dwelling this year is \$18.7 million, but did not reveal the location or even the municipality. Three years ago the highest single-family valuation was only \$10.1 million. Stephen Bronfman's property at 15 Belvedere Rd has a valuation of \$18,748,600, up less than seven percent from its previous valuation. The house has undergone extensive renovations in the past three years.

Another important fact revealed in the city report is that apartment buildings – 6 or more units – experienced an average increase of 24.3 percent compared to the overall average of 19.5 percent. In Westmount, the increase was 23.6 percent and



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in Montreal it was 24.4 percent, and in most cities and boroughs the increases are more than for single-family dwellings. While these buildings are taxed at somewhat different rates than smaller buildings, and again the overall tax increases will vary from building to building, landlords can be expected to justify rental increases to cover the tax hikes.

In 2011, duplexes and triplexes in Westmount saw their valuations soar by an average 36.8 percent; this year they only went up 17.3 percent which should provide some relief – though again, this will depend on the individual valuation increases.

VALUATION INCREASES BY CITY/BOROUGH			
	Total Val increase	Single Family	Condo miniums
Dorval Island	28.1%	25.5%	
Plateau Mont-Royal(B)	26.4%	30.7%	22.4%
Town of Mount Royal	25.8%	28.9%	22.5%
Outremont (B)	25.0%	28.3%	24.1%
South West (B)	24.6%	29.0%	24.3%
Rosemont/ Petite Patrie (B)	23.6%	27.6%	23.9%
Côte des Neiges/Notre Dame de Grâce (B)	22.2%	25.4%	20.2%
Verdun (B)	21.9%	25.8%	17.6%
Villeray/St. Michel/ Park Ex (B)	21.8%	26.9%	21.1%
Westmount	20.9%	21.1%	18.0%
Pierrefonds/ Roxboro (B)	20.4%	20.7%	16.4%
Côte St. Luc	19.8%	20.6%	17.4%
Ahuntsic/ Cartierville (B)	19.6%	23.6%	18.5%
Ville Marie (B)	19.4%	23.7%	19.5%
Hampstead	18.9%	17.8%	14.3%
Beaconsfield	18.5%	17.9%	17.8%
Montreal West	18.1%	17.3%	19.8%
Dollard-des-Ormeaux	18.0%	18.7%	14.7%
Pointe Claire	18.0%	18.5%	17.6%
Saint Laurent (B)	17.8%	25.2%	19.2%
LaSalle (B)	17.8%	16.9%	17.8%
Kirkland	17.1%	19.5%	13.6%
Lachine (B)	16.8%	23.2%	17.1%
Ile Bizard/ Ste Geneviève (B)	16.8%	17.2%	13.4%
Mercier/Hochelaga-Maisonneuve (B)	16.5%	16.8%	18.9%
Anjou (B)	15.8%	18.3%	17.8%
Ste Anne de Bellevue	15.8%	15.7%	12.2%
Baie d'Urfé	14.2%	19.1%	18.1%
Saint Leonard (B)	13.9%	15.2%	15.1%
Montreal North (B)	13.5%	13.7%	14.8%
Rivière des Prairies/ Pointe-Aux-Trembles (B)	12.9%	13.7%	12.5%
Dorval	12.2%	19.3%	13.6%
Senneville	6.8%	10.4%	
Montreal East	6.1%	9.4%	12.4%
Total Montreal	19.7%	21.3%	19.8%
Total Island	19.5%	20.9%	19.5%

21% hike over last year

Average Westmount house worth \$1.5 million on new roll

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The average single family dwelling in Westmount has now been evaluated at \$1.5 million on the new property evaluation roll deposited September 11 for the island of Montreal. This represents a 21-percent hike over the 2010 roll and an amended version last year on which this year's tax bills were based.

This is the highest value on the island, followed by Hampstead and Town of Mount Royal at slightly over \$1 million each.

The city's overall valuation roll of \$8.7 billion also represents a 21-percent increase. The new increases are based on real estate values on July 1, 2012 but do not automatically translate correspondingly into tax increases or the city's share of agglomeration expenses, city director general Duncan Campbell explained.

"It always boils down to how much money is needed at budget time and how tax rates are set," he said.

In general, the owners of properties whose assessment has increased more than the average within their category (such as single-family dwellings, apartment buildings, commercial) can expect tax hikes (see table).

Individual property valuations may be consulted at on the website <http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/evalweb>.

While the city had not yet crunched numbers and conducted a sampling analysis last week to assess the impact of the new roll, Campbell said Montreal evaluation officials had informed the city earlier that indications showed properties south of Sherbrooke experiencing higher increases than those to the north.

The roll is amended every year to reflect changes from renovations and the addition of new properties, but general up-

Table showing average increases in valuation 2014-16

Category	%
Single-family dwelling	21.1
Condominium	18.0
2-5 unit bldgs.	17.3
Apts. of 6 or more	23.6
Offices	21.2
Misc. commercial	18.0
Institutional	16.6

Source: City of Montreal

dating of the role using real estate assessments is carried out once every three years to compile a triennial roll. The new one is in force for 2014 to 2016.

Agglo portion unknown

It remains to be seen how the new roll will affect Westmount's agglo apportionment relative to other municipalities.

It was agreed at the time of demerger that the island suburbs would pay about 18 percent of the agglomeration tax pie, but Westmount's portion can vary de-

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pending on additions of new building stock vis-à-vis other municipalities, including in Montreal, said Mayor Peter Trent.

"This is why the new roll is fairly good news for Westmount in that we probably won't see an increase in our share, compared with areas such as Griffintown."

He also found it interesting that the increase in Westmount's overall assessment resulted more from land increases, up 27 percent, than in buildings at 18 percent. He said this explains why increases in sectors closer to the Montreal downtown core,

such as Westmount, Town of Mount Royal and Plateau Mont Royal, were much higher than in the West Island, for example. "They're driven by the scarcity of land."

But the important point for taxpayers to realize, he added, is that the relationship between the evaluation roll and the tax rate is like a seesaw. "When one end goes up, the other goes down, but the fulcrum in the middle stays essentially the same."

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Greene Festival, September 19-21, cont'd. from p. 1

pate, including Westmount Scouts offering cotton candy.

“We’re pleased the major construction is over,” said Michael Millman, owner of the West End Gallery and president of the merchants’ association. “It’s been four or five years of construction counting the sewer work,” he said. “Although access was maintained throughout, the disruption plus the [temporary] loss of 5 Saisons and the terrasse changed people’s habits.”

The street festival follows on the heels of the inauguration September 10 of the

public square at de Maisonneuve (see story p. 7).

Further details and scheduling of the street festival events are to be available at www.westmount.org and at www.facebook.com/GreeneAvenueMerchantsAssociation

Councillor Nicole Forbes discusses street festival plans on Greene Ave. September 10 with the merchants’ association vice-president Glenn Neven, left, and president Michael Millman.



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Gatsby meets Lanaudière in Montreal

Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

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the home of the McConnell family.

The event, *Prélude d'été*, was to raise funds for the Festival International de Lanaudière. Tickets were \$300 (cocktail), \$750 (dinner) and \$10,000 for corporate tables. Co-chairs with Philippe were **Jean-François Sauv ** (attending with his wife **Diane**) and **Costas Spiliadis**, owner of the world-famous Milos restaurant, a major sponsor with Power Corp and the National Bank.

Milos provided the amazing catering for the reception and sit-down dinner. Park Avenue sponsored the essential valet parking.

Greeting guests with the co-chairs were Festival's artistic director **Alex Benjamin**, director general **Fran ois B dard** with his wife **Fran oise Michaud**, and president of

the Fondation du Festival board, **Andr  Bisson**, with his wife **Reine**.

The setting was idyllic, with a large white tent for cocktails (and to dance off Greek pastries!), a natural pond, and water cascading down a rock cliff. Torches lit the way over red carpets covering a soggy-but-green lawn. Westmounters noted included **Daniel and Lise Labrecque** (on trend in lace); **Michel and Louise Blouin** (Parisian-chic in colour), **Monique and Maurice V zina**, **Benn Mikula**, **Julie Couture** and **Victor Sal-** *continued on p. 33*



Daniel and Lise Labrecque.

It was a Great Gatsby moment on June 13.

In other words, the ultimate in elegance when **Nannette** and **Philippe de Gasp  Beaubien III** opened their magnificent mansion, an architectural jewel once

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Michel and Louise Blouin, Nannette and Philippe de Gasp  Beaubien.

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THE RESIDENCES
AT THE RITZ-CARLTON, MONTREAL



The Ritz-Carlton Residences, partnering with Ursula B, hosted a champagne cocktail for the Canadian premiere of Prabal Gurung. Ursula B carries the line exclusively in Quebec. The designer’s clothes are worn by Michelle Obama and the Duchess of Cambridge, as well as Lady Gaga and Gweneth Paltrow, to name but a few. The looks - including fall accessories of strappy shoes and mid-thigh boots and the archived copy of the Prabal Gurung-designed gown Emma Watson wore to the Met Gala - were flown in overnight for the event.



Emma Watson’ gown

Carmie Saputo,
Carolyn Ubani

Rucsandra Calin,Philippe & Julia Lawi
Ursula Babiary

Residences Lobby

Anne Maria Plinchuk,
Lindsay Yarrow

Both wearing Prabal Gurung, Rucsandra Calin, Director Sales and Marketing at the Residences, and Ursula Babiary -owner Ursula B- greeted the glamorous guests. The event was held in one of the Residence’s Suites, a spacious two-bedroom with den and outdoor terrace, so there was plenty of room for the 100 guests. (Much to the disappointment of one inquirer, Rucsandra explained that that particular apartment was already sold.) The corner condo’s huge floor-to-ceiling windows let in a fabulous natural light which showed Prabal Gurung’s Fall Collection to advantage. Media commented on the luxury of the unit, and in particular were impressed by the two-way fireplace (a boon in Montreal’s climate) and the heated floors in bathrooms, kitchen - *and* outdoor terrace. The Banquet Department of the Ritz Carlton Hotel - the only 5 Diamond Star Hotel in Quebec - served dainty bouchées, easily bite-size for those clutching signature purses as they relaxed in the sink-into furniture whilst sipping Veuve Clicquot. The Ritz staff set up in the large kitchen, using the mood-enhancing LED lighting as a backdrop. Guests arriving at the apartment’s foyer noted the beautiful marble floor which led to the spacious salon with its patterned hard wood flooring. Ladies arrived from as far away as New York and the Bahamas for the special occasion. “The Ritz-Carlton Residences are totally unique -a *dream come true* home,” said Rucsandra Calin.

THE RESIDENCES at THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL
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.....
Social Notes, cont'd. from p. 31

vaggio, and Sal and Rosie Parasucco, in a classically simple black dress.

Former Westmounter **Jennifer Roman** and event guru **Robert Vézina** planned the sold-out party.

The musical highlight of the evening was pianist **Alain Lefebvre**, who performed a fabulous recital, including the "Concerto de Québec" by his favourite composer, the renowned **André Mathieu** (1929-1968) whose work will be featured at New York's Carnegie Hall for the first time in December 2013.

Also noted amidst the elegant guests were **Geneviève Salbaing**, **Eric Boyko**, **Andrée Lotey** and **Michael Goodman**, **Fannie Charron**, **Marie Sénécal-Tremblay** and **Bruce McNiven**, **Dominique Lancôt** and **Paul Setlakwe**, **Moneca Kaufmann** and her father **Pius Kaufmann**, the consul of San Salvador **François Dell'Aniello**, **Serge Sas-seville** and **François Dell'Aniello**, **Richard Verreault** and his wife **Cynthia Price**, **Sandra** and **Alain Bouchard**, designers **Yves Lefebvre** and **Jacques Auray** (sartorially smart in beautifully-cut blazers), and **Camilla Leigh**.

Charming **Christian Gagné-Cholette** was princely as he helped the ladies go up and down the estate's steep garden stairs. No one lost a glass slipper.



Yves Lefebvre and Jacques Auray.



Alex Benjamin, François Bédard, Diane and Jean-François Sauvé.



Bruce McNiven, Camilla Leigh and Ben Mikkula.



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In Conversation with Gabor Szilasi

Life after the Governor General's Award



**Westmount
Art
Scene**

HEATHER BLACK

For many, the receipt of the Governor General's Award is a time to relax, to rest on one's laurels. But for Westmount resident Gabor Szilasi, there is no slowing down.

In July, he travelled to France where he exhibited in Vendôme, while in Montreal his images are currently on display in the Quartier des Spectacles. Recently I spoke to the photographer about his work and current success.

The starting point

Szilasi began photography in the early 1950s. While at first it was "a case of point and click" at whatever caught his eye, by 1956 he found himself recording "an extraordinary event," the Hungarian Revolution. Immigrating to Canada in 1959, he continued to document, but this time his

subjects for the Office du Film du Québec were the rural communities of Charlevoix, Abitibi and the Beauce.

Visiting these villages was something new for the urban photographer. What he found was a society transitioning from the old to the new, from the sacred to the profane. His black-and-white photographs of this era recorded this change.

When asked what is his favourite subject to photograph, he responded: "I love people, and even in a landscape, I include a piece of cable, a trace of humanity." Szilasi prefers black-and-white film as it allows him to "capture the person without the distraction of colour."

The art of technology

But he has also worked in colour, a medium which allows him to pick up the wall colour or ambiance of an interior that defines its occupant. And in the mid 1980s, he exhibited a series of diptychs, one colour image next to another in black and white.

Although he has a digital camera, Szilasi prefers film as "it's what I know." And, he adds: "Film lasts at least 170 years," an important consideration in documentary photography.

His recent traveling retrospective, the "Eloquence of the Everyday," organized in 2009 by the Musée d'art de Joliette and the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography features 124 photographs spanning fifty years.

This exhibition travelled from Joliette to the National Art Gallery of Canada and to the McCord Museum in 2010. In 2011, it was shown at the Kelowna Art Gallery, and it closed at Ryerson University in Toronto last month.

It was the exhibition's initial success in Joliette and at the National Art Gallery that led to Szilasi's nomination for the Gover-



A self-portrait by Gabor Szilasi.

nor General's Award in 2010, an event that "took him by surprise."

The halo effect

Szilasi is happy that his work has been recognized and, although more concerned about photographing than exhibiting, he concedes that recognition has "helped sales." But this was not his first major award. In 2009, he was the recipient of Quebec's highest honour in the visual arts, the Prix Paul-Émile Borduas.

In fact, Szilasi is still going strong. Last year, his first hardcover book "Charlevoix 1970" was published, while his current exhibit of 27 images of St. Catherine St. in the 1970s is on display at the Quartier des Spectacles, corner of St. Catherine and Clark, until September 29.

Heather Black is a Westmount communication designer. Contact her at: blackheajea@gmail.com

Westmount lawn bowlers win for Quebec

The Westmount Lawn Bowling Club has scored another victory with the triples team winning the 2013 Atlantic Bowls tournament for Quebec.

Played at the Beaconsfield club from September 5 to 8, the Westmount men's team, representing Quebec, consisted of Richard Menear (skip), Bruce St. Louis and Henry Fung.

The tournament included men's and women's triples and doubles teams from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec for a total of 60 players. At the end of round-robin play, the Quebec team was tied with Nova Scotia. The winner was decided by a one-game, winner-take-all match, with the Quebec (Westmount) team carrying the day with a 15-to-6 victory. This tournament was the last inter-provincial major of the 2013 schedule "so what better way to cap off the season than with a victory for Quebec by Westmount?" said St. Louis.

Based on the performance and final standings of all of its teams, and the resulting overall point total, Quebec won the Sid Currie Aggregate Trophy as the overall tournament winner.



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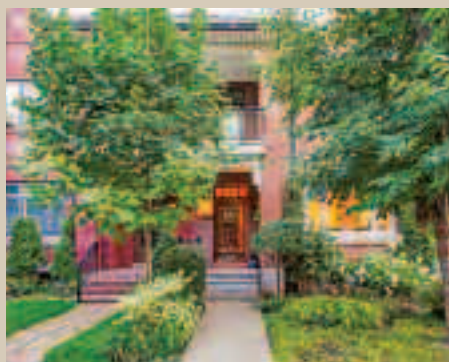
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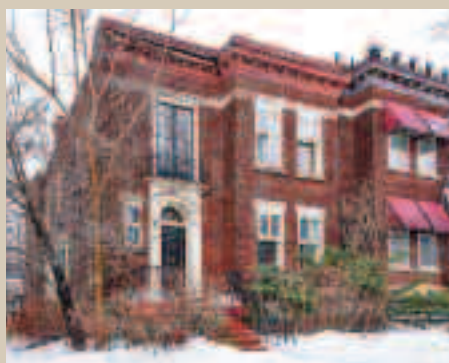
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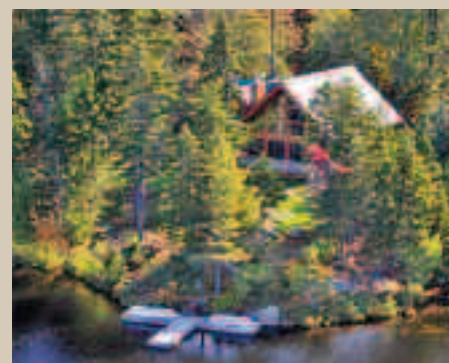
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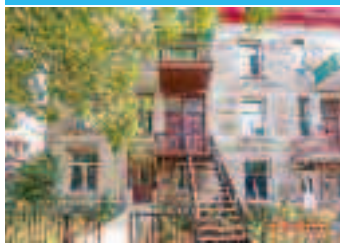
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