

Financial, management burden foreseen

Permits may soon be needed for removal of most trees on private property

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's relatively lenient regulations for the removal of trees on private property may soon be a thing of the past if a master plan for the island of Montreal is applied as proposed, city officials said last week.

Currently in Westmount permits are required only for felling trees of 15 cm (6 inches) in diameter located on private land

at the front of a property, on vacant land, property occupied by an assembly building or in zones P1-02-01 and R13-02-02 that are part of the Mount Royal historic and natural district. Trees owned by the city always require permits for cutting or pruning.

More stringent tree rules outlined in the comprehensive Metropolitan Land Use and Development Plan would require permits to be obtained before any tree is taken down whose trunk measures at least 10 cm (4 inches) in diameter at chest height anywhere on the property.

continued on p. 10

Theme of city's haunted house:

'Alice in Horrorland'



Shown October 17 as they prepare for the Mad Hatter's tea party at the city's Halloween haunted house are parking inspector Pierre Thibault, left, and Public Security's Sgt. Steve Payne. See story, p. 12.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney

Dog safe after hour-long pursuit

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A visiting dog from New York escaped from a house on Aberdeen October 12 and led public safety officers on an hour-long pursuit until it was finally boxed in by the patrollers, police and an off-duty PSO.

Public Security director Greg McBain said the dog, a golden doodle named Teddy, was followed by public safety officers from the time they were informed it was on the loose at 4:58 pm.

The dog was pursued from Aberdeen west along The Boulevard, down the Côte St. Luc Rd. hill into the school yard of Marymount Academy near the foot and headed west toward the Decarie express-

way.

Losing sight of it and hoping to head it off, patrollers drove north to Queen Mary Rd. and searched neighbouring streets, to no avail. On returning to Westmount, they were informed police had located Teddy at Clarke and Sherbrooke. But still, the dog would not be captured.

Off-duty PSO Jason Souza, who was jogging in Queen Elizabeth park at the time and knew the difficulty of corralling Teddy, joined the search that included the Aberdeen resident where Teddy was staying, and his daughter.

Teddy was finally boxed in at 3027 de Breslay, just over the east city limits into Montreal, at 6:06 pm.

Retail watch, p. 16

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‘We’re hopeful,’ Baxter says

WDOA presses city to create temporary winter dog run

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Now that a site for the new southwest dog run has been announced and until its boundaries have been defined, the Westmount Dog Owners’ Association is turning its attention to its request for the city to set up a temporary winter run.

“It doesn’t really matter where, just as long as it is an enclosure that can be used this winter,” its president Brian Baxter said last week.

While he made the request to city council at its meeting October 6, he said this is a priority since “it has been such a long road for dog owners that we’re hoping some snow fencing can be installed to create a place for the winter. We’re hopeful.”

The dog run at Lansdowne and St. Catherine was officially closed two years ago during the building of the Westmount recreation centre (WRC). The new site is not expected to be ready until June.

Details have yet to be worked out on the

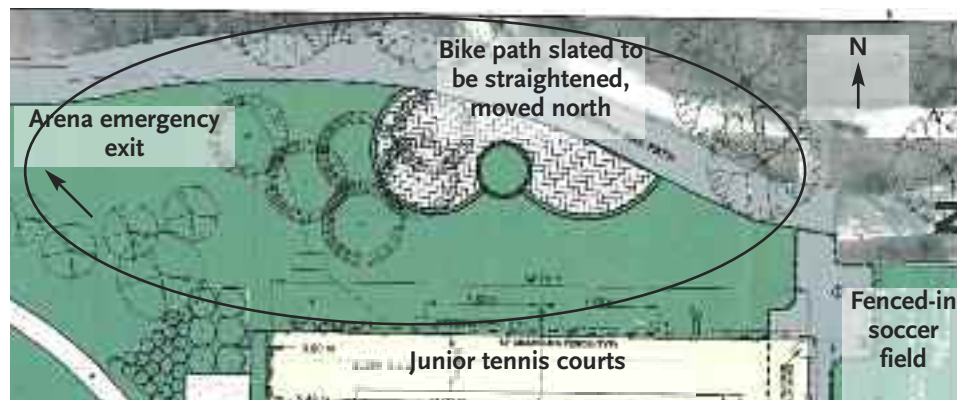
boundaries since the run will use some space to be captured by straightening out the bike path, which will move it further north into Westmount Park.

“We won’t know the final version of the new dog run until the city has decided what it’s doing to the bike path but ultimately, given where they intend to go on the edge of the arena roof, it’s a wide open space, which I think is great. My only con-

cern is over shade.”

While several tall trees are located between the bike path and the junior tennis courts, there are none on the green roof. “I walked around it with Councillor Cynthia Lulham, and it was like a prison yard.”

The further north the bike path goes, the more the dog run will move into shade, he added. “It will be lovely. Not just a square box.”



Rendering of the general area (circle approximately representing site), where the new dog run will be located between a straightened bike path to the north, the soccer field to the east, the junior tennis courts to the south and a part of the arena roof up to the edge of the emergency exit pavilion and ballooning south to include a portion of the grass roof of the arena, where the path is shown.

Illustration courtesy of the city of Westmount

Thief escapes after eluding Public Security

As public safety officers were conducting surveillance outside a dépanneur on St. Catherine just west of Atwater October 8, two teens wearing hoodies approached the store at 10:30 pm. One stood outside while the other entered.

The officers’ suspicions were immediately aroused, and suddenly one teen ran

out carrying a case of 12 beers. He was chased by the cashier. The one standing outside quickly joined him on the run and both headed into Alexis Nihon Plaza. Officers called off a pursuit due to a high volume of people in the mall. The store clerk was advised to call police.

		
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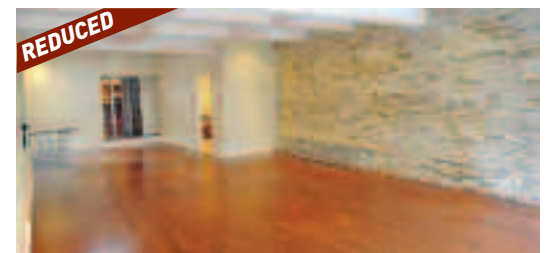
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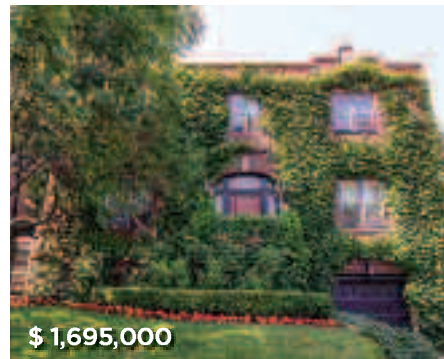
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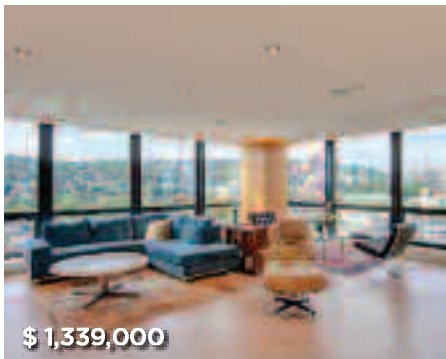
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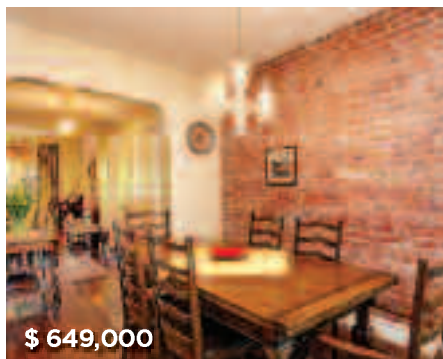
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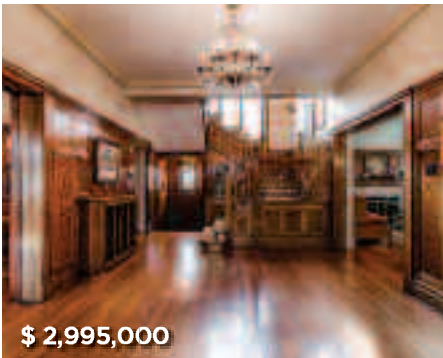
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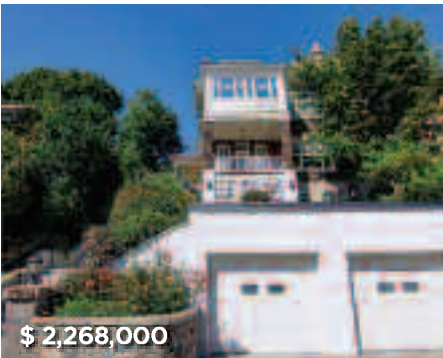
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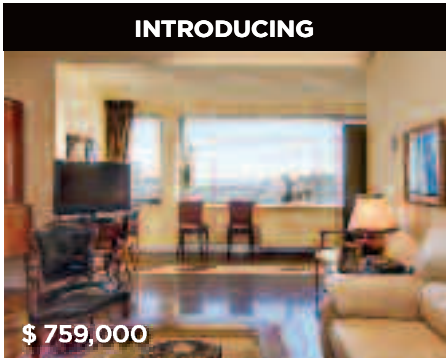
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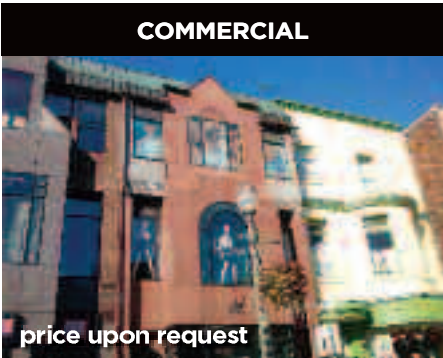
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PEANUT ‘BOGEYMEN’ MAY NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR RATS IN LOWER WESTMOUNT

This is further to the letter “Nuts!” (October 7, p. 26), regarding Councillor Cynthia Lulham’s exhortation to the population to call Public Security, apparently on “high alert,” if someone suspected of dropping peanuts is sighted in Westmount Park. This call-to-arms is a result of the councillor linking peanuts meant for squirrels with a possible rat infestation of the city, specifically her garden and possibly Westmount Park.

Almost every city and urban centre has rats. They burrow underground and are often able to enter homes via sewers, particularly in areas with aging and broken infrastructure such as Westmount. The writer of the letter correctly notes that if there is a problem with rats it may well be linked to the presence of domestic garbage left out for extended periods of time. Certainly there is food debris in Westmount Park, sometimes in overflowing trash containers, easily accessed by agile rodents.

However, there is another reason for the sudden or increased presence of rats in a neighbourhood, that has strangely been completely ignored by the city – con-

struction projects involving extensive demolition or excavation. This is a well-known phenomenon and cities like Cambridge, Massachusetts require a rodent control protocol be provided prior to approval of demolition and building permits involving excavation. This measure is done to mitigate the migration of rodents to other areas.

If there has been an alarming increase in rats in the gardens of lower Westmount over the past couple of years, and it’s a big “if,” we may have the MUHC and the deep underground arenas to thank.

Better management practices will help control this problem, not fantasizing about peanut bogeymen.

MAVIS YOUNG, MELVILLE AVE.

WATCH YOUR CAR IN THE REC. CENTRE PARKING LOT

A warning to all who park at the recreation centre: Watch out for drivers who will damage your car as they try to park and then just drive away without leaving a note, even an anonymous one apologizing. And be aware as well that there are folks out there who will willfully damage your car just for fun.

We have had the length of our car

“keyed” (scratched) with a metal object in the last few weeks, and two nights ago someone smashed the mirror assembly on the car.

The rarely patrolled parking lot seems to be a danger zone for cars you might care about. Watch out!

Maybe it’s time to install security cameras in the parking lot, which has over a thousand cars passing in and out of the small area from dawn to late at night every week.

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THANKS TO NEIGHBOURS FOR STAVING OFF FIRE

We would like to express our gratitude to the neighbours who took such quick action when a fire broke out on the second floor of our Irvine Ave. duplex September 26.

When it occurred, I was on my way home to Montreal after two weeks in Europe, and the woman who had been house-sitting my apartment during my absence was out walking my dog. As the downstairs occupants were also out, there was no one in the building when the fire started. The cause was a burner on the kitchen stove that had been left on.

Our next-door neighbours Greg and

Nicky Haimes; Neil, from Abbott Ave.; Benjamin and Marie-Hélène, his mother, two doors away; and perhaps others whose names we don’t know, all acted quickly.

The first to be aware of the fire was Ben, aged 3, who told his mother he could smell smoke, so she immediately called the fire department.

At the same time, Neil, who could hear the fire alarm and saw black smoke rising out of the window, jumped onto the roof of the shed behind our building and somehow managed to land on the upstairs porch, where he found the door open, grabbed the flaming saucepan from the stove and got it outside, then raced downstairs to open the door for the firemen.

No one was hurt, and there was very little damage to the property.

Thank you, everyone, for being such good neighbours. Without your help the consequences of this fire could have been far more serious. So often we read and hear of the sense of isolation experienced by city dwellers, but on this occasion it was clear that we are part of a caring, responsive community.

(Obviously from now on we will be doubly sure that everything is turned off whenever we leave the house.)

WENDY SCOTT, IRVINE AVE., AND
ELAINE BRUCE, IRVINE AVE.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

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EDITOR: Kristin McNeill

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Henin organizes team from Children’s, raises \$14K for breast cancer foundation



Photo courtesy of Zach Levine

Among the participants in a team from the Montreal Children’s Hospital that ran in the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation’s Run for the Cure were from left: Dr. Jade Seguin, Westmounter Dr. Samantha Dankoff, Dr. Yalin Lin, Dr. Sabrina Furtado, Westmounter Dr. Estelle Chetrit, Westmounter Dr. Gillian Seidman, Westmounter Dr. Catherine Henin, Dr. Catherine Millar and Dr. Annie Chaput. Henin, a pediatrician at the Children’s, was an organizer of the October 5 event. The team raised \$14,600.



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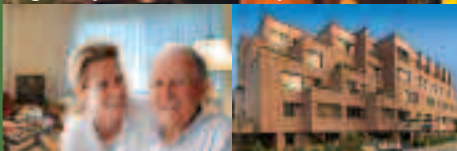


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Ward 3 showdown features mix of EMSB vets, newcomer

BY MICHAEL MOORE

The three-way race for the English Montreal School Board (EMSB)'s Ward 3 commissioner position will feature a pair of former colleagues running on opposing slates and an educational newcomer vying as an independent.

Current commissioners Ginette Sauvé-Frankel and Julien Feldman and newcomer Fergus Keyes will compete for one of 10 commissioner slots in the new slimmed-down EMSB board in the November 2 election.

As part of a province-wide school board reform, the EMSB is slashing its commissioner roster down from 23. For the first time, voters will also be able to select the board's chair, with incumbent Angela Mancini taking on journalist Anne Lagacé Dowson.

The reform has also led to the redrawing of the EMSB's electoral map. Westmount's three English public schools, Roslyn, Westmount Park and Westmount High, will be shifting to what is now Ward 3, alongside St. Gabriel elementary and

James Lyng High School, as well as outreach schools Options I and II, Venture and Vezina.

Despite the geographical rearrangement, Westmount voters will still recognize the familiar name of Sauvé-Frankel on the ballot as she seeks her third mandate as she runs on Mancini's slate.

First elected in 2003, Sauvé-Frankel had served as the commissioner overseeing the three Westmount schools, as well as the Mackay Centre in NDG, under the EMSB's previous map.

The daughter of former Quebec premier Paul Sauvé, Sauvé-Frankel instituted the EMSB's Green Plan during the last mandate and initiated the school board's Green Committee.

Sauvé-Frankel, who sports a background in marketing and communication, unsuccessfully ran in the Snowdon district of NDG as part of Team Denis Coderre in the 2013 municipal election, eventually finishing behind winner Marvin Rotrand.

Facing off against Sauvé-Frankel will be her commissioner colleague of the past seven years Julien Feldman, who will run with the support of Lagacé Dowson.

Feldman had previously overseen the now defunct Ward 13, which incorporated downtown, Park Extension and the Plateau and included Bancroft, FACE, MIND and Sinclair Laird schools.

Specializing in energy efficiency and renewable energy, Feldman served as the vice chairman of the EMSB's Finance and Legislation committee in his first mandate.

Like Sauvé-Frankel, Feldman launched an unsuccessful bid in the 2013 municipal election, finishing second to Colleen Feeney in the seat 3 race in Montreal West.

The two returning commissioners will be joined in the race by first-time candi-

date Keyes, the ward's only independent candidate.

Keyes had previously been tabbed this summer as a candidate on the slate of Montreal civil rights lawyer Brent Tyler, who pulled out of the chairman race two months after announcing his candidacy.

Now an independent, Keyes is hoping to bring his wealth of board-level experience to the EMSB. Keyes is the former chairman of the board of The Centaur Theatre and currently sits on the board of the Alzheimer's Society of Montreal and the Montreal Irish Monument Foundation.

In 2009, Keyes was unsuccessful in his bid for the Peter McGill city councillor position in Ville Marie.

Advanced polling for Ward 3 will take place on Sunday, October 26 at Westmount High between noon and 8 pm. On Sunday, November 2, voting will take place between 10 am and 8 pm at Westmount High and Roslyn in Westmount, as well as St. Gabriel in Pointe St. Charles and Options 1 in Côte St. Paul.



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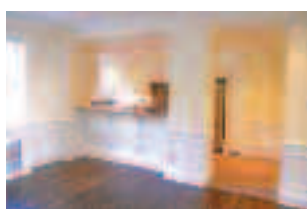


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Doorknob turns temperamental

A public safety officer assisted a woman into her house on Chesterfield Ave. October 12 after she had unlocked the door but was unable to turn an apparently defective doorknob, Public Security officials said. The officer finally managed to open the door but advised the resident not to use it until calling a locksmith. A neighbour had called Public Security for help at 8:26 am.

Ticket issued for feeding of wildlife

A resident of Melville was issued a ticket for \$147 October 7 for tossing peanuts to squirrels outside her house at 12:30 pm, Public Security officials said. On spotting the patroller, the woman was reported to have started sweeping up the evidence.

Signs turned away from bike lane

Metal construction signs on the Glen bike lane were turned in another direction to avoid being hit by cyclists October 12, a Sunday when no work was under way, Public Security officials said. The safety measure was taken following a complaint to officers at 1:24 pm.

Odour of gas in house left to Gaz Metro

An odour of gas inside a house on Winchester October 10 brought public safety officers and firefighters to the scene at 7:50 pm, Public Security officials said. The concentration did not constitute a danger, and Gaz Metro took charge of the problem.



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Will the Press Care Less About the Truth?

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by L. S. Cattarini

What you are about to read amounts to a nonpartisan warning regarding the power of the press. “The Story Behind the Rob Ford Story” was a notorious article published by *The Walrus* in March. It points to an ethical dilution in the vocation of journalism. Trash talk is a lot of fun until someone gets hurt. And cases of persons falsely accused are more likely now that the press is urged to feel liberated from its old motto: if you can’t prove it, you can’t print it.

What everyone in the media would rather not admit is that any offers of confidentiality to their sources are always a gamble, i.e. journalists are not omniscient; there’s no guarantee those sources are unimpeachable; to trust them implies an act of momentous negligence since it may well result in someone’s groundless condemnation.

Without sufficient corroboration veracity is compromised. Or does the printing of unsubstantiated rumour versus unsubstantiated counter-rumour really advance our freedom of speech? Such contradictory claims from two unidentified informants may well be entertaining, but is it legitimate news? Why would the publisher even care if he thinks the marketability of a scandal takes precedence over its actual truth?

The so-called “responsible communication defence” allows the media to inadvertently publish defamation since the reporter is deemed to have done his job to the best of his ability despite ignoring the possibility of having damaged blameless reputations. Without the explicit obligation to prove the truth, someone innocent may suffer character assassination – which could be prevented if the source giving false information knew he had to face his victim instead of hiding behind a shield of anonymity.

Does this mean the press will tolerate new levels of reckless disregard toward anyone potentially guiltless? Ultimately, rather than “a good story” the reporter owes the public the truth, however carefully he or she may have to proceed in unearthing it – and however small the result, considering to what extent those involved refuse to assist that process. Nonetheless, just because people fail to reveal the facts doesn’t mean journalists should find new excuses to help, in effect, fabricate those facts. The press is guilty of endorsing lies whenever it collaborates in concealing them.

Perhaps we should refuse the noble objectives of the media. After all, no revelations will take place in a sick society – no crusading reporter will cure it – without the gift of its own unequivocal consent. A complex spectacle of mere allegations offers us nothing but a fascination with conspiracy. We should simply expect less. Journalism is a mirror, not a panacea.



SÉANCE PUBLIQUE D’INFORMATION AU SUJET DU CUSM LE LUNDI 27 OCTOBRE

Vous êtes invités à assister à une séance d’information concernant le bruit provenant de l’installation Glen du Centre universitaire de santé M^cGill. La séance, coordonnée par la Ville de Westmount, aura lieu le lundi 27 octobre à 19 h à l’Hôtel de Ville, 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest. Des représentants du CUSM et l’entrepreneur seront présents.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING CONCERNING THE MUHC MONDAY, OCTOBER 27TH

You are invited to attend an information meeting concerning noise emanating from the M^cGill University Health Centre’s Glen Campus facility. The meeting, hosted by the City of Westmount, will take place Monday, October 27th at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 4333 Sherbrooke Street West. Representatives of the MUHC and its contractor will be present.

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The one advance poll for the EMSB District 3 election is scheduled for Sunday, October 26th, from noon until 8pm, at Westmount High School.

Authorized by Fergus V. Keyes, Candidate

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Also concerned about future construction

Residents ask city to preserve ‘heritage’ tree on Chesterfield

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A petition to preserve a large silver maple at 58 Chesterfield was submitted to the city two weeks ago by a group of residents on the street and in the neighbourhood in light of concerns it might be taken down if a new house were to be built on property near it.

The group, which numbered 23 last week, also asks that the city require the architecture of any new house that might be built on a garden or adjacent lot behind it respect the “Victorian” spirit of the “character area,” already defined by the city as having “high” heritage value.

The tree in question is described by the petitioners as a “heritage” tree reflecting the character of the neighbourhood. It was one that was heavily pruned recently just behind a parking apron (see story October 14, p. 14).

While city by-law provisions regulate the removal of trees at the front of a pri-

vate property, they do not specifically govern “heritage” trees.

Heidi Lein, a Chesterfield resident living across the street from the tree in question, said she is hoping the city will, however, adhere to a city guideline on landscape design stating that “every attempt should be made to preserve large caliper trees.”

“It’s a beautiful tree,” she said. “It was drastically pruned. It’s heart-breaking. It was a kind of an emotional thing for many residents who wanted to make their concerns known to the Urban Planning department.”

The buildings and charm of this particular corner of Chesterfield are really very “period,” Lein pointed out.

“We’re hoping that whatever might be constructed that the architecture and design be in keeping with the spirit of this character area and that the tree be preserved.”

Holden Rothman two-time finalist in national book awards



Claire Holden Rothman
Photo courtesy of Arthur Holden

In an October 7 press release issued by the Canadian Council for the Arts, Westmounter Claire Holden Rothman was named a finalist for the 2014 Governor General’s Literary Award for fiction.

My *October* involves a Québécois family in turmoil

in 2001: An anglophone mother who works as a translator, a father who is a famous nationalist francophone writer, and their son. Both parents were connected to the 1970 October crisis.

Published by Penguin Canada, Holden Rothman’s book was longlisted for the 2014 Giller Prize in September.

Her first novel, *The Heart Specialist*, was longlisted for the 2009 Giller Prize. The Governor General’s Literary Award winners will be announced on November 18.

Trees, cont’d. from p. 1

“We aren’t opposing the plan,” said Councillor Theodora Samiotis, Urban Planning commissioner. “But we submitted reservations regarding its impact on the city’s ability to implement the requirements within the one-year time frame if the proposal is agreed to after public consultations.”

The management of permits for all tree removal is one example of the challenge that would ensue, she said. As it is, tree permits have to go through the Board of Inspections before going to the Planning Advisory Committee and then to council.

In fact, the more stringent regulations “are going to impose a big financial burden on people because we have so many trees in Westmount,” said Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier. The current fee for a tree permit is \$100.

The 4-inch diameter trunk size also means that many cedars and other coniferous trees would be included since they typically have smaller trunks,” explained Councillor Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Parks and Sustainability.

The news regarding trees will likely be welcomed by those residents hoping fewer trees will be cut down.

It may not be so welcome, however, by those whose back yards are so shaded they cannot grow gardens or enjoy the full value of the land they possess, said Mayor Peter Trent.

In fact, this abundance of trees in Westmount was the main reason the city chose a more lenient approach to permits during a heated debate on the topic some 20 years ago, he recalled.

“People become very emotional over tree cutting and pruning. They often don’t realize it may be necessary for safety, for the health of a tree or to let in some sun or light.”

And as Poirier puts it: “Neighbours may be upset when a tree next door is cut but what they have enjoyed is really a borrowed view.” Details of the city’s by-law provisions regarding trees are contained in the zoning by-law, 1303.

Permits may be issued for a tree that is dead or incurably diseased or presents a danger or seriously impedes the expansion or development of a property.

The content of the agglomeration’s land use plan incorporates a vision and principles of the regional plan from the Montreal Metropolitan Community based on Quebec’s Land Use and Development Law (see August 31, 2011).

While the tree requirements are more stringent than what Westmount has, “We’re much farther ahead” in most other aspects of planning and development, Samiotis said.

Moving to the Glen site

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

The McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), the Shriners Hospitals for Children – Canada, the Quebec Transportation Minister, the Société de transport de Montréal, the Agence métropolitaine de transport, the Ville de Montréal and the Borough of Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce invite you to a public information session to inform you about the upcoming MUHC move and surrounding work in the neighbourhood.

WHAT? Public Information Session

WHEN? October 28, 2014 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

WHERE? 5100, De Maisonneuve Blvd. West, Glen Hall
(Vendôme metro)

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Westmount gets ready for Halloween



On display for the last few weeks, pumpkins are seemingly sprouting up all over this property on Belvedere Rd.

Photos: WI

‘Alice in Horrorland’ theme of Halloween haunted house

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

This year’s version of the city’s haunted house takes on a borrowed version of a well-known story under the theme of “Alice in Horrorland.”

The banner announcing the event for Halloween night, Friday, October 31, was strung up last week over the lawn bowling clubhouse facing Sherbrooke St. next to city hall as Public Security planners began transforming the interior.

“For younger children who may be too scared to go inside, we’ll have pumpkins and candy and other decorations on the balcony,” said Public Security director Greg McBain.

The attraction will be open from 5 pm to 8 pm when, as in previous years, hundreds of visitors are expected to attend. Reflective tape for costumes is also to be distributed to the younger trick-or-treaters.

While no admission is charged to visit the attraction, donations are requested for Leucan, a foundation that provides support for children with cancer and their families.

Organized this year by Sgt. Steve Payne, parking inspector Pierre Thibault and PSO Sabrina Tremblay, the haunted house was initiated several years ago to replace Public Security’s longstanding house decorating competition and to provide an activity for older kids in particular.

Additional patrols will be on the streets however, both on Halloween and on Mat Night, the night before, to help protect trick-or-treaters and guard against mischief. “Halloween being a Friday night this year, we’re also prepared for a lot of noise complaints from parties,” McBain said.

Public safety officers were also arranging with elementary schools in Westmount last week for an opportunity to visit classes from grades 1 to 4 to provide them with Halloween safety tips, McBain said. The Study and Roslyn are among others confirmed at the end of last week.

These tips include the need to trick-or-treat with an adult or in groups, to carry flashlights, be careful crossing streets and wear light-coloured costumes that are easily visible to drivers.



On Upper Lansdowne the spooks are already out, with spiders and friendlier looking straw characters on the staircase.

Caught for ringing and running

Three 14-year-olds were caught by public safety officers opposite 319 Grosvenor October 4 after reports of youths ringing doorbells and running away, Public Security officials said. The three were intercepted following a description provided by

a complainant at 9:55 pm about young people ringing doorbells in the area of Lansdowne. They were identified as two Westmount residents and one living downtown. All were warned about their activity.



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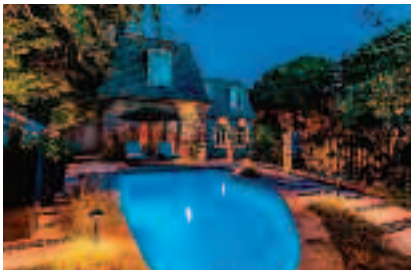
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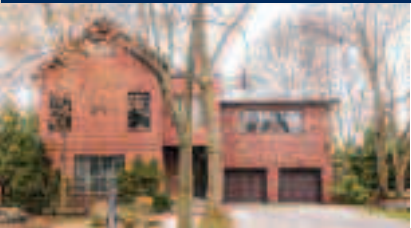


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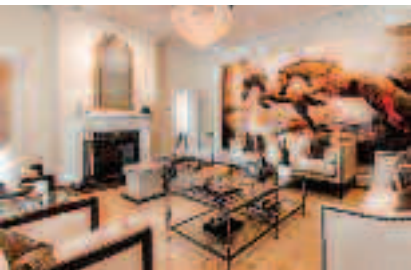
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Light bulb ignites curtain: fire officials
Neighbour leads senior to safety from apartment fire

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A small fire October 14 in an apartment at 3033 Sherbrooke, Chequers Place, was reported to have been confined to the one unit caused by a curtain ignited by a light bulb next to an air conditioner, fire officials said. No injuries were reported.

The occupant, an elderly woman, was already out of the apartment on the arrival of firefighters. She was reported as having been led to safety by a neighbour, said fire department communications agent Mélanie Drouin.

"I heard the alarm go off next door and a bang when the ceiling fell and noticed smoke coming from the air conditioner when I went out to the balcony," said Danielle Jasmin, who declined credit at first for helping her neighbour to safety.

"I went to her door, saw the smoke and called 911. I think she was in a state of shock and just needed urging to get out. It's a normal reaction."

Jasmin then led the woman, who had a cast on one foot, down the stairs from the 10th floor along with her own dog.

"It was my natural instinct," she said, explaining that she is a consultant in transitional relocation and housing changes related mainly to aging. She said she admired "the superb" way the firefighters responded and the building staff reacted.

The incident, however, raised concerns over the behaviour of a number of seniors in the face of an emergency, Jasmin said. Some seemed reluctant to leave their apartments, though the affected 10th floor was the only one reported to have been evacuated.

Maintain functional alarm

"It's so important to have a functional smoke detector," said Drouin, who noted that the quick discovery of the fire enabled firefighters to contain it to one room. Damage to a neighbouring apartment, Jasmin's, was limited to a wall and ceiling, which firefighters opened to check for the possible extension of fire.

The fire broke out around 5 pm at the Chequers Place, the larger white building that straddles the border with Montreal just east of Chequers Court, a red brick building at the corner of Vignal.

Jasmin said the incident drove home the message she gives seniors she works with: to acquaint themselves with the building plan for evacuation and to leave when told or when they see smoke in their place.

She also noted how it was particularly important for them to prevent fires in the first place by being aware of the hazards of cooking, leaving it unattended or reaching over the stove while wearing loose cloth-



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Street corners flooded

Wind, rain topple city tree branches, damage vehicles

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Heavy wind and rain October 8 and 9 caused intersections to flood and limbs or sections of city trees to fall on parked vehicles and at least one house in seven separate incidents documented by Public Security.

The first report came on October 8, a Wednesday, at 7 am when heavy rain flooded street corners on Sherbrooke as well as The Boulevard, officials said. Public Works was called to unblock the drains.

At 5:15 pm, a large branch was found to have fallen on Summit Cresc. right beside a Porsche that escaped damage.

The next day, a branch was reported at 1:52 pm to have fallen on the hood and roof of a car parked on the west side of Claremont just south of Côte St. Antoine, officials said. The car belonged to a Town of Mount Royal resident.

Minutes later, at 2 pm, officers noticed a large part of a tree that had fallen on a Canada Post truck “illegally parked,” they

said, on the sidewalk at the southwest corner of Victoria and Windsor. The truck’s hood, windshield and left fender were smashed and the garden at 4 Windsor damaged (see October 14, p. 1). No injuries were reported and the driver, who had not been in the truck at the time, had already called a tow truck.

At 2:11 pm, a call was received from a nearby resident on Victoria to say a branch had fallen on the neighbour’s car, smashing the windshield and denting the roof on the left side. Officers returned at 4 pm to take a city claim form to the owner of the Mini Cooper.

Two cars in adjacent parking aprons on de Maisonneuve west of Prince Albert may also have been damaged, though their owners were absent at the time. Public Works employees alerted Public Security to the possibility when they were picking up branches at 7:36 pm.

On October 10 it was reported that a branch had fallen on the roof of a house on Lewis, damaging a gable.

ing. Curtains also should be kept away from sources of heat such as light bulbs, heaters and candles.

She also said that following the recent fire, she is going to follow another suggestion she gives others: “I’m going out to

buy myself a small portable extinguisher.”

An item of minor historical interest: the Independent covered a fire at 3033 Sherbrooke on p. 1 of its very first issue (May 16, 2007). It was a small, freak peat fire on a balcony. No one was injured.



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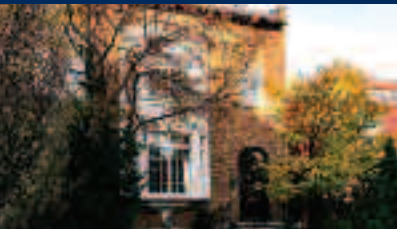
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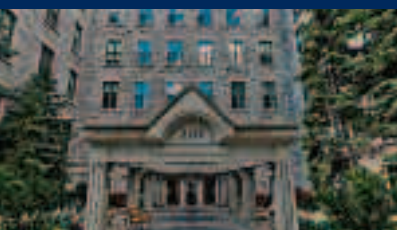
RENOVATED DETACHED HOME \$1,295,000
WESTMOUNT ADJ. | MLS 17934103

RECENTLY REDUCED



CHARMING HOME \$995,000
WESTMOUNT | MLS 23025875

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PERFECT ONE BDRM UNIT \$480,000
LE MANOIR BELMONT | MLS 11576961

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UPON GRADUATION STUDENTS RECEIVE A QUEBEC SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Retailers on Sherbrooke open,

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Sherbrooke St. in Westmount between Prince Albert and Claremont has been buzzing with activity lately. Some store owners have been relocating within the same area, while renovators have been kept busy carrying out alterations in vacated premises.

Previously located at 4886 on the south side of Sherbrooke, the owners of the shoe retailer Chou Chou moved over the past summer to 4875A Sherbrooke on the opposite side of the street.

The move came about after their neigh-



Chou Chou needed larger premises and moved to the north side of Sherbrooke, according to store manager John Graziano.

bour, Maska women's designer wear, decided to double the size of its premises.

Chou Chou, which sells high-end women's footwear from Europe, also needed a larger space. "We needed something bigger," said John Graziano, one of the store's managers.

In the meantime Maska, which features an all-Italian line of women's fashions, has a new store layout with evenly distributed lighting. "Everything has been renovated, and we are now double the size we were before," Maska store manager Linda Soussan said.



Maska sales clerk Deborah Pinto models an item from the recently expanded store.

This summer also brought changes to Sherbrooke St. gift and housewares store Ben & Tournesol. The Ben & Tournesol bedding department has been moved to make room for the Wilfred and Adrienne kitchenwares section.

Flore, which was located at 5008 Sherbrooke for years, completed a long-anticipated move over the summer to a new and renovated location less than a block east at 4932 Sherbrooke. "We now have a ceiling



Flore owners Denis D'Etcheverry, left, and Gilles Lord moved their floral services boutique less than a block east on Sherbrooke St.

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Mochico moved into the former American Apparel outlet at Claremont and Sherbrooke.

move, expand, close



A pedestrian walks past Ben & Tournesol on October 3.

21 feet high,” said Flore co-owner Denis D’Etcheverry. Several walls in the new location are also decorated with art pieces created by local artists.

On the north-east corner of Claremont and Sherbrooke, the space previously occupied by American Apparel was taken over October 12 by the Mochico footwear chain.

In the meantime, another footwear retailer, La Canadienne, is in the midst of renovating a location on the south side of Sherbrooke east of Claremont for an opening also expected this fall.

A new restaurant was set to open on October 20 at 4922 Sherbrooke St. Ac-

cording to a spokesperson, Lea features Portuguese and Spanish cuisine, with many of the dishes served in platters to be shared.

Things are happening elsewhere too. In a post on Instagram on October 8, Park Restaurant owner and head chef Antonio Park said people have been asking him when his new restaurant, Lavanderia, will be opening at 374 Victoria next to Park Restaurant. “It will be open when it will be ready!” he said. “It’s like food, it’s only ready when the flavours come together.”

Longtime Victoria Ave. Asiatic restaurant Tao has moved and is now located on Decarie Blvd. near Monkland in NDG.



The outside of Lea, a new restaurant, taken October 18.

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353 Ch de la Corniche, Piedmont 3 bedroom, fireplace, 2 acres, on mountain facing Mont St Sauveur. \$389,000 MLS 22973931



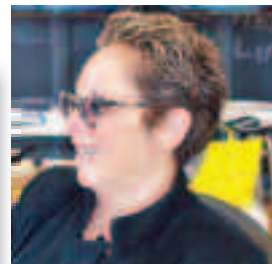
320-320A Elm Ave., Westmount Located on the flat, this 4+2 bedrooms, 3+1 bathrooms Victorian townhouse has been fully renovated. Private entrance to basement apartment. \$1,979,000 MLS 23867522



1461 Rue St. Alexandre, Montreal Located in the Quartier des Spectacles, this gorgeous 3016 sq.ft. commercial condo has a street-level entrance and 12½ foot ceilings. \$1,875,000 MLS 10210112



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2014.10.21 • Vol. 2/19
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infoWestmount

HÔTEL DE VILLE

CUSM : séance publique d'information

Le lundi 27 octobre à 19 h à l'Hôtel de Ville, 4333, rue Sherbrooke O. Vous êtes invité à assister à une séance publique coordonnée par la Ville concernant le bruit provenant de l'installation Glen du Centre universitaire de santé McGill. Des représentants du CUSM seront présents.

Projet Turcot : séance publique d'information

Le mercredi 26 novembre à 19 h. Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest. Le public est invité à une séance publique au sujet de la reconstruction de l'échangeur Turcot. Un représentant du ministère des Transports du Québec expliquera les travaux à venir et les impacts sur Westmount.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Comité de la bibliothèque publique

Appel aux résidents : le conseil municipal cherche à combler deux postes vacants au sein du comité de la bibliothèque publique. Nommés pour trois ans, les candidats retenus devront offrir leur temps et leurs compétences de façon bénévole dans le but d'aider le comité à remplir son mandat, c'est-à-dire qu'elle maintienne sa liberté et son indépendance intellectuelles. Tout résident intéressé est prié de soumettre sa candidature au plus tard le vendredi 7 novembre à l'attention de madame Nicole Forbes, présidente du Comité de la bibliothèque publique, 4574, rue Sherbrooke O., H3Z 1G1. Info : 514-989-5429.

Rencontre d'auteur : Paul Almond

Le mercredi 22 octobre à 19 h. L'auteur de *The Alford Saga*. **ÉVÈNEMENT ANNULÉ** Info : 514 989-5299.

Extravanza de l'Halloween – mille et une nuits !

Le samedi 25 octobre 19h à 21h. Décorez une citrouille à la maison (aucun découpage, s.v.p.!) et apportez-la à la Bibliothèque au plus tard le 24 octobre pour obtenir un billet d'entrée à la 17^e édition de la Grande fête familiale de l'Halloween. Enfilez ensuite votre costume d'Halloween et venez vous amuser. Les citrouilles gagnantes seront annoncées lors du gala. (5 ans et plus). Billets requis Info: 514 989-5229.

Rencontre d'auteure : Ann-Marie MacDonald

Le dimanche 26 octobre à 14 h au Victoria Hall. Rencontrez l'auteure du roman *Adult Onset*. Soirée offerte en collaboration avec la librairie Paragraphe. Billets requis. Info : 514 989-5299.

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Le mercredi 29 octobre à 10 h 15. Info : 514 989-5299.

Devinez qui remportera le prix Giller

Le jeudi 6 novembre à 19 h. Venez rencontrer Shelley Pomerance et le personnel de la Bibliothèque qui discuteront des six romans canadiens présélectionnés pour le prix Giller, le prix littéraire le plus prestigieux du Canada. RSVP: 514 989-5299.

Prochaine séance du conseil :

le lundi 3 novembre

ÉVÈNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Exposition : Catherine Young Bates

Jusqu'au 8 novembre; Galerie du Victoria Hall. La galerie est fière de présenter les œuvres de Catherine Young Bates, RCA. Info : 514 989-5521.

Concert: The Choirboys

Le mercredi 22 octobre à 19 h. Victoria Hall. Une soirée mettant en vedette des musiciens parmi les plus talentueux de Montréal, au profit de la **Campagne pour nos enfants du YMCA de Westmount**, et à la **Zone jeunesse du CLW**. Billets : 20 \$, (au YMCA et au Victoria Hall) ou 25 \$ à l'entrée. Bar payant et encaissement silencieux à compter de 19 h ; concert à 20 h. Info et réservations : 514 979-6255 ou vanessa.valente@ymcaquebec.org.

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.

Concert : Babaloune

Le mercredi 5 novembre à 13 h ; Victoria Hall. Une fable écologique contée par une énorme et très sage baleine. Pour les jeunes de 4 à 10 ans. Gratuit. Info : 514 932-5226.

Salon des métiers d'art de Westmount

Les samedi et dimanche 8 et 9 novembre de 10 h à 17 h au Victoria Hall. Trouvez le cadeau parfait parmi une sélection impressionnante d'objets confectionnés à la main par des artisans du quartier. Entrée : denrées non périssables ou 2 \$ pour la collecte annuelle d'aliments du Service de la sécurité publique.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

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

Changez l'horloge, changez les piles

Le dimanche 2 novembre. Les membres de l'équipe de la sécurité publique tiennent à vous rappeler de remplacer les piles de vos avertisseurs de fumée lors du retour à l'heure normale de l'Est, la nuit du samedi 1^{er} novembre au dimanche 2 novembre. Ce petit geste pourrait vous sauver la vie !



CITY HALL

MUHC: public information session

Monday, October 27 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 4333 Sherbrooke St. W. You are invited to attend an information meeting hosted by the City concerning noise emanating from the McGill University Health Centre's Glen Campus facility. Representatives of the MUHC will be present.

Turcot project: public information session

Wednesday, November 26 at 7 p.m. 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

Public Library Committee

City Council is looking for two new Westmount citizen members for the Public Library Committee. Appointed for a three-year term, successful candidates are expected to volunteer their time and expertise to help the Committee with its mandate to ensure that the Library complies with the terms of its Mission Statement and that it maintains its intellectual freedom and independence. If this challenge is of interest to you, please submit a written application by Friday, November 7, 2014 to the attention of Nicole Forbes, Chairperson, Public Library Committee, 4574 Sherbrooke St. W., H3Z 1G1. Info: 514-989-5429.

Author event: Paul Almond

Wednesday, October 22 at 7 p.m. the author of *The Alford Saga*. **EVENT CANCELED** Info: 514 989-5299.

Halloween Extravaganza : 1001 nights!

Saturday, October 25 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Decorate a pumpkin at home (no carving please) and bring it to the Library by October 24th. Then, pick up your ticket for the 17th annual Family Extravaganza and join us in costume at the Library on October 25th. Prizes will be awarded for the pumpkin contest. A family event for children ages 5+. Tickets required. Info: 514 989-5229.

Author event: Ann-Marie MacDonald

Sunday, October 26 at 2 p.m. Victoria Hall. Meet the author of *Adult Onset*. Presented in collaboration with Paragraphe Bookstore. Tickets required. Info: 514 989-5299.

Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Wednesday, October 29, 10:15 a.m. Info: 514 989-5299.

Guess the Giller Soirée

Thursday, November 6 at 7 p.m. Join Shelley Pomerance and Library staff as they discuss the six Canadian novels on the Giller shortlist, Canada's most prestigious literary prize. RSVP: 514 989-5299.

Next Council Meeting:

Monday, November 3

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Exhibition: Catherine Young Bates

Until November 8; Gallery at Victoria Hall. The Gallery is pleased to feature works by Catherine Young Bates, RCA. Info: 514 989-5521.

Concert: The Choirboys

Wednesday, October 22 at 7 p.m. Victoria Hall. An evening featuring some of Montreal's most talented musicians. All proceeds to the **Westmount YMCA Strong Kids Campaign** and the **YMCA/WRC Youth Zone**. Tickets: \$20 (available at the YMCA and at Victoria Hall), or \$25 at the door. Cash bar and silent auction from 7 p.m., concert at 8 p.m. Info and reservations: 514 979-6255 or vanessa.valente@ymcaquebec.org.



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, presented by the Public Safety team. Info : 514 932-5468.

Concert: Babaloune

Wednesday, November 5 at 1 p.m. at Victoria Hall. An ecological fable narrated by a gigantic, very wise old whale. Ages 4 to 10. Free. Info: 514 932-5226.

Westmount Artisans' Festival

Saturday & Sunday, November 8 & 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Find the perfect gift ; choose from a wide range of quality handcrafted items made by local artisans. Admission: non-perishable food items or \$2 for Public Security's annual holiday food drive.

PUBLIC WORKS

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. N.B.: only PAPER BAGS are accepted. Info: 514 989-5390.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Change the clock, change the batteries

Sunday, November 2. The Westmount Public Security team reminds everyone to take advantage of the return to Eastern Standard Time the night of Saturday, November 1st to Sunday, November 2nd to replace the batteries in all smoke detectors while adjusting the clocks. This small action could save your life!



Mattress, beer confiscated

Homeless issue persists despite plans for assistance

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The issue of itinerants displaced over the summer by the refurbishing of Cabot Square continues to raise concerns and cause disruption in the southeast section of Westmount, according to recent Public Security reports.

Despite a number of coordinated efforts this year between Public Security, police, social workers, missions and city officials from both Westmount and Montreal to find assistance for the homeless, a more adequate solution still has to be found, said district councillor Theodora Samiotis last week.

“We don’t seem to be winning the war,” she said.

While Westmount contributed \$21,000 to help pay for two outreach workers, the problem appears to focus around a number of itinerants, known by name to authorities, whose behaviour has not changed, she said (see May 6, p. 1).

City officials were scheduled to meet with police at the end of last week to obtain an updating of the situation. “We’re

hoping to get resources to help with what’s a chronic issue for all of the downtown area,” she said after the meeting.

Most of the recent Public Security reports involve intoxication, drinking on sidewalks and in lanes. One of several favourite areas for congregating – a recessed entrance and doorway to the now closed Buffalo Bill’s restaurant on St. Catherine near Atwater – was boarded up recently.

In one of several incidents, public safety officers were dispatched October 11 at 10 am for “an intoxicated vagrant” carrying a mattress at St. Catherine and Atwater.

They found a person they knew well walking north on Atwater dragging a queen-size mattress between cars blocking the passage of an STM bus and obstructing traffic, saying the city would steal his bed. As officers approached to speak to him he was reported to have flung his fists in the air.

Because of the commotion, possible danger to himself and others, police were called and, with a car close by, responded almost immediately. After several minutes of swearing and yelling, the man was ordered to get off the street, the mattress was taken from him and he departed.

At 4:24 pm the same day, a Saturday, public safety officers confiscated a large bottle of beer being drunk by a man also well-known to them outside a dépanneur at 4014 St. Catherine, just west of Atwater. He was told to leave, as were a group of four others an hour later outside the same dépanneur who were sharing a large beer of 10-percent alcohol.

Police Report

Wheelchair ramp stolen from stairs of Strathcona home

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 12-foot aluminum wheelchair ramp was stolen from outside a Strathcona Ave. home sometime between October 10 and 12, according to a citizen’s report filed at Station 12.

There were no witnesses or video surveillance that captured the reported theft of the aluminum ramp, which had been connected to the house’s exterior stairs.

The unique nature of the item and the lack of any witnesses make it difficult to pin down the exact motive of the thief, according to Station 12 constable Adalbert Pimentel.

“There are precious metals that are sold and can be quite valuable, like copper wire and plumbing, so on construction sites those were targeted,” explained Pimentel, who said he has never heard of a wheel-

chair ramp being stolen.

“It could be the case that they were looking for [aluminum]. It could be that the suspect was looking for that specific item. It’s hard to say what the motive is with the information we have right now.”

Pimentel applauded the resident for reporting the incident to police, saying that while the limited information may not lead to an immediate arrest, all incidents can help police analysts build profiles and establish motives that can lead to breaks in cases at a later date.

“Every crime [report] is given to an investigator. When there are no fingerprints, witnesses or leads, there’s an analyst who looks into MOs with the help of software to look at similar crimes,” he said.

“Even if the investigator can’t go any further right now, it doesn’t mean [the investigation] won’t in the future. We see events that don’t have much [information] besides the item that’s stolen eventually used in an accusation against the suspect later on.”

PSOs suggest women seek more visible areas for protection

An intoxicated vagrant was asked to move to a better lit area for her own protection at 12:10 am October 2, Public Security officials said. She was spotted in a lane sitting on the back steps of 4050 St. Catherine. At 12:57 am, patrollers noticed

another woman in the same lane being “accosted” by a man known to patrollers. She was also told to move to a bench that would be safer than the lane and where officers could keep an eye out for her.

Running shoes found on sidewalk

A “disoriented” man was found walking barefoot October 11 at 3:28 am on Irvine at St. Catherine, Public Security officials said. Urgences Santé was called to treat cuts, bruises and a black eye. The 56-year-old was transported to hospital. It was not known whether white running shoes found on the sidewalk at Abbott belonged to him.

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Anyone up for an energetic beagle?




The Underdog Club
JAYME WILMANN

Max, aka Houdini, is an adorable but very energetic two-year-old beagle with a zest for life – and a penchant for getting into trouble. His current owners are seniors who have rescued dogs in the past, but this was a dog that needed more stimulation, exercise and training (beagles can be a very challenging breed), than they could offer. They want to do right by their charge by finding him a home which could meet his energetic needs.

Max is friendly with everyone, loves to cuddle and wants to be petted and scratched all the time.

He does, however, tend to eat things when he gets bored, is not fully house-trained and, like all beagles, is an escape artist! Yet much of his bad behaviour is caused from lack of exercise and consistency in training and can be easily remedied with a few positive changes.

Beagles and their noses



Beagles love to follow their noses, which can get them in trouble, but in Max's case it also makes food an amazing training tool, as he will do just about anything for a treat. He is very amenable to training and is genuinely eager

to please. Max's fans are looking for owners who can spend a bit of time and have some patience while working with him.

Shouldn't be alone too long

This beagle would do very well in a home where he isn't alone for too long during the day – and a house with a fenced-in yard would be an asset. He can live in a lively family home with cats and kids (the more the merrier!), but would be just as happy with a single person or a couple. The main thing that Max needs is lots of exercise. He is happier and calmer after his walks, so an active owner would be ideal for him.

If you are a match for this high energy boy, contact Mary Lou Fletcher at 514.512.0976 or marylou915ph@yahoo.ca.

For more misfits, visit underdogclub.org

Barking ticketed on Mount Stephen

A \$76 ticket was issued to a dog owner on Mount Stephen October 7 when a neighbour complained to Public Security at 11:31 am about a dog that barked intermittently in the back yard, officials said. After hearing it, officers issued a ticket along with a warning to obtain a dog licence. The resident was reported to have had previous dog by-law offences.

Shook hands and made up

An altercation between two drivers involved in a traffic accident October 7 on Côte St. Antoine was settled when a passing patroller intervened at 4:04 pm, Public Security officials said. After 10 minutes, the two men apologized, shook hands and agreed to go on their way. The cars sustained only minor scratches.

La Residence Fulford Residence

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Fulford Residence is a private non-profit continuing care residence for senior ladies. This gracious facility provides a special combination of residential living, activities, support and health care designed to meet the individual needs of each resident.

Located on Guy Street, this lovely Victorian house, built in 1859, was once the home of a wealthy Montreal family. With a wide verandah and well-kept flower gardens, the residents are able to enjoy an outdoor setting, as well as indoor spaces for groups or for quiet, activities. Dr. Hew is always on-call, visiting through the week, and working alongside Head Nurse Sylvie Castonguay. With caring staff available 24 hours a day, home-cooked meals to meet every taste, professionals and volunteers who visit to provide services and activities, the ladies of Fulford enjoy a quality of life that encourages individual strengths and abilities.

Fulford's rates are reasonable and competitive. If you are looking for a caring environment for a lady of senior years, please visit Fulford to understand the essence of this very special place.

Fulford Residence is recognized for the high quality of its care and services by the Conseil Quebecois D'Agrement.

For additional information, you are invited to visit the Fulford website:
www.fulfordresidence.com
or call to speak to a member of the Management Team,

514-933-7975

The ladies of Fulford will welcome you!

News item: Trent characterized choosing the new dog run site as "cutting the Gordian knot."



September sales: Flat market



Mood of the Market

ANDY DODGE, CRA

The following article relates to offers to purchases of Westmount residential dwellings that were reported by local real estate agents as having been accepted in September 2014. Because they are not final registered sales, the addresses cannot be made public but give a good idea of current trends in local real estate activity. The graph offers a picture of these

trends over time.

Volume picked up in September, but only among the lower prices as 11 Westmount houses sold for an average \$1,191,000. Six of the sales were for less than \$1 million, the first time more than half the sales were under the \$1-million mark since July of 2011.

The highest price was \$2,030,000 for a detached stone home in central Westmount, and prices went down from there to \$605,000 for a small semi-detached house on Hillside Ave., alongside the CPR right-of-way. The average mark-up over municipal valuation was 13 percent, pushing up the average adjusted price of the

“typical” Westmount home to more than \$1.6 million, but that hardly tells the whole story. While many sellers expressed elation with the results of the April 7 Quebec election, it appears buyers are still worried over the prospect of a return to a Parti Québécois government at some time in the future, and the election has not resulted in an economic boost to the province. If new money were to come into the province, there is no doubt much of it would be invested in Westmount homes, but unfortunately it appears there is little new money finding its way here, at least not yet. Agents are complaining that vendors are relying on municipal valuations as a guide to an acceptable price; in fact, four houses sold for less than valuation in September, the biggest markdown was 14 percent.

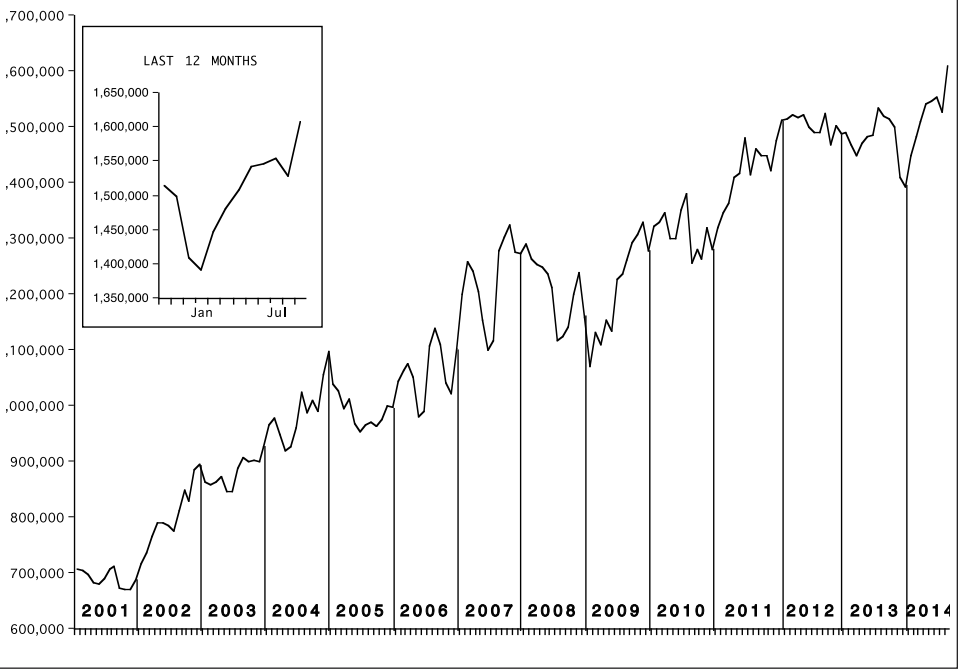
We also recognize that September last year was featured by low prices, as well, ranging from \$535,000 to \$1,950,000, and five of 14 sales were for less than \$1 million. The average price then was \$1,178,393, so it might be said that this year is up by one percent. This is just another indication that the market is basically flat, even if the average mark-up is

higher.

Only one condominium sale was reported in September, for just under municipal evaluation, and in fact for the third quarter (counting six sales in July, none in August) the average condo sold for three percent less than valuation.

Actually, prices did better in adjacent-Westmount areas, with three sales just west of the city limits and four more just to the east, averaging \$1,361,571 and with all continued on p. 22

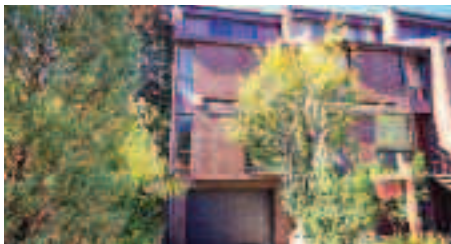
Average adjusted price of ‘typical’ Westmount home, by month, Jan. 2001 to Sept. 2014, based on accepted offer dates.



Westmount - Spectacular Views!

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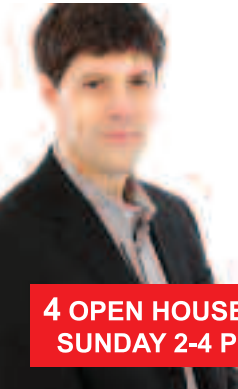
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Students asked to leave

Public safety officers intervened with two groups of young people in Queen Elizabeth park October 3 following a complaint from a nearby resident at 3:31 pm, Public Security officials said. One group was found listening to music from a parked car and was asked to reduce the sound level. Another, described as Dawson students, was told to move along and dispose of beer in their possession.

Illegal signs removed

Several signs advertising a sale of Oriental rugs on downtown Mountain St. were spotted and removed from various pieces of city land October 4, Public Security officials said. They were first noticed in the upper levels at 3:30 am. Later in the afternoon, more posters were also removed from lamp posts. The posting of unauthorized signs on public property is prohibited in Westmount.

Real estate, cont'd. from p. 21

but two sales over \$1 million, the top price of \$2,166,000 for a house on Trafalgar Ave. The average mark-up over valuation was 22 percent, but there were still two sales under valuation.

At last count, there were 150 listings for Westmount houses, up from 145 a month ago, and 48 percent of those were priced over \$2 million. We can always say those houses are worth that amount, but it's up to the agents to find the buyers.

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Shepard talks to Rotarians about Concordia



Alan Shepard, president and vice-chancellor of Concordia University speaks to The Rotary Club of Westmount on October 8 at its weekly luncheon meeting in Victoria Hall. Shepard spoke of Concordia's history, current issues and future. He described the university as an urban one with a welcoming environment designed into its new buildings. It has 46,000 students and 7,000 staff and faculty. After the talk, Shepard took questions from the audience.

Photo: WI

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Ready to be a road soon?



The road on the east side of the new MUHC hospital as seen from the Glen looking west was photographed October 2. Hospital officials have said this roadway was repaved in September. It is to sit behind a locked gate, however there is to be access for pedestrians and cyclists when the hospital opens, according to an MUHC spokesperson. Emergency vehicles are to use it only if the main entrances on Decarie Blvd. are blocked due to an emergency. (See Permits, September 16, p. 17).

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

Contactivity's giant puppet marches at seniors' day



An 11-foot puppet designed and built by the staff at Westmount-based Contactivity Centre was unveiled at the October 1 International Senior Citizens' Day celebration at Victoria Square. The creation of "Grandmother" puppet was part of Contactivity's Community Outreach Program, said Sherry Guppy, who is in charge of its community arts program.

Photo courtesy of Contactivity Centre

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'Dangerous' worksite, eyesore brings tickets worth \$1,398

An improperly secured construction site on Elm at Holton October 1 resulted in a ticket of \$1,250 for contractors, Public Security officials said. At 12:37 am, patrollers found two large openings at the rear allowing access to an excavation two feet deep. An accumulation of mud and different materials left on the sidewalk east to Mount Pleasant, a block away, also led to another ticket for \$148. The site was described as a 'real eyesore' and hazard.

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Fraiberg delights chic crowd at chamber music concert



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*
VERONICA REDGRAVE

On September 17, Westmounter Dorothy Fieldman Fraiberg led her Allegra



Claude Abitbol and Dorothy Fraiberg.

Chamber Music ensemble as it performed at its 2014 festival held at McGill University's Tanna Schulich Hall.

Pianist Fraiberg played along with Simon Aldrich (clarinet), Elvira Misbakhova (violin) and Sheila Hannigan (cello). The program was Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring" and Astor Piazzolla's "Oblivion," as well as a short Bach Before Bedtime concert with the Kaleio wind quintet.

Westmounters enjoying the evening included Julie Keith and Richard Pound, Nancy Brown, Susan and Richard Hart, Alicia Lorente, Soheila Ghaemi, Leslie Alcorn, Sara Colby, Bebe and Barry Posner, Tony Robinow, Judy and Michael Rasminsky, Georges Forest, Grace and Yehuda Chaki, and board members Anthony Layton and George Hendy.

Other board members attending were Sally Yaffe, Fern Whitehouse, Alison d'Anglejan, Stephanie Riddell, Donna Muller, Robert Franklin and Cecil Rabinovitch.

Also noted enjoying the fun and the flowers were Denise Grossman, Pearl and Saul Lighter, Robert Franklin and Charles Mappin, Robert Rabinovitch, Pamela and James Luck, Claude Abitbol, and former



From left: Nancy Brown, Julie Keith, Richard Pound and Robert Rabinovitch.



From left: Leslie Alcorn, Sara Colby and Cynthia Price.

Westmounter David Lyons.

After the concert, guests enjoyed Java U's chocolate sensations:
Dipped strawberries, continued on p. 25

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Tony Robinow and Alison d'Anglejan.

Indie's fall social calendar showcases snazzy events

By VERONICA REDGRAVE

OCTOBER

TUESDAY OCTOBER 21

BNLMTL 2014 party, launching L'avenir (looking forward) the theme of this year's biennale. Musée d'art contemporain, 185 St. Catherine St. W. Tickets \$150. <http://bnlmtl2014.org>. Art events ongoing. Check site

A special screening of JERUSALEM. Hosted by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the evening will honour the life of former Westmounter Jake Eberts. The film will be followed by a conversation with Daniel Ferguson, director and producer of JERUSALEM. Moderator is Anne Lagacé Dowson, director general of the Tolerance Foundation. Reception 6:30 pm. Film 8:00 pm. Telus IMAX®, Montreal Science Centre, 2 de la Commune. Tickets \$75. www.cfhu.org/jerusalem-montreal. 514.932.2133.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22

Paradis Urbain and The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts Second Annual Au Contraire Film Festival, aiming to change perspectives on mental illness. Films and panel discussions. On until October 25. 514.787.1475. www.acff.ca

Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation 20th Anniversary Gala. Co-chairs Susan McPeak Sirois and Michèle Thibodeau-DeGuire. Premiere of BLANC tour by violinist Angèle Dubeau and her ensemble La Pietà. 6 pm. Maison Symphonique de Montréal, 1600 St.Urbain. Tickets

Geneviève Major 514.871.1717. Local 237. evenements@rubanrose.org

Auxiliary Mount Sinai Hospital hosts the English production of Les Belles Soeurs. Honouree Mayor Anthony Housefather. Cocktail dinatoire 6:00 pm. Show 8 pm. Segal Centre, 5170 Côte St. Catherine. Tickets Barbara 514.369.2222. Local 1337. auxiliary@sinaimontreal.ca

THURSDAY OCTOBER 23

Night of 100 Dinners Comes Together, to benefit the 2014 Combined Jewish Appeal Women's Philanthropy Campaign. Cocktail dinatoire 7:00 pm. Alexis Heppner 514.345.2645. Local 3308. alexis.heppner@federationcja.org.

Château Ramezay Gala, closing the 150th anniversary fundraising campaign. In tribute to Liliane Stewart for long-standing support as Board of Trustees' chair. Honoured guests are mayors Peter Trent (Westmount), Denis Coderre (Montreal) and Pierre Gagnier (Ahuntsic-Cartierville). 6:30 pm. Le Windsor, 1170 Peel. Tickets \$200. 514.861.3708. Local 241. reservation@chateauramezay.qc.ca

FRIDAY OCTOBER 24

Young Leaders Circle of Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation's Bal Incognito, a masked ball for young professionals. 10 pm. Entrepôts Dominion, 3968 St-Ambroise. Tickets \$85 pre-sale. \$110 and \$125 at the door. 514.934.4846. Local 29266. cdes@mchf.com. www.montrealincognito.com

TUESDAY OCTOBER 28

First Annual Jewish Chamber of Commerce's Connections and Cocktails event for Young Business Professionals. Evening raises funds for Combined Jewish Appeal. Westmounter Joey Saputo, president, Montreal Impact, is keynote speaker. 6:00 pm. Information and tickets Elise Abecassis 514.345.2645. Local 2639. Elana.Minz@federationcja.org

THURSDAY OCTOBER 30

Soirée Hainya Wiseman. Benefit for the Volunteer Association of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Bubbly and cocktails showcasing Wiseman's new collection of table ware. Tickets \$150. 514.842.8298

FRIDAY OCTOBER 31

Un Ballo in Maschera. Gala evening benefitting the McGill Chamber Orchestra. President of honour Éric Bujold, president Banque Nationale, Gestion Privée 1859. MC Richard Dagenais, Global News. 6:30 pm. Sofitel Hotel, Salle Picasso. 1155 Sherbrooke West. Tickets \$250. 514.487.5190. info@ocm-mco.org

NOVEMBER

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 1

Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) Centennial Gala Ball. A tribute to the achievements and sacrifices of veterans and the Canadian Armed Forces. Honouree Premier Philippe Couillard. Emcee Jamie Orchard, Global TV. Funds to support the RMR Great War Education Centre. Cocktails 6:00 pm. Dinner 7:30 pm. 4625 St-Catherine West. Tickets Bonnie Feigenbaum 514.946.3157.

Montreal Chinese Hospital Foundation Gala, Flying Horse. Chair Jean-Pierre Desrosiers. Black tie. 6:00 pm. Fairmont Queen Elizabeth, 900 René-Lévesque West. Tickets \$200. Linda Yee 514.871.0961. Local 248. Linda.yee@hcm.ssss.gouv.qc.ca

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5

Atwater Library and Computer Centre 2014 Benefit Cocktail Party. Honoured guest Bob Gainey. Emcee Dennis Trudeau. Featuring the Dave Turner Jazz Trio, smoked meat and silent auction. 6:00 pm. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater. Tickets \$125. Melanie Campbell 514.935.7344. mcampbell@atwaterlibrary.ca.

Stay tuned for Part 2 next week.

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Social Notes, cont'd. from p. 24

cookies and brownies.

Celebrating Allegra's 34th season, the money raised at the gala is to support presenting free chamber music works seldom heard in Montreal. Allegra also has a free concert series for children, Bach Before Bedtime.



Soheila Ghaemi, left, and Alicia Lorente.

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Are cyclists using the bike path, pedestrians using sidewalks?

Photos by Ralph Thompson



A dog takes a young man on a skateboard for a ride through Westmount Park on the pedestrian path around 3 pm on October 13.



A person on a bike heads along the pedestrian path in Westmount Park the morning of October 16. The parks by-law states wheeled items are not allowed to be used on park paths.



A pedestrian pushing a stroller, left, uses the bicycle path in Westmount Park October 16 between 9 and 10 am during a bike path “rush hour” for cyclists heading east. Under the updated parks by-law, it is an offence to walk or run on the bike path in Westmount Park, subject to a basic first-time fine of at least \$50 plus costs. See story August 5, p. 11.



A young man cycles east along a Sherbrooke St. sidewalk at Strathcona the afternoon of October 13.



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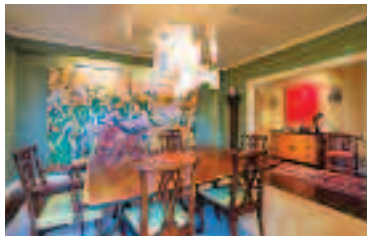
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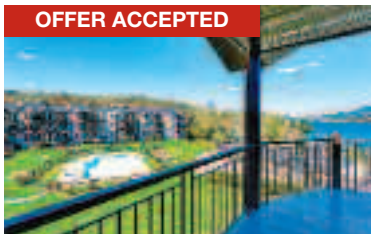
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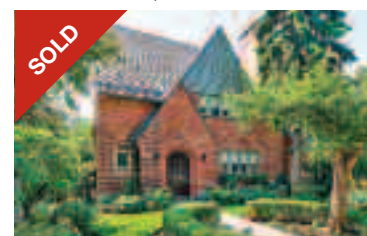
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