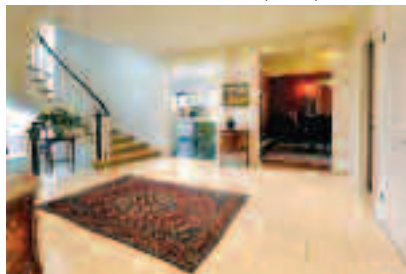


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Court procedure postponed in St. Matthias', Miss Vicky's issue

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A preliminary procedure was reported last week to have been postponed until possibly later this month in the request of a Church Hill resident for Superior Court to annul a city by-law legitimizing the operation of Miss Vicky's pre-school at St. Matthias' Church.

Yolanda Favretto, the plaintiff in the case, launched the legal action against the city October 22, 2013 after adoption of the by-law (see Nov. 12, 2013, p. 1). A hearing to consider the request had been set for the end of November.

"My mother was unavailable to present her evidence that day," Dario Favretto, who speaks on her behalf, told the *Independent* last week. "Her request has been postponed, perhaps until the end of April."

He said her lawyer had reported that the city "didn't have a problem consenting" to the postponement.

Mrs. Favretto alleges the city had wrongly disqualified six of 14 names from a pre-register application that had required the signatures of 12 eligible voters to open a referendum register. This cleared the

way for the by-law to be adopted September 3.

Miss Vicky's has operated more than 20 years at the church. It was only last year, however, that the city instituted measures to include the usage of a pre-school in the zoning permitted at that location, which had been challenged by at least three residents of Church Hill, including Favretto.

The now late Bertha Dawang was one. Shelley Kerman, another, has since moved.

2-year-old locked in car

A two-year-old Westmount boy was inadvertently locked in a parked car March 26 on Côte St. Antoine Rd. when his mother dropped off his brother at Selwyn House School about 8:20 am, Public Security officials said. Officers called a tow truck whose driver was able to unlock a door by 9:07.

In the meanwhile, public safety officers helped distract the boy from his dilemma by producing one of the donated teddy bears kept in patrol vehicles to comfort children in stressful situations. Once the door was opened, he was given the bear.

Akiva triumphs in basketball



Akiva School's girls' basketball team won the championship of the YM-YWHA's Wolves elementary school basketball league, beating out four other teams. This is the team's fourth championship and third undefeated season in a row. They played the girls' team from JPPS on April 2. The final score was 24-14.

Photo courtesy of Akiva School.

Charney at Blue Met

Westmounter and novelist Ann Charney will be presenting at the Blue Met literary festival to be held at Hôtel 10. She is a part of two panels "Women Writing

Trauma, Writing Survival" and Espresso Break, both on May 3. For more information, go to www.metropolisbleu.org.

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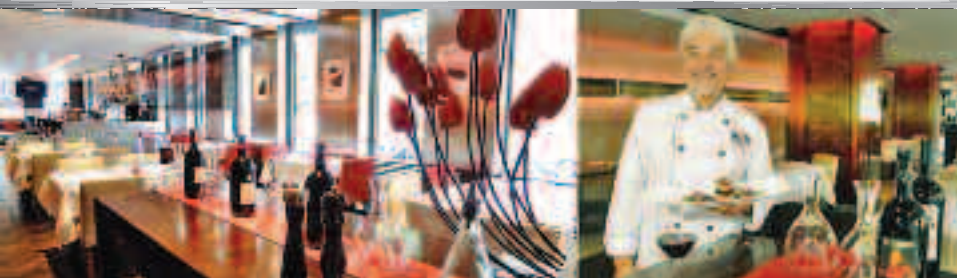
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City honours newcomers, volunteers at flower show reception

The official opening of the city's spring flower show took place April 2 at Victoria Hall attended by more than 200 newcomers and volunteers.

In welcoming the new residents and explaining how the contributions of volunteers had created a vibrant and close community, Mayor Peter Trent stated to a hearty round of applause that regardless of the April 7 provincial election results, "Westmount will always be Westmount."

He introduced members of council in attendance - Rosalind Davis, Cynthia Lulham, Nicole Forbes, Christina Smith,

and Theodora Samiotois, who were joined later by Philip Cutler - as well as city managers.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham described the flower exhibit and introduced the city staff responsible: Mélanie Banninger, Hélène Bazinet and Christine Dupuis as well as Jayme Gerbrandt.

The display is now open to the public seven days a week from 10 am until 9 pm on weekdays and 5 pm on weekends. A rabbit family will be added to the exhibit over the Easter period starting April 17 for a week.

Public Security looks for suspect in car break-ins, follows cyclist

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

On the lookout for a thief in connection with recent smash-and-grab incidents from cars, public safety officers began following a cyclist March 27, Public Security official said.

The man raised suspicions of patrollers around 10:20 am that day by looking into cars along Côte St. Antoine Rd. and Murray Ave.

As the man continued up to The Boulevard, Edgehill, and Upper Lansdowne, he was reported to keep turning around to look for the patrol vehicle, whose driver

eventually lost sight of him.

The man was described as in his 40s, having facial hair, dressed in black and riding an old mountain-type bike.

At 2:52 pm on March 31, a patroller on Hillside spotted a cyclist of a similar description riding into the Westmount Athletic Grounds where there have been "numerous complaints" about cyclists, according to Public Security director Greg McBain.

The man was ticketed \$37 for cycling in a park and was identified as a 42-year-old NDG resident.

Door-to-door solicitor warned against practice in Westmount

A man soliciting door to door on Côte St. Antoine March 25 was warned about the city's by-law prohibiting such practice, Public Security officials said.

Investigating a complaint by a resident

of the street near Grosvenor at 8:22 pm, patrollers intercepted the man near Claremont.

The owner of a landscaping company for which the man was working arrived at the scene and both were given a warning.

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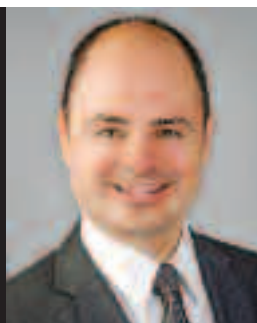
Short-sleeved man found screaming

A man was found screaming loudly March 30 while walking along Sherbrooke at 1:49 pm, Public Security officials said. Officers intercepted him at Prince Albert and reported he appeared agitated and confused rather than aggressive.

In short sleeves, he stated he was looking for his jacket. He was referred to St. Stephen's Church where the Open Door mission is located.

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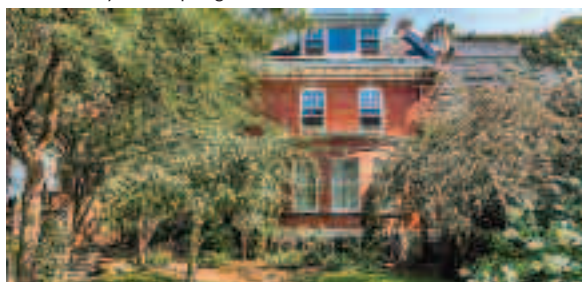
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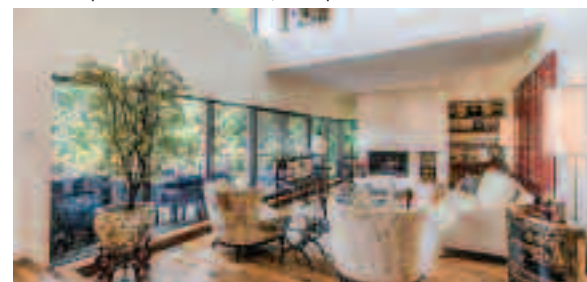
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Selwyn's Elisii comes out on top at ECS Toonies concert

BY STEPHANIE O'HANLEY

It took them only three weeks to organize but on March 28 Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's (ECS) grade 11 students Zoé Nahmiash and Suni Gauthier gathered 50 students from area high schools for a Talent for Toonies fundraiser.

Students from ECS, St. George's, Royal West Academy, Selwyn House, Trafalgar School for Girls and Westmount High School performed musical acts that ranged from classical music to pop songs and original beatbox pieces.

Nahmiash and Gauthier held the talent showcase in support of the McGill University Health Centre Foundation's Toonie Challenge. It's the second year ECS has participated in the challenge, which asks students at Montreal schools to raise money, learn about the needs of the new Glen hospital facility and engage students and schools in a relationship with the MUHC.

"We had some great bands," said Gauthier, who was one of the judges. "We had a beatboxer, which was really cool. We've never really had a talent show with one of those before. He was the winner. He was awesome."

The Talent for Toonies event ended more than one hour earlier than organizers anticipated. "It was short but sweet," said Nahmiash, who was master of ceremonies.

"It was great to see the schools come together," said ECS middle school director Janice Ewanyshyn. "They were really collaborative. It was not a competition, they were really supportive of each other and it allowed the musicians to network. They were exchanging emails so they can get together."

Ewanyshyn said that while the girls' schools have worked together before, it was the first time all the schools had gathered together and some schools that attended, for instance Lower Canada College, St. George's, Royal West Academy and Westmount High, had never gotten together with ECS.

Winners

Giancarlo Elisii of Selwyn House won first place for a beatboxing piece, while Alexa Zimmerman of Trafalgar came in second for her performance of "Sweater Weather" by The Neighbourhood. Clockwork, a band from St. George's School, took third place for their performances of "Tempest" and "Gambling Man." ECS student Wahsontí:io Kirby won the Diva Prize for her rendition of "At Last" by Etta James and ECS students Kassie Kardos and Natalie Pang received the Outstanding Performer Prize.

Nahmiash and Gauthier helped organize another successful fundraiser in September, working with other girls' schools to raise money for breast cancer aware-

ness. "We were a big part of Girls for the Cure," Nahmiash said.

ECS' participation in the Toonie Challenge was a lot smaller last year. "After hearing what other schools did, we wanted to do something big this year, Nahmiash said.

"It was a bit of a last-minute idea," Nahmiash added. "I started over March break and Suni was away...We had never planned anything like this before so it's kind of new."

"I was originally on the Health and Happiness Committee because of my family's involvement with cancer and then a part of it was the MUHC," Gauthier said. "It's fun doing it, it's fun getting people involved. I really like it."

"I didn't know what I was getting into when I joined the committee last year and I fell in love," said Nahmiash. "I love participating and knowing that I played a part in such a big event like Girls for the Cure, the Toonie Challenge and Splash and Dash. It's just fun to be able to know that I played a part and I helped and I gave my time to it. That's what I love about it."

On April 8 the MUHC is inviting 20 students from each of the schools involved



Wahsontí:io Kirby of ECS won the Diva Prize for her performance of Etta James' "At Last."

Photo courtesy of ECS School

in the Toonie Challenge to come to the MUHC. Each school will delegate a student to say how their school raised funds.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHALLENGE TO KOVITCH-DANNENBAUM: PLAY AT SWAT THIS WEEKEND

We, the undersigned, respectively sexual and septua-genarians, have taken umbrage to a January 14 *Indie* article written by Dr. Ingrid Kovitch-Dannenbaum, which although written under the guise of "On the Lighter Side" contains the virulence of sexism and ageism, all in contravention to Westmount's Charter of Rights and Wrongs.

In this regretful article, Dr. Kovitch-Dannenbaum alleges that, in the donors' hockey tournament, she was placed on one team as a "token" woman and that "in the interest of fairness, the other team was saddled (yes, you read it, saddled) with two "OLD MEN," clearly none other than the undersigned.

Oh the sting, the hurt and the humiliation when we have nurtured this fair lady at our noon day games for many years, transferring to her our best talent and experience and finally coaching her professionally until she reached the apex of becoming a Westmount Hockey Player.

We seek retribution and restitution, although nothing could ever cure the deep scars on our egos and the depressive con-

sequences of those wicked words. In fact, we want to prove that labelling people is not what makes a team or wins a game.

Westmount's SWAT team will hold a mini tournament April 11-13 at the WRC, including a mini auction, with all proceeds to go to the two children's hospitals.

One of the teams will have the undersigned in its line-up and we request that our lady friend join our team and drive us to victory, to prove, once and for all that talent is not a matter of age or sex.

HOWARD HOPPENHEIM,
THE BOULEVARD
NICOLAS MATOSSIAN,
DE LAVIGNE

LET'S DANCE, WESTMOUNT

Westmounters are fortunate to have gorgeous facilities like Victoria Hall, great teachers and extremely reasonable rates for recreational activities, so why aren't residents taking advantage of these programs?

I speak in particular for ballroom dancing classes that do not have the minimum 10 participants needed.

Perhaps people (men in particular) are afraid that they won't be able to keep up, but the pace is very slow and non-competitive. In *continued on p. 7*

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

PUBLISHER: David Price

EDITOR: Kristin McNeill (on maternity leave)

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

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Westmount's electricity use drops 2.6% during Earth Hour

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Hydro Westmount recorded a reduction of about 2.6 percent in electricity consumption March 29 during Earth Hour 8:30 to 9:30 pm, according to director Benoit Hurtubise. This excludes Alexis Nihon Plaza, whose feed comes directly from Hydro Quebec.

At 8:20 pm, Westmount consumption was reported at about 49 megavolt amperes (MVA), he said, and at 9:35 pm, it was about 47.7 MVA.

Hurtubise said his interpretation of the decline "is a combination of lights being shut off that explains part of the reduction, and less use of appliances as dinner hour is over. So, yes, as residents shut off their lights, it did reduce slightly the overall consumption."

But "as it was fairly cold that day," he explained, "the electric heating kicks in more in the total consumption and the proportion of consumption used for light-

Hydro, cont'd. from p. 1

said, "you then need smart meters that will tell you exactly when you consumed your electricity. The billing is obviously more complex as the rates are different depending on the time and day. This is not the case in Quebec."

Local utility also hit hard

Hydro Westmount, buys its electricity from Hydro Quebec at bulk rates and re-distributes it to some 10,000 local customers at the rates set by the Régie de l'énergie.

But with this year's increases, "the margin is not in our favour," Hurtubise said.

The new rates were contained in a new by-law to be adopted by city council at its meeting April 8. "It is a pretty big hike," Hurtubise explained, "the largest one in at least five years."

Typically the increase is around 2 percent, he said. Two years ago there was actually a reduction. This time, Hydro Quebec asked for 5.8 and got 4.3. The hike, he explained, was justified by the cost of capital equipment and wind farms.

The wind farms are costing Hydro Quebec more than they are receiving in revenue from them, Hurtubise said.

ing is reduced. This is why we cannot compare this year's numbers with last year. It would be comparing apples to tomatoes."

For the same reason and a variety of others, comparisons with other municipalities also can be misleading.

A CBC News report stated that Toronto Hydro reported a 6-percent drop in usage, but the weather was different and there were likely many other variables.

On the other hand, the Enmax energy corporation in Calgary noted its Earth Hour reduction was "negligible" explaining that it was industry, rather than residential lighting, that accounted for much of its consumption.

Turning off lights has become a sym-

Letters, cont'd. from p. 6

fact, there is great camaraderie.

In addition, dancing is great exercise for the mind and body, and brings joy to the soul. Incidentally, Westmount is one of the few places where adults can learn ballet or do jazz ballet. (Don't worry: you will never need to be on pointe!)

So if you have ever had a desire to dance, now is your chance, otherwise Westmount will not offer these courses in the future, which would be a shame.

Please sign up now and pass the word as classes start April 14.

See what you have been missing!

PATRICIA M. CHANG,
VILLE MARIE



bolic gesture in the international celebration of Earth Hour.

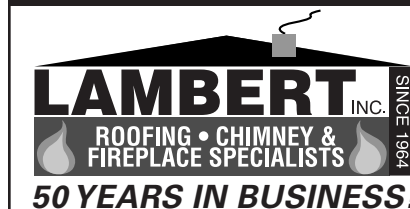
For 60 years, the event, launched by the World Wildlife Fund, has drawn attention to climate change, pollution, carbon foot-

print and their effects on wildlife and the overall environment. For coverage of Earth Day activities in Westmount see April 1, p. 10.




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WHA talk on Westmount DGs

Campbell looks back at the men and the job

BY STEPHANIE O'HANLEY AND STAFF

"General Manager Wanted for the City of Westmount to give his entire time to the business management of the City. Must have proven executive ability and be competent to handle all details of the City's administration. One with intimate knowledge of municipal questions preferred."

So reads a 1913 posting published in the *Globe and Mail*. On March 20, 1913, Westmount city council voted to hire the first city manager in Canada. "It was 101 years ago tonight," Westmount Historical Association president Doreen Lindsay told WHA members and guests at "Director General Position First in Canada, 1913," part of a spring 2014 lecture series on Westmount firsts. The WHA is celebrating its 70th anniversary and invited city of Westmount director general Duncan Campbell, the 10th person to hold the director general job, to give the talk.

"Our role is much like being the mother-in-law at a wedding," said Campbell. "You wear beige." There aren't a lot of photos of Westmount's city managers, or director generals as they are known as in Quebec today, he said. "We're very much



Duncan Campbell speaks about his predecessors as DG.

in the back so we didn't get our picture taken a lot."

The idea of a city manager came about in the 1900s when cities wanted a more professional management of their cities, Campbell said. A city manager or general manager offered better stability since

whenever an election happened, they remained in the position, he said.

Some proposed a board

Not everyone liked the idea of Westmount appointing a city manager, Campbell said. Alderman McBride proposed that a board of directors manage the affairs of the city. The resolution never found a seconder, but McBride told council he would put forward a resolution "that if you're going to appoint this general manager it has to go to a vote of all the people in the city, not just the council." But on March 17 when council put forward a resolution to appoint an acting general manager, "Mr. McBride wasn't even in the room," Campbell said. "So I guess after that he decided he wasn't going to go to the council meeting because his name isn't even on the resolution."

First appointee

Council appointed George W. Thompson, who was at the time the superintendent of the Light department, as acting general manager, Campbell said. When Thompson died in office in 1930, Westmount held a civic funeral in his honour and stores were closed. "I don't that has happened ever since...but for Mr. Thompson we pulled out all the stops."

At first, when Westmount's second acting general manager, Percy E. Jarman was appointed in 1930, he split his duties with Mr. Bell. "The city council at the time said Mr. Bell, secretary-treasurer, will look after everything that's inside the building and Mr. Jarman will be acting city manager of everything outside the building. So that lasted about four months."

Jarman, who was Westmount's city en-

gineer, was finally named general manager of the city in October 1930 and spent 21 years on the job and retired in 1951. "He'd been with the city for almost his full career," said Campbell.

English-born Thomas J. Hughes was Westmount city manager from 1951 to 1960, was appointed assistant general manager in 1945 and before that worked in Westmount's engineering department. "I call him a Westmount lifer," said Campbell. "When he retired in 1960, he'd spent 48 years with the city. When you talk about stability and dedication, I think Mr. Hughes is one."

Norm Dawe succeeded Hughes in 1960 and stayed in the job for 22 years. "Reading about what went on during that time it was almost like the Golden Era," Campbell said. During Dawe's time buildings were demolished on Dorchester, Westmount opened a new pool, brought in modern snow melting and salt-spreading equipment, and introduced the flashing hand signal at intersections. Dawe oversaw the reconstruction of Westmount Park during the early 1960s and initiated a major economic study of the eastern section of the city. "We've started doing the same thing," Campbell said. "In this business, everything is very cyclical."

Known to carry a gun

Dawe, who was once a teacher, joined the city in 1947 as a personnel officer and was appointed assistant general manager in 1956. A note from a ceremony to recognize Dawe's 25 years of service to the city said of Dawe "He may have left the teaching profession in 1947 but he has continued to teach every day since he joined the city services," Campbell said. "I don't know if that's a dig at him."

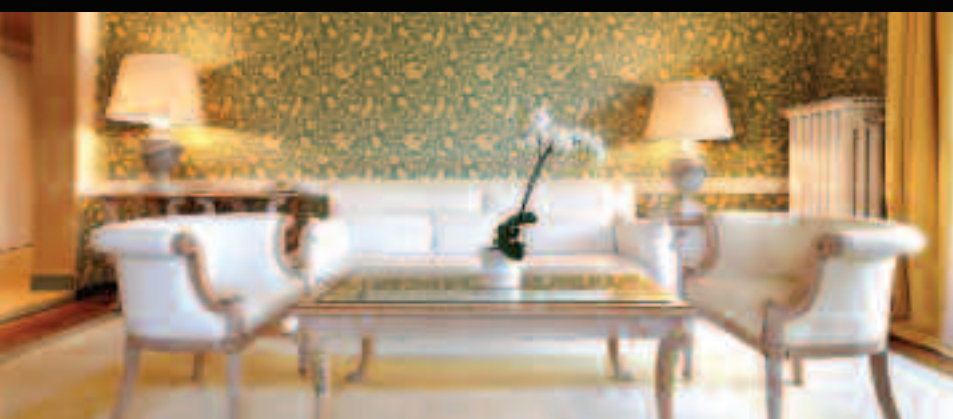
He was known for having a license to carry a gun - and making use of that right.

A Scot by birth, John M. McIver, worked in Westmount's purchasing department before taking positions with the governments of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario and being enticed to come back to Westmount in 1964. He was appointed assistant general manager in 1969 and was appointed general manager in 1982 under Mayor Donald MacCallum.

McIver's successor, Frank Davis, was appointed acting general manager in 1983 and became director general in 1984. His tenure was cut short by his death of heart complications. "He was given a very good send-off. The Westmount Public Security [officers] were all lined up in saluting him."

Peter Patenaude, "an- continued on p. 10

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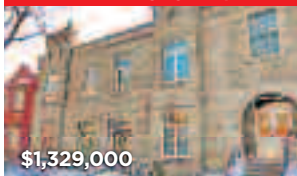
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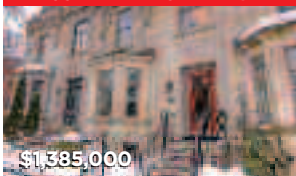
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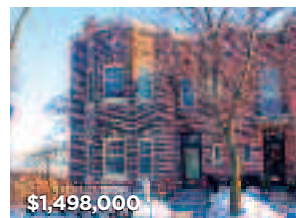
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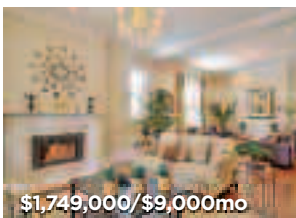
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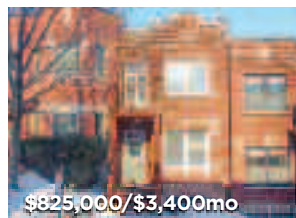
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Walsh, teen committee raising money

Westmount Library hosting fundraiser for after-school program in Turks & Caicos

Westmounter Michael Walsh came back from a recent trip to Turks & Caicos inspired to raise money for an after-school and holiday program there.

"There are about 35 children in the [Providenciales Readers Club] program ranging from 5 to 12+ years. The 8-to-12 year old group is the one requiring the most assistance," he said.

Needs include scissors, markers, paint, others arts-and-crafts supplies, books and t-shirts.

"We mentioned [to the organizer] that we have never undertaken anything in a similar vein - and didn't make any promises. In fact, I am not sure how to deal with the logistics!" he told the *Independent* back in December.

Nevertheless, his idea has borne fruit and on Saturday, April 12 the Westmount Public Library will be hosting a bake sale from 10 am to 4 pm to benefit the program. It is sponsored by the library's Teen Advisory Committee.



Five of the 11 teens in the library's Teen Advisory Committee: from left, Marc-Olivier Juris-Pardo, Cecilia Mueller-Judson, Marie-Antoinette Diop, YuFei Wu and Ramiya Veluppillai.

Photo courtesy of Wendy Wayling, Westmount Public Library.

Cohen wins regional science fair, moves on to provincials and international competition

Alexandra Cohen, a grade 11 student at St. George's School, was awarded first prize at the Hydro Quebec regional science and technology fair, held at John Abbott College from March 23 to 25, for her project INGAP Circles Around Diabetes.

This project, which examined the efficacy of a protein to stimulate the regrowth of insulin-producing cells in the pancreas by altering their structure, was conducted

in the laboratory of Dr. Lawrence Rosenberg at the Jewish General Hospital.

Her project was one of only 12 to be invited to compete at the provincial science fair, to be held in Terrebonne April 10 to 13. In addition, she was one of only three students invited to the Intel international science and engineering fair, scheduled to take place May 11 to 16 in Los Angeles.

WHA, cont'd. from p. 8

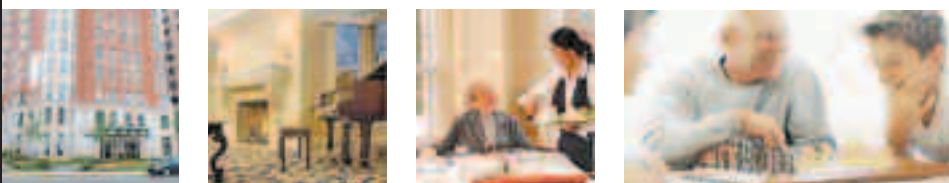
other Westmount lifer because he worked in the clerk's office," was appointed acting assistant director in 1985 and director general in 1986. "He got into a fight with (Westmount mayor) May Cutler over the appointment of [her executive assistant]," he said. He was given a "golden handshake" in 1990.

Bruce St. Louis was to be the next di-

rector general, but because council felt he was not ready for the job, from 1990 to 1993 Manley Shultz, a businessman with a background working with aluminum and smelter companies, mentored St. Louis, Campbell said.

"In 1994, they appointed Bruce," Campbell said. "He's probably best known for his work during the Ice Storm of 1998. I owe a great debt of gratitude to him for the fact that we're an independent city."

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Selwyn students win \$5,000 for local charity



From left: YPI representative Emma Le Pouesard, students Joshua Archibald-Cimon, Antony Smirnov, Nicolas Cossette and Chris Taylor, and Mike Downey, assistant headmaster and director of the senior school.

Photo courtesy of Selwyn House.

A team made up of Selwyn House grade 10 students Nicolas Cossette, Chris Taylor, Antony Smirnov and Joshua Archibald-Cimon won \$5,000 for their chosen charity, Giant Steps Foundation, in an intramural youth and philanthropy initiative (YPI) competition held in French at Selwyn House on March 26.

Giant Steps is an NDG-based organization dedicated to helping autistic children reach their full potential and independence.

Other teams championed the Dawson Community Centre in Verdun, the Westmount YMCA, the Montreal Community Cares Foundation and Head and Hands.

YPI was developed in 2002 and is funded by the Toskan Foundation. "YPI helps students harness their creative and philanthropic energies and develop a sensitivity and compassion that can only be learned at the grassroots level of the philanthropic world," says Julie Toskan-Casale, president of the Toskan Foundation.

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Cromwell's Gantcheff: Chain stores complement small ones

BY MICHAEL MOORE

To many Westmount merchants, the distinctive red sticker of Cromwell Management has become a bull's-eye for all complaints about the city's commercial changes.

The company has become an unofficial Public Enemy No. 1 among independent merchants in and around Victoria village, who claim Cromwell has sent rents skyrocketing to force out small businesses and replace them with large mega-chain stores.

The man at the center of the controversy, Cromwell president and 100-percent owner Georges Gantcheff, says he welcomes the criticism, but believes merchants are merely revolting against changing trends in the marketplace.

"You have some people who go to city hall to complain and that's fine, but I don't think they represent most Westmounters. I think most Westmounters want the [chain stores] like Roots and Lululemon," he said.

Big stores 'complement'

"You've got to give people a reason to go on Sherbrooke St. I find that these bigger



Georges Gantcheff on March 24.

stores are a great complement to the smaller ones because it brings people to the street. Once people are on the street, they are going to go shopping."

Gantcheff's real estate roots date back to the mid-1980s, when his mother began investing in properties in Montreal and Toronto, eventually bringing in other families to create their own realty powerhouse.

"At one point we were doing more in Ontario, but we live here so we decided to come back and do more here. We started

buying more commercial properties in Westmount, one by one, fixing them up, getting them better," he said.

Since then, Cromwell's portfolio in Westmount alone has swelled to 30 buildings, including 67 individual storefronts on Sherbrooke and Victoria.

With so much influence, Cromwell's presence has become a rallying cry for merchants to voice their frustration over the street's future.

Cromwell readily admits that rents have increased and businesses have moved out, but blames soaring property taxes for the jump.

"[Property tax] used to be \$6,000-7,000 for a little building. Now it's \$40,000. In the end, when you have commercial real estate, tenants pay for the property tax increases," he said.

Furthermore, Gantcheff argues that merely attaching his company's name to a building has provided a scapegoat for businesses that have failed to adapt to the 21st century marketplace.

"We own so many properties in Westmount that they probably think it's just me, but you've got to realize that the whole [shopping] trend has changed," he explained. "Internet sales, which used to be noth-

ing, are starting to be a big part. So many of the things being sold in Westmount, including by my tenants, can be bought online.

"For a lot of the 'mom & pops,' maybe it worked 20 to 30 years ago, but it doesn't work today. People who don't change their business model don't survive," he said.

However, Gantcheff admits the malicious perception of his company may directly or indirectly influence the actions of city hall.

In November, city council passed a by-law capping the number of private clinics in Victoria village, limiting Cromwell's plans for developing 345 Victoria.

"I think these clinics would have helped the local businesses. When [patients] get out of their cars, they would look around, stop for lunch," said Gantcheff.

No change forecast

When asked whether the city's prohibition of the planned clinics or merchants' negative perception of the Cromwell brand would influence his future business decisions in Westmount, Gantcheff offered the same two-word response to both questions.

"Not really," said Gantcheff.

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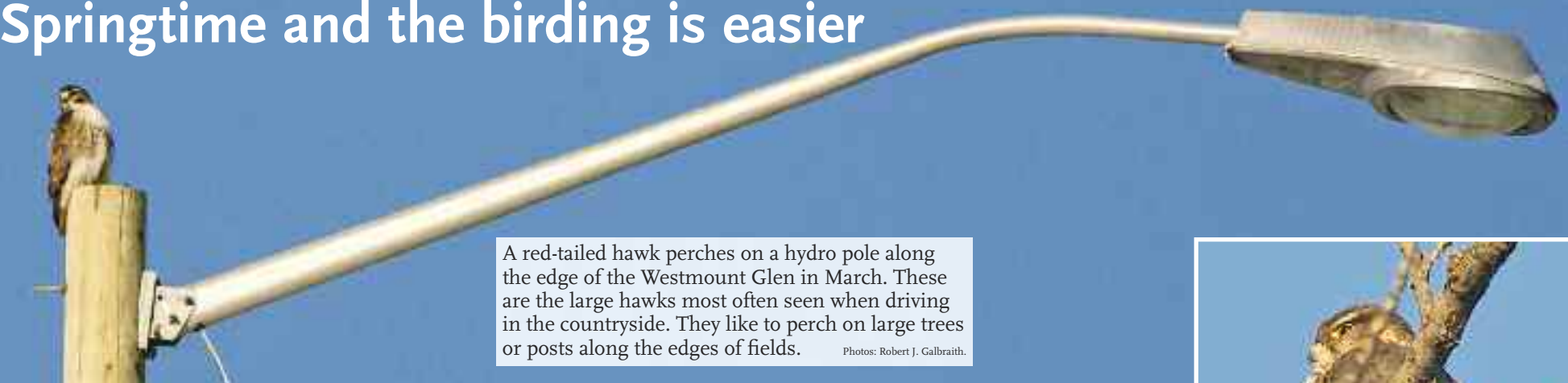
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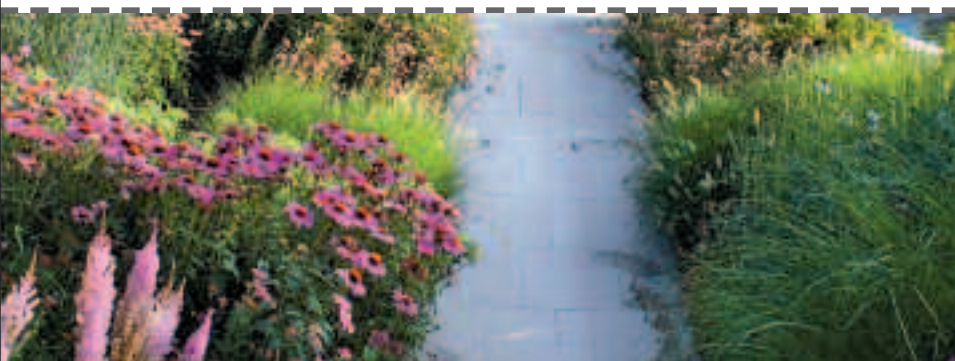
Springtime and the birding is easier



A red-tailed hawk perches on a hydro pole along the edge of the Westmount Glen in March. These are the large hawks most often seen when driving in the countryside. They like to perch on large trees or posts along the edges of fields.

Photos: Robert J. Galbraith.

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A merlin perches on the branch of a tree near the corners of Kensington and Clarke avenues in March. These pigeon-sized falcons, which largely prey on sparrows and other small birds, are year-round residents of Westmount and over the last couple of decades have been observed adapting to life in city environments. Merlins hunt along and below the tree canopy while other falcons, such as the peregrine, hunt above it, where they use their speed to catch pigeons and other similar-sized birds. A couple of nesting pairs have staked out Westmount as their territory. They prefer to nest in abandoned crows' nests situated in evergreens. They, like most falcons, do not build nests.



The American kestrel is slightly smaller than the merlin and likes to nest in the abandoned nest holes that woodpeckers make, but they also nest in holes in the eaves troughs of buildings. These falcons are fairly common in the city where they hunt rodents, small birds and insects like dragonflies. Many are being displaced by the more aggressive merlins, which drive them out of their territory. The male of this species is a very pretty bird, as is seen in this photo taken in March as it dined on a vole.

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Left, a male (as indicated by the red malar stripe behind its bill) pileated woodpecker excavating for grubs from a rotting tree in Summit Woods in early March. This bird has various protective mechanisms to prevent brain damage and other trauma as it “pecks.” In the photograph at right, its protective second eyelid, which keeps flying wood chips out of its eye, is visible. Professor David Bird refers to this as the “nictitating membrane.” It is rarely visible because the membrane is normally closed only for a split second as it strikes a tree.

Photos: Ralph Thompson.

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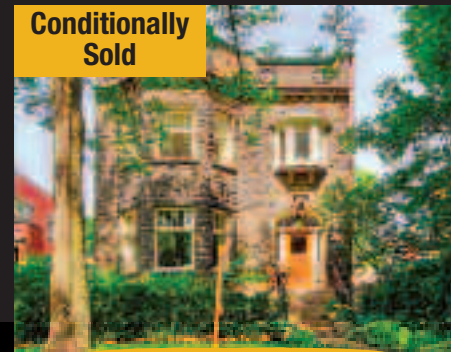


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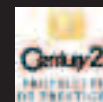


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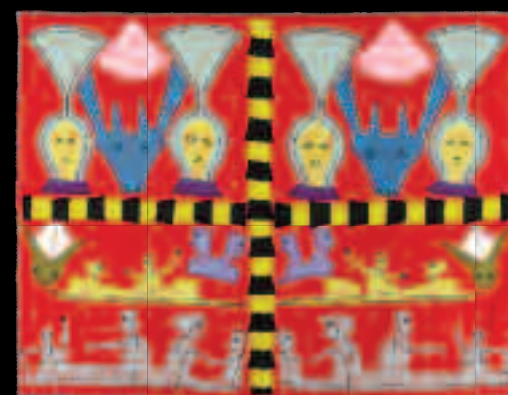
KENOJUAK ASHEVAK, *The Enchanted Owl*, 1960
Est: \$30,000/40,000



JOE TALIRUNILI, *Migration Boat*, ca. 1965-66
Est: \$140,000/160,000



NORTHWEST COAST, *Thunderbird Mask*, ca. 1890-1910
Est: \$16,000/20,000



JESSIE OONARK, *Untitled*, 42" x 54" ca. 1973-75
Est: \$20,000/25,000

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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Bureaux administratifs fermés le vendredi 18 avril et le lundi 21 avril

Les bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront fermés les 18 et 21 avril en raison de la fête de Pâques. Les collectes d'ordures et de matières compostables s'effectueront selon l'horaire normal.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Crêpes et prose

Le samedi 12 avril à 10 h. Viens déguster des crêpes en compagnie de l'adorable porcelet du livre « *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* » de Laura Joffe Numeroff. Inscription requise. Info : 514 989-5229.

Vente de livres du printemps des Amis de la bibliothèque

Les samedi et dimanche 12 et 13 avril de 10 h à 17 h, Victoria Hall. Info: 514 483-5604. **Nouveau : vente de sucreries le samedi 12 avril de 10 h à 16 h** au profit du club de lecture *Providenciales* pour enfants de la *Provo Parish Library*, organisé par le Comité des ados de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount.

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Le mercredi 16 avril à 10 h 15. Faites preuve de créativité lors de cet atelier où vous pourrez vous exprimer en vers dans une ambiance décontractée. Info : 514 989-5299.

Conférences à 14 h – Tony Hadley : *Armchair Traveller 101: Saint Kitts and Nevis*

Le mercredi 16 avril à 14 h. Info : 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture en anglais

Le mardi 22 avril à 19 h. *The Book Thief* de Markus Zusak. Info : 514 989-5299.

Réception – Journée mondiale du livre

Le mercredi 23 avril à 18 h, Salle Westmount. La Bibliothèque invite les membres de ses clubs de lecture à une réception. Info : 514 989-5386.

Poésie, papier, et pâtisseries pour les enfants

Le samedi 26 avril à 14 h. Atelier de poésie avec Carol Ann Hoyte pour les jeunes de 9 à 13 ans pour célébrer le mois de la poésie. Info : 514 989-5229.

Festival des enfants TD-Metropolis bleu

Le samedi 3 mai à 14 h. Atelier d'écriture avec Andrew Katz pour les jeunes de 9 à 13 ans. Info : 514 989-5229.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

La galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

Du 20 mars au 12 avril. Œuvres de Oleg Dergachov et Giuseppe Pascale. Info : 514 989-5521.

Galerie du Victoria Hall : appel de dossiers

Jusqu'au 15 avril. Les artistes émergents ou professionnels qui habitent Westmount sont invités à soumettre leur candidature pour la programmation 2014-2015 de la galerie. Info : www.westmount.org, 514 989-5521, ou victoriahall@westmount.org.

Prochaine séance du conseil :

le lundi 5 mai

Collecte de sang de la ville de Westmount

Le jeudi 10 avril de 14 h à 19 h 30 au Victoria Hall. Les membres du conseil municipal de Westmount invitent les résidents à faire un don de vie lors de la collecte annuelle. Info : 514 989-5226.

Concert Bowser & Blue : *Side by Each*

Le mercredi 16 avril à 19 h, Victoria Hall. Levée de fonds pour le piano du Victoria Hall. Première partie avec David Pryde. Billets 50 \$ (reçu d'impôt : 20 \$) Bar payant. Info : 514 989-5226.

Concert pour enfants : mes dix petits doigts

Le dimanche 27 avril à 14 h, Victoria Hall. Chansons interactives avec Alexandra Delgado pour les jeunes de 6 ans et moins. Billets 10 \$. Info : 514 989-5226.

Espace danse au Victoria Hall

Le dimanche 27 avril à 14 h, Salle de concert. Pour les amateurs de la danse sociale : swing, valse, rumba, chachacha et plus. 5 \$ à l'entrée. Info : 514 989-5226.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Horaire d'entretien des rues en vigueur

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Bois Summit : période migratoire des oiseaux

Les propriétaires promenant leurs chiens au Bois Summit doivent les tenir en laisse en tout temps **entre le 16 avril et le 15 juin**. Les officiers de la Sécurité publique émettront des contraventions aux personnes qui ne respectent pas le règlement.

Stationnement : période de Pâques

Les parcomètres de Westmount ne seront pas en fonction le vendredi 18 avril et le lundi 21 avril, mais seront en vigueur le samedi 19 avril. La restriction de stationnement de nuit 4 heures ne sera pas en vigueur du vendredi au lundi. Info : 514 989-5222.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

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Collecte de résidus domestiques dangereux

Le samedi 3 mai de 9 h à 17 h. Stationnement de la bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5390.

CITY HALL

Administrative Offices closed Friday, April 18th and Monday, April 21st

Westmount's administrative offices will be closed April 18th and 21st for the Easter holiday. The garbage and kitchen waste collections will take place as usual.

LIBRARY

Pancakes and Prose

Saturday, April 12 at 10 a.m. Join the adorable Pig from Laura Joffe Numeroff's *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* for stories and pancakes! Registration required. Info: 514 989-5229.



Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale

Saturday and Sunday, April 12 and 13 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Victoria Hall. Info: 514 483-5604. **New: Bake Sale & Fundraiser Saturday April 12, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.** in support of the children's Providenciales Readers Club, Provo Parish Library. Sponsored by the WPL's Teen Advisory Committee.

Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Wednesday, April 16 at 10:15 a.m. Get creative in these monthly, light-hearted workshops that get you to express yourself in verse. Info: 514 989-5299.

2 O'Clock Series – Tony Hadley : *Armchair Traveller 101: Saint Kitts and Nevis*

Wednesday, April 16 at 2 p.m. Info: 514 989-5299.

English Book Club

Tuesday, April 22 at 7 p.m. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. Info: 514 989-5299.

World Book Day Reception

Wednesday, April 23 at 6 p.m., Westmount Room. The Westmount Library invites all book club members to a wine and cheese reception. Info: 514 989-5386.

Poetry, Paper, and Pastry for Children 9 to 13

Saturday, April 26 at 2 p.m. Celebrate Poetry Month in this workshop by Carol-Ann Hoyte. Info : 514 989-5229.

TD-Blue Metropolis Children's Festival

Saturday, May 3 at 2 p.m. Join Andrew Katz for a writing workshop (9-13 year-olds). Info : 514 989-5229.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Gallery at Victoria Hall: Exhibition

March 20 to April 12. Works by Oleg Dergachov and Giuseppe Pascale. Info: 514 989-5521.

Gallery at Victoria Hall: Call for projects

Until April 15. Emerging or professional artists residing in Westmount are invited to apply for the Gallery's 2014-2015 exhibition season. Info: www.westmount.org, 514 989-5521, or victoriahall@westmount.org.

City of Westmount Blood Donor Clinic

Thursday, April 10, 2 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. Westmount City Council invites residents to give the gift of life at this annual event. Info: 514 989-5226.



Next Council Meeting:

Monday, May 5

Side by Each: Bowser & Blue in concert

Wednesday, April 16 at 7 p.m., Victoria Hall. Fundraising event for the piano at Victoria Hall. Opening act with David Pryde. Tickets \$50 (\$20 tax receipt). Cash bar. Info: 514 989-5226.

Children's Concert : Ten Little Fingers

Sunday, April 27 at 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. Interactive songs by Alexandra Delgado for children 6 and under. Tickets \$10. Info: 514 989-5226.



Dance Session at Victoria Hall

Sunday, April 27 at 2 p.m. in the Concert Hall. Try out your social dance steps : swing, chachacha, rumba, waltz etc. \$5 at the door. Info: 514 989-5226.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Street maintenance schedule in effect

A new street cleaning schedule is in effect **April 1st to November 30th**. Please verify the parking signage to avoid receiving a ticket. Info: 514 989-5222.

Summit Woods: bird migratory period

Dog owners using Summit Woods must keep dogs on leash at all times **between April 16th and June 15th**. Public Security officers will patrol and may issue fines to those contravening the by-law.

Parking during Easter weekend

Westmount's parking meters will not be in effect on Friday, April 18th and Monday, April 21st but will be enforced on Saturday, April 19th. The 4-hour overnight parking restriction will not be applied Friday through Monday. Info: 514 989-5222.

PUBLIC WORKS

2014 Tree Distribution

Residents may obtain one tree free of charge from the following selection: 'Green Gage Plum, Downy Serviceberry and Ironwood, the last two being native to Quebec. Quantities are limited. Order forms are available at City Hall, the Library and online at www.westmount.org. The deadline to apply is **April 30th**. Info: 514 989-5213.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Saturday, May 3 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Library parking lot. Info : 514 989-5390.



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT

First-ever writers' summit 'fantastic': Schubert

BY STEPHANIE O'HANLEY

In mid-March, for the first time ever, 16 national, provincial and territorial associations representing writers gathered in Banff for the National Summit of Writers' Associations.

"The goal of the conference was: how can we serve writers better?" said Westmounter Lori Schubert, executive director of the Quebec Writers' Federation, which is headquartered at the Atwater Library. The QWF and the Union des écrivains et des écrivains québécois represented Quebec writers at the summit.

Schubert said that while she can approach her counterparts at the Quebec Drama Federation or the English-Language Arts Network for advice, she appreciated being able to discuss and share concerns with other writers' groups. "All the people gathered together in Banff all had exactly the same mandate, exactly the same problems, exactly the same challenges and exactly the same solutions."

"It was fantastic," Schubert said, noting the summit's organizer, the Writers' Trust of Canada, surveyed writers' organizations in advance to find out what they wanted to talk about. The agenda included mini-presentations on strengthening membership, collaborations, how to reach diverse writers and build connections with writers and readers, government funding opportunities and creative fundraising.

Fundraising

"That was a big issue, fundraising," Schubert said. "Everyone was interested in the literary dinners program that we ran last year where we raised money by offering to send writers into peoples' homes. The people invited their friends to dinner and the friends just had to write a cheque to the QWF," she said, noting the program

raised \$6,000 towards the QWF gala.

The QWF literary dinners fundraiser appealed to other organizations at the summit because it involves very little administrative work, she said.

As to what's next, after hearing what the groups wanted to do, the Writers' Union of Canada has created a common calendar that will help the groups stay in touch, raise common issues and share information.

"If I know that say that Mark Abley is going to Calgary to give a reading, I would post that on this common calendar and then the Calgary people... would see that Mark is coming and perhaps schedule a reading or a workshop with him," said Schubert.

Already the Writers' Trust has let organizations know about a new app they've developed to give writers tax advice, Schubert said.

As well, the PEI Writers' Guild wants to do a mentorship exchange with the QWF, like the 2012-2013 exchange the QWF did with the Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia. "We have to find the travel money," Schubert said.

During the summit Paul Seesequasis from Theytus Books, who is half native, spoke about the importance of "reaching out to First Nations Writers and including them in the family," something Schubert has been thinking about ever since a Canada Council meeting she attended in February. "Paul and his friend Morningstar are going to help me with getting some names," Schubert said.

Are the writers' groups forming a new association? "We're not making a formal thing out of it," said Schubert. "We all agreed that there were enough of those."

Schubert said the groups want to meet again next year and the Writers' Trust "is going to see if they can help with that."

St. George's team places 8th at Weizmann



From left, Severn Swift, Jonathan Antebi, Rebecca Letourneau-Duynstee, Nikita Nonnenmann, Matthew Stendel, teacher Mark Driedger, and Weizmann tournament supervisors. Photo courtesy of Weizmann Canada.

A team from St. George's School placed 8th at the Weizmann Institute of Science's "greatest safe-cracking competition," which took place in Rehovot, Israel from March 25 to 26. Using physics principles, participants attempt to break into safes designed and built by other teams.

The winners were able to demonstrate a great understanding of the principles involved and displayed "originality, ingenuity and elegance," according to the institute's press release. For coverage of the qualifying round, see February 25, p. 22.



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Kiely concerned about air quality upon hospital opening

By ISAAC OLSON

During a recent public meeting in NDG, Maureen Kiely, vice president of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), expressed concern about the incoming super-hospital's air filtration system as the facility, slated for opening in June 2015,

will be right next to one of the busiest road networks in Canada – a network that will soon be one of the biggest road reconstruction projects in Canada.

Air quality

"Exactly what is the hospital doing or going to do to monitor the quality of air in

the hospital? I don't think it's enough to say, 'Oh, well, we have a good system,'" said Kiely, speaking during the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee meeting on March 25. The meetings bring provincial, transportation, hospital and Montreal officials together on a regular basis to keep the public informed of ongoing projects in and around southeastern NDG.

"You're going to have to worry about this because it is going to be an extraordinarily large demand made on your air filtration system. I think you are going to have to add additional monitoring measures to make sure the air inside is acceptable."

Kiely, a Westmouter, is no stranger to the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), which is building the hospital just south of the Vendôme Metro station.

According to an article published in the *Independent* on May 17, 2011 (p. 16), Kiely holds the title of McGill assistant professor in psychiatry and MUHC medical scientist as she spent most of her career since 1978 working at the Montreal General in collaboration with her husband, the late Dr. Samarthji Lal, a biological psychiatrist.

With the Turcot Interchange recon-

struction project looming, Kiely made it clear that the hospital needs to be prepared for the worst when it comes to air quality.

"I am in complete agreement with you," replied Pierre Major, a director with the MUHC. "Our number one priority is the health of our patients."

Dust and debris

There will be measures in place by the provincial Transport ministry (MTQ) to reduce dust and debris in the air during the construction process, said Major. If the MTQ regresses on this, Major said measures will be taken against the ministry to ensure air pollution is mitigated. Major said the hospital has experience in this as, after decontaminating the entire Glen Yards site, it became clear that there are many different ways of managing dust.

"That will be the responsibility of the MTQ, but we will pay very close attention," said Major, noting the hospital's air quality will be closely monitored. Beyond that, he said the hospital is fully equipped with high-efficiency particulate absorption (HEPA) filters throughout the facility. "It is going to be a brand-new building. We have, I think, the tools to manage it properly."

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Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount

AVIS DE PRÉSENTATION D'UN PROJET DE LOI D'INTÉRÊT PRIVÉ

Avis est donné que la Ville de Westmount s'adressera à l'Assemblée nationale, à la prochaine session ou à une session subséquente, afin de présenter un projet de loi d'intérêt privé ayant pour objet **LA DÉSIGNATION DES MEMBRES DE SON COMITÉ CONSULTATIF D'URBANISME QUI ONT DES COMPÉTENCES PARTICULIÈRES EN MATIÈRE D'ARCHITECTURE ET D'URBANISME, SANS ÉGARD À LEUR LIEU DE RÉSIDENCE, POUR UN MANDAT D'UNE DURÉE D'AU PLUS QUATRE ANS ET RENOUVELABLE.**

Toute personne ayant des motifs d'intervenir sur ce projet de loi d'intérêt privé doit en informer la directrice de la législation de l'Assemblée nationale, édifice Pamphile-Le May, bureau 3.55, 1035, rue des Parlementaires, Québec (Québec) G1A 1A3.

Donné à Westmount, ce 8 avril 2014

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF A PRIVATE BILL

Notice is hereby given that the City of Westmount will petition the National Assembly at the next session or a subsequent session, to introduce a Private Bill concerning **THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF ITS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHO POSSESS SPECIAL SKILLS IN ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING, REGARDLESS OF THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE, FOR A TERM NOT EXCEEDING FOUR YEARS AND RENEWABLE.**

Any person who has reasons to speak in regards to this Private Bill must inform the Law Clerk of the National Assembly, édifice Pamphile-Le May, Suite 3.55, 1035, rue des Parlementaires, Québec (Québec) G1A 1A3.

Given in Westmount, this April 8, 2014

M^e Viviana Iturriaga Espinoza
Directrice des services juridiques et greffière /
Director of Legal Services and City Clerk



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Passion Sunday Weekend:

Saturday, April 12 at 5 p.m.,
Sunday, April 13 at 10:30 a.m.

Holy Thursday, April 17:

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18:

Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 19:

Sacrament of Reconciliation from 3 to 4 p.m.
Easter Vigil at 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20:

Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord 10:30 a.m.

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Halickman going on 'Vimy pilgrimage'

By MARTIN C. BARRY

A 14-year-old high-school student from St. George's School on The Boulevard will be going to the site in France of an historic World War I military engagement closely associated with Canada's coming of age – the Battle of Vimy Ridge – after he won an essay-writing contest.

Spencer Halickman, a grade 9 St. George's student, was chosen by the Vimy Foundation out of hundreds of applicants



from across Canada for the foundation's Vimy Pilgrimage Award.

According to the Montreal-based foundation, the award recognizes young people who "demonstrate outstanding service, positive contributions, notable deeds, bravery or leadership."

Halickman will be spending a week from April 5 to 12 in Vimy, France at the foundation's expense, studying Canada's World War I efforts. The program of activities while there will include classroom time as well as daily field trips to important sites, including the Canadian National Vimy Memorial.

He and other students from all over Canada who were also selected for the program will be marking the anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge on April 9 in Vimy with Canada's minister of Veterans Affairs, Julian Fantino. They will also be present when ground is broken for a new education centre to be built at the site.

The Battle of Vimy Ridge, which took place from April 9 to 12, 1917, is regarded by historians as the first time that Canada used its fighting forces to their fullest extent in an international military engagement. The battle helped boost Canadian nationalism.

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Comin' Up

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Art historian Sandra Paikowsky on "A Visit to Venice in Montreal." She will concentrate on paintings. Free, donations invited. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 pm.

City of Westmount blood donor clinic. Victoria Hall. 2 to 7:30 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

Centre Greene Book Sale to benefit its summer camp fund. 1090 Greene Ave. 10 am to 6 pm. Also Sat., April 12 (9 am to 2 pm).

Archdeacon Bill Gray of St. George's Anglican Church will deliver the guest sermon at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom. Free. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. 7:45 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Temple Family Passover program for children from birth to age 11. Free. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. 11:45 am.

Awareness and fundraising day for puppies Ernie and Prince. Little Bear Pet Supplies, 4152 St. Catherine St.

Friends of the Westmount Library spring book sale, Victoria Hall, 10 am to 5 pm. Continues on Sunday, same times.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

Contactivity Centre walking group for 60+. Mondays and Thursdays. Meet at the Greene entrance to Westmount Square. Free. Info: 514.932.2326, karen.evoy@gmail.com. 10 am to 11:30 am.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Westmount Historical Association presents "Royal Montreal Regiment, the first officially bilingual unit in Canada" by Colin Robinson, hon. lieutenant-colonel. Armoury, 4625 St. Catherine St. 7 to 9 pm.



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Public Security's Shannon Laurie already sprint champion

Dispatcher granted leave to train for 2016 Paralympics

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A Public Security dispatcher has been granted a one-year leave of absence to pursue her dream – training for the 2016 Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro.

Shannon Laurie, who sprints on a prosthetic Cheetah blade, already holds two gold medals from the 2013 Canadian championships in 100-metre and 200-metre races.

She also has the ninth-fastest time in the world in the former and 11th in the latter, she said last week, “So I have an excellent chance at qualifying for Rio.” And this is after only one year of using the blade.

“I have been training on my own for the most part, but now a very highly successful trainer in BC, who has trained both Olympics and Paralympics athletes, is will-

ing to take me under his wing and work with me,” she explained.

She calls it a fantastic opportunity also brought about by the move of her partner in life to Victoria. This is where Laurie was headed April 4, the day following her last one on the job – for now.

“I value my job and am grateful for the opportunities the city of Westmount has given me,” she said.

“I asked for this year off to train, not just to compete, but also so I may hopefully prepare myself to become a better role model for the city and Canada.”

Started on parks patrol

Laurie, 26, began working for Westmount Public Security in 2007 as a student at John Abbott College and spent five years as a parks patroller during the summer and a part-time dispatcher during the rest of the year.

Holding two CEGEP diplomas, in paramedics and correctional intervention, she



Shannon Laurie with her gold medals.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney.



Shannon Laurie sprints to victory on her prosthetic Cheetah blade at the 2013 Canadian championships for para-athletes, June 22 to 23.

Photo courtesy of S. Laurie.

became a full-time dispatcher in 2012 and now considers herself a member of the Public Security “family.”

Laurie, who has worn a prosthetic leg most of her life resulting from a birth defect, said she has always been active. She began running in long-distance runs and was fitted in 2012 with what is called a Cheetah Xtreme blade that suits her five-foot-two height.

The next step in her goal as a sprinter is to compete at the Desert Challenge Games in Arizona next month to gain official international ranking. This would enable her to compete in world track and field championships and then, hopefully, at the Paralympic Games in Rio.

Though training and living in BC, “I’ll always be representing my team in Quebec,” she said. That’s the St. Laurent Select Able Body and Wheelchair Athletes.

Laurie, who was raised in Vaudreuil, has commuted every day to Westmount for her dispatching shift from 3:30 pm to 11:30 pm. This is often the busiest period of the day in the dispatching office considering the number of calls for overnight parking and, in the summer, activity in the parks.

With her year’s leave of absence, she’ll have the opportunity to return to the job later, said city director general Duncan Campbell. “We wanted her to have the time to pursue her dream.”

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Nelly and 'her' pups



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Here is Nelly, a two-month old grey angora kitten, and her best buddies, Ernie and Prince, who are now three-week-old Great Dane puppies. Yes, this is going to be hilarious as kitten and puppies grow! Nelly will be the pixie boss of two long-legged oafs that follow her around because she will have been the first other animal they ever met.

Nelly, Ernie and Prince were all saved from death as newborns. Nelly was rescued from a pound as an abandoned kitten whose eyes were barely open and helped along to her wonderful healthy and playful self. Great Dane brothers Ernie, dark grey, and Prince, light grey, were taken in after their mother died and brought as an emergency to the veterinary clinic to be stabilized. They were dehydrated, undernourished and very weak. They are stable now as you can see, and only have to be taken back to the veterinary clinic once a week for a check-up since they are very young.

If you would like more information on them, please do not hesitate to contact Anouk Lecompte on her cellular telephone at 514.234.2668 or on her email anouk-lecompte@sympatico.ca. The website of the rescue Au Répit de la Montagne is www.aurepitdelamontagne.com.

**Little Bear - Saturday, April 12
for Ernie and Prince**

We hope you can join us at Little Bear Pet Supplies at 4152 St. Catherine St., corner Greene Ave., on Saturday, April 12 to meet Anouk from the rescue Au Répit de la Montagne. We will be hosting an aware-



ness day and fundraising for stunning Great Dane puppies Ernie and Prince, in order to help with some of the veterinary costs incurred when they arrived there for intensive care as newborns. Chuck and the group at Little Bear look forward to seeing you there. I will be joining the group as well, and it would be great to catch up as neighbourhood pet owners.

Your neighbour, LYSANNE

Black Lab driven back to 'sitter'

A resident of Lansdowne Ave. found a dog running loose on Argyle March 28, took it home and called Public Security, department officials said. Within 30 minutes a resident of Argyle called the station to report the black Labrador had escaped and was missing.

The two women were put in touch with other. Eventually, however, the dog and finder turned up at the Public Security station when the woman said she could not wait any longer for the owner to pick it up.

The owner was contacted and explained she was dog-sitting for her daughter and didn't have a car. A patrol officer drove the dog back to the home.

Bullet aims for the heart



The Underdog Club

JAYME WILMANN

Bullet is an amazing dog who has the ability to lodge his way deep into the heart of everyone he meets. Although big and scary-looking as a black, seventy-pound Great Dane/pit bull mix, Bullet is actually a super snuggly senior who just wants someone to love. Is anyone willing to take a chance on this eight-year-old love bug and give him a home in which he can live out his golden years?

Bullet is just starting to get a little grey around the muzzle, but otherwise has a gorgeous face and puppy eyes that you just can't say "no" to. This handsome boy pulls quite a bit and can be dog-reactive on leash, so someone who is experienced with dogs is recommended. However, Bullet was likely never given the attention and time he needed in a past life, so a little work could go a long way towards training him. Bullet is smart, obedient and eager to



please so with the right owner to help teach him he could really shine.

Bullet would do well in a home with lots of human attention, and could easily adjust to life with a single person or a family with kids over the age of 10. He loves to play with his toys and play fetch, but he is getting older so he needs a home without too many stairs. He might be able to live with another dog after proper introductions, preferably a calm female.

If you are interested in adopting Bullet, please contact Marilyn at adoptions.spca@gmail.com.

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Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

YES, Youth Employment Services, hosted Creative Connections recently, with the goal of creating networking opportunities between over 30 pre-selected artists and 14 participating companies and professional buyers. Round-table sessions were combined with a networking cocktail. Guests were greeted at the Centre Mont Royal by YES president and Westmount res **John Aylen**; executive director **Iris Unger**, and **Catherine Brisindi**, director of marketing and special events.

Participating companies were ALDO, Art & Compagnie, Avenue Art Gallery, BAM Strategy, Budge Studios, Carbone Musique, Hibernum Créations, High-Touch Communications, Memoirs Productions, PLANK, Twist Image, XO Productions, 8th House Publishing and BeaverTails, represented by Westmounter **Tina Serrao**, who owns the fun food firm with hubby **Pino Di Iola** (member of YES board) and his twin brother, **Anthony**.

The YES Advisory Council includes Westmounters **Peter R. Johnson**, **Guy Laframboise**, **Hilary Radley**, **Robert Walsh**, **Herschel Segal**, and former Westmounters **Peter McAuslan**, **Rob Braide** and **Andy Nulman**, as well as **Lionel Blanshay**, **Scott Conrod**, **Charles Crawford**, **Timothy Leyne** and **Philip O'Brien**.

Yes – no – YES to networking opportunities



Reina Procee, Tina Serrao and Kathy Slotsve.



Emmanuel Hessler and Tom Kouri.

YES artists participating were **Norma Andreu**, **Youlian Bijev**, **Achim Brauweiler**, **Alex Brovkin**, **Denise Buisman Pilger**, **Andrew Chen**, **Adriana Coluccio**, **Jono Doiron**, **Evelyne Drouin**, **Stéphane Dufour**, **Derek Dugas**, **Archita Ghosh**, **Dan Gies**, **Emily Paige**, **Esther Gibbons**, **Ashley Harms-Wiebe**, **Emmanuel Hessler**, **Katherine MacNaughton**, **Johan Jansson**, **Emmanuel Laflamme**, **Philippe Look**, **Angela Mejia**, **Paul Neudorf**, **Francisco Nino**, **Christopher Olimpo**, **Reina Procee**, **Santiago Ruiz Torres**, **Mirko Sablich**, **James Saunders**, **Damian Siqueiros**, **Louis-Bernard St-Jean**, **Erik Virtanen**, **Cecelia Webber** and **Parham Yazdy**.

YES is a not-for-profit organization that provides English-language support services to help Quebecers find employment and start businesses.



John Aylen.



Catherine Brisindi and Iris Unger.

Police Report: 41-year-old fends off two assailants outside Dawson

BY MICHAEL MOORE

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

A 41-year-old man fended off two 20-year-old assailants who were trying to rob him on de Maisonneuve across the street

from Dawson College on the evening of March 31, according to police.

The two suspects approached the man while he was walking alone around 6:15 p.m. and told him, “Donne moi ton bread,” a street slang term for money, said Station 12 constable **Stephan Laperrière**.

When the victim refused, the two parties reportedly came to blows.

“There were a couple of punches thrown but [the victim suffered] no injuries besides a bit of bruising,” said **Laperrière**.

Security officers from **Place Alexis Nihon** reportedly noticed the scuffle while patrolling nearby and ran in to aid the man. According to **Laperrière**, the unexpected help scared off the suspects, who

fled south down Wood Ave.

The victim immediately called 9-1-1 to alert police of the direction of travel of the two suspects, but could only describe them as a white man with brown hair and a black man with black hair, said **Laperrière**.

No arrests have yet been made, per **Laperrière**.

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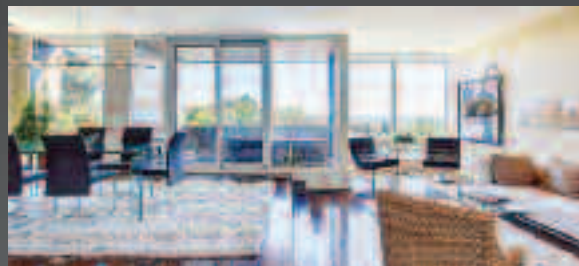




WELCOME TO THE RIGHT ADDRESS



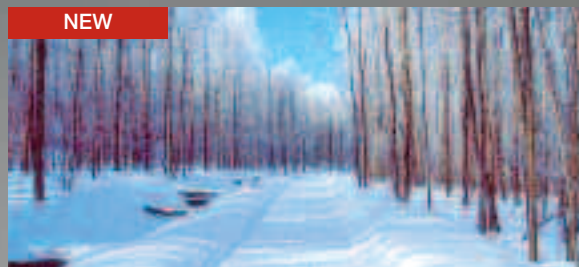
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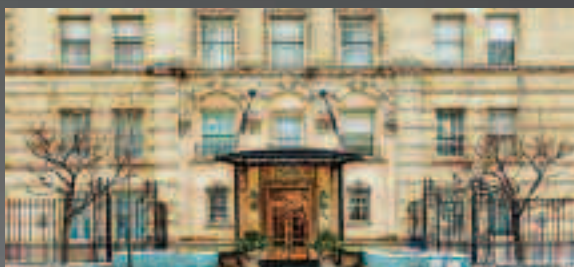
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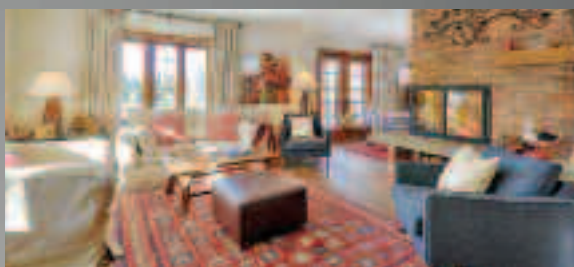
TMR 431 Grenfell **\$1,065,000**
MUST BE SEEN!! Renovated 3 bedroom Open Concept with large deck and garage on beautiful lot. MLS 10670164



DOWNTOWN 1227 Sherbrooke W, #44 **\$795,000**
ACADIA: Prestigious 3 bdr condo of 1619 s.f., garage, 24-hour security, great location. MLS 16250732



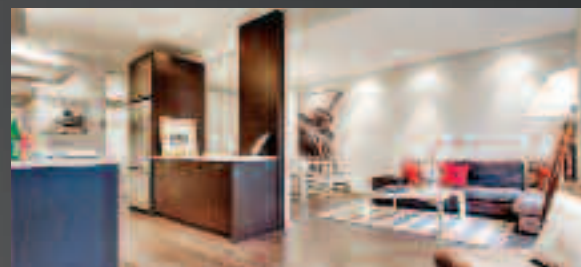
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135 acre lot with 5000 frontage on Rouge River, sand beaches, ideal for private ranch and very unique domaine.



TREMBLANT AREA **\$ 549,000**
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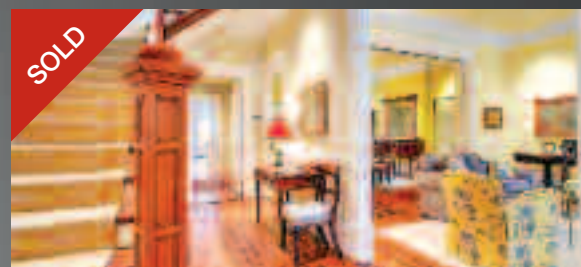
C-D-N 6301 Northcrest, #3P **\$899,000**
Le Sanctuaire WOW!! 1942 SQ FT, 2+1 bdr, Beautifully Renovated with very large deck, 2 car garage. MLS 12706314



LE PLATEAU 4235 de la Roche **\$425,000**
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TREMBLANT 121 rue Dicaire **\$325,000**
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WESTMOUNT ADJ. \$1,235,000 Sunny cottage near St. George's, 5 bdrms, 3.5 baths. Eat-in kitchen with den opens onto garden. A/C. Garage. Gym and dream workshop. Absolutely impeccable!

JUST LISTED



WESTMOUNT. \$1,265,000 Beautiful family home on the flats. 4+1 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Master bedroom with dressing room and ensuite. Finished basement, eat-in kitchen. Garage.



WESTMOUNT \$799,000 Priced to sell cottage! 2 bedrooms+office. 2.5 bathrooms. Very deep lot with possibility of extension. Garage. Well maintained home with new roof and furnace.

SOLD



WESTMOUNT \$1,249,000 Beautiful spacious home, ideally located in the flats! Eat-in kitchen, ground floor den, 5 bedroom, 3+2 bathrooms. High basement. Intimate garden. 2 car parking.



DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN SQ MILE \$699,500 Exceptionally situated, desirable 2 level condo has all the comforts of a home. 2 bdrms, 2 ensuite baths, den, fireplace, modern kitchen, priv. terrace, garage.



DOWNTOWN \$2,200,000 Best location between Old Montreal & Griffintown! Exquisite PH with city and waterfront views. Luxuriously appointed 3 bdrms, 3.5 baths, state of the art kitchen, 2 garage.



NDG \$265,000 This bright 1 bedroom condo has it all: location, great layout, hardwood floors, tons of storage, balcony, elevator, garage. Move-in condition and a reasonable price! MLS 15484902



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DOWNTOWN \$299,000 One bedroom condo with hardwood floors, central air and garage. Pool, gym, 24 hour doorman. Steps to Guy metro. An ideal location for Concordia or McGill University.

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