# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 8 No. 10b

We are Westmount

#### October 14, 2014

# Dog run site unveiled in area south of bike path

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A two-year search for a new southwest dog run location ended quickly October 6 when city council adopted a surprise resolution to authorize the use of an area along the south side of the bike path in Westmount Park.

The site, proposed by Mayor Peter Trent, had not been previously suggested and was announced without a poll of residents that had been previously promised.

In the heart of an already activity-centric area, the new run will capture a 200foot-long stretch of land between the bike path, the junior tennis courts, the fencedin soccer field on Academy Rd., and the emergency exit pavilion of the Westmount

Letters p. 6 Social Notes by V. Redgrave p. 16 9 Lives by L. Fowler p. 21



recreation centre (WRC).

It will take advantage of a plan already under way by the city to straighten the bike path and realign it further north opening up a larger area that will be used for the dog run.

To be ready by June, the dog run may also be expanded to include up to 15,000 square feet by ballooning it into a wider area on a small portion of the WRC's green roof, explained Councillor Cynthia Lulham in presenting details.

Concerned by the divisiveness generated by other proposed areas in the park, Trent said he had hit upon the spot September 29 when taking "a camera and ruler" with him on a personal search for an acceptable alternative, armed with plans of the WRC area.

"It's a way of cutting continued on p. 5

# Fallen branch damages postal truck



A Westmount Public Works crew was on the scene at the corner of Victoria and Windsor during the windy afternoon of October 9 shortly after a large branch fell and struck a Canada Post delivery truck (left, and inset). The vehicle sustained considerable damage to the windshield and body of the truck. Nobody was injured, according to Public Security.



## City to regulate measures on private property Emerald ash borer found in Westmount trees

#### By Laureen Sweeney

It has finally come to Westmount. The emerald ash borer (EAB) was found in traps set out in two city trees on Aberdeen and Victoria avenues over the summer. Both traps were opened last month.

Horticulture and Arboriculture inspector Jayme Gerbrandt confirmed last week that 11 of the adult beetles were recovered in a pheromone trap on Aberdeen between Westmount Ave. and The Boulevard. A total of 19 other adults were recovered in the trap set in the same block of Victoria.

"That is sufficient for us to know they have arrived," she said. "The beetles can travel up to two kilometers a day so they're most likely all over the place."

The two ash trees now known to be infested were noticed to have been in decline and are now showing the signs, she said. "They're on a list of other trees to be taken down over the winter when the beetles are dormant," she said. The city will also be *continued on p. 15* 



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# City aware of it, Trent says 'Nightmare' from parking, traffic, night parties on Metcalfe

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Increasing parking woes, special events at the Congregation Shaar Hashomayim and an increase in students at Akiva School brought residents of Metcalfe and Springfield avenues to the city council meeting October 6, appealing for the city to find a solution.

"It's a nightmare at all times," explained Sebastien Vilder of Springfield.

The complaints of parking congestion, delivery trucks bringing food and other materials for weddings and late night noise from departing party guests at the Shaar have been raised from time to time over many years, but it's an escalating problem for everybody, they said.

"I just don't know what to do," added Arlene McGibbon of Metcalfe. "I'm so tired," she said of being awakened at 1:30 am and of going out at all times of day and night to ask people to be quiet, to observe parking regulations and even to plead with public safety officers to issue tickets. "No warnings!" she said.

Something needs to be done about the delivery trucks, she explained, saying the Shaar had become "the" venue to have a wedding or bar mitzvah. "It's a business."

"It has got worse," Mayor Peter Trent agreed, "exacerbated" by increased enrolment at Akiva located at the synagogue. "We are aware of it."

#### Problem throughout city

The use of some 13 or 14 places of worship for other purposes was a problem throughout Westmount. It brings increasing numbers of people into Westmount



Springfield Ave. resident Sebastien Vilder, left, questions council October 6 while Arlene McGibbon, of Metcalfe, awaits her turn at right.

from "all over the island," he explained, repeating concerns voiced previously over the traffic generated by Miss Vicky's preschool at nearby St. Matthias' Church.

"They don't respect the neighbourhood," McGibbon added. "We have to find out what we can do." She suggested the city and residents get together with the Shaar.

Councillor Philip Cutler, Public Security commissioner, said there were two

separate issues involved. The parking one is for the city's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).

Trent later told the *Independent* the issue of the noise was one he planned to discuss with the synagogue.

Public safety officers issue many tickets for parking violations around Metcalfe and Springfield, according to Public Security director Greg McBain.



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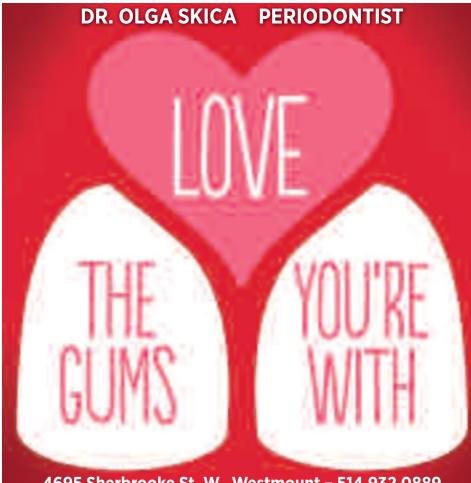
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# Architectural walkabout



Westmounters Caroline Breslaw and city councillor Patrick Martin conducted a walking tour for some 20 participants of Westmount sites considered architecturally innovative on October 5. The tour touched on familiar places such as the Westmount Public Library, Westmount Park, the Westmount recreation centre, the Royal Montreal Regiment's armoury and the Glen arch. It was in conjunction with the 2014 Opération patrimoine architectural de Montréal walking tours. Photo: Matt Faigan

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# Dog run site 'conforms' to criteria

### cont'd. from p. 1

the Gordian knot," he said of the solution, quoting a metaphor for solving an intractable problem by thinking out of the box.

The site, he said "will probably satisfy all parties." This includes those lobbying for and against a return to the Lansdowne and St. Catherine area near the now defunct dog run and users of Westmount Park, where consultants cited three preferred sites.

The chosen space conforms to the consultants' criteria for dog runs, Lulham said.

The council resolution called for the city to "invest" a net amount of \$50,000 for

the dog run project. This is at least half of estimates in the \$100,000 range for other site proposals since much of the area will already be fenced in by the bike path and tennis courts.

#### WDOA Concerned about shade

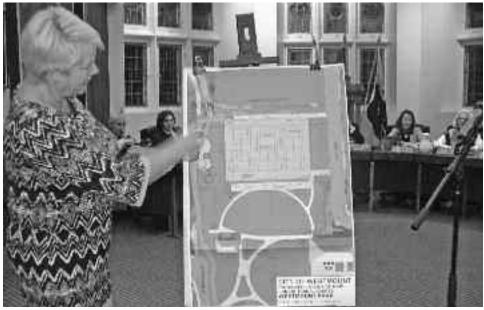
Brian Baxter, president of the Westmount Dog Owners' Association, said the site looked like a promising initiative but he had some concerns about the amount of shade presented by a number of tall trees.

He also asked for a temporary enclosure that would allow for a dog run this winter. "We'll take it under advisement," Trent said.

Maureen Kiely of The Boulevard, who



The new dog run site photographed October 3. The junior tennis courts are under construction at right. The curving bike path is to be straightened to the left.



Councillor Cynthia Lulham presents council's chosen site October 6 for the new dog run. It is nestled between the bike path, soccer field, junior tennis courts and emergency exit pavilion of the Westmount recreation centre.

is also a board member of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), thanked Trent for finding a solution and expressed the need for fencing higher than four feet.

Many attending the meeting had expected the city to announce parameters for a survey of residents based on preferred sites in the Hodgins consultants' report. These included the shuffleboard area, an area on Sherbrooke west of the Melville Pond and a site of the former dog run three decades ago on a raised site between the comfort station and the children's play-ground (see story and map, August 26, p. 1).

The council had already announced it did not consider the former Lansdowne site to be acceptable mainly because of its proximity to large apartment buildings.

Trent told the *Independent* October 10 that he was "driven" to find a new site by the last 18 months of opposition to a dog run in the park and not, as claimed by the WMA in a recent email to all members, that the solution resulted in part from the WMA's efforts and the results of its own online survey.

"That is a complete distortion," he said. "I never even go on their website."



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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# STOP THE DOGGONE DOG RUN LETTERS

Please, please in the name of canine courtesy, please stop writing these dogged dog run letters to the Indie. As someone with a country background, I find it completely absurd that city dwellers would take a sentient creature hostage and force it to live in an apartment or even a house with no backyard. These poor creatures are bred in puppy mills, then are bought by anthropomorphically-demented householders who do horrible things to their dogs' genitalia, often cut off their claws, hire dog-walkers to let the beasts outdoors during the day so they can relieve themselves. And then worry that the little bowwows need to run? Are you nuts?

Yes, dogs need to run, but they don't need a government-funded dog run. Dogs need open spaces, rabbits to chase and other dogs to naturally fertilize. They need owners who treat them like animals, not children.

Want to test my theory? Open your city doors and let the dogs out. They'll run like hell. To get away from you and your horrid little home and your ridiculous dog run ranting...and be free.

Johnny Davidson, Melville Ave.

#### Westmount's very own ginkgos

There are two genera of trees that most people can readily recognize: the acers (maples) and the ginkgoales (ginkgos). The former have simple leaves, with multiple lobes and veins that radiate from the leaf's centre. The latter has distinctive fanshaped leaves. Maples compose over 120 species. Ginkgos, however, are unique in that they have no other living relatives.

There are several ginkgos growing in Westmount Park – near the central garden and directly west of the gazebo.



Leaves of a ginkgo tree, taken in Westmount Park. Photo courtesy of Michael Walsh

Next time you encounter these trees, pause and reflect that what you are seeing is a species that has attained "evolutionary immortality." The botanist Peter Crane writes that the gingko is unique in that "there is no other living tree with a prehistory so intertwined with that of our planet." In fact, these are trees that time forgot!

This is a tree that has remained unchanged for hundreds of millions of years, predating the dinosaurs, and has a direct reproductive link to the cycads – an ancient group of plants that existed before flowering plants, which thrived in the Permian Period that lasted 299 to 251 million years ago.

Gingkgos were flourishing before the Atlantic Ocean was formed by the division, and drifting apart, of Pangaea, which eventually formed our current continents. The great ice ages that led to human evolution pushed the species to near extinction except in a few remote areas in southern China.

The tree is also known as the "bearer of hope." On August 6, 1945, six gingko trees survived the atomic blast at Hiroshima; they were located 1.1 kilometers from the blast's epicenter. They are still growing to this day.

As historian Jill Jonnes writes: "Indeed, should the human race succeed in wiping itself out over the course of the next few centuries, we can take comfort in the knowledge that the ginkgo tree will survive."

Michael Walsh, Melville Ave.

#### WE ARE ANIMALS, PEOPLE

It's wonderful to know that a driver who had a severe asthma attack probably won't be charged for making an illegal left turn on Severn and Mountain.

The police officer, who commented on this (*Independent*, September 30, p. 4) meant well when he said that Montreal does not want to ticket people in these kinds of situations since we are not "animals."

But there is no need to invoke our fellow creatures to make a point about human society. It so happens, to say the obvious, that we are animals. To say that we are not animals is to divorce ourselves from the rest of the living world, something that in effect provides a rationale for the current super exploitation of other animals by our species.

Perhaps many will consider my point to be an irrelevant side issue. Yet if we are to seriously move back from the continuing destruction of nature, labelled by biologists, in terms of Earth history, as the Anthroposcene, we will need to realize to a far greater extent that we, too, are part of and dependent on the the web of life and that we must act in a far greater way to heal the earth.

Shloime Perel, Côte des Neiges

# CODERED MESSAGE

The English message that followed an interminably long French message in Westmount's "CodeRED" test might only have informed English-speaking citizens of an imminent danger too late for effective action.

For example, an explosion might have already happened before the English message about a major gas leak got through.

In emergency situations time is of the essence and the CodeRed messaging system should offer an "up-front" option such as "A French message follows, dial 1 for English" and be redesigned to provide simultaneous French and English messaging.

John Dorey, Victoria Ave.

# PUT ENGLISH FIRST IN CODERED MESSAGE

"Contact Westmount Public Security at 514.989.5279. An English message will follow." Wonderful! If I had gas streaming into my home or water filling my basement, perhaps a bomb about to explode, I would not be in a very happy position by the time the French message was finished and the English message came on.

Could you please arrange for we Anglos to press 1 or 2 for an immediate English message?

I am a senior citizen and would appreciate any emergencies to be advised to us in English as soon as possible.

Merci et bonne journée.

Beverley Hutchison, Kitchener Ave.

# Toddler freed from locked car

The mother of a 22-month-old girl appealed to public safety officers for help October 5 when her daughter became locked in a car outside a house on Braeside Place, Public Security officials said. The young child was found strapped in a car seat apparently calm and unruffled by the situation at 5:19 pm. A taxi was called to provide the equipment to open the car door.

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. Stories and letters

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**INDEPENDENT** 

We are Westmount.

# Deegan in 'hot seat,' Campbell joins others at the mic



Duncan Campbell ceded his usual director-general's seat at the city council meeting October 6 to assistant director general Mike Deegan, second from left, who will replace him when he retires, when the officials' desk became too crowded. Left of Deegan is city clerk Viviana Iturriaga Espinoza, and to the right, executive assistant Lucille Angers and assistant city clerk Nicole Dobbie.



*Campbell, left, leaves his temporary seat at the back of the council chamber to step up to the mic to tell* Dan Lambert the city would not wait for Montreal in installing green advance traffic arrows for cyclists at intersections. He has been asking for them on de Maisonneuve Blvd. at Greene and at Wood.

Photos: Laureen Sweener

### Lighting proves to be double-edged sword

A resident of Dorchester near Clandeboye complained at 7:21 pm October 3 that the installation of a new light standard was directing light into a bedroom, Public Security officials said. The matter would be looked into. Director Greg McBain said it was a challenge trying to balance such a problem with the need for lighting to discourage loitering in the area including lanes around Tupper.

### **Turcot** meeting postponed to Nov. 26

The Turcot meeting set for October 15 at Victoria Hall was postponed by the Quebec Transport ministry after press time last Monday, city officials said. A new date of Wednesday, November 26 has now been set.

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RATION & SECTION



# Asks city to provide vision, leadership Resident calls 'decline and fall' of Greene a disaster

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Despite city efforts to spruce up Greene Ave. with a public square and the re-opening last year of Les 5 Saisons, the closure of at least seven stores signifies "the decline and fall of Greene Ave.," city council was told at its meeting October 6.

"It's getting worse and worse," said Gary Brodkin, a resident of Sherbrooke. "It's a disaster."

Numerous obstacles affected the vitality of the street including the lack of night life, parking, over-zealous ticketters, he alleged, and high rents that are forcing out retailers.

He appealed to the city to take a lead in trying to coordinate an effort among retailers, building owners and other stakeholders by establishing a vision for what the street should be in order to help them get "from here to there."

Mayor Peter Trent said this would have to be done in conjunction with a professional. His own vision for Greene, he said, was as a "high street" rather than a "Fifth Avenue." Rents, however, were a big problem over which municipalities had "zero power."

Councillor Theodora Samiotis, who represents the stretch of Greene as far north as de Maisonneuve, suggested the merchants' association meet with building owners.

"Someone has to organize it," Brodkin persisted. "I'm asking for someone to take charge." He also invited council members to take a walk-about with him "to see how bad the look of the street is" especially with the seven vacancies. No one offered to take him up on the offer, however.



Gary Brodkin, a resident of Sherbrooke, at the council meeting October 6.





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# City officials decry hospital noise meeting postponement

#### By Isaac Olson

Since June, Westmount city officials have been pushing Groupe Immobilier Santé McGill (GISM), the organization that manages the super-hospital site in southeastern NDG, to come up with a solution to what has become a serious problem for many city residents – the constant noise emanating from the facility's cooling towers.

Councillor Christina Smith said the city first sent an official demand for a meeting and solution back in mid-June and, when GISM officials finally responded on the August 31 deadline, a meeting was set for September. Westmount officials were expecting solutions, but none were presented. The city gave GISM more time and scheduled a follow-up meeting on October 7. That meeting, she said, was canceled one and half hours before the scheduled start time and, the next day, she had a dozen residents call her for an update.

She said, she had to tell her constituents that there has been yet another delay.

"Come on," she said in a phone interview. "Enough is enough."

The city, on October 8, issued a public statement and sent a letter to GISM officials expressing disappointment with the

continued delays. The problem, she said, has gotten worse since sound-deflecting trailers were removed from the site.

"You would think that, of all institutions, a hospital would seek to ensure that noise levels would be even lower than the maximum required by regulation," stated Smith in a city press release. "Instead noise emanating from the facility is in contravention of the city of Westmount's noise by-law."

Diane Rivard, SNC-Lavalin spokesperson, said the meeting with Westmount was postponed because the expert was unexpectedly unavailable. There will be two meetings on October 17, she said, in Westmount offices. One in the morning with the experts, she said, and a second one in the afternoon with "the major players." Rivard said GISM officials are ready to discuss the issue with Westmount and, while there was the unexpected postponement, that discussion will happen.

"I don't see why anything is wrong with this dossier," she said. "We are following the process that was agreed upon by the city of Westmount, so I don't understand why Christina Smith is saying something is wrong. It seems, according to what I see, everything is going along with what was planned."

# Reaction to CodeRED test results in many new registrations

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A city-wide test in Westmount October 9 of the CodeRED emergency notification system sent out a total of 7,725 messages via landlines, cell phones, email and text, city officials said October 10.

By the morning after the test, the number of new registrations in apparent response to the test, had risen 5 percent to 8,684 as people registered additional devices (email and text), according to city communications coordinator Maureen Lafrenière.

"We got a big jump in registrations, which was a really good reaction," she said.

The full message was sent out with the French version followed by the English rather than an upfront option of languages, she said. This decision was made following a glitch reported from a test in another municipality in which the English choice button did not work.

The CodeRED system works in such a way that people who do not answer the call can expect to have the message left if they have voice mail or an answering machine. For those who do not, the number will be redialed by CodeRED on several more occasions, Lafrenière said.

Initial feedback showed some people received a second message about 25 minutes apart, she explained. This wasn't intended, but resulted from a send button being pressed again in error.

"There were a number of residents (in the dozens) that phoned and emailed the city to confirm that they had received the call or had some questions, and there was a spike in visits to the Westmount website," she said.

A full assessment report of the test is expected probably in the *continued on p. 18* 



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WESTMOUNT | BETWEEN PARKS Gorgeous semi-det. home near Murray Hill & Wst parks. 3 bdrms reno'd kit., new plumbing. Steps to Vic Village. mls 15769323



WESTMOUNT | VICTORIAN BEAUTY Beautiful 3 storey, 7 bdrm boasting intricate details. Reno'd kitchen, solarium, garden & parking. Near schools. mls 10621639



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# 9 inducted into Quarter Century Club City honours 24 for long service at 71st annual banquet

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Nine Westmount employees were recognized for 25 years of service when they were inducted into the city's Quarter Century Club at its 71st annual banquet held at Victoria Hall October 8. Another 15 were recognized for other milestones.

"It's an honour to welcome all of you," said Councillor Rosalind Davis in her capacity as pro-mayor, and first opportunity to attend the event as a newcomer to council.

The occasion brought together honorees and department heads with more than 100 members of the club in attendance, both active employees and retirees.

The feeling of being part of the Westmount "family" was mentioned several times during the evening and captured in closing remarks on behalf of the new inductees by library worker Faith Holness.

Duncan Campbell, the city's retiring director general who emceed the banquet but made no mention of it being his last, was spontaneously thanked at the end of the evening by retiree Ed McCavour, a former assistant director general and Public Works director.

Those honoured for a quarter century of service were: Maria Ippolito (Information Technologies), Cecilia Emmanus, Silvia Tuccia and André Vézina (Hydro Westmount), Faith Holness (Library), Lynda Meloche, John Grainger and Dominic Agostino (Finance) and Dina Pietrangeli (City Clerk's Office).

#### 35 years' service

Mai Jay (Library) and Robert Mees (Public Works).

#### 20 years

Firefighters Patrick Hearson, Gianni D'Argenio and Lieut. Steven Pezzi as well as Gayle White (Library), Parking Inspector Richard Lamer (Public Security) and Paul Corbière (Public Works).

#### 15 years

André Duplantie (Hydro Westmount), Shawn Reeves (Public Security), Matthew Ciampini (Sports and Recreation) and Todd Séguin, Franco Caucci, Lily Tremblay and Réjean Binette (Public Works).



Among those honoured for 25 and 35 years of service October 8 are, from left: Maria Ippolito, Dominic Agostino, Lynda Meloche, Sivia Tuccia, Ceclia Emmanus, André Vézina, Robert Mees, Dina Pietrangeli, Mai Jay and Faith Holness. With them are city director general Duncan Campbell and Councillor Rosalind Davis, pro-mayor.

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LITTLE ITALY | AV. DE GASPÉ

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\$680,000 CITÉ DU HAVRE | HABITAT '67 solariums, stunning terrace and views. MLS 9514312 spacious loggia-style terrace, 2 garages. MLS 27527565



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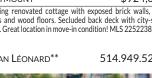




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# Tree pruning on Chesterfield 'sad' but conforming

#### By Laureen Sweeney

Along with the seasonal sound of tree saws whining away in Westmount on the approach of winter, the annual ritual generated several complaints last week, one of which stemmed from an uproar on Chesterfield.

Neighbours of a property just east of Claremont are reported to be particularly upset by work on two trees located in a side garden. One is close to the street behind a parking apron. The other, further back, has had its entire canopy removed leaving only the remains of the vine-covered trunk some 15 feet high.

"Everyone is so upset by what's happened to the two majestic silver maples," said Councillor Rosalind Davis, who represents the district, and knows the concerned property at 56-58 Chesterfield well. "It's so sad," she said.

Neither of the trees, however, required a city permit for the work, explained Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier. This is because both are on private property where permits are not required for pruning.

While some may argue ..... that the tree at the rear continued on p. 19

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WORLD NEEDS



Looking south from Chesterfield over the side garden, a tree at the back of the property, circled left and in the inset photo, has had its entire canopy removed leaving only a 15-foot vine-covered trunk and attached wires. The other just behind the parking apron, circled right, was trimmed.

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# Ash borers, cont'd. from p. 1

using the winter to reassess its EAB program moving forward.

"The EAB is such a menace that we're going to have to regulate ash trees on private property," Mayor Peter Trent told the *Independent* in the wake of the beetle's dis-



covery. Over the summer, the city treated 174 ashes with injections o f TreeAzin, a

Samples of the emerald ash borer systemic found in the trap on Victoria as insecticide, displayed October 9 by Jayme forbrandt, city arboriculture and horticulture inspector.

ble trees as possible to slow EAB destruction while planting replacement trees of other species.

Only ash trees that are not too small and not too large can be treated, as well as those that don't have bumps or blisters that prevent a tree from sucking up the vaccine.

Compared with many municipalities, however, Westmount is not expected to be

as hard hit by the EAB. It has an estimated 375 ash trees on public property (parks and streets) and 75 identified so far on private property, though these numbers are undergoing revision, Gerbrandt said (see August 12, p. 2 and March 18, p. 1).

In comparison, there are some 10,000 ash trees in Beaconsfield, where a by-law has been adopted holding property owners responsible for prevention and the removal of infested trees. Another 8,000 ashes have also been identified in Pointe Claire.

"Fortunately, we have a fairly diversified tree canopy," Gerbrandt explained. "This has been a good learning experience in the importance of planting a variety of trees."

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# Designer-clad guests attend JoshuaDAVID's 5th



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond Veronica Redgrave It was a fashionistas' night out on September 10 as designers **Joshua Fagan** and **David Archer** of Westmount's Joshua-DAVID fashion emporium, hosted a reception celebrating their five-year anniversary.

The party was refreshed by Botanist gin cocktails, created by Nectar & Mixologie,



Joshua Fagan, left, and David Archer.

ELEBRATING MOMENTS TOGETHER





Debbie Wexelman, left, and Joelle Sholzberg.

wine and Piper-Heidsieck champagne. Monsieur Restaurant + Bar passed around



Nissa, left, and Jenni Khan.

*hors d'oeuvres* including salmon tartare, tuna burgers and scallop ceviche. In-house **DJ Jay London** kept the vibe vivacious throughout the night, which was so Indian-summer-mild that ladies – most wearing on-trend tiny dresses – sat outside on the pop-up terrace adorned with black balloons.

Keeping track of who wore which designer brand gave one sartorial whiplash: no grunge here. The evening's surprise was the duo's work with fashion star **Travis Tad**- *continued on p. 22* 

It is soon time for the Independent's fall social calendar. Please send event information (date, title, contact, ticket price, etc) to: redgrave@videotron.ca

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## Police Report Suspect caught after apartment garage break-in

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

Station 12 officers arrested a 49-year-old Montreal man after he allegedly broke into a Park Place apartment building garage and smashed the windows of four vehicles in the early morning of October 8.

Just after 3 am, police received a call from a witness claiming an individual had broken the alleyway window of the Park Place building. The two responding officers reportedly found the window had been smashed and removed and a bicvcle. possibly belonging to the suspect, had been left leaning against the wall.

The two officers split up, with one entering the garage to search for the suspect while the other set up a perimeter on the

other side of the building to cut off any potential escape attempt, according to Station 12 constable Adalbert Pimentel.

"It is a live situation, but they don't know where in the building the suspect is, so [the officers] want to cover multiple exits," he said.

The officer who entered building reportedly found the suspect in the garage, wearing a backpack and carrying a hammer. According to Pimentel, a later investigation of the garage found that the front windows of four vehicles had been smashed.

The officer witnessed the man matching the witness' description approach a Jeep, hammer in hand, and unsuccessfully try to open the door before leaving the building through an exit leading to St. Catherine.

'Even in locked garages, it's a good idea to lock your doors just like you would on the street, especially if it's an interior garage shared by multiple people," said Pimentel.

The man tried to flee by heading east along St. Catherine but was intercepted and arrested by the officers without incident, according to Pimentel. The suspect was found to have the hammer and other tools in his bag, as well as gum and other personal items that had been taken from the cars.



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## **Batshaw Children Needing Homes** May loves music, dress-up

A long-term foster home is being sought for 4-year-old May, a shy, energetic child, who enjoys music, loves to play dress-up and seems to be more comfortable in the company of adults. She is presently in an emergency foster home and is in need of a permanent home.

May has suffered much instability throughout her young life and has shown significant progress in adjusting to rules and routine in her present environment.

She has a history of neglect and lacking in activities to stimulate her development, resulting in speech delays. It is sometimes hard to understand her.

May is presently receiving services in the community where she is progressing well in language.

May's parents are unable to take care of her. She needs a family who can make a long-term commitment, as well as being open to structured visits from her parents.

The ideal foster family would be that of a two-parent Cree/Soto or of aboriginal heritage for as long as she needs. For more information, call Batshaw Youth and Family Centres at 514.932.7161, local 1139.

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# Church turnaround works – after no-entry sign covered

And the turnaround "performed" in

just the manner in which it had been de-

signed: allowing taxis and smaller private

cars to turn at the dead end approaching

Westmount Park, said church treasurer

Martin, she said, "thankfully" intervened

to "iron out" a last minute "wrinkle" Fri-

day afternoon after she had informed city

officials early in the morning that a "do not

enter" traffic sign had been mounted on a

lamp post at the entrance to the turn-

some taxis bringing people to the Contac-

tivity seniors' centre the day before from

This had apparently already prevented

But that was after Councillor Patrick

Joan Hagerman.

around.

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The completed turnaround in front of the de Maisonneuve door of Westmount Park Church was put to the test on a recent weekend. That's when close to 500 people turned up to the October 3 and 4 showings of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, a silent film to the accompaniment of the church organ.



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using the turnaround and caused them to make three-point turns at the church door.

"The sign defeated all the efforts of the many who worked so hard to try to have proper access to the church door," Hagerman said.

With only a few hours to spare before the 7-pm film event on the Friday and with no action yet taken on the sign, she said, she personally emailed Martin, commissioner of Public Works, for assistance. He showed up soon after and asked Public Works workers nearby to cover the sign with plastic garbage bags, which they apparently did soon after.

"The sign was obviously put up on that post by mistake," Martin later explained.



This sign was noticed at 11:30 am October 3 prohibiting entry to the turnaround outside Westmount Park Church.

### Garbage can heats up

Public safety officers were reported to have been dispatched October 4 at 12:46 am for a fire in a garbage can at the northeast corner of Sherbrooke and Lansdowne. Firefighters extinguished it, and Public Works was contacted to clean up.



# Car drives on bike path

The driver of a car mistook the newly paved and widened bike path in front of Westmount Park Church for an eastbound traffic lane on de Maisonneuve at Lansdowne October 4, Public Security officials said.

The 22-year-old LaSalle man, turned off Lansdowne onto the bike path in the dark and rain, continuing to drive toward the entrance to Westmount Park before realizing his mistake. When he attempted to make a half-turn off the path, two wheels of the car sank into the fresh earth that had been used for the new landscaping and became stuck in the mud.

Public safety officers, who answered the call at 8:24 pm for a car stuck in the mud, found the driver had already called a tow truck, which managed to pull it free using a tow line. Other than tire marks, there was no reported damage.

Bollards clearly delineating the cycling route have since been installed dividing it off from the street.

#### CodeRED, cont'd. from p. 8

next week, she said.

This was the message sent out, and confirmed to have been received by a text received by at least one resident, starting with an introduction:

"This is a message from the city of Westmount with important information for residents and businesses. English will follow.

"The city has licensed the CodeRED Community Notification System to quickly disseminate important or critical information in case of an emergency.

"We encourage you to visit the city website at www.westmount.org, click on the CodeRED logo and enter your contact information to receive voice, text or email messages. This will help ensure the accuracy of the data in our system.

"If you know of anyone in Westmount that did not receive this call, please encourage them to visit the website to enter their information. If you do not have internet access, please ask a friend or family member for help, or contact the city at 514.989.5259. End of message; thank you."



E 26 NOVEMBRE BER 26 E

# **Chesterfield tree**, cont'd. from p. 14

was all but removed, felling a tree at the side or back of a property does not need a permit, either, she pointed out, only when a tree is located at the front of a façade or on a vacant lot such as a narrow one immediately west of the concerned property at 58 Chesterfield, or belongs to the city.

In this case, "the tree was 90 percent dead," and the work was required for safety reasons, she said.

The remaining trunk had been filled at some point with cement, Davis noted, and has wires attached that lead to a hydro pole, though they are believed to be phone wires.

The issue is further compounded by the concerns of neighbours that a new owner of the house might build on the garden and/or vacant lot in question. While a small so-called "in-fill" house could be built there, Poirier said, she has been told that for now, at least, the owner's intention is focused on constructing a rear extension to the existing house.

#### Two other complaints recorded

Another complaint about tree removal was reported by Public Security October 1 at 9 am of two trees at 4753 The Boulevard. It was checked out with Urban Planning, however, and a permit was found to have been issued.

Again on October 3, public safety officers were called to an address on Somerville, this time by city officials. A pile of branches had been left on city property by the Somerville playground. Recent marks of tree pruning were found on a nearby city tree. A resident who admitted to the branch cutting claimed she was unaware the trees belonged to the city.

### Cement pour adds \$1,250 to costs

Two cement trucks were found blocking the east side of the street outside 35 Aberdeen October 6, Public Security officials said. Workers were informed at 9:05 am that a permit was needed to occupy the street and a ticket for \$1,250 was issued when they continued to pump until 9:30 am.

### Doctor hit by car

A pedestrian was hit by a car backing up outside 1336 Greene October 6, Public Security officials said. The victim, a doctor, stated she did not need care and a call to Urgences Santé just after 1:30 pm was cancelled. The woman had been crossing the street when hit by the Range Rover.

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PÀ

### SÉANCE D'INFORMATION PUBLIQUE LE 26 NOVEMBRE AU SUJET DU PROJET TURCOT

Une séance publique aura lieu **le mercredi 26 novembre** prochain à **19 h au Victoria Hall**, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest 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.

### PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION NOVEMBER 26 CONCERNING THE TURCOT PROJECT

A public information session will take place on Wednesday, November 26 at 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall, 4626, Sherbrooke St. W. 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.



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## The Connoisseur and the Philistine Beer Review: Dieu du Ciel

The Connoisseur and the Philistine Beer Review: Dieu du Ciel 29 Laurier West (corner Clarke) September 3 at 6:30 pm

**David Price, The Philistine:** Beer drinker and (aspiring) beer thinker

*Ideal beer:* stronger-than-average lager, even it's commercial Canadian beer

Favourite beer: Harp

**Greg Dunning**, **The Connoisseur:** Beer drinker, brewer and beer hunter

*Ideal beer:* one that is manufactured by people who care more about the beer than the money

*Favourite beer*: Too many to mention

Our *initial* beer hunting has been inspired by exploration and novelty. This season, we embark on more profound quests of beer understanding. In September 1998, Dieu du Ciel opened its doors, pioneered the craft beer movement in Montreal and has been popular ever since.

We were in search of the secret to this eponymous and modest brewpub, such that on an inconsequential Wednesday, on the second day of school, we could barely find a free table, inside or on the terrace at 7 pm, or even as the evening progressed.

#### THE PHILISTINE

Blanche du Paradis (5.5%) – Blanche, Belgian wheat beer

Well, things started less than perfectly for me. "Do you have any lagers?" one member of our group asked.

"No. They take too much time to brew," said our waiter.

Hmm.

Well, as ever, I'll try what our beer leader, Greg, recommends for me.

First up was Blanche du Paradis, a "classic *blanche*," I was told. I usually don't like *blanches*. They're too light and sweet. This one was not bad. It was a bit light, but not a lot light, so I could live with the body. It had a bit of the metallic aftertaste that many microbreweries (and presumably their customers) love. I do not share this preference, but, luckily for me, this metallicity was quarter strength, so the taste was livable too.

#### THE CONNOISEUR

#### Rosée d'Hibiscus (6%) – Blanche, Belgian wheat beer

As is the custom ("It is our custom to follow custom," says the Dutchman), we begin with a lighter flavoured/lightercoloured/lighter-in-alcohol selection from the Dieu's substantial menu of 15 onpremise drafts. After our pleasant uphill bike ride through the McGill ghetto, Rosée is light and refreshing with an unmistakable tea aroma.

But I know what you're saying, "6%,

light alcohol! What?"

At Dieu, you will never get the Alexander Keith's Premium White, Rickard's White, or even the very respectable Blanche de Chambly's ordinary take on this Belgian summer classic. Dieu always takes calculated risks and, in this version, you get a surprisingly high ABV% (alcohol by volume) that still tastes light and which must be rendered from the addition of the tropical flowers. This brewer has always been an innovator.

#### THE PHILISTINE

Vaisseau des Songes (5.5%) – India pale ale, British

Next was an India pale ale (IPA). I usually find these beers drinkable, but they're not my favourite and when they really get going (as in the case of their American cousins, the APAs), I find them downright skunky. This one smelled stronger than it tasted, which was fine by me.

#### THE CONNOISEUR

Mild End (3.8%) – mild, British

Most places don't serve a mild because the name isn't exciting. At 3.8%, shouldn't this ale be reserved for guys who check themselves out in the mirror? Well, that would be a mistake. Bike ride, soccer game, Marathon – go be propagandized and drink that chemical-dye G2, but if you want to get back in the game, mild is your organic, carb-replacement go-to drink.

But since I was staying for a while, I could easily have drank this session beer, well . . . all session long. But with Dieu, you always get invention on convention, and in this case, a snappy, bitter bite in the aftertaste followed the smooth malt taste; unique from a mild. By introducing more malt in production, the brewer produces a fuller texture and weight in the mouth, and a deeper mahogany hue in the glass, which effectively hides the fact Mild End is actually a light beer.

THE PHILISTINE

Mild End (3.8%) – mild, British

I took the Mild End next as well. As Greg has previously explained in this column, mild is a session beer from the Midlands of England. ("Session" is a polite term for "volume-oriented.") This was my favourite beer of the evening. It had a bit of taste without overdoing it, and none of those unnecessary microbrew adjuncts were present: no nuttiness, no spiciness, no metallicity.

#### THE CONNOISEUR

Vaisseau des Songes (5.5%) – India pale ale, British

This is your session IPA, which is an oxymoron in most brewpubs today trying to create the world's biggest beer. I don't

know why but I thought of golf when I tasted it and it tasted like the middle of the fairway, and 340 yards off the tee; the equilibrium of bitterness hop and caramel malt. We've tried other IPAs before in our travels but this is the first one that I think I could convince the Philisto order tine again. THE PHILIS-TINE

Corne du Diable (6.5%) – India pale ale, British

Corne du Diable was stronger than Vaisseau des Songes. We were halfway to skunkiness here, with some bitterness. Not for me.

#### THE CONNOISEUR

Déese Nocturne (6%) – dry stout, English

The big surprise was the smoke aroma because the name and description did not mention it all, but not "all-out smoked herring" in the Bamberg tradition. It was smooth and fresh like Guinness but with a hint of smoke and dark chocolate in the finish. (Think burning leaves in your neighbour's yard. If it were a Bamberg beer, the leaves would be in your yard.) And come to think of it, a wee bit heavier than Guinness.

This is your cheddar cheese or chocolate-covered strawberries pairing beer. Made me want to try another, so.

#### THE PHILISTINE

Paienne (5%) – blonde/common ale

Lastly was the Paienne, which was lager-esque, but with an aftertaste.

#### THE CONNOISEUR

Chaman (9.1%) – imperial pale ale, British

This is Dieu's double IPA, which – as expected – was served in a 1/2 pint brandy snifter, so I could repeatedly savour the complex hop aroma with every sip. I wouldn't even pair this beer with food since it would distract you from its full enjoyment. Why the term "imperial"? Is this a beer for Good King Stephen?

Well, sort of.

The first imperial was a stout brewed by Barclay and Perkins of Southwark, London. It was shipped to the Baltic area in the late 1700s and it was made to impress Catherine the Great, empress of Russia. Couldn't just show up with any beer in hand for dinner at Cathy's!

The first imperial IPA was brewed in the US. Legends persist but several



sources attribute its invention to Californian Vinnie Cilurzo who produced Inaugural IPA for his Blind Pig brewery in 1994 but accidentally doubled the hop quantity from his homebrew recipe and just went with it. What we do know is that the word "imperial" was appropriated to describe a double IPA, more hops, more alcohol, not necessarily in equal proportions.

#### THE PHILISTINE

The Dieu de Ciel is a bar like many Montreal bars, which is no small thing. But nothing stood out. The service was good, but not extraordinary. The food was fine, but not memorable. And the beers, for me, did not jump out. I'd go again, but if I didn't go for a while, no big deal either.

My preference, in order: Mild End, Blanche du Paradis, Vaisseau des Songes, Paienne and Corne du Diable.

#### THE CONNOISEUR

Five fantastic beers in a row, but this place is Montreal legendary so I wasn't surprised. It was still summer when we went, and they had all the summer seasonals out in force and offered choice among styles.

These guys have been brewing ales and lagers – in the same small facility no less – for years, literally throwing yeast crosscontamination concerns to the wind and getting it right. Even so, we had 15 beer on the menu and not one sample of lager, a summer seasonal!

I assured my esteemed lager colleague that this was a momentary "ale vortex" and that the waiter's comment was strictly personal and that he could not have been speaking for the brewer.

My order: Mild End (the Connoisseur and the Philistine agree!), Rosée d'Hibiscus, Déese Nocturne, Vaisseau des Songes, Chaman.

Most popular among the other beer hunters: Rosée d'Hibiscus (#1 for the Czech and the Father). The Dutchman's #1 was Wallonade (a light Belgian pale ale) and the Artist's was Vaisseau des Songes.

# Mama cat now needs a home



Lysanne Fowler

Mama Bear was found on the front steps of the Hôpital vétérinaire général MB on St. Antoine St., corner Greene Ave. The veterinary technicians knew right away that the lone cardboard box meant animals had been abandoned, and they rushed out to open the box in order to save



a mother cat, aptly named Mama Bear, and her kittens.

Once they had grown, Mama Bear's lovely kittens were adopted by clients who fell in love with them. Meanwhile, it was discovered she was expecting again. She gave birth to a second litter of four adorable kittens. Once again, these precious ones grew healthy and strong and were adopted out to clients and friends as well.

Now the time is right to expand our search for the perfect family for young Mama Bear, who is very healthy, inoculated and spaved. If you would like more information on her, please call the hospital at 514.935.1888 or drop by for a visit. They are located at 3400 St. Antoine St. and are open seven days a week.

#### Ode to Mama Bear

As you can see, Mama Bear is guite precious and affectionate. A vet employee, Lindsay Rae, has written a poem about her, which I am most pleased to share with you.

Abandoned, forgotten, left behind My previous owner was not very kind She left me here in a box outside She left me here, I cried and cried But then I realized this was a blessing in disguise

I'm alive and well, that's a great prize But where will I end up next? At least I'm safe now ...

Why was I left here? I silently meow ...

At least I've got a bed to sleep in at night And some sweet people to pet me and

squeeze me real tight But I can't stay here forever, it's no place to

live!

Although I am thankful, a family has more to give!

*Oh please, please, help me find a home* A place where I can play and roam

I've had a few kittens of my own *My* babies have gone, and *I'm* all alone I'm happy that they found places to stay But I can't stay here until I'm old'n grey Please pass the word along that I'm in need oflove

- And that I'm not a cat that can just be disposed of
- Ask the receptionists, they'll tell you I'm sweet!

They even say that I make their hearts skip -LRa beat.

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### Walking, cycling group asks for input into bike path changes

Learning the city was planning to straighten the de Maisonneuve bike path through Westmount Park, would the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association (WWCA) be consulted beforehand, its president Dan Lambert asked the city council meeting October 6.

Their comments were "always welcome," replied assistant director general Mike Deegan.

Lambert recalled that he had discovered safety concerns after the fact in the recent reconfiguring of the bike path portion at the west entrance to Westmount Park. These included the combination of raising and narrowing it at a sharp turn along with a steep drop-off on the north side, which the city has since marked with bollards.

#### Social Notes, cont'd. from p. 16

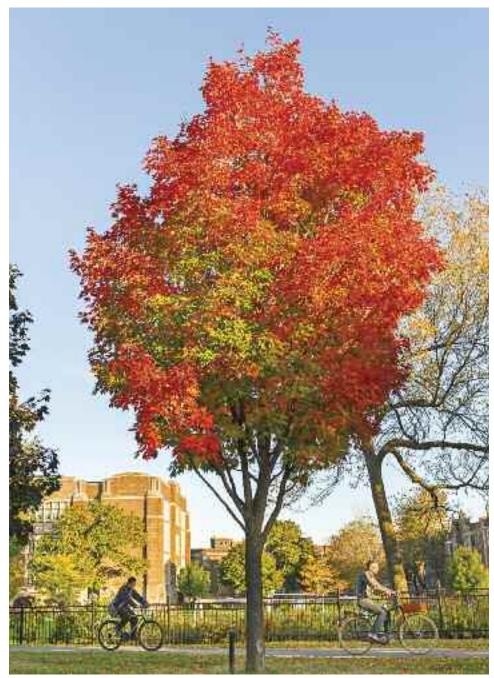
deo. The black dress collaboration piece created with the Quebec designer was designed especially for the five-year milestone.

Guests ranged from mothers, daughters and granddaughters to media personalities and stylists, and many Céline Dion look-alikes, all with perfect hair.

Westmounters noted included Rosanna Besner, her daughter Laura Lavy and her diminutive granddaughter Emily, who wore a fabulous fuchsia frock with and wait for it - a perfect little leather jacket. It is never too early to acquire style.

Other local residents included Micky Morton, Debbie Wexelman, Elaine Lee, Barbara Maldoff, Marcia Gillman, Marilyn Golfman, Joelle Sholzberg, and Khan sisters Nissa and Jenni.

# Fiery leaves at sundown



Photographed October 3 at around 6 pm, two cyclists on the bike path pass a blazing sugar maple in the setting sun in Westmount Park. Photo: Ralph Thompson



CHRISTIE



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GROUPE SUTTON CENTRE-OUEST, INC. Real Estate Agency ww.suttonguebec.com



WESTMOUNT 76 Summit Crescent Unique contemporary beauty with fabulous design! MLS 21226838



WESTMOUNT \$3,800,000 627 Clarke Avenue \$3,395,000 Contemporary with stunning views! MLS 26285951



WESTMOUNT ADJ 3066 Trafalgar Stunning home with views from large decks in great location with a pool! MLS 10545075



WESTMOUNT \$2,975,000 103 Sunnyside Ultimate luxury and attention to details! MLS 18961389



TMF \$1,595,000 1190 Kenilworth \$2,395,000 Magnificent contemporary on 12,000 sf of land MLŠ 23906134



WESTMOUNT 490 Argyle Charming semi with tons of potential! MLS 24526789



DOWNTOWN \$1,195,000 23 Redpath Place Fabulous townhouse near Museum of one arts MLS 20036668



DOWNTOWN \$1,185,000 1700 Dr Penfield, Apt 25 Beautiful 1900+ SF condo with garage. GREAT OPPORTUNITY! MLS 15492409



**BEAVER LAKE AREA** \$650,000 2721 Hill Park Circle Lovely 3 bedroom townhouse on the Mountain MLS 10035953



ATWATER MARKET AREA \$1,025,000 70 Rose de Lima \$998,000 Magnificent contemporary detached with garage and rooftop MLS 15293655



TREMBLANT Pinoteau Village\$319,000 Great condo with beach on Lac Tremblant Waterfront lots Lac Xavier MLS 17494440 MLS 15218636



TREMBLANT AREA \$395,000



**TREMBLANT AREA** \$395,000 Magnificent 70 acre lot with views MLS 10542808 Magnificent 135 MLS 119954458



**TREMBLANT AREA** lot Rouge on



\$495,000 TREMBLANT AREA \$ 399.000 River Private Domain opportunity 186 lot with views MLS 13272324



WESTMOUNT 559 Argyle\$1,695,000472 Argyle\$785,000Charming renovated 3 Bdr cottage, with incredible<br/>charm! MLS 20613576Classic, charming Upper floor condo w/garage<br/>MLS 21100078 559 Argyle



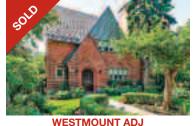


\$785,000 5 Grove Park garage and lovely urban garden on the flats near

Greene Ave.



WESTMOUNT \$1,395,000 3225 Cedar Ave. \$1,350,000 Charming renovated 3+1 bedroom semi with Detached split with lovely garden.



3024 De Breslay \$1,590,000 Magnificent renovated semi in priest farm MLS 9273744

SICOTTE



MARIE SICOTTE **Real Estate Broker** 

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mariesicotte.com



**EXQUISITE AND PRESTIGIOUS DOWNTOWN COOP.** This elegant apartment of 1950 sq.ft. is totally turn-key after 9 months of meticulous renovations that respect the building's era. Featuring a spacious living room with fireplace, separate dining room, plus 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, it's perfect for downsizing from a large home. Designer kitchen with 6 burner gas stove and plenty of storage. Laundry room. Central A/C. Garage. Ideally located in The Chateau, one of Montreal's premier addresses, known for its architecture, excellent security and service. \$1,295,000



**STEPS FROM WESTMOUNT PARK!** This beautiful family home has an unbeatable location, walking distance to several schools, new Arena and Pool, neighborhood shops, and metro. Well-proportioned rooms are bright and comfortable. Eat-in kitchen with access to porch and backyard. Gorgeous master bedroom with adjacent sitting/dressing area plus deluxe new ensuite. Spacious child-friendly basement with home office, extra bedroom and full bathroom. New wiring throughout. 4+1 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Garage and parking. All this for \$1,198,000!



**THE IDEAL DOWNTOWN PIED-A-TERRE!** Sunny 1 bedroom with parking located in one of Montreal's most prestigious addresses. Convenient location close to McGill, MFA, fine shops and restaurants. 24 hr security. \$299,000



**ROOM WITH VIEW** Beautiful zen style condo has rare unobstructed views from almost every room! Completely renovated 2 bedroom top floor. Fireplace. Ideal Plateau location Walking distance to McGill and the Main. \$498,000



**BEST DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT** Easy to rent one bedroom condo. Wood floors, central air and garage. Pool, gym, 24 hour doorman. Steps to Guy metro. An ideal location for Concordia, McGill University & MGH. \$259,000

# Tania**Kalecheff**

B.Arch. | Chartered Real Estate Broker

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