

## No injuries but area 'ruined'

# Fire at Public Works apt. found to start in extension cord

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Heavy smoke and water from a fire "ruined" the third storey of a Public Works building September 29 at 21 Bethune, city officials said. The burnt-out area is an apartment where a member of the department lived.

"He unfortunately lost everything," said city director general Duncan Campbell. "We're letting him use another apartment at the yard."

While there is no estimate of damage, he said, the "fairly large" apartment, occupied over the years by various Public Works superintendents, has been condemned and "we may just tear it down." The structure of the mess hall building was not damaged and the first two storeys relatively unaffected.

Pending receipt of an official fire investigation report, Campbell said he would say only that the fire was accidental and "electrical in nature."

Fire officials confirmed October 3 the fire originated in an extension cord connected to an air conditioner (see separate story on electrical fires, p. 3).

No injuries were reported, and no one was in- *continued on p. 3*

# Installation of non-RF hydro meters under way at 5 homes

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Hydro Westmount will be reducing a \$99 fee to \$15 for the installation of non-radiofrequency (RF) meters, its director Benoit Hurtubise said last week. The move is aligned with new rates fixed by the provincial energy board in September. The \$5-a-month reading cost will remain.

The Westmount utility is now in the throes of installing five non-RF meters requested by residents under the city's new




Flora co-owners Denis D'Etcheverry, left, and Gilles Lord watch as one of their stone lions is carefully maneuvered into Flora's new location on Sherbrooke east of Claremont. The two iconic lion statues, which sat majestically outside Flora's old location on Sherbrooke west of Claremont for about five years, took flight October 2 around 9 am. "I purchased these lions about five years ago at an auction in Belgium. I bought them as a bit of a joke for Gilles, who was born under the sign of Leo," said D'Etcheverry.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

policy for opting out of its standard RF replacement program, he said.

The non-RF model was ordered over the summer after the city adopted the opt-out policy. None of the five residents will be asked to pay an installation fee, however, because their requests preceded the city's fee by-law, Hurtubise added.

The Westmount choice of meters follows a lengthy public campaign by local resident Megan Durnford, who had fought for a non- *continued on p. 3*



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Real estate transfers BY A. DODGE p. 19

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Underdog BY A. ROGIC p. 23



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## Fire officials warn against risky use

# Extension cord fires recalled

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Old, frayed or taped extension cords should be thrown out, fire officials have warned over the years after many electrical fires in Westmount were caused by cords overheating as opposed to wiring in walls.

Most extension cords aren't designed for use with appliances that draw heavy electrical loads such as irons, toasters, space heaters and kettles, they said. And extension cords should never be strung together or under carpets.

In the wake of the latest electrical fire September 29 at Public Works, city director general Duncan Campbell said it made sense that extension cords could be a frequent source of electrical fires in older houses such as Westmount's built with only one or two electrical outlets to a room.

Fire prevention chief Louise Desrosiers, who confirmed an extension cord connected to an air conditioner had caused the fire, said the gauge of a cord was particularly important.

A look through files on electrical fires in Westmount reveals numerous fires that originated with extension cords, the following examples indicating some of the dangers they represent.

..... **Fire at Public Works cont'd. from p. 1** .....

side the apartment at the time the fire was discovered around 8:30 am, Campbell said.

A smell of smoke was noticed by workers at the same time as public safety officer Stephanie Rodriguez was at the yard refueling her patrol vehicle. She spotted black smoke billowing from a window of the apartment and called 911. A fire alarm was also sounding.

Public Security director Greg McBain,

A major fire that gutted the top floors of a stone house under renovation at 4364 Westmount Ave. at the edge of King George (Murray) Park on July 9, 1993, was caused when workers moved a fridge out of the kitchen and used a temporary connection.

On another occasion, an overheated extension cord burned into the floor of an apartment at 50 Academy Rd. on January 1, 1992, causing extensive damage to at least three apartments.

A frayed extension cord used to power a TV in a bedroom ignited the box spring of a bed January 12, 1991 at a house on Grosvenor.

A fire at 250 Kensington was reported May 9, 1991 when an extension cord was used to plug in an electric kettle.

In fact, all cords on electrical appliances should be unplugged when not in use, fire officials warned after a faulty control switch on a toaster filled an apartment at 331 Clarke with smoke May 4, 1985. Cords that are plugged in carry electrical current even when an appliance is not in use.

While smoking is one of the major causes of residential fires, renovation work has been among the leading causes of fires in Westmount along with cooking and electrical.

who arrived at the scene soon after, said four fire trucks were already there. Firefighters extinguished the fire quickly. It was reported out by 9:39 am.

"There was quite a bit of black, black smoke," he said.

The fire also caused a lot of commotion and traffic congestion since the tunnel leading to the Public Works yard under the railway tracks had to be blocked off.

## Melbourne to be evacuated Oct. 8

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It is the turn of Melbourne Ave. residents to be selected for a province-wide home evacuation drill on October 8 at 7 pm, according to fire prevention chief Carole Desrosiers. Fire trucks will go up and down the street sounding their sirens, alerting residents to go outside where firefighters will provide fire safety tips.

A similar exercise called "the great evacuation" takes place every year in selected municipalities in Quebec as part of the fire

prevention month and to highlight the value of families drawing up and practising an evacuation plan, she said. It usually takes place during National Fire Prevention Week (October 5 to 11). Westmount has been chosen for the first time.

"It is important for everyone to know how to leave the home in an orderly fashion, to have a secondary escape route and to have a designated meeting place outside," she explained.

Melbourne is to be closed to traffic by Public Security during the exercise.



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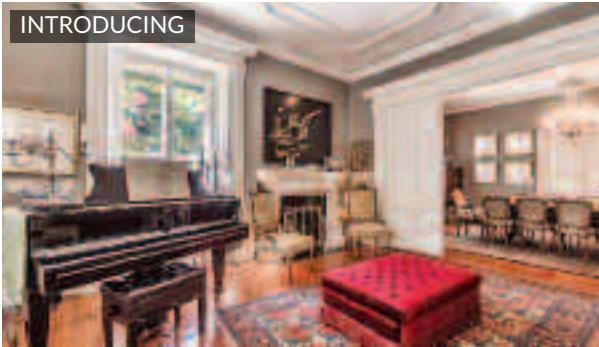
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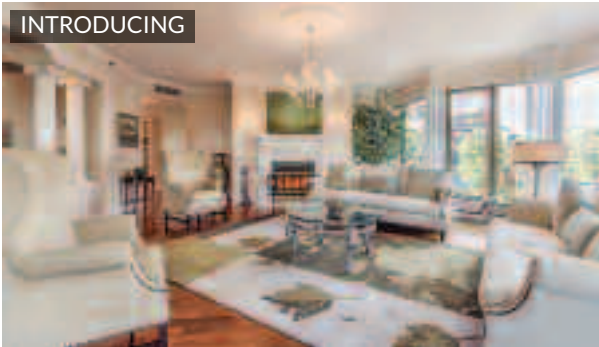
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REVISED PRICE

WESTMOUNT \$3,295,000  
51 SUNNYSIDE | MODERN 5 BDRM



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WESTMOUNT \$2,997,000  
3 SUNNYSIDE | CONTEMPORARY 4 BDRM



WESTMOUNT \$2,895,000  
41 ROSEMOUNT | MAJESTIC 5 BDRM



WESTMOUNT \$2,595,000  
19 LANSOWNE RIDGE | LUMINOUS CONTEMPORARY



WESTMOUNT \$2,498,000  
3781 BOULEVARD | GRACIOUS 7 BDRM W/GARAGE



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WESTMOUNT \$2,300,000  
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WESTMOUNT \$1,995,000  
409 CLARKE | 4 BDRM W/GARAGE



REVISED PRICE

WESTMOUNT ADJ. \$1,895,000  
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## ADMIRING OF LOCAL ARTISTIC TALENT

As a long-time Westmount resident, I had the pleasure of attending the Westmount art show the morning of September 27. The quality of many of the artists and their work was truly amazing and moved me deeply.

Sometimes one attends events of this type due to a sense of civic support and obligation. In this case, I was provided with an additional example of the talent of my Westmount neighbours.

The individuals who organized the event and the volunteers who supported it did a wonderful job and should be congratulated.

FRANCES CABLE-RAYMOND,  
CÔTE ST. ANTOINE RD.

## ART WESTMOUNT A 'GREAT COMMUNITY EVENT'

I have just spent the most wonderful time at Art Westmount, viewing art, interviewing artists and chatting with neighbours. Bravo to the visionary organizers who brought together 75 (!) Westmount artists and their works in comfortable and accessible surroundings.

How inspiring it was to map out the access so all artists and works could be viewed, and no one was missed because of an out-of-the-way location.

The handsome program book is not only a souvenir but a directory for additional contacts.

Congratulations for a job well, and thoughtfully, done. Thanks to the artists who presented their work so graciously and who patiently answered visitors' questions throughout the weekend.

Thank you, finally, to the sponsors who so generously contributed to the costs of this undertaking, and made it possible. What a great community event!

BEV CHANDLER, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

## THANKS TO STAFF FOR ART WEEKEND

This letter is to thank the staff and all the volunteers who help to make such success of "Les Journées de la Culture" at Victoria Hall the weekend of September 27 and 28.

[To] all the staff who work so hard to make it happen, who give their time to valorize artists' work of all kinds – it's not easy. You did it and made it a success.

Again a big thank-you to you all, and [I

am] very proud to be part of it.

LAURENT MÉNARD, WESTMOUNT SQUARE

## BUSY SOCCER FIELDS DO GET TENDED TO

Regarding Mila Felcarek's letter "Will Sports & Rec take greater interest in soccer?" (September 30, p. 6), the Westmount Sports and Recreation department runs a host of activities for youths and adults in the spring and summer. Over 1,150 youths play soccer, 105 play baseball and 90 play lacrosse or rugby. Beyond these numbers are the adult programs and city day camps that use the fields. These numbers are an indicator of how busy the sports fields are.

Traditionally one of these fields has been rested for the summer and sometimes also re-seeded. This then puts additional demand on the remaining fields for city-run programs and activities.

With the increasing popularity of soccer, the Westmount Soccer Club (WSC) has seen a huge upswing in its membership. This has added to the use of these fields during the summer.

This summer, the WSC brought the condition of the fields to the attention of the Sports and Rec. department, which moved rapidly to correct some of the most egregious problems, including bringing in Public Works to repair one field so that a game could proceed.

The maintenance and upkeep of the sports fields are handled by an outside contractor, under the auspices of Public Works. The Sports and Rec. department has assessed the problems encountered this year and has formulated a better way to supervise the fields and be more proactive coordinating their maintenance, to ensure satisfactory playing conditions for next season.

ROSALIND DAVIS, COMMISSIONER,  
SPORTS & RECREATION

## FALL IS UPON US

I took photos [see one below] at 7:30 the morning of September 26 at King George (Murray) Park, as the sun broke through



A scene in King George (Murray) Park, September 26. Photo courtesy of David Asch.

the trees on Côte St. Antoine, casting long shadows of the stunnning old maple trees that have just started to take on their beautiful fall mantel.

DAVID ASCH, LANDSDOWNE AVE.

## ORANGE: THE COLOUR OF FALL AND CONSTRUCTION

Here is a picture of our fall colors that remind us of this beautiful 2014 summer, leaving us with great souvenirs as well as many orange cones on our path.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS EMMANUEL,  
WINDSOR AVE.



Victoria Ave., looking south.

Photo courtesy of Jean-François Emmanuel.

## MOST DON'T WANT NEW DOG RUN IN MIDDLE OF PARK

So far the majority of the letters concur that a dog run in the middle of Westmount Park is a very bad idea.

A couple of letters attempted to give arguments for putting the dog run in the middle of the park, but the arguments were weak.

One reader claimed that the Lansdowne and St. Catherine site is a bad choice because it is already a noisy intersection due to constant traffic. The idea here is that noise from dogs should be steered away from places where traffic noise [is] inevitably concentrated (such as busy intersections) and brought into places that are meant to be peaceful, like a quiet area inside a park. It's a terrible idea. And I doubt that noise from dogs can compete in unpleasantness with the roaring of trucks and buses going by all the time at that intersection.

Another reader suggests that there are already many dogs walking through the park with their owners, so it shouldn't be a big deal. On the contrary, if there are already many dogs going through the park, you can expect that the addition of a dog run would increase their

continued on p. 7

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

PUBLISHER: David Price

EDITOR: Kristin McNeill

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

LETTERS & COMMENTS:

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*

number severalfold. Since there is always a small but inevitable percentage of owners who fail to pick up after their dogs, the consequences would be unpleasant for all park users.

And finally, there is the aesthetic affront. This is a small but beautiful park, and a very busy one already. A dog run in the middle of it is an insult to the park, its history and its thoughtful designers.

FRANCISCO GONZALEZ,  
ST. CATHERINE ST.

**PEACEFUL SPOT**

What a travesty if this [see photo below] is what we displace from the park with the proposed dog run.

GOTHAM HOOJA,  
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.



*A scene in Westmount Park.*

Photo courtesy of Gotham Hooja

**LEAVE LANSDOWNE BE**

Enough is enough (re: “Lansdowne site the best,” letter, September 9, p. 10). The Westmount Park dog run was established at Lansdowne and St. Catherine St in the early '80s. “The noise and smell” will not “blend in” with the traffic, but will add to it.

Two large condos and several smaller buildings are within 200 feet of the demolished run. We have lived with the stench and cacophony for over 20 years.

TRUDY ASCH, LANSDOWNE AVE.

**A TALE OF TWO CITIES**

Comments have been made as to the very poor quality of the public plantings this year. These photos [below] perhaps say it all.

Regarding the proposed Prince Albert “square,” the design as shown in an information meeting headed by Councillor Cynthia Lulham goes completely against the stated aim of “making an outdoor room.” The plan consists of alleys instead of the piazza that was originally proposed. The opinions of the tax-paying residents did not count at all in that meeting to the extent that Mr. London had a hard time being allowed to contribute his valuable point of view.

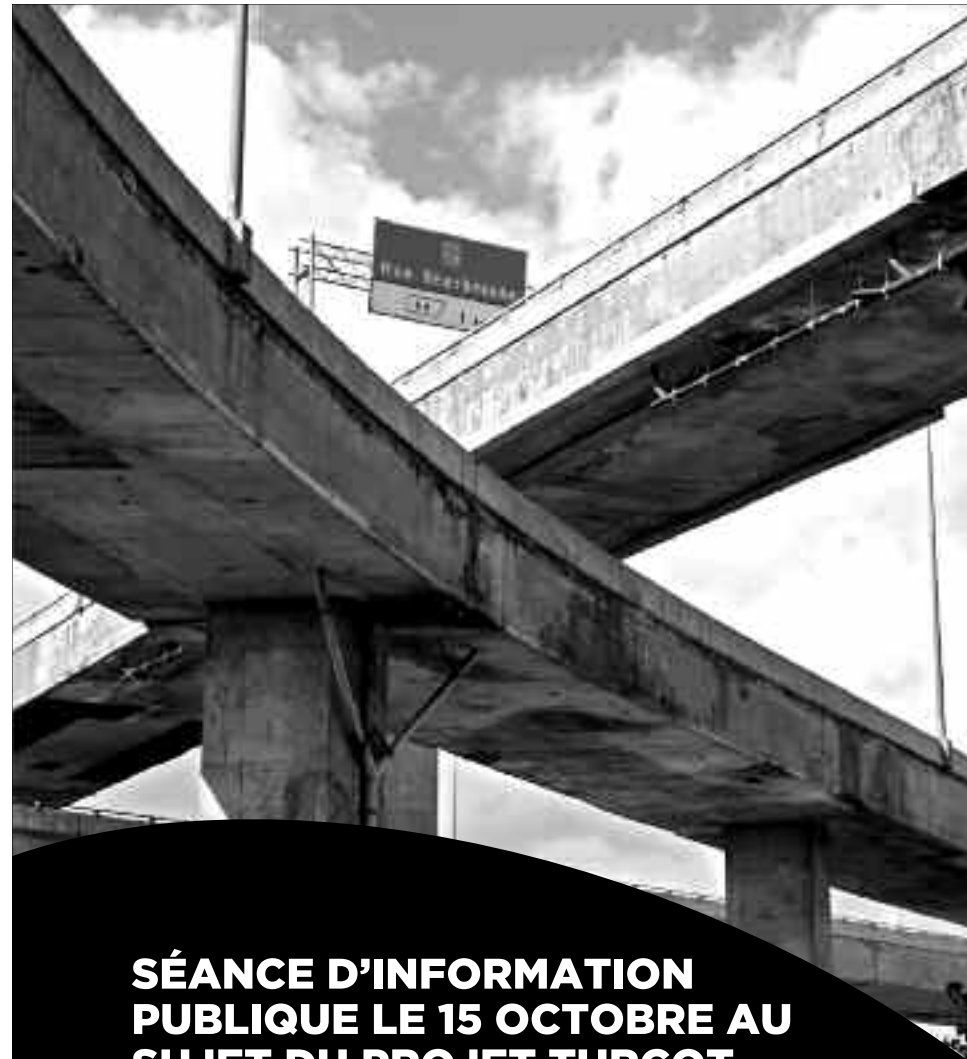
Ms. Lulham referred often to the “Square on Greene,” i.e. the 5 Saisons terrasse, even going so far as to threaten the



*The photo, top, is of a planter on Sherbrooke St. in Westmount. The photo, bottom, was taken on Queen Mary Rd. in the CDN-NDG borough.*

Photos courtesy of Jill Marvin.

.....  
continued on p. 26



## SÉANCE D'INFORMATION PUBLIQUE LE 15 OCTOBRE AU SUJET DU PROJET TURCOT

Une séance publique aura lieu **le mercredi 15 octobre** prochain à **19 h** au **Victoria Hall**, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest au sujet de la construction du **nouvel échangeur Turcotte**. Un représentant du **Ministère des transports du Québec** expliquera les travaux à venir et les impacts sur Westmount.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION OCTOBER 15 CONCERNING THE TURCOT PROJECT

A public information session will take place on **Wednesday, October 15 at 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall**, 4626, Sherbrooke St. W. concerning the construction of the **new Turcotte Interchange**. A representative of the **Ministère des transports du Québec** will be present to explain the upcoming work and its impact on Westmount.



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# Still going up – still digging in



Left, the 215 Redfern condo complex at St. Catherine St. continues to be a construction site, despite predictions by the developer in late May (“... ETA: End of summer,” May 27, p. 14) that the building “should” be finished by now. One year ago, the city issued a permit to complete the work in 18 months that was backed by a \$1-million guarantee, which the city will keep if it isn’t finished in time. Right, to the southwest, the Le Metcalfe developers have completed demolition of the former Vanguard School building, but have not yet begun building their condo/townhouse complex. Both photos were taken on October 2.



Photos: Independent

## Hydro Westmount tests LED

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Residents of St. Catherine St. between Victoria and Lansdowne avenues may be noticing a brighter but less “glary” street lighting as a result of a Hydro Westmount experiment using LED bulbs.

About two weeks ago, the traditional light globes in the arching “cobra” light standards were replaced with the LEDs, according to Hydro Westmount director Benoit Hurtubise. The new lights shine directly down on the street with greater intensity but less glare, he explained.

“We’re experimenting with LED lighting,” he said. “We want to see the difference before we go out at large.” The city is also looking for feedback.

The typical white lights used on the

cobra lamp posts are 400 watts while the LED lights are 95 watts.

While the city has been gradually phasing in the Washingtonian light standard, which it considers to be more aesthetic, “there are still a lot of cobras out there,” he explained. As well, “the idea is that we’ll probably keep the cobras on the commercial streets.”

While the LEDs cost more to purchase, they last longer, use less electricity and reduce maintenance, which is thought to result in an advantageous payback over the long term.

LEDs are already in use over the new underground ice rinks and will soon illuminate the junior tennis courts now being re-built just east of the Westmount recreation centre (see story August 12, p. 1).



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
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### BUREAUX MUNICIPAUX FERMÉS LE LUNDI 13 OCTOBRE

Les bureaux administratifs de la Ville de Westmount, dont l'Hôtel de ville, le Centre communautaire Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount et les Services de la sécurité publique, des sports et loisirs et des travaux publics, seront fermés le lundi 13 octobre en raison de la Fête de l'Action de grâces. La Bibliothèque publique de Westmount sera fermée le dimanche et le lundi.

Les collectes de résidus alimentaires et d'ordures s'effectueront selon l'horaire normal.

### MUNICIPAL OFFICES CLOSED MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

The administrative offices of the City of Westmount, including City Hall, Victoria Hall Community Centre, Hydro Westmount, Public Works, Public Security and Sports & Recreation, will be closed Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday. Westmount Public Library will be closed Sunday and Monday.

The kitchen waste and garbage collections will take place according to the regular schedule.

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# Completion of 215 Redfern project delayed until late November

By MICHAEL MOORE

Construction-weary residents on Redfern Ave. will have to deal with workers next door for at least a couple more months.

Completion of the 215 Redfern luxury condo project isn't expected to be completed until the end of November, according to Joe Berger, CEO of Iscanco, the project's development company.

Berger had previously told the *Independent* that construction on the six-storey, 60-condo project would be finished by the end of this past summer (see May 27, p. 14).

However, as the calendar turns to October, construction crews are still swarming over the property. The area directly in front of the building's entrance is littered with pallets of construction materials, while workers on scaffolding are working to complete the building's exterior, which still features some wooden guard rails and uncovered columns.

According to Berger, the construction hold-up was caused by a delay in the ship-

ment of the granite from the Orient being used for the building's façade.

"All of the granite is now here, and we're going with triple teams of general contractors to expedite the process," he said.

The neighbouring area has been a hotbed for construction projects for the better part of the last decade, including an extensive renovation at the apartment building at 4300 de Maisonneuve.

## Not welcome news to neighbours

Berger says he understands the latest delay is unlikely to be welcome news to frustrated neighbours, but believes the project will benefit the entire area in the long term.

"Nobody wants to have construction around them, whether it's across the street or down the street. Whenever there are developments there's bound to be some disturbance. But here I think it will be for the betterment of the community and the betterment of people across the street, whose property value will be enhanced," he said.

Roughly 85 percent of the building has

already been sold and the delay hasn't caused any buyer to back out, according to Berger, who says he will be moving into the building once it's completed.

"People are not happy having to experience these extended delays, but they are very much committed to the project, as are we, and are very much anxious to move in," he said.

For a photo of Redfern, see p. 8.

## Window washing upsets Redfern resident

Window washing at the 4300 de Maisonneuve building September 18 caused a resident of Redfern to complain at 7:50 am that a parking zone had been removed from the west side of the street, Public Security officials said. This was required because a lift was needed on the east side during the work. The operator had been issued a permit to do so.

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## Contractors fined \$1,250

A roofing contractor working on Elm Ave. south of Sherbrooke was issued a ticket for \$1,250 September 24 after failing to adhere to conditions for occupying the street, Public Security officials said. A patroller first noticed a series of violations at 9:42 am, discovered no permit had been obtained to occupy the street and advised the workers of the requirement. Following up at 2:50 pm, it was found the permit had since been acquired but its conditions regarding pedestrian and traffic safety as well as the installation of a crane off the sidewalk had not been followed.



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Authorized by Fergus V. Keyes, Candidate

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## Different levels of 'comfort'

# Two polar opposites weigh in on green bins

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

What's in a green bin? Kitchen scraps for composting, city officials hope. But sometimes, the presence or absence of a green bin does not signify participation in the city's organics curbside collection, the *Independent* discovered.

While some streets appear to be lined with the bins on Wednesday collection day, those without may simply mean those houses have a back lane where the bin is emptied, said city environmental coordinator Marina Peter.

On the other hand, in apartment buildings larger than eight units, where no green-bin program has yet been implemented, at least one erstwhile composter has been carrying out her own small-scale collection of kitchen waste from other tenants and says she can do it for others.

"Once you've learned how to compost, you can't stop," said Councillor Nicole Forbes, who lives in the large apartment block at 250 Clarke.

"I pick up the small bags of kitchen

scraps every Thursday or Friday from four other tenants in my building and take them along with mine to the Public Works yard usually on my way to exercise class. It's a no-brainer," she adds.

"We all use the small countertop container that was given out by the city and include items like pizza boxes and even unshredded documents you don't want to put in the blue box. It's so easy, you can just keep the container under the sink or the bag in the fridge or freezer."

And in the winter, Forbes keeps a green bin on her sixth floor balcony.

On the flip side of the coin, another Westmount woman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the *Independent* last week that while she fills a blue box every week, she no longer puts out a green bin.

And when she used to, it was empty, disguising the fact that she wasn't participating.

"I'm embarrassed that I don't," she explained. "I've gone from putting out an empty green bin to not even owning one anymore. I simply don't have the time as a

single mother, raising kids alone and working," she said.

"I should be more conscientious, and I do worry about the climate. You just need to look up and down the streets to see the number of people who must feel the same way. People are so concerned about what's happening in Syria. Yet the reaction to nature and climate change is different. I think it's because that is going to take such an enormous collective effort."

The city's current green bin program cannot be expanded to larger apartment buildings until the Montreal agglomeration builds additional treatment centres, Peter told the *Independent* in a story September 30 (p. 1) explaining the city's 2013 results in diverting garbage from landfill.

In the meantime, she explained, the city's green bin program is voluntary and "the approach we're taking is that we want people to participate according to their level of comfort."

## Police Report

# Thief steals 100 eyeglass frames from St. Catherine St. eye clinic

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

BY MICHAEL MOORE

A thief broke into a Westmount eye clinic on St. Catherine in the middle of the night on October 1 and made off with approximately 100 eyeglass frames, according to Station 12 constable Adalbert Pimentel.

The thief reportedly broke into the clinic through its front door after the store had closed for the day and managed to avoid setting off the building's alarm system.

Once inside, the suspect proceeded to the rear of the shop and physically cut the building's electrical supply, shutting off the lights and ensuring passing pedestrian couldn't witness the break-in, said Pimentel.

With the lights off, the suspect managed to grab 100 frames, including designer sunglasses from the front window as well as regular eyeglasses from the rear

of the shop, before leaving through the front door.

According to the police report, the shop had no security cameras, and no witnesses have come forward.

"Having proper locks, a camera system, an alarm system that's functional, if those things had been, let's say, up to par, then the chances are, statistically speaking, that this crime wouldn't have occurred," said Pimentel.

Police requested a forensics team analyze the scene for any fingerprints or other means of identifying the thief, which Pimentel says may be the key to catching the suspect.

"From my experience, somebody who commits these types of infractions doesn't just do one and then they change and move on with their lives," said Pimentel.

"That's often how these crimes are often solved. The perpetrator may commit a similar infraction with the same MO and is caught through fingerprinting, a witness, a security camera. Then it's up to the investigator to piece together all of the other crimes the suspect may have committed."

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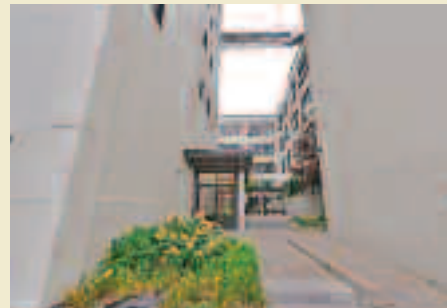
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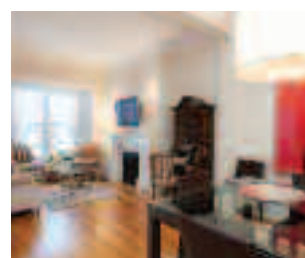
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# Canada must do more to counter ISIS



## Our Man in Ottawa

MARC GARNEAU, MP  
FOR WESTMOUNT-  
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In early September, I accompanied the minister of Foreign Affairs, John Baird, to Iraq along with the NDP's Paul Dewar.

The purpose of the trip was to meet

Iraqi leaders and to assess the threat posed by Islamic State terrorists (I'll refer to them as ISIS).

As we have learned in recent months, ISIS wants to create its own state (a caliphate) covering part of the Middle East and possibly beyond. We have witnessed their beheading of two American journalists and a British aid worker. They have also executed thousands, raped women, threatened Canada and caused large numbers of terrified religious and ethnic minorities to flee into northern Iraq, Turkey

and beyond.

In Baghdad, we met the president of Iraq, Fouad Massoum, the foreign minister, Hoshiyar Zebari and parliamentary speaker Salim al-Jabouri.

The message conveyed by Canada was the importance of Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds each having a voice (inclusivity) and working together to defeat ISIS. Iraq knows full well that it will not succeed if it does not first address internal fighting between Shiites and Sunnis.

We then flew in a Canadian Hercules C-130 transport to Erbil in the Kurdish region of northern Iraq. The next morning, we were taken to the front lines, about two kilometres from ISIS-occupied territory. Kurdish Peshmerga soldiers briefed us and told us they needed more modern weapons to defend themselves.

Later that morning, we visited a Chaldean Christian church, where we met with senior clerics, who told us about Chaldeans fleeing for their lives from the Mosul area as ISIS advanced. Many refugees were living right outside the church since there were no facilities elsewhere to receive them. It was heartbreaking to hear them begging for our help, many of them children or the elderly and some in need of medical assistance.

The refugee situation in northern Iraq is dire. More than a million Iraqis, mostly Christian, Yazidi as well as ethnic minorities, have fled from their towns and villages and have totally overwhelmed the ability of the Kurdish regional government to accommodate them. Most of the schools in the region have been turned into temporary refugee camps, thus preventing the start of school year for most local children.

In the afternoon, we visited the UN-run Baharka refugee camp and were told that about 15 more refugee camps were needed even though the financing and resources were not secured.

Without question, Canada needs to do more to help. All political parties agree on this.

Beyond that is the question of what to do about ISIS. As long as they remain, the humanitarian crisis will continue.

Not only that, ISIS appears to be set on recruiting its soldiers from everywhere, including Canada, and this represents a serious security threat for Canadians as radicalized young terrorists return to the country to recruit more jihadis or perhaps to commit acts of terrorism on Canadian soil.

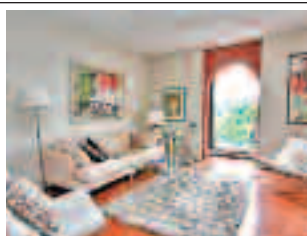
The ISIS threat will be with us for some time to come. For how long depends on what we do. This is a global collective security problem. Certainly, Canada must proceed cautiously with eyes wide open, but it cannot turn its back and do nothing.

## Public Security: Helmet could have prevented cyclist's injury

A Westmount man who fell off his bicycle September 29 in the library parking lot suffered considerable bleeding from a gash to the head and scraped fingers, Public Security officials said. He was identified as a resident of Academy Rd. aged around 70.

The man was assisted by a woman identifying herself as a nurse and a nearby officer who saw the man fall at 1:45 pm. Urgences Santé was called and took him to the Montreal General Hospital.

It was evident, considering "a strange way" in which he had fallen hitting a curb, that wearing a helmet likely would have prevented the head injury, said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain.



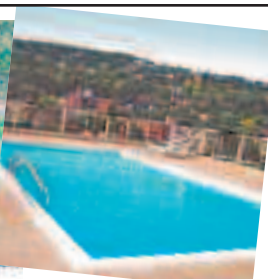
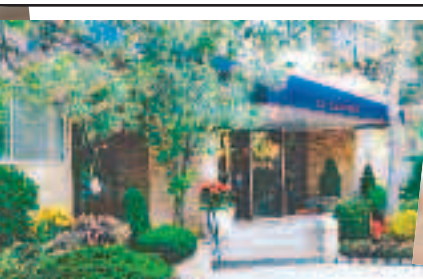
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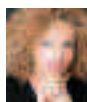
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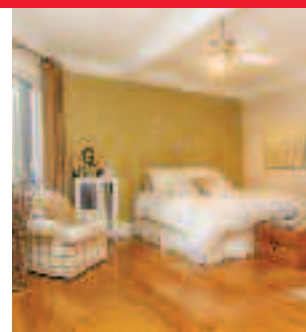
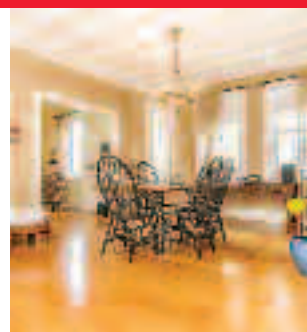
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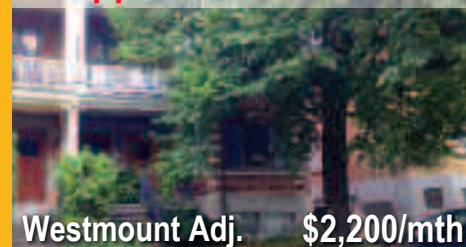
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\* Asking Price



# June transfers: Volume falls off

BY ANDY DODGE, CRA

*The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in June 2014, gleaned from non-city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 21.*

Prices stabilized but volume trailed off badly in June transfers this year, perhaps because of this spring's hesitation before the Quebec election.

Normally families prefer to move during the summer months, and June is always the most popular for closing up the deals negotiated in February, March and April. On average, over the years, some 33 deeds are signed for the purchase of Westmount properties in June, more than 15 percent of the average number of deeds registered in a year. In 2014, after some 22 home sales were registered in May, only 11 were closed in June, according to records the *Independent* has obtained.

Highest price was \$3,100,000 for 9 Summit Circle, the huge multi-level home built in 1959 on the back side of Westmount mountain. It has experienced numerous renovations in recent years. Next highest was 32 Summit Crescent, on the front side of the mountain, which sold for \$2,150,000.

Only two houses sold for less than \$1 million, including 33 Stayner St. for \$680,000 and 50 Bruce Ave. for \$705,000.

The highest mark-up involved the one duplex sold in June, 12-14 St. George's Pl., more than 45 percent above its municipal evaluation.

Four of the 11 houses sold for less than their valuation, the biggest mark-down was 15 percent for 540 Côte St. Antoine Rd.

Overall, the average for one- and two-family dwellings was a mark-up just under nine percent, while the previous two

months averaged mark-downs of about 5 percent.

One condominium registration for another apartment at 11 Hillside Ave., which is now almost fully occupied, was registered in June. The sale, which went for about \$900 less than its municipal evaluation, brings to only four the number registered in the second quarter of 2014, compared to 10 in the second quarter last year and 17 in 2012.

There appears to be very little difference between prices and valuations of condominiums; average price for the quarter was 100.1 percent of tax value, up from 97.4 percent in the first quarter.

While condos appear to have been less popular, three co-op apartments in two buildings changed hands in June, including two of the three apartments at 3459-61 St. Antoine St., which has recently been refurbished. The prices there were \$248,500 and \$269,500, while another unit at 1 York St. went for \$450,000.

Many of the sales registered in June were negotiated in April, just after the provincial election ousted the Parti Québécois minority government. Only three of the one- and two-family homes were negotiated earlier than that, and in fact at least two of the three co-op apartment sales were negotiated in May.

**For list of transfers, see p. 21.**



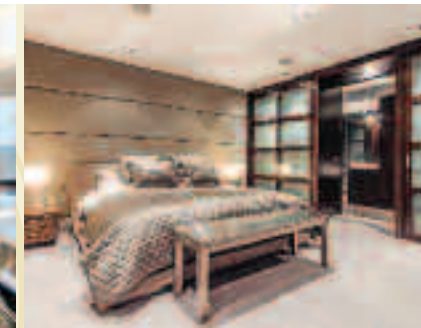
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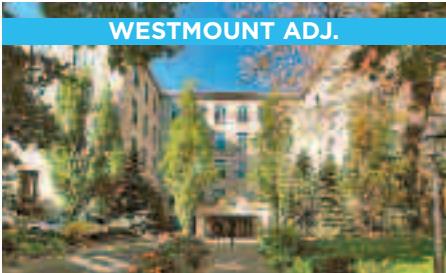
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*Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in June 2014*

For real estate transfers,  
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# Alexis Nihon's Nature Pet Centre no longer sells puppies

BY STEPHANIE O'HANLEY

Stop by the Nature Pet Centre store in Place Alexis Nihon and you'll notice there are kittens in the cages that once held puppies. A sign in front of the store says the store is helping to find homes for abandoned dogs in Quebec. Another sign says that "big changes are coming."

About two months ago, the Nature Pet Centre pet retailer chain stopped selling puppies, according to its press release September 18. In August the chain hired Johanne Tassé, founder and director of the animal welfare group Companion Animal Adoption Centres of Quebec (CAACQ), to lead its seven stores in the transition from selling puppies and kittens to showcasing abandoned dogs and cats of all ages from shelters.

"Everything, from kittens to puppies to juveniles to adults, they all need a home," Tassé wrote in an email. "Our target is by

January 2015 to have shelters who want to be part of the solution and participate in this initiative," she wrote.

"We're doing a pilot project with Animatch [Dog Adoption]," Tassé said in a phone interview. "This has never been done in Quebec. This is a first."

While Animatch dog adoption days were held last month at Nature's stores in Pointe Claire and Laval, two of three stores selected for the pilot project, Tassé said because of a lack of floor space at the Alexis Nihon store, the store will not be holding dog adoption days. Instead it will tell people about dog adoption days happening at other stores and the CAACQ plans to install widescreen TV monitors in the store to display information about dogs available for adoption, Tassé wrote in an email. Tassé said Nature does not get any money from the adoption of rescue animals.

"Rescue cats will be featured at the Alexis Nihon store," Tassé wrote. Store manager Chantelle Barrette said kittens bred in private homes are being phased out and as soon as those kittens are sold they'll be replaced with kittens from shelters. Tassé said switching from one business model to another takes time. We're really in the infant stage."

In 2010, Richmond, BC banned the sale of puppy-mill puppies in pet stores, while in 2011, Toronto's city council decided puppies and kittens sold in pet stores must come from shelters or rescue groups.

"It's a municipal by-law in Toronto and in Richmond, BC. These guys are no longer going to be selling animals that are coming from producers," Tassé said.



Store manager Chantelle Barrette stands in front of cages that once held puppies, October 1.

"Here you have a retailer that says 'We want to be part of the solution, we're going to offer our floor space to showcase animals who are losing their homes.'"

"It's a big change because of our clients. What they ask when they come in is 'Where are your puppies?'" said Chantelle Barrette, store manager at Nature's Alexis Nihon store. "As soon as you start explaining why and why you won't be seeing any dogs anymore, people's reactions change drastically. They're super happy, and they support us."


Gisèle Dubé, a Montreal resident and regular customer, said she wasn't aware of the change until the *Independent* showed her a store sign. "It's very good," Dubé

said. "In my neighbourhood, many people have adopted rescue animals."

Nearby resident Micheline Brunet McDougall said she wasn't sure replacing animals bred in private homes with abandoned animals is a good idea since like abandoned children, abandoned animals may have experienced abuse and may have issues people adopting them may not be prepared to handle. "I'm a sociologist and the first few years of a child's life is everything," Brunet McDougall said. She said people adopting animals from shelters should sign contracts promising not to abandon them. She said her own dog, who lived to 18, came from a private home, where she knew the dogs.

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## Comin' Up

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14  
Westmount Horticultural Society's speaker Sheena Swintz on "Hydroponics, Aquaponics and Microgreens," 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Members free, guests \$5.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15  
Public meeting on Turcot project, 7 pm at Victoria Hall.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16  
Doreen Lindsay, Westmount Historical

Association (WHA) president to speak on Hélène Saly and the WHA archives and Sally Hooff and publishing, 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22  
Demolition hearing, 26 Shorncliffe (see story September 23, p. 6), 5 pm at city hall.

Please send your events in the above format to our regular editorial email address at [indie@westmountindependent.com](mailto:indie@westmountindependent.com).



# Companionable Shadow



**9 Lives**

LYSANNE FOWLER

Shadow is a very handsome chap with shiny and sleek black fur, contrasted by striking green eyes. He is most affectionate and attentive, a true companion.

This cat is in need of a new home as his owner is moving away. He is healthy at 11 years old, has been inoculated and neutered.



Shadow

Shadow was declawed on all four paws, which makes him an in-

## Doughnut eater investigated at 1:26 am

A man “dressed in an odd manner” was investigated at Melville and de Maison-neuve September 27 at 1:26 am, Public Security officials said. He had come to the attention of patrollers at Metcalfe and Sherbrooke and was followed as he walked down Melville to Westmount Park eating from a box of donuts. He was identified as a 21-year-old man with some mental difficulties who was told to leave the park and go home.

## Man falls repeatedly

A 54-year-old man who had been drinking at a downtown bar was taken to hospital by ambulance September 21 from St. Catherine and Clarke, Public Security officials said. He was found at 3:17 am staggering and falling frequently. He appeared confused and stated he had become lost trying to get home to Ville Émard. Urgences Santé was called to evaluate cuts and a contusion on the head and transported him to Verdun Hospital at 3:45 am.

## Car hits median at

A car was found with the front end hung up on the cement median on St. Catherine near Victoria September 26, Public Security officials said. Responding to a call for an accident from a resident of York St. at 12:02 am, patrollers called police to investigate.

door-only cat.

For more information on Shadow, contact Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions at [info@gerdysrescue.org](mailto:info@gerdysrescue.org).

### Garage sale fundraiser for Gerdy's

Please come to a garage sale/fundraiser for Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions Saturday, October 11 from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Friends of the rescue will be hosting the event at 78 Arlington, between Sherbrooke and Côte St. Antoine Rd. Never-seen-before donations of household and decorative items will be available for purchase.

*Your neighbour, Lysanne*

## No money, intoxicated man gets lift home

A 19-year-old man was found staggering along Sherbrooke September 26 at 2:55 am, Public Security officials said. Followed eastbound, he was stopped outside the Westmount Y. Admitting to having drunk a few beers, he stated he had no money and was trying to get home to Pine Ave. For his own protection, officers were reported to have driven him to “Pine and Côte des Neiges.”

## ‘Disoriented’ diabetic given assistance

A car was allowed to remain parked in a bus zone at 339 Victoria south of the Metro store September 25 when its driver had to be transported to hospital, Public Security officials said. The 43-year-old, a diabetic, had been seen walking toward the store when he appeared disoriented and was guided to a bench by public safety officers to await Urgences Santé. They had been alerted by a woman who noticed his unsteady state.

## Talking over the good times

Four young people aroused the suspicions of patrollers passing by the school ground of St. Leon's on Clarke Ave. at 12:49 am, September 27, Public Security officials said. The group, seated at a table and smoking cigarettes, instead turned out to be “reminiscing” about the good times they had spent at the school. They were identified as aged between 18 and 23. Two lived in Westmount.

# Double the sweetness



Merlin and Shelby are a bonded father-daughter duo, who are an absolute joy to be with – and they make a fabulous team.

Merlin is a 7-year-old black and grey Australian shepherd mix, and his 6-year-

negative for heartworms.

They love to play together, and witnessing their strong bond, will tug at anyone's heart. Shelby has a bigger appetite than Merlin, however, and with the lack of exercise in her previous home, she is now slightly overweight. But these pounds can easily be shed with a healthy home environment and nutritious diet.

Merlin and Shelby were recently brought to the Beaconsfield Pet Fair where, even among the chaos, they remained calm and gently greeted all dogs and people. They influence each other to be calm and affectionate, and rescue workers believe that their unique connection is one that would bring ample amounts of joy and love to their new home, and should definitely not be severed.

If you are interested in knowing more about this fabulous duo, please write to [info@gerdysrescue.org](mailto:info@gerdysrescue.org).

*For more misfits needing homes, visit us at [underdogclub.org](http://underdogclub.org).*



Merlin

old daughter Shelby is of similar build, however with more tan coloration.

Their previous owner abandoned them at the pound, and the two were never considered adoptable because they came as a pair. Luckily, Merlin and Shelby were saved from certain euthanasia by Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions, and are now patiently await their loving home.

They are housetrained, great with all other dogs, know commands, are gentle with children and adults alike, and are naturally calm and quiet.

Both are fixed, have had their vaccines and have been tested



Shelby

## Most cars found secure near Summit Woods

One of 18 cars parked on Summit Circle September 24 shortly before 8 am was found unlocked, Public Security officials said. None contained items that had been left visible to tempt thieves. The anti-theft

security check was carried out by public safety officers following a number of thefts from cars near Summit Woods over recent weeks.



# ON THE SHELVES

Among the new arrivals at the Library singled out by staff are:

## Magazines

“Prepare to be Shocked” by Alexis Madrigal in *The Atlantic*, September 2014, p. 28-30. Four predictions about how brain stimulation can make us smarter.

“The War of Ones and Zeros” by Peter W. Singer in *Popular Science*, September 2014, p. 40-46. Cyberwar isn’t coming. It’s already here. And the rules of engagement are changing forever.

“Le choc et l’enlèvement” by Raymond Lemieux in *Québec Science*, August-September 2014, p. 40-45. Le 4 août 1914, le Canada s’engage dans un conflit délorant et dantesque qui conduira l’Europe à un massacre sans pareil. Ce devait être une guerre éclair; elle va durer quatre ans.

## English e-books (overdrive)

*World Order* by Henry Kissinger – Grounded in his deep study of history and experience as national security advisor and secretary of state, *World Order* guides readers on a tour of the globe. It examines the events and ideas that formed the historic concepts of order, their manifestations in contemporary controversies and the ways in which they might ultimately be reconciled.

*Murder 101: A Decker/Lazarus Novel* by Faye Kellerman – While working for the Greenbury Police Department in upstate New York, Peter Decker must draw from his years of experience as a homicide cop when a break-in at the local cemetery leads him into a world of art forgery and murder linked to cold case crimes, international intrigue and ruthless people who kill for sport.

## Livres numériques (Pret-numérique)

*Aujourd’hui l’abîme* by Jérôme Baccelli – A stock exchange employee leaves everything to cross the Atlantic on a sailboat. Reflecting on art and science, he goes back in history until he reaches our times. He also tries to find out who really is his former boss, John Edward Forese, the “most powerful businessman in the world.”

*La ballade d’Ali Baba* by Catherine Mavrikakis – In this autobiographical novel, the author writes about her father, a man of extremes. A sweet-talker and seducer, he liked women, gambling and fast cars. Near the end of his life, he had a strange request for his eldest daughter.

## Adult English – Westmount authors

*My October* by Claire Rothman Holden – The intimate story of an anglo-franco family at odds brought on by the

reckless act of the 14-year old son as he struggles in search of his identity.

*The Village Effect: How Face-to-Face Contact Can Make Us Healthier, Happier, and Smarter* by Susan Pinker – The author shares scientific insights and examples from real life to explain the importance of face-to-face social interactions in relationships, arguing that in-person human contact promotes health and happiness.

## Adult French – Politics: looking back

*Brian Mulroney: L’homme des Beaux Risques* by Guy Gendron – Gendron traces the itinerary of the Baie Comeau native who realized a childhood dream by becoming prime minister of Canada. The accomplishments and the mistakes of his administration are explored, enlivened by anecdotes and citations from the man and his entourage. Though this is an unauthorized biography, Mulroney called it “fair” in a recent interview.

*Confessions Post-Référendaires: Les Acteurs Politiques de 1995 et le Scénario d’un Oui* by Chantal Hébert et Jean Lapierre – The authors sat down with a number of political figures who were in power at the time of the 1995 referendum, aiming to shed a new light on this page of our history. Jean Chrétien, Paul Martin, Jacques Parizeau, Lucien Bouchard and many others were interviewed.

## Books on CD

*Frog Music* by Emma Donoghue – Summer of 1876: San Francisco is in the fierce grip of a record-breaking heat wave and a smallpox epidemic. Through the window of a railroad saloon, a young woman named Jenny Bonnet is shot dead. The survivor, her friend Blanche Beunon, is a French burlesque dancer. Over the next three days, she will risk everything to bring Jenny’s murderer to justice – if he doesn’t track her down first...

*The Long Way Home* by Louise Penny – Happily retired in the village of Three Pines, Armand Gamache, former chief inspector, has found a peace he’d only imagined possible. While Gamache doesn’t talk about his wounds and his balm, his neighbour Clara Morrow tells him about hers. Peter, her artist husband, has failed to come home. She wants Gamache’s help to find him. Having finally found sanctuary, Gamache feels a near revulsion at the thought of leaving Three Pines, but then he helps her.

## Picture books for children

*Qui sera mon professeur?* par Jerry Pallotta – A young boy imagines what would

# A new writers’ museum discussed during public consultation



At a public consultation on a writers’ museum October 1 at the Atwater Library, from left: Guy Rodgers, executive director of the English-Language Arts Network (ELAN), stands with Linda Leith, founder of Blue Metropolis, Atwater Library executive director Lynn Verge, Lori Schubert, executive director of the Quebec Writers’ Federation, and Edward McCann, who was credited with the idea for an English-language writers’ museum. All but Verge compose the advisory committee for the Atwater Writers Exhibition project.

By JOANNE PENHALE

The Atwater Library hosted a public consultation about establishing, eventually, a Montreal Writers Museum. “It just might become possible if enough people get behind it,” said moderator Guy Rodgers, executive director of the English-Language Arts Network (ELAN).

More than 25 people attended the October 1 event.

“How wide does the net go?” Rodgers asked the audience, after its members asked whether the museum might in-

clude, among others, fiction and non-fiction writers, spoken word artists, lyricists or little-known writers. Atwater Library’s executive director, Lynn Verge followed, “We’d like to get all the ideas, but obviously the museum will need curating, and it will depend on funding.”

She outlined the project called the Atwater Writers Exhibition, which will lay some groundwork in the coming months for the museum’s establishment. That project has received \$46,000 from Canadian Heritage. More information can be found at [atwaterlibrary.ca/exhibitions](http://atwaterlibrary.ca/exhibitions).

## Meter fed but car left running

A woman who fed the parking meter but forgot to turn off the car September 26 later returned to find the Ford Escape locked and the keys taken to Public Security, department officials said. The running engine had been spotted outside 4861 Sherbrooke, near the SAQ outlet, at 2:35 pm by a parking inspector. The car was secured by public safety officers and a business card left. A bystander reported seeing the woman put money in the meter. She called for the keys at 4:30 pm.

happen if his new teacher turned out to be a wild animal like a penguin or a zebra!

*I Feel Five!* by Bethanie Deeney Murguia – Fritz can’t wait to turn 5, but when his birthday arrives and he looks into the mirror, he is surprised to discover that nothing much has changed. He wonders what will it take to feel like 5!

## Reference

*Consumer Reports: Kitchen Planning & Buying Guide*

*Le français au bureau, 7e édition*



## Last layer of new road laid on Wood



At around 2:30 pm September 30, civil engineer Jos Burcaro and his crew lay down the final layer of asphalt on Wood from Sherbrooke to Holton. Cars were seen driving on the new road the next morning.

Photo: Matt Faigan

## Mirror, mirror on the wall...

A resident of Blenheim Place, who feared construction vibrations might cause a mirror to fall off a wall September 29, asked Public Security for help removing it at 10:02 am, officials said. The woman believed the mirror was at risk given the appearance of a fresh crack in the wall. She suspected it to have been caused by work outside. Officers obliged. The nature of the work was not reported.

## Fire tender caught by Public Security

A man was intercepted by public safety officers September 28 after he was seen stoking a fire behind 4114 St. Catherine at Gladstone, Public Security officials said. He was followed and caught outside 4160 Dorchester and turned over to police who said a fine was issued under a municipal by-law.

The man had fled when officers, answering a call for a fire, arrived just after 9:45 pm and spotted him in the process of “adding” to it. The man, identified as aged 34, had no recorded address. Firefighters put out the fire described as being about 5x5 feet in size and near a wall of the building.

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## Road rage-let




Photo: Independent

The Independent witnessed a heated exchange of words between a city of Westmount employee driving a lawnmower and a driver (foreground) in the early afternoon of October 2 near Lansdowne and St. Catherine St. The phrases “Get off the road!” and “Don’t [inaudible] me again” were overheard.

## ‘Strange’ car delivered


A resident of Sunnyside discovered a strange car parked in his driveway September 17 and “had no clue who it belonged to,” Public Security officials said.

When officers arrived just after the complaint at 7:30 am, they tracked down the car’s owner and discovered it had been dropped off in the wrong driveway by a dealership. It was removed by a relative of the owner.



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## Hazardous potential proves hazardous

A 77-year-old woman was transported by ambulance to the Jewish General Hospital September 24 after tripping in front of 1355 Greene, Public Security officials said. This is an area that initially had been blocked off until the façade of the building

could be checked out for possible loose cement (see story p. 27). Public Security officials said Public Works crews were called to remove cones that had been left in place after the area had been temporary roped off.

### 2014 Collecte des résidus domestiques dangereux

**LE SAMEDI 11 OCTOBRE  
DE 9 H À 17 H \***

**Bibliothèque publique de Westmount**  
4574, rue Sherbrooke Ouest

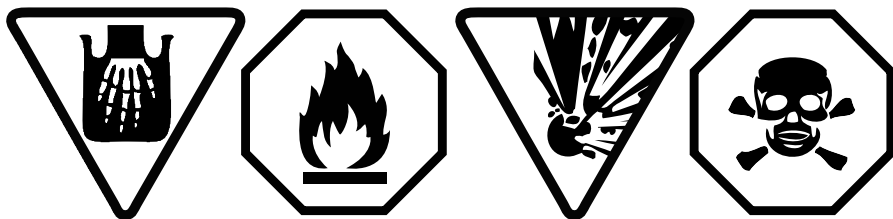
\* AUCUNE COLLECTE DES RÉSIDUS  
AVANT OU APRÈS CES HEURES

### 2014 Household Hazardous Waste Collection

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11  
9 A.M. TO 5 P.M. \***

**Westmount Public Library**  
4574 Sherbrooke Street West

\* NO MATERIAL ACCEPTED  
OUTSIDE OF THESE HOURS



#### Résidus dangereux (RDD)

Peinture, solvants, nettoyeurs, pesticides, ampoules et tubes fluorescents, piles sèches, batteries d'auto, antigel, huile à moteur, bonbonnes à propane et tout matériel toxique, corrosif, réactif ou inflammable.



**Non acceptés :** Appareils électroménagers, moteurs, pneus, fusées lumineuses, CFCs et tout résidu d'origine commerciale.

#### Produits électroniques déuets

Ordinateurs, portables, photocopieurs, téléphones cellulaires, téléviseurs, magnétoscopes, appareils photo numériques, écrans, imprimantes, cartouches d'encre, périphériques de consoles de jeux vidéo, télécopieurs, numériseurs, modems, baladeurs, lecteurs CD, et plus encore.

Également acceptés la même journée :

#### Les vêtements usagés.

Consultez la liste complète des items acceptés au [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)

#### Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Paint, solvents, cleaners, pesticides, CFLs and fluorescent tubes, batteries (including car batteries), antifreeze, motor oil, propane tanks or anything marked corrosive, reactive or flammable.



**Not accepted:** Appliances, engines, tires, road flares, CFCs and all commercial waste.

#### Old Electronics

Computers, laptops, photocopiers, cellular phones, television sets, VCRs, camcorders, digital cameras, printers, toner cartridges, monitors, video game peripherals, fax machines, modems, portable audio players, and more.

Also accepted the same day:

#### Used Clothing

Consult the complete list of accepted items at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)

**Prochaine collecte à Westmount**  
Printemps 2015

**Next Collection in Westmount**  
Spring 2015



Services des travaux publics  
Public Works Department



Info : 514 989-5390  
[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)

### Letters cont'd. from p. 7

same dismal planting for the new Prince Albert "square."

Flowers anyone?

JILL MARVIN, BURTON AVE.

### NUTS!

I am responding to the article "Residents urged to report dumping of peanuts, seeds," (September 9, p. 3), where Councillor Cynthia Lullam says that the current rat infestation in our city, specifically in her garden and possibly Westmount Park, is caused by "someone or some people suspected of dumping large quantities of peanuts and seeds meant for squirrels and birds," beneath trees in the park.

She goes on to say, "If you see any individual walking around with bags of nuts and seeds, please call Public Security immediately. They're on high alert."

High alert, really? Call me crazy, but weren't parks created for public relaxation and pleasure?

There seems to be an unfortunate overabundance of ridiculous regulations that apply to our beautiful park rendering it increasingly difficult to enjoy. Is this how our high taxes are being spent? Are we not permitted to inhabit our public spaces without being publicly harassed by publicly elected officials?

Clearly, if garbage is left out on the street for extended periods of time, the redolent odour would attract rodents. Could there be a problem with garbage pick-up in Westmount? Actually, it's not about informants relentlessly hunting down individuals carrying bags of nuts and seeds, people. Relax!

With all the plentiful funds available from our taxes, why is Westmount not hiring any exterminators? An effective alternative would be to bring in a cluster of feral cats to catch the rats. This has already been done with great success in other cities.

Perhaps Councillor Lulham might consider this as a far more viable option if exterminators have previously proven to be ineffective.

CANDICE CASSILS, SHERBROOKE ST.

\* *Editor's note: In the September 9 issue (p. 43), it was reported "An exterminator has been hired to set out a number of baited box traps (poisonfeeding stations)." – KM*

## DISAPPOINTED IN INDIE'S COVERAGE OF GARNEAU TALK

Regarding "Garneau skeptical of 'extraterrestrial' visits" (September 2, p. 6), I attended Marc Garneau's lecture at Victoria Hall and was as impressed by the speech (scrupulously apolitical) as I was underwhelmed by the *Independent's* coverage.

Garneau gave an often humorous, understated and humble account of his own personal experience as an astronaut. He showed us poignantly beautiful photographs of our planet as he had seen it from space. Then he showed some not so beautiful ones: of erosion and desertification in Africa; of the thick, yellow brown dome of smog over Lake Erie; of the vast tracks of brown "scorched earth" in the rainforest; of the war zones in the Middle East and Africa.

Garneau explained that despite the progress of space exploration and the wonders of space, the thing that his experience as an astronaut had made most clear to him was that humans were not made for space. Whatever other inhabited planets and life forms might exist elsewhere in the universe, we have only the Earth.

He was too polite to spell out in so many words the obvious conclusion: that if we do not take care of that earth, we are, bluntly, doomed.

At the same time as hundreds of thousands of people were mobilizing for the Global People's Climate March on September 21 and the UN Climate Summit, it was more than disappointing to read Garneau's message summarized as "skeptical of extraterrestrial visits."

It is true that one young man, coming, as he put it, "entirely from left field" did raise the issue. But either the reporter succumbed to the temptation of cheap sensationalism or entirely missed Garneau's point.

STEPHANIE STRINGER, SHERBROOKE ST.

## Man hits face, head in fall on street

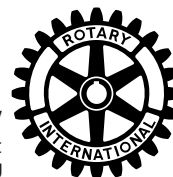
An elderly man suffered cuts and injuries to face, head and hands in a fall while crossing the street in front of 201 Metcalfe September 19, Public Security officials report. Patrollers were flagged down at 5:55 pm and found a medically trained passer-by treating the man as he lay face down, bleeding profusely. They helped provide equipment and a blanket. Described as conscious, the man, who lived nearby, was taken to hospital by Urgences Santé.

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## Theresa Foundation hosts 5th benefit concert at Westmount Park Church



The Theresa Foundation, which raises money for charitable causes in Africa, collected around \$5,000 for girls' education, farming programs and children orphaned by AIDS in Africa during its fifth annual benefit event at Westmount Park Church on September 27. Supporters were provided entertainment from several Montreal musicians, had access to a cash bar serving wine, beer and food, and could participate in a raffle and silent auction. The foundation is named after its founder, the late Thérèse Bourque Lambert, whose children and grandchildren carry on the cause. From the left, Westmounter Mirlla Lambert, board members Ann, Emma, Brian (a Westmounter) and Ben Lambert, Sasha Mandy and musicians Isaac and David Abracen.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

## Façade at 1355 Greene to be checked

Public safety officers were called to a building at 1355 Greene September 16 over concerns about a potentially dangerous situation posed by the façade, Public Security officials said. Responding to a call from the city's Urban Planning department at 4:50 pm over the possibility of cement falling from the façade, Public Works was contacted to block off the area.

This building adjoins the one at 1357 Greene that lost a granite panel May 11.

While the two were built as an ensemble, they have separate owners, according to Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

It was during work regarding the façade at 1357 that "it was brought to our attention by a professional on the roof that the adjoining building (1355) was problematic," she said. The owner was notified and the building cordoned off as a precaution awaiting inspection.

## Devon bump-out to control storm water

A newly constructed bump-out of the sidewalk at the corner of Devon and Summit Cresc. is "not what it seems," Public Works director Marianne Zalzal said last week. Rather than being a device used to slow traffic, she said, "It's a creative solution to keep storm water on Devon rather than on Summit Crescent, where the sewers are at lesser capacity."

Reacting to a letter in the *Independent* October 1 ("Bump-out necessary in upper Westmount? p. 6) whose writer wondered why it was created in an area of little traffic, Zalzal said, "That's right. There's no traffic in that area. The bump-out is to address the storm water issue during heavy rains. We're going to be beautifying it with either a tree or landscaping."

On the other hand, the presence of a bump-out won't hurt as a traffic measure, she added.

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# A night in white at the Guzzos’



*Social Notes  
from Westmount  
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The seventh edition of Notte in Bianco took place on September 3 at Maria and Vince Guzzo’s magnificent mansion in Terrebonne, where a prominent plaque announced that the estate “was established in 1996.”

Putting to rest the fashion maxim of “never wear white after Labour Day,” this annual event opened the fall social season with outstanding style. And, yes, everyone wears white. Everyone except the hostesses, who were dressed in black. Their TLDs (Tiny Little Dresses) were sponsored by Le Château.

Presidents of honour were **Aline** and

**Jean Chrétien**, former prime minister of Canada. The co-president was *la bella eleganza* **Maria Guzzo**, who greeted guests with hubby **Vince**, executive vice president of Cinémas Guzzo. Vince Guzzo’s parents **Rosetta** and **Angelo Guzzo**, president Cinémas Guzzo, were also present.

The eve was star-studded. Not only was the evening a perfect Indian summer night with celestial sparkles above the tall trees, but Quebec celebs were seen everywhere, including **Liza Frulla**, **Sophie Durocher** and **Richard Martineau**, **Genette Reno**, **Mari Mai**, **Sugar Sammy** (sigh), **Éric Salvail** and **Gilbert Sicotte**.

**Sonia Benezra** was the MC. Singer **Tanya Dane** knocked the crowd out as they danced off the amazing food – lobster and shrimp – and that was just the cocktail reception, created by Buona Notte, which also served the sumptuous sit-down dinner.

Sponsors were Christian Dior, SAQ,



From left: Brad Kroenig, Magalie Harvey and Franco Rocchi.



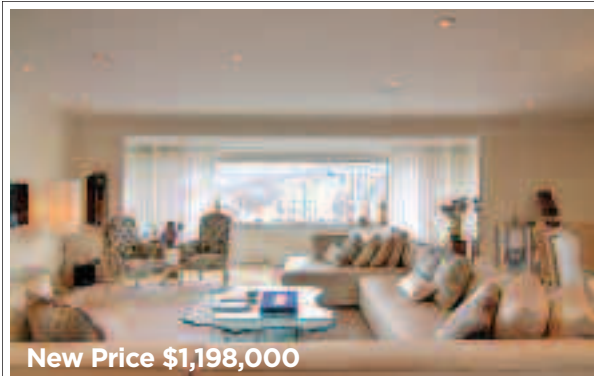
Aline and Jean Chrétien.



Jack Siemiatycki and Francesca Frati.



Terry, left, and Linda Smith flank Sonia Benezra.



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Guests included Westmounter Dr. **Jack Siemiatycki**, there with **Francesca Frati**. Siemiatycki is head of the Guzzo Environment-Cancer Research Chair at the University of Montreal, founded by the Guzzos in 2007, with the goal of showing the impact the environment has on cancer.

Other Westmounters included **Andrew Hops**, **Denis D’Etcheverry**, **Rosie** and **Sal Parasuco**, **Linda** and **Terry Smith**, **Barry Garber**, and former Westmounter **Brian Dutch**, as well as Le Château’s **Franco Rocchi**, **Magalie Harvery** and super model **Brad Kroenig**, **Diego Lovino**, *Gazette* style

editor **Eva Friede** and **Natasha Gargiulo** of Global TV.

Guests enjoyed an after-dinner aperitif, lounging in one of the 100 or so Adirondack chairs (white, of course!) on the garden lawn before departing.

The memorable evening raised \$300,000, shared by the University de Montréal’s Guzzo Cancer Research Chair, the Montreal Children’s Hospital’s Healthy Kids Fund and the Jewish General Hospital’s radiology section in the emergency department.





2014.10.07 • Vol. 2/18  
Publié par la Ville de Westmount • Published by the City of Westmount

# infoWestmount

## HÔTEL DE VILLE

**Projet Turcot : séance d'information publique**  
**Le mercredi 15 octobre à 19 h, Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest.** Le public est invité à une séance publique au sujet de la construction du nouvel échangeur Turcot. Un représentant du Ministère des transports du Québec expliquera les travaux à venir et les impacts sur Westmount.

## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

**Rencontre d'auteure : Shelagh Plunkett**  
**Le mercredi 8 octobre à 19 h.** Venez rencontrer l'auteure du roman *The Water Here is Never Blue*. Événement présenté en collaboration avec le *Quebec Writers Federation* dans le cadre de la série *Writers Out Loud*. Info : 514 989-5299.

**The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life**  
**Le vendredi 10 octobre à 19 h, Victoria Hall.** Ce film



étonnant a gagné l'Oscar du meilleur court métrage documentaire en 2014. Édifiant et inspirant, il raconte l'histoire de la pianiste et survivante de la Shoah la plus âgée au monde, Alice Herz Sommer, 109 ans. Après la projection, le réalisateur Malcolm Clarke parlera du film et répondra aux questions. Billets disponibles au comptoir du prêt. Info: 514 989-5299.

**Club de lecture en anglais avec Wanda Swiderski**  
**Le mardi 14 octobre à 19 h.** *A Thousand Splendid Suns* de Khaled Hosseini. Info: 514 989-5299.

**Rencontre d'auteure : Claire Holden Rothman**  
**Le mercredi 15 octobre à 19 h.** Rencontrez Claire Holden Rothman, auteure de *My October*. Info: 514 989-5299.

**Conférences de 14 heures : Lora Baiocco**  
**Le mercredi 22 octobre à 14 h.** *The Westmount Library's Centennial Postcard collection – 40 years later*. Info : 514 989-5299.

**Rencontre d'auteur : Paul Almond**  
**Le mercredi 22 octobre à 19 h.** Rencontrez l'auteur de *The Hero* (le 7<sup>e</sup> de la série *The Alford Saga*). Info : 514 989-5299.

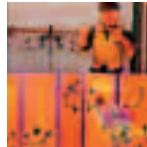
## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

**Concert : Replay The Beatles**  
**Le jeudi 16 octobre à 19 h, Victoria Hall.** Si vous n'étiez pas là en 1964 quand les Beatles ont joué au Forum, vous pouvez y être cette fois-ci pour le 50<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de l'invasion britannique à Montréal. Billets : 20 \$ disponibles au Victoria Hall (argent comptant ou chèque); 25 \$ à l'entrée. Bar payant. Info : 514 989-5226.

**Association historique de Westmount**  
**Le jeudi 16 octobre à 19 h, Bibliothèque.** Conférencière: Doreen Lindsay, présidente de l'AHW : *Dr. Hélène Saly and Sally Hooff*. Info : 514 989-5510.

## Prochaine séance du conseil : le lundi 3 novembre

**Panadream Theatre: Bizarre Bazaar**



**Le dimanche 19 octobre à 14 h, Victoria Hall.** Un spectacle avec 14 marionnettes à fil, de la musique et la participation du public. Pour les enfants de 3 à 9 ans. 5 \$; gratuit pour les adultes. Info: 514 989-5226.

**Alice au pays des horreurs**  
**Le vendredi 31 octobre de 17 h à 20 h au pavillon du bowling à côté de l'hôtel de ville.** Soirée géniale et terrifiante pour les jeunes de tous âges, présentée par l'équipe de la sécurité publique. Info : 514 932-5468.

## TRAVAUX PUBLICS

**Collecte des résidus domestiques dangereux**

**Le samedi 11 octobre de 9 h à 17 h, stationnement de la bibliothèque.** Disposez en toute sécurité de vos peintures, solvants, piles usagées, pesticides et plus. Apportez aussi vos vêtements et équipements électroniques usagés. Info : 514 989-5390.



**Collecte de feuilles mortes**

**Au cours des mois d'octobre et de novembre.** Placez vos sacs de feuilles et de résidus de jardin en bordure du trottoir avant 7 h les jours de semaine en vue de la collecte par les équipes de la Ville. N.B. : seuls les SACS EN PAPIER sont acceptés. Info : 514 989-5390.

## SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

**CodeRED : test du système prochainement**  
Westmount a adopté le système automatisé d'appels CodeRED, qui lui permet de diffuser rapidement des renseignements par téléphone, courriel ou messagerie texte. La Ville effectuera une vérification du système au cours des prochains 14 jours et les résidents dont le numéro de téléphone est publié recevront un bref message. Pour inscrire votre ligne téléphonique privée ou commerciale, appareil mobile ou courriel, visitez le [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org) ou communiquez avec le Service de la sécurité publique au 514 989-5259.

**La Grande Secousse du Québec le 16 octobre !**  
**Le 16 octobre 2014 à 10 h 16. Partout au Québec et dans le monde.** L'exercice *La Grande Secousse du Québec* aide à inculquer le réflexe de « se baisser, s'abriter et s'agripper » lors d'un séisme important. Toute organisation et tous les citoyens du Québec sont invités à s'inscrire et à prendre part au plus grand exercice de séisme de tous les temps ! Plus de 24,9 millions de personnes dans le monde ont pris part en 2013. Info : [www.grandesecousse.org](http://www.grandesecousse.org).

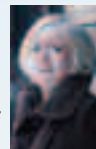


## CITY HALL

**Turcot project: public information session**  
**Wednesday, October 15 at 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke Street West.** The public is invited to an information session concerning the construction of the new Turcot Interchange. A representative of the *Ministère des transports du Québec* will be present to explain the upcoming work and its impact on Westmount.

## LIBRARY

**Author event: Shelagh Plunkett**  
**Wednesday, October 8 at 7 p.m.** Meet the author of *The Water Here is Never Blue*. Presented in collaboration with the Quebec Writers Federation's *Writers Out Loud* series. Info: 514 989-5299.



**The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life**  
**Friday, October 10 at 7 p.m. Victoria Hall.** This amazing film won the 2014 Oscar for Best Documentary (Short Subject). Inspirational and uplifting, it tells the story of the world's oldest pianist and Holocaust survivor, 109-year-old Alice Herz Sommer. Director Malcolm Clarke will introduce the film and answer questions following the screening. Tickets are available at the main circulation desk. Info: 514 989-5299.

**English Book Club with Wanda Swiderski**  
**Tuesday, October 14 at 7 p.m.** *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini. Info: 514 989-5299.



**Author event: Claire Holden Rothman**  
**Wednesday, October 15 at 7 p.m.** Meet Claire Holden Rothman, author of *My October*. Info: 514 989-5299.

**2 o'clock Series : Lora Baiocco**  
**Wednesday, October 22 at 2 p.m.** *The Westmount Library's Centennial Postcard collection – 40 years later*. Info: 514 989-5299.

**Author event: Paul Almond**  
**Wednesday, October 22 at 7 p.m.** Meet the author of *The Hero* (book 7 of *The Alford Saga*). Info: 514 989-5299.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Concert: Replay The Beatles**  
**Thursday, October 16 at 7 p.m. Victoria Hall.** If you weren't there in 1964 when the Beatles played the Forum, you can be there this time for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the British Invasion in Montreal. Tickets \$20 at Victoria Hall (cash or cheque) or \$25 at the door. Cash bar. Info: 514 989-5226.

**Westmount Historical Association**  
**Thursday, October 16 at 7 p.m. Westmount Library.** Speaker: Doreen Lindsay, WHA President; subject: *Dr. Hélène Saly and Sally Hooff*. Info: 514 989-5510.

## Next Council Meeting: Monday, November 3

**Panadream Theatre: Bizarre Bazaar**  
**Sunday, October 19 at 2 p.m. Victoria Hall.** A children's show featuring 14 string puppets, music and interactive participation from the audience. Ages 3 to 9. \$5; adults free. Info: 514 989-5226.

**Alice in Horrorland**  
**Friday, October 31, 5 to 8 p.m. at the Lawn Bowling Clubhouse next to City Hall.** A bone-chilling evening for kids of all ages, organized by the Public Safety team. Info : 514 932-5468.

## PUBLIC WORKS

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection**  
**Saturday, October 11, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Library Parking Lot.** Safely dispose of paints, solvents, batteries, pesticides and more. Bring used clothing and used electronics the same day. Info: 514 989-5390.

**Autumn Leaf Collection**  
**Throughout October and November.** Place your bagged leaves and garden waste behind the sidewalk by 7 a.m. on weekdays for collection by City crews. Please note that only PAPER BAGS will be accepted. Info: 514 989-5390.



## PUBLIC SECURITY

**CodeRED: Ucoming System Test**



Westmount recently implemented the CodeRED emergency notification system, which allows it to quickly send information by phone, email or text. The City will carry out a system test over the next two weeks and residents with a publicly-listed phone number will receive a brief automated message. To sign up an unlisted or commercial phone line, mobile device or email, visit [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org) or contact Public Security at 514 989-5259.

**The Great Quebec ShakeOut October 16!**  
**October 16, 2014 at 10:16. Everywhere in Quebec and around the world.** The Great Quebec ShakeOut is a "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" exercise to help prepare for significant earthquakes. Organizations and individuals are invited to sign up to join the biggest earthquake drill of all time! More than 24.9 million individuals took part in 2013. Find out more at [www.shakeout.org](http://www.shakeout.org).



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
WESTMOUNT



# Norwegians getting ready for exhibit



Westmounters of Norwegian descent, from left, Tone Lund, Marie Blydt-Hansen, Knut Nesse, Rolf Blydt-Hansen, Kristin Wærstad, Unni Angel and Kirsten Simon, stand together in Westmount Park on October 3. According to Nesse, a Westmounter with roots in Norway, the Norwegian community is well-represented in Westmount with several of its Norwegian community centre board members living in the community. He said those wanting to learn about Vikings, trolls, fjords and other aspects of Norwegian history and culture can do so at “Doorway to Norway,” an exhibit taking place at the Norwegian Church and Community Centre in Lachine from October 9 to 11. Additional information is available on the web at: [www.norskeklubben.ca/events](http://www.norskeklubben.ca/events).

Photo: Martin C. Barry

## RF meters cont'd. from p. 1

RF model (see story April 27, 2012, p. 1). Her cause was subsequently pursued by the city's Healthy City Project.

### Just installed

“Our new meter was installed this morning,” Durnford informed the *Independent* October 1. “It took more than two years of letter-writing and meetings but finally we have a non-RF-emitting meter!”

Durnford, who has conducted much research on the subject, explains that “hundreds of thousands of North Americans are contending with the imposition of wireless meters by their gas and electric utilities” and that despite “well recognized health hazards,” some municipalities and utility companies have not hesitated to force residents to accept these controversial devices.

“Thankfully,” she added, “Westmount had the wisdom to allow concerned residents to opt out.”

While Hydro Quebec has been installing fully “smart meters,” Hydro Westmount's current RF model does not emit the same higher level of RF and as such is not considered truly “smart.” It does pulsate RF, however, at 30-second intervals, which allow reading from the street.

But the opt-out provision of both utili-

ties addresses the concerns of some customers over the potential accumulation of RF especially regarding the developing brains of children. It also answers the needs of people allergic to RF emissions.

In the ruling last month by the Régie de l'énergie, Hydro Quebec was ordered to reduce its opt-out fees to \$15 from original amounts of \$98 to \$137 and to lower the monthly reading fee to \$5 (as charged by Westmount) from \$17.

Westmount's monthly \$5-a-month fee for meter reading represents the actual cost, Hurtubise said.

As such, it is cheaper than what is now to be charged by Hydro Quebec, since the larger utility will bill \$5 a month for a reading taken only three times a year, leading to estimated consumptions.

## Turcot meeting set for Oct. 15

Westmount residents will have a chance to hear first-hand about plans to rebuild the Turcot interchange and its impact on the community October 15 at Victoria Hall. The public meeting starts at 7 pm.

On hand will be a representative of the Quebec Transport ministry, who is expected to outline details.

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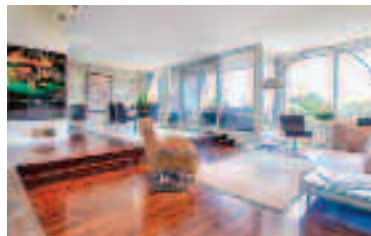
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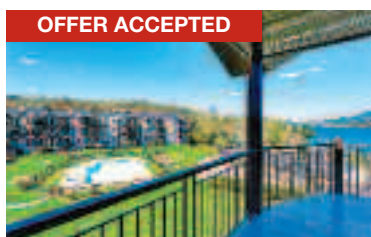
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Great condo with beach on Lac Tremblant  
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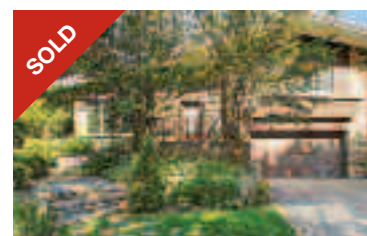
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**1190 Kenilworth \$2,395,000**  
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Detached split with lovely garden.



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Westmount, 547 Lansdowne Ave.  
Exquisite Victorian jewel! This delightful 1900 townhouse features EXCEPTIONAL architectural details. 3 spacious bdrms, 2½ baths. IMPECCABLE condition. **\$985,000**

ANOTHER JUST SOLD by Brian @ 100%!



Westmount, 200 Lansdowne, #407  
1,900 sq.ft. impeccable 3 bedroom, 2½ bathroom corner unit condo in a well managed, tranquil building. 2 garages! **\$798,000**

ANOTHER JUST LISTED!



Westmount, 53 Chesterfield Ave.  
AAA LOCATION! Impeccably maintained 1910 built 4 bedroom, 3½ bathroom townhome backing on lovely Prince Albert Park. VALUE PRICED! **\$998,000**

ANOTHER JUST LISTED!



Downtown, Le Chateau  
SPECTACULAR! The ULTIMATE in high end luxury living at Downtown's premier address. TOTALLY renovated 1 bdr. Truly breathtaking. **\$1,095,000**

New price!



Westmount Adj., 3035 Cedar Ave.  
Worthy of the pages of Wallpaper Magazine, feast your eyes on the ULTIMATE in sleek, urban design in a magnificently restored townhouse. **\$6,000/month**

New price!



Westmount, 210 Cote Saint-Antoine  
Prime location! Ideally situated, this 4 bedroom s/d home overlooks beautiful King George Park. Now available. **\$4,800/month**



Westmount, 7 Douglas Ave.  
Fully renovated, "John Hand" built home. Exceptional woodwork/ stained glass. Peaceful, family friendly location. 4 bdrms, 3½ bathrooms. Garage and garden. **\$1,398,000**



Westmount, 651 Roslyn Ave.  
Impeccably renovated and dramatically extended DETACHED home. Every luxury and convenience! 5 bedrooms, 4½ bathrooms, A/C. **\$2,688,000**



Westmount, 649 Roslyn Ave.  
Here's an OPPORTUNITY! Detached, updated 1904 home featuring central A/C, 2 car garage, 4+1 bedrooms, 3½ baths! **\$1,699,000**



Westmount, 4773 Sherbrooke W.  
RARELY available! 4 bedroom town home ideally situated with revenue potential or home office space from the basement apt! **\$745,000**



Westmount, 118 Lewis Ave.  
ADORABLE 1894 Victorian townhouse. Renovated kitchen, bathrooms, finished basement, etc. Great value! **\$625,000**



Westmount, 510 Lansdowne Ave.  
GREAT location! Ultra spacious, 3 bedroom upper duplex undivided condo. 10'6 ceilings. Amazing VALUE at this price! **\$575,000**



Westmount, 3764 The Boulevard  
Ideal executive rental. A lovely, detached stone house well located in mid level Westmount. Occupancy July 1st. **\$4,700 / month**



West Bolton, ET, 271 Spicer Rd.  
Idyllic 39 acre estate. Ponds, swimming pool, tennis court, main house + guest cottage. No finer combination of comfort, privacy, + privilege at this price. **\$1,495,000**



Saint-Lambert, 126 Upper Edison  
The Westmount of the South Shore! Magnificent home. 3 + 1 bdrs, 3½ renov. baths, in ground pool, central a/c, 2 car gar. IMPECCABLE! **\$849,000**

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Westmount, 77 Chesterfield Ave.  
The perfect Westmount family home exists! Delightful 1910 home. Updated kitchen + baths. Beautiful stained glass windows, wdwrk, + details that will impress! **\$1,295,000**

Listed and SOLD in 19 days @ 97%!



Westmount, 345 Grosvenor Ave.  
Elegant S/D 1905 home 5 bdr **\$939,000**

SOLD in 34 days @ 99%!



Westmount, 465 Clarke Ave.  
Mid century modern townhouse. **\$1,250,000**

SOLD @ 97%!



Westmount Adj., 5042 Ponsard Ave.  
Circle road area. **\$1,100,000**

Listed & SOLD over asking in 7 days!



Westmount, 25 Renfrew Ave.  
Renovated to the HIGHEST standards. Virtually nothing was overlooked! Exquisite woodwork, stained glass, + details! Desirable, ultra PEACEFUL location. **\$1,498,000**

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