

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 8 No. 5a

We are Westmount

May 6, 2014

Westmount to contribute \$21,000 for social workers Cabot Square closure to require 'whole-hearted' approach: officials

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A "whole-hearted" community effort will be required to deal with the displacement of itinerants when Cabot Square is closed at the end of May for almost a year to undergo extensive refurbishment, according to Public Security and local station 12 police officials.

Both forces are preparing plans and working together to pay special attention to the Westmount neighbourhood west of the square, which is located at Atwater and St. Catherine in Montreal.

Concerns are that the itinerants will continue a trend to move into adjacent streets as well as Weredale Park, and

Stayner and Selby parks and exhibit anti-social behaviours (see story June 19, 2012, p. 1).

Plans include boosting patrol strength, including foot and bicycle patrollers, working with community outreach organizations, social workers and the Open Door Mission, a drop-in centre and soup kitchen at St. Stephen's Church.

Westmount city council was also expected May 5 to announce \$21,000 as its share with Montreal to hire two social workers, Councillor Theodora Samiotis said last week. Both are to work out of the mission.

"It's a global picture that involves all city de- continued on p. 12

Best athlete – best chess player



Thirteen-year-old Olivia Chamandy, left, was recently named Quebec's Best Female Athlete of the Year. She placed third in three-meter synchro at the International Youth Diving Meet, which took place in Germany last month. Selwyn House's Nicholas Johnson, Quebec's top-rated grade 10 chess player will now compete in the Canada Chess Challenge in Manitoba. See stories, p. 29.

Photos courtesy of David Chamandy and Selwyn House.



9 Lives, p. 13
Social Notes, p. 37, 38

Comin' Up, p. 32
Police Report, p. 36

Residents in southeast to be surveyed on new development approach

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

As updating of the city's master plan for the southeast sector continues, residents are expected to receive a letter next week asking them to participate in an online survey to help the city establish "guiding principles" for redeveloping the residential and commercial area.

Councillor Theodora Samiotis, who

represents the district and is also the city's commissioner of Urban Planning, said her letter would be sent out to residents in the study area. This extends from Atwater to Clarke and from de Maisonneuve south to the train tracks.

The city has already imposed a 60-day freeze starting March 17 on commercial-to-residential conversions in 22 commercial zones in both the southeast and southwest as announced at the council's mid-month meeting that day (see story March 25, p. 1).

"I am very excited about the planning chal- continued on p. 33



Westmount Page, p. 22



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Special Report

How many properties does the city own?
How many should it? See p. 34 for more.

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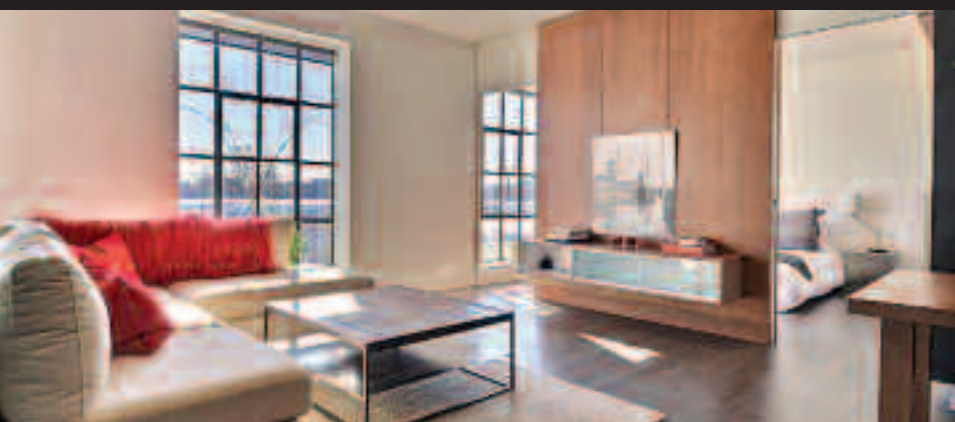
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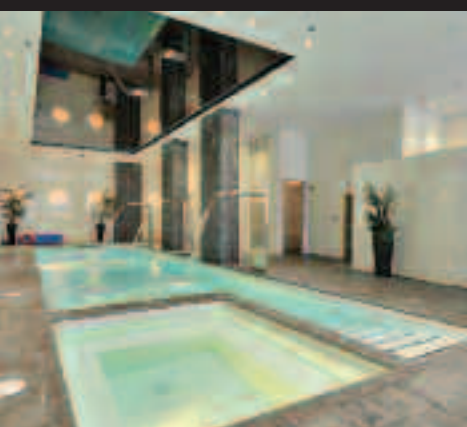
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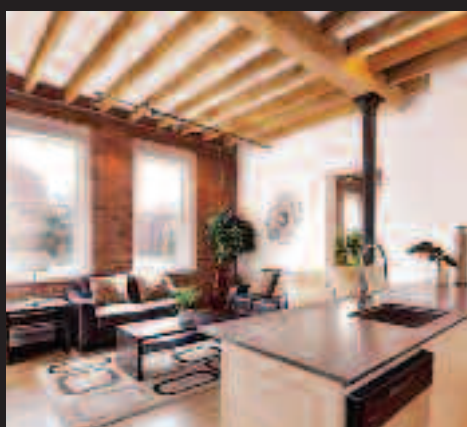
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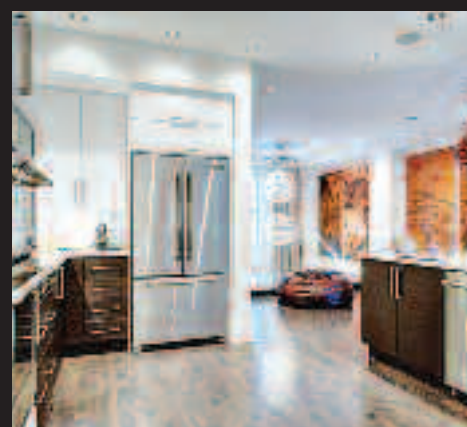
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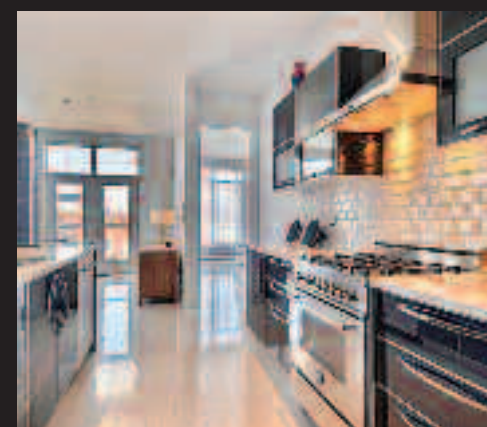
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NEW: PLATEAU
3629 rue Ste-Famille, apt. 1 \$995,000



PLATEAU
265 Av. Mont-Royal O., apt. 301 \$1,150,000

Library to become hive of activity

Honey bees about to start a buzz in Westmount

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Proceeds from the city's exchange of perennial plants May 15 are set to start a buzz in Westmount.

They'll be used to set up and maintain a bee hive of about 30,000 "docile" honey bees on the roof of Westmount Public Library at a cost of about \$1,800, Councillor Cynthia Lulham said last week. "The honey will also be bottled for us," Lulham said. An urban hive typically produces at least 10 kg a year depending on the weather.

Only about five percent of the bees ever leave the hive, she added. "And bees sting only in defence of the hive as opposed to wasps, who are carnivorous."

Lulham, who is commissioner of Sustainability and chair of the volunteer Horticultural Advisory Committee (HAC), said the project will link the city's horticultural and sustainability programs.

Urban beekeeping is part of a growing urban trend to bring bee hives to rooftops where they will fly off at high level on their search for flowers. They can journey up to a radius of four kilometers, she explained. Another hive is being set up on the roof of Town of Mount Royal city hall and two are slated for Dawson College.

The Westmount hive is expected to be installed the first week of June where people will be able to view it from the third floor of the library.

It is to be installed and maintained by beekeeper Declan Rankin Jardin, a co-founder of Alvéole, an urban agriculture service that participated recently in Earth Hour activities at Victoria Hall.

Coupon system revamped for city's plant exchange

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount residents accustomed to participating in the city's Perennial Plant Exchange will discover a new process in place for this year's event taking place May 15 in the court yard of the city conservatory.

Rather than being given a separate coupon for each plant they bring in, they will receive one listing the total number of plants they are entitled to receive in exchange, according to Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who heads the Horticultural Advisory Committee (HAC) organizing the event.

The event will receive the drop-off of

perennials for exchange from 4:30 pm to 6 pm and will not accept gout weed, house plants, annuals or shrubs.

"Plants must be in containers, freshly dug and labelled by name and suitable growing location," she explained.

From 6 pm to 6:30, holders of the coupon will have the first choice of plants, including a long list of perennials the city has been growing for exchange or purchase for \$2 each. Thereafter, other people will be able to purchase any of the remaining plants until the event closes at 7:30.

Among some 30 perennial varieties grown especially for the event are heliopsis, *continued on p. 4*

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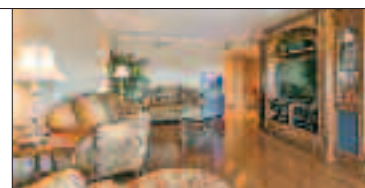
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'Big change from last year': Samiotis

AMT/CP gantry work to start in May, weekdays only

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmounters living near the train tracks in Westmount are expected to be spared weekend and overnight railway work this summer, according to notices sent out recently by the Agence métropolitaine de transport (AMT).

Instead, work to install three new signal gantries is reported to be scheduled for weekdays only from 7 am to 5 pm, starting sometime in May. Residents are to receive further notices a few days before the start of work, the letter states.

"That's a big change from what happened last year," District 8 councillor Theodora Samiotis said last week of the new work times.

She said the railways were "trying very hard," to understand the concerns of residents. "I think everyone appreciates how we can all work together after last year."

Coupons, cont'd. from p. 3

monarda, astilbe, plumeria, dicentra, hibiscus "luna red" and "cranberry punch," tiarella, phlox "purple beauty," digitalis, cedum, lavandula, echinacea, bellis and aquilegia.

The 20-year-old event is staffed by HAC volunteers and members of the Westmount Horticultural Society. It typically raises some \$1,600 used for greenhouse projects. These have included hanging baskets, replacement of the figure in the fountain and refurbishment of the totem now placed in the library.

This year, the proceeds will be combined with accumulated funds raised to pay for the installation and maintenance of a bee hive on the roof of the library (see story, p. 3).

The work is a continuation of last year's project to install the concrete foundations for three overhead signal gantries whose controversial locations and work hours erupted at two meetings held by the city between affected residents and officials from AMT and Canadian Pacific, who changed the plans (see story June 11, 2013, p. 5).

The work is being carried out by CP for the AMT, which operates the commuter service. It involves building the infrastructure required for the installation of a third track resulting in the need for wider gantries.

This year's efforts include installing the gantries, which now are to be positioned just east of Prospect St. at the foot of Weredale Park, at the bottom of Abbott Ave. and near the southeast corner of the POM condo building at 4700 St. Catherine (see August 6, 2013, p. 5).

Grocery store shoplifter held on the ground

A shoplifter was reported to have been apprehended April 24 at Victoria and Sherbrooke by an undercover security guard from the nearby Metro store, Public Security officials said. The incident had been called in to Public Security at 2:39 pm by someone believing an armed robbery was in process. When officers arrived, however, they found the guard had immobilized the suspect, who was lying on the sidewalk as they awaited police. It was not known what the suspect had been trying to steal.

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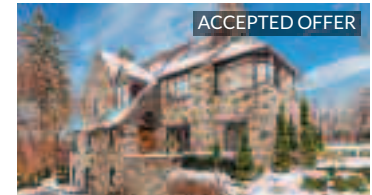
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Miss Vicky's court case dropped, zoning by-law stands

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Legal action against the city has been dropped regarding its zoning change to legalize the operation of Miss Vicky's pre-school at St. Matthias' Church, the *Independent* learned last week.

"We felt the by-law required was legal and this means there is no more doubt attached to it concerning Miss Vicky's," said city director general Duncan Campbell of the recent development.

Adoption of the zoning by-law by city council September 3 last year had been contested legally by Yolanda Favretto, a resident of Church Hill, where the pre-school has been located at the church for more than 20 years.

She contended that a petition to open a referendum register in opposition to the

by-law had conformed to law but was rejected by the city on grounds that some of the required signatures were ineligible (see story November 12, 2013, p. 1).

Already postponed

The legal action had been in the preliminary stages with a procedure already postponed once last month by Favretto's unavailability.

Favretto declined to comment May 1 on her reasons for dropping the legal action.

Her son, Dario, however, questioned the way the process had worked, saying it was surprising that after the school had been without the correct status, a by-law could be prepared so that opponents needed a majority to overturn it rather than requiring a majority to retain the status quo.

He said the legal process to overturn it had proven too much and was overwhelming. "Nobody thought it would be so arduous and physically tiring and just proved too much to take."

Campbell said last week the city had felt the case "had a longshot at gaining any

traction."

Traffic on the steep hill generated in part by the school had been opposed for many years by Shelley Kerman, who has since moved. She was joined in opposition by Favretto and the late Bertha Dawang who began questioning the school's lack of occupancy permit as well as the church's zoning. This did not allow for the operation of a pre-school.

To correct the situation, the city issued a permit and later launched the re-zoning process to add the operation of a pre-school to the church's permitted usages.

It was adopted by council, with Councillor Patrick Martin voting alone in opposition. He claimed the city was overzealous in disallowing the petition of residents opposed to the by-law and had not done enough to check the eligibility of the rejected signatories.

"It's a terrible shame when residents reach the point that they must sue their own city and face a battery of lawyers to fight for the right to vote on a zoning change," he said on learning the case had been dropped.

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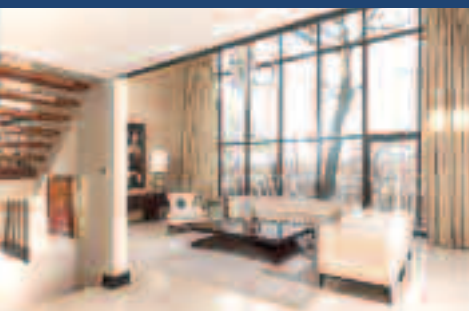
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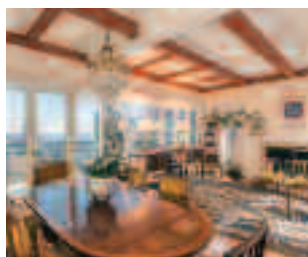
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334 Grosvenor
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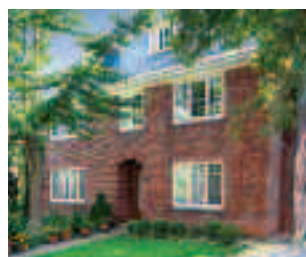
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18 Grenville
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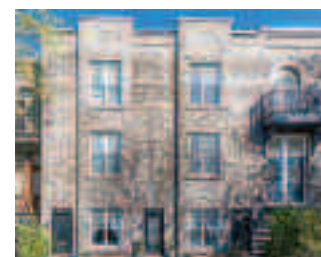
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TO STOP, LEARNING HAS TO START

I have wondered as I wander around Westmount why stop signs are treated as a suggestion by most drivers, bike riders and even official vehicles. It must be some gene code that comes from living here.

But the partial answer was supplied the other day as the warm weather sort of returned. While I was walking beside the bike path that runs along de Maisonneuve, a family of father and two sons approached. He led on his bike (no helmet) followed by the young boys on their smaller bikes (with helmets). As they approached a stop sign, I watched.

The father breezed right through and one of the boys called out, "Hey, Dad, there is a stop sign." He called back, "It's okay, no one is coming."

I thought of Mary Martin, she who sang so sweetly in *South Pacific*:

"You have to be taught before it's too late,
Before you are six or seven or eight."

MICHAEL ST.B. HARRISON,
MOUNTAIN AVE.

WHY TV AT TEEN CENTRE?

I passed by the recreation centre recently and was very surprised to see a number of teens sitting in front of a large flat-screened TV. Although there is a billiard table in the same room, many of

them seemed to ignore it in favour of whatever was on the tele.

It seems to me that the recreation centre should be focusing more on getting them involved in activities than watching television.

What about basketball or other activities? Why is Sports and Recreation reverting to the old standard of sitting them in front of the TV? For shame.

BELINDA BOWES,
ACADEMY RD.

CONTRA CROMWELL

I believe Mr. Gantcheff ("Cromwell's Gantcheff: Chain stores complement small ones," April 8, p. 12) would qualify as a tycoon since his company, the ubiquitous Cromwell, appears all over Montreal.

Sadly, it has also infested our small, but well-functioning, city of Westmount. His proposed concept of big box stores in this area, next to our boutiques, small stores and family businesses, is grotesque.

Already, many have fallen prey to his hefty rent increases. Victoria village is fast losing its unique identity.

Westmount is all about neighbourhoods and loyalty to those who have served us well down through the years. He is improving nothing whilst he streamrolls ahead.

Sadly, tycoons are hard to stand up to.

PAULA J. McKEOWN,
SHERBROOKE ST.

Debating the risks



On the Lighter Side

INGRID KOVITCH-DANNENBAUM

I signed an interesting waiver last week.

It was hardly the first one that I have had a go at this year. With kids playing football, hockey, rugby and wrestling, I had already repeatedly waived any claims to their last remaining neurons. (Negligent, indefensible and patently deranged conduct that only an equally-dingbat-and-already-flagged-to-youth-protection parent would ever consider.)

But this form was different.

For one, the liability release was for the National Debate Championships and not the Evel Knievel World Daredevil Showdown. And despite my initial impression – for which I could be readily forgiven – that it was taking place in the jungles of Burma, meticulous study of the three-page manifesto revealed that the competition was being held in downtown Toronto.

The waiver began with the alarming admonition: *Please read carefully!*

Which, of course, I did. For reasons which will soon become apparent.

And though I believed the document to be exhaustive beyond any reasonable degree of detail, it went on to further caution that I was agreeing to expose my child to risks "which included, *but were not limited to:* ..."

(From here I must quote directly, lest I be accused of exaggeration or hyperbole. And I am obliged to point out that what follows is but a mere sampling – a *wee smidgen* – of the itemized perils.)

Any manner of injury resulting from plane accidents. (Was there more than a single "manner of injury" which could result? Was it possible, perchance, that one might fall from the sky? And land on son

Gabby?)

Injury from impact or contact with trees, visible or non-visible. (I really felt that they should be liable for all Invisible Tree Hazards. As such, I almost didn't sign.)

Use, misuse, or failure of any equipment. (What, desks? Chairs? Gavels?)

Drowning. (In sorrow, perhaps?)

Lightning. (Granted, any self-respecting waiver has to include lightning.)

Injuries and illnesses resulting from contact with any form of animals, including bears. (Who knew that Rob Ford might attend?)

Exposure to West Nile virus. (Alas, poor ebola, not making the grade. Nor H1N1...)

Injuries from falling tree limbs. (Note that this is distinct from the "impact or contact with trees" point, as above.)

Cuts (awwww), **upset stomachs** (butterflies?), **dehydration** (in the event of a marathon debate?), **sore throats** (this promised to get intense).

Separation from group. (I was starting to see how this might "just happen.")

Cancellation of events. (Maybe not such a bad idea after all.)

We were reassured that University of Toronto first responders would be on site. But strangely, there was no mention of the presence of psychologists, or grief counselors, to attend to all injuries and illnesses (e.g. bruised egos, crushed spirits, etc) borne of the most likely threat of all: losing!

The document concluded with the advice to "explain the risks associated with this activity to your child, and ensure that he/she understands the risks."

Well, astonishingly, no amount of explanation seemed to help Gabby fully grasp what he might be getting himself into. (All those concussions from contact sports?) In spite of everything, he and his equally intrepid partner are still opting to attend.

Now I just have to remember to pack the band aids.

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Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

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EDITOR: Kristin McNeill (on maternity leave)

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

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'Suds' spotted by PSOs poured out by celebrants

Two men and a woman were found hiding beer among them on a bench at Selby Park April 23, Public Security officials said. They said they were celebrating the end of the school year and were asked to dump the suds, which they did. They were identified as living in downtown Montreal and on Greene in St. Henri. They were spotted at 6:25 pm.

Pipes generate noise complaint

Public safety officers were called April 27 to check out a noise complaint at 12:48 am regarding the armoury of the Royal Montreal Regiment on St. Catherine near Blenheim Place, Public Security officials said.

It was reportedly generated by the playing of bag pipes as part of an annual banquet. The complaint came from a resident of Park Place.

Sherbrooke pilot set for October

Direct recycling for Victoria businesses goes permanent

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city's pilot door-to-door recycling program for small stores and businesses on Victoria has received the green light to go permanent starting May 1. The service has been under way for two years on both Greene and St. Catherine.

Plans to extend the service to the commercial strip on Sherbrooke on a six-month experimental basis are now slated for October. Until then, they will continue to be served by the on-street blue mobile recycling trailer.

"We didn't want to take on too much too quickly," explained environmental coordinator Marina Peter of the staggered approach.

Implementation of the program in the western portion of the city has been complicated by the lack of a complete lane network that would enable collection from the back door, explained Public Works director Marianne Zalzal.

As a result, curbside pick-up from the front is required for some businesses on Victoria, with the collection scheduled for Tuesdays starting at 10 am before the

truck proceeds to Greene.

"Many of the stores don't open until 10 so this time will allow people to put out their recyclables just before," Peter said.

"I'm definitely in favour of moving forward on this," said Gerard Fellerath, president of the Victoria Village Merchants' Association and owner of Folklore I. "Our association has been pushing for direct pick-up for a few years now."

City council April 8 approved an amount of \$24,214 for "the weekly collection of cardboard and paper in the commercial sectors of Greene, St. Catherine and Victoria from May 1 to April 30, 2015." The quotation was submitted by the city's previous service provider, TTI Environment Inc.

30 participate officially

A total of 30 Victoria Ave. businesses signed on officially between Sherbrooke and de Maisonneuve, though the truck will also pick up recycling from others, Peter explained.

Among those officially registered are the two veterinarian clinics, the Martin Swiss bicycle shop, Westmount Florist, the

Visual Arts Centre and many of small shops as well as the office building at 310 Victoria, where the *Independent's* offices are, and some of its individual tenants.

"So far we've had no complaints from the Victoria pilot," she said. Merchants have been bagging paper in clear plastic bags and, as requested by the city, flattening cartons and placing them in another open one.

The commercial recycling program handles only paper and cardboard. These items have been considered to be the greatest need.

One of the concerns about picking up from the front doors of commercial establishments was the amount of cartons generated by some with the potential for clutter piling up on sidewalks and difficulties picking it up caused by traffic and parking.

Before the pilot program is launched on Sherbrooke, Peter said, businesses will be surveyed to determine how many need the city service since many of the larger stores have their own. These include the SAQ, Pier 1 and Hogg's (see March 8, 2011, p. 1).

Once the service begins, the city's previous device for commercial recycling, a mobile trailer that was parked on the street in commercial areas, will itself be "recycled" for use at special events or otherwise re-purposed, Peter said.

It was launched in the fall of 2010 as a first step to introducing recycling in the commercial sectors (see September 1, 2010).

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Ducks win Senior A



The Ducks won Westmount's Senior A championship 4-3, after a shootout against the Wild on April 20. From left, back row, Andrew Kligman, Mark Tomiuk, Sean Brophy, Alex Keleman, Jon Hoppenheim, Kippy Wiegand, Ian Turner, Matt Lawton and Wayne Sellers; front, city councillor Philip Cutler, Brandon Pinchuk, Max Climan and Ryan Macdougall.

WMA chooses Jenny Patton as its volunteer of the year

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Long time environmental activist Jenny Patton has been selected as the volunteer of the year by the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA).

The Derek Walker Award recognizing the honour will be presented to her at the WMA's annual general meeting May 14 at Victoria Hall starting at 7 pm.

Patton, who has lived many years on Holton Ave. and raised her son and daughter in the same neighbourhood, is being recognized as "a powerhouse" of the Healthy City Project's environment committee, said Maureen Kiely who nominated her. "She really was one of the committee's founders to the point where it now has a life of its own.

"She raised awareness of environmental matters in the community and put her ideas into practice by experimenting with various measures at her cottage," Kiely explained.

Patton told the *Independent* she was "a bit surprised" by the award "because a lot of what I've done was 25 years ago."

Patton, who chaired the committee for 15 years, remains an active member, however.

Among her continued involvement was organizing a volunteer information net-

work called Compost Ambassadors to answer questions from residents about the city's green bin collection when it was introduced five years ago.

'What's next?'

She has been known for her persistent drive to push for the implementation of environmental programs. While supportive of city efforts, she was also known for pushing the limits and stating: "What's next?"

It was her leadership that led the city in 2009 to nominate her as a candidate for Quebec's Mérite municipale award for citizen volunteer achievement.

Raised in Westmount, she owned and operated a milling operation to manufacture high-end wood products, and is now a financial consultant.

She once experimented with the raising of worms for composting in the basement of her Holton home. But she overfed them to the point where the house filled up with fruit flies. "I'm not perfect, you know," she was quoted as saying at the time.

An avid tennis player, Patton has served on the board of the Thomas More Institute and was president of the downtown YMCA. She holds an MBA and a master's degree in ecology.

Street fighters separated at Atwater/Tupper

A street fight April 26 involving two men and a woman was broken up by public safety officers at 12:39 am near the corner of Atwater and Tupper St., Public Security officials said.

The woman had signaled the patrollers for help.

One of the men was reported to be "slamming" the head of the other into the sidewalk and though officers ordered them to stop, the more aggressive one continued to attack until he could be held against a stone wall.

When police arrived and tried to take him to a squad car without handcuffs, he was reported to have tried to shove the officer. Public safety officers intervened to assist in restraining him until he could be cuffed and taken away.

One of the fighters was described as bleeding from the mouth, head and fist.

Ce samedi, venez chercher du compost GRATUIT!

Le compost fabriqué à partir des feuilles mortes ramassées l'automne dernier sera mis à la disposition des résidents de Westmount à compter de 9 h le samedi 10 mai aux Ateliers municipaux, rue Béthune, jusqu'à épuisement des stocks.

Apportez un contenant (soit un sac de plastique ou une poubelle) et une pelle. Comme la quantité est limitée, nous vous prions d'en laisser pour vos voisins. Interdit aux camions et aux remorques!

Le compostage domestique

Westmount simplifie le compostage davantage en offrant des composteurs domestiques au prix modique de 30 \$. Téléphonez au Service des travaux publics pour en savoir plus.

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Compost made from leaves collected last autumn will be available to Westmount residents as of 9 a.m. Saturday, May 10 at the Public Works yard, Bethune Street, while supplies last.

Bring a container (either a plastic bag or bin) and a shovel. Supply is limited, so please leave some for your neighbours. Trucks and trailers are prohibited!

Backyard Composting

Westmount makes composting even easier by offering backyard composters for the low price of \$30. Contact the Public Works Department to learn more.

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Capacity: 12 ft³ capacity
Black recycled plastic
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Batshaw Children Needing Homes

Charming and creative James ready for family life

A long-term foster home is being sought for the integration of 9-year-old James, who is articulate, charming and creative. Academically, James loves learning and is said to be doing well in school.

At this young age, he is struggling with behavioural issues as a result of many

losses, trauma and uncertainty about his future. James can be stubborn, rude and at times has tantrums as a way of receiving attention. However, he can be redirected to demonstrate appropriate behaviour.

James is living in a group home where he has made significant gains and is ready

to be integrated into a long-term foster family. He needs a foster family where he can grow and feel a sense of belonging. It should understand the nature of his losses and find him rewarding, in spite of the challenges that can still arise, e.g. tantrums, rudeness and outbursts.

Ideally, he would benefit from a two-parent inter-racial (Caucasian and black) or black family. For more information about, please call Batshaw Youth and Family Centres at 514.932.7161, local 1139.

Stolen items found under bush

A number of items appearing to belong to two women were found by a Public Works employee April 22 at 8:44 am under

a bush in Westmount Park, Public Security officials said. They were turned over to police. Included were 11 credit cards, other cards, lipsticks, wallets and two sets of keys.

The discovery was similar to another the worker had made on another occasion at the same location. They were believed to have come from smash-and-grab incidents in cars.

Pools must be drained into sewer: Public Security

A foul odour April 28 was traced to a swimming pool being emptied at a house on Upper Bellevue at the corner of Sunnyside at 1:13 pm, Public Security officials. The pool company was told their hoses must be run directly into the sewer. They explained the hoses could not reach the closest outlet about 400 feet away.

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Cabot Square, cont'd. from p. 1

partments, community resources and residents," said Public Security director Greg McBain.

Local police commander Daniel Gervais and McBain are both asking residents to call 911 to report incidents ranging from someone sleeping in a porch to fights in progress while they are ongoing to allow the appropriate resources and referrals to intervene.

Must work together

"The message is that we have to work together," Samiotis explained following a neighbourhood meeting she held April 29 at Centre Greene and attended by 30 local residents.

"From my perspective, residents were assured that a plan is in place," to deal with the park's closure, she added.

Gervais, who presented his action plan, says the station will have three officers and two cadets on bike patrol as well as three foot patrollers and additional car patrols that will pay special attention to the area and work with the social workers.

Public Security is also planning to provide extra presence from bike patrollers, parks cadets and additional vehicle patrol strength, according to McBain. His officers, he says, are already familiar with the

problems, which have been increasing over recent years.

These include loitering, alcohol and other substance abuse, screaming, urination, sexual activity, fighting and littering.

McBain, Gervais: Compassion shown

Gervais and McBain say they understand the concerns of residents and not only for the safety of their own area, but they were impressed with the compassion residents attending the neighbourhood meeting expressed for the plight of the homeless.

"We're talking about people who need to find somewhere to go," McBain said.

"It doesn't do any good to issue tickets to people who have no address," he said. "Nor does it do any good to tell someone sleeping in the comfort station at Stayner Park to go have a nap under the highway. That's unaccept-



Cabot Square, looking west from Montreal to Westmount and the Atwater Library. At 9:30 am May 2, several large empty beer bottles could be seen strewn on the ground while people on a bench took turns drinking from another.

able. We're talking about human beings.

"Our officers have been getting to know some of these people by name, filing reports and keeping track of them to inform police and social workers of their needs."

The Open Door Mission, in particular, needs additional funding to increase its resources, possibly to extend its hours to 5 am rather than closing at 2 am, McBain said. Westmount provided its annual supporting grant of \$4,000 to the mission April 8.

Since February, police, Public Security, Montreal officials and a number of social agencies and community groups have been meeting as part of a Montreal com-

mittee set up on urban security and improving the quality of life in the surrounding environment.

"This group is going to be a great help to us because now we know what resources we have, what each organization can do and who we can call for referrals," McBain said.

The problem of homelessness is a much wider one that's not confined to Cabot Square, he pointed out. "It's all over Montreal. It's a provincial social issue."

Montreal, he noted, is doing a lot to clean up the strip of St. Catherine St. just east of the Cabot Square.

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Cannelle, cinnamon kitten



9 Lives

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If you would like more information on Cannelle, please contact Cindy Haché at the SPCA Montréal at cindyhache@videotron.ca, or call them at 450.460.3075 to make arrangements for a visit at his foster home.

The main SPCA Montréal buildings are located at 178 chemin du Vide in St. Angèle de Monnoir. You can find out more about them on their website at www.spcamontreal.com.



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GPS doesn't know Summit Circle's closed

A public safety officer patrolling at Oakland noticed a car driving west along the closed portion of Summit Circle April 23 at 4:45 pm, Public Security officials said. He spoke to the driver who told him she had been following directions from her GPS system and did not know the road was closed.

The officer discovered the chain blocking the street had been broken and was lying on the ground. It was not known how or when the damage had occurred.



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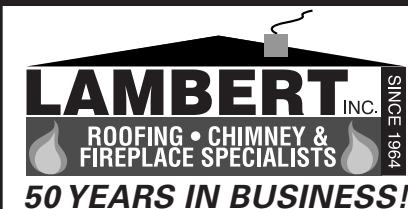
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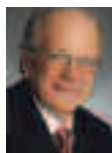


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Figures and faces: Jennifer Goddard and Paul Boudreault



Westmount
Art
Scene

HEATHER BLACK

face is unfinished with the features drawn in as orange lines, and the result is mysterious and somewhat unsettling.

Goddard's oil paintings also deserve comment. Meticulously painted with luminous skin tones, *Owl grizzly raven* is a sensitive and detailed depiction of an elderly man. Although painted in a small format, the subject dominates with a direct and almost fierce gaze.

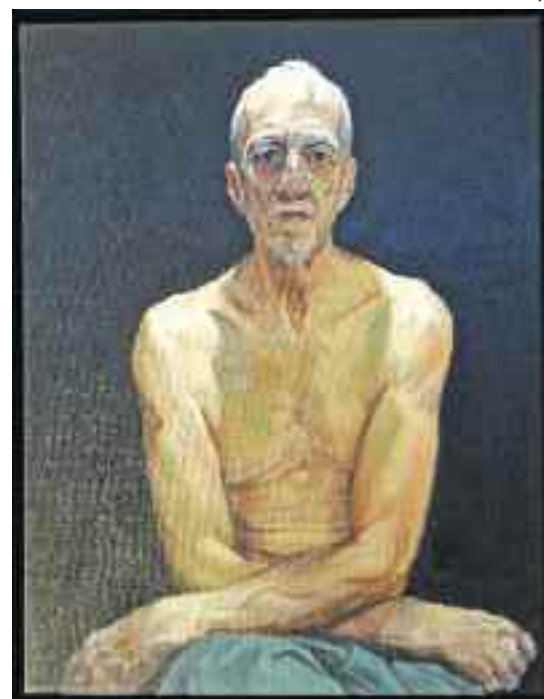
In contrast, the genial profile of *Adam* suggests a *bon vivant*. Painted in dramatic tones larger than life, the image recalls Rembrandt or Frans Hals.

The exhibition *Coincidence* continues until May 16 at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St.

Paul Boudreault

Montreal artist Louis Boudreault specializes in large and imposing portraits of notable figures as children. For the exhibition *Destinies: Small Format* drawings are scaled down to 36" x 24". Here, the unabashed stares of a young Albert Einstein, John Lennon or Pablo Picasso confront the viewer.

Boudreault depicts *Sir Winston Churchill* in a sailor's middy, suggesting his future role in the British admiralty. The poignant drawing of *continued on p. 16*



Owl grizzly raven by Jennifer Goddard.

This month Jennifer Goddard's figures fill the Gallery at Victoria Hall while Paul Boudreault's childhood portraits of culture dominate Han Art. Beautifully rendered as drawings or paintings, these works comment on our shared humanity and history.

Jennifer Goddard

Westmounter Jennifer Goddard's exhibition features over twenty-five recent drawings and paintings. As an artist who works from models, the exhibition's title *Coincidence* reflects the synergy between artist and subject. The result is a personal and sensitive depiction of individuals.

The charcoal drawings of *Girl 1* and *Girl 2* are loosely rendered with lines that hint at rather than define the subject. On the other hand, the oil sketch *Keenan* is of a young woman in black. The



Sir Winston Churchill by Paul Boudreault.



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Art Scene, cont'd. from p. 14

Queen Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon is painted against a regal burgundy background, while the image of a smiling and bold Rosa Parks hints at her historic role. In these works, childhood is a process of becoming.

The artist's use of colour adds to both meaning and charm. The tones in *Marguerite Duras* are calm and subdued, while a young *Maurice Richard* is depicted in a bright Habs red-and-blue jersey. A young *Vincent van Gogh* painted against a strong green background hints at emotional discord.

Boudreault's unique presentation of layers of paper on board suggests a story-book. Creating a composed paper patchwork, he suggests that life's first layer, childhood, creates character.

Destinies: Small Format continues until May 24 at 4209 St Catherine.

In these exhibitions, images of both known and unknown individuals capture our attention. Through a stark gaze or lyrical gesture, each figure demands recognition. Through their work, Goddard and Boudreault create an unspoken optimism that conveys dignity to each subject and is memorable.

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

Selwyn's Cohen first 'scholar' in Quebec



Joshua Cohen with his grade 6 teacher, Michelle Kocsis.

Photo courtesy of Selwyn House.

Selwyn House grade 6 student Joshua Cohen recorded the highest score in Quebec in the 2014 Scholastic Challenge competition, which was held on February 12.

The challenge is a Canada-wide competition to test the general knowledge of

grade 6 students. Competitors answered 100 questions in 60 minutes via a website. This year's competition involved approximately 3,000 students.

The national average this year was 48 percent. Cohen scored 76.



Bar-Ilan University
BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2014

The Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University proudly congratulates



Johanne Sternthal

who will be awarded an
Honorary Doctorate
from Bar-Ilan University in Israel
on Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Johanne is being recognized for her ongoing support of Bar-Ilan University, as well as her commitment to the Montreal Jewish Community and the State of Israel.

With a passion for the arts and fashion, Johanne is a talented theatrical producer who has created musicals, and written and choreographed numerous fashion shows for over 70 charitable events in the greater Montreal area, raising millions of dollars for many worthwhile causes.

Johanne and Norman Sternthal are long-time University patrons, who have supported the Ludwig and Erica Jesselson Institute for Advanced Torah Studies and its innovative Reshit basic Jewish learning program, which bears their names. They are partners in the Doctoral Fellowships of Excellence program, and founders of BIU's new School of Medicine in the Galilee.

May you go from strength to strength

Colour us Excellent

BUILDING PERMITS What's permitted

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the mid-month city council meeting April 22.

565 Roslyn: to do some landscaping to introduce a private entrance and driveway to

the existing shared driveway, build a retaining wall along the new driveway and a new landing and steps at the rear;

235 Metcalfe: to install a Videotron box at the back of the apartment building;

4376 de Maisonneuve: landscaping in front and back yards to include new plantings and to redo the parking area to introduce new ground cover;

38 Windsor: to build a small addition to a detached garage in order to build stairs to access the roof terrace;

757 Upper Lansdowne: landscaping to include new planting beds, a pool and fence in the back yard;

464 Mount Stephen: to replace some

windows and doors;

356 Olivier: at a Category I house, to replace most windows and some doors;

10 Grenville: to replace some windows;

4932 Sherbrooke: to create a basement front door access to accommodate a new store;

38 Rosemount: at a Category I house, to repair and extend a side terrace;

767 Upper Belmont: to create a new opening in the rear wall and replace some windows;

635 Belmont: landscaping in the front to include new pavers for the main walkway and stepping stones for a secondary new path leading to the driveway;

563 Grosvenor: to demolish a small rear extension to create a new door opening and stairs to access the mudroom, replace some windows and the front door;

4922 Sherbrooke: at a Category I building, to modify the front bay window and build a

continued on p. 18



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Spring is here, ready for summer. Murray Park on April 27 showed no signs of snow, or snow fencing, or winter.

Photo: Ralph Thompson.

BUILDING PERMITS 🏠 *What's permitted* continued from p. 16

small one-storey addition in the back yard with a balcony on the roof and replace some rear windows;

626 Victoria: to replace windows of the rear sunroom;

375 Kitchener: at the Ascension of Our Lord Church, a Category I building, to restore the main entrance gathering area and some stone on the north and east fa-

ades redoing masonry joints throughout;

21 Windsor: to replace some windows;

4459 de Maisonneuve: at a Category I house, landscaping to include a new front walkway, a terrace and deck in the side yard and erect fences and to introduce new planting beds in the front and side yards;

524 Victoria: to replace some windows and add storms to the solarium in the back

yard;

605 Belmont: to build an addition under a second floor sunroom, modify a rear opening and replace some windows;

41 York: to replace some of windows;

633 Côte St. Antoine: to replace vertical fence boards in the rear yard by horizontal ones.

Drinkers asked to leave

While patrolling at the rear of 4050 St. Catherine, west of Atwater, on April 27, public safety officers found two separate groups of people drinking beer around 4:24 pm.

Public Security officials said the bottles were emptied and all cooperated with a request to leave.



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Study triumphs in tennis



From left, Grace Jast, Chloe Marvidis, Alexa Antoniazzi, Julia Takacsy, Elodie Petrecca and Sarah Petrecca, with team back-up Michelle Antoniazzi.

Photo courtesy of The Study.

The Study won overall at the GMAA Juvenile-level tennis championships April 29 at Côte de Liesse with four strong placings.

Elodie Petrecca, playing at the Juvenile level although she is Bantam age, won

gold in singles, beating older sister Sarah in the finals.

Julia Takacsy and Alexa Antoniazzi won silver in the doubles, and Grace Jast and Chloe Marvidis came fourth in doubles.

Eight schools participated.



Mother's Day

Sunday May 11, 2014

Brunch from 11:00 to 3:00 pm

Dinner from 4:00 to 11:00 pm

Reservations 514-846-1414

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infoWestmount

HÔTEL DE VILLE

Bureaux de la Ville fermés le lundi 19 mai

Les bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront fermés le lundi 19 mai en raison de la Journée nationale des patriotes. Les collectes d'ordures et de matières compostables s'effectueront selon l'horaire normal.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Rencontre d'auteur : David O'Keefe

Le mercredi 7 mai à 19 h. Venez rencontrer David O'Keefe, auteur du livre *One Day in August: The Untold Story Behind Canada's Tragedy at Dieppe*. Info : 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture *readers to readers* en anglais **Le mardi 13 mai à 10 h 15.** Info : 514 989-5386.

Rencontre d'auteur : Antoine Ouellette

Le mercredi 14 mai à 19 h. Antoine Ouellette, auteur du livre *Musique Autiste: vivre et composer avec le syndrome d'Asperger*, lira des passages de son œuvre. Info : 514 989-5299.

Rencontre d'auteur : Soman Chainani

Le jeudi 15 mai de 13 h à 14 h. Venez rencontrer Soman Chainani, auteur des livres *The School for Good and Evil* et *A World Without Princes*, ce dernier étant le deuxième livre de la série. Les livres seront vendus sur place. Cet événement est commandité par le magasin Livres Babar et la maison d'édition Harper Collins. Info : 514 989-5229.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

La galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

Du 24 avril au 16 mai. La galerie a le plaisir de présenter *Coincidence*, une exposition de peintures et de dessins figuratifs de l'artiste Jennifer Goddard. Info : 514 989-5521 / victoriahall@westmount.org.

Société opératique de Montréal-Ouest

Le mercredi 7 mai à 19 h 30; le samedi 10 mai à 14 h et à 19 h 30; et le dimanche 11 mai à 14 au Victoria Hall. La Société opératique de Montréal-Ouest fête son 75^e anniversaire en 2014 avec une présentation de l'opéra *Patience*. Parmi les œuvres moins connues de Gilbert et Sullivan, celle-ci a été choisie pour sa musique exceptionnelle. Billets : 25 \$: adultes, 20 \$: aînés et étudiants, 10 \$: enfants de 11 ans et moins. Réservations: www.mwos.org ou 514 990-8813.

Salon des métiers d'art : appel de soumissions

Le vendredi 9 mai de 15 h à 19 h au Victoria Hall. Le Salon des métiers d'art 2014 aura lieu les 8 et 9 novembre prochain. Le jury se rencontre les 9 et 10 mai au Victoria Hall, Salon Prud'homme, 4626, rue Sherbrooke O. Apportez vos échantillons le vendredi entre 15 h et 19 h et récupérez-les au même endroit le lendemain entre 13 h et 15 h. Les items doivent être utilitaires et que les produits alimentaires ne sont pas acceptés. Il est important de présenter ses œuvres en personne. Info : westmount.artisans@videotron.ca.

Prochaine séance du conseil : le lundi 2 juin

Échange de plantes vivaces

Le jeudi 15 mai de 16 h 30 à 20 h, Conservatoire de Westmount.

Apportez vos vivaces et obtenez des coupons que vous pourrez échanger contre d'autres plantes de votre choix. Échange à compter de 18 h; vente de plantes à 19 h. Info : 514 989-5213.



Opéra Primavera Lyrica : un concert de levée de fonds pour le piano du Victoria Hall

Le dimanche 25 mai à 14 h au Victoria Hall. Jaime Sandoval, ténor, et Brigitte O'Halloran, soprano, présentent une sélection des plus belles chansons opératiques. Billets : 40 \$ (reçu d'impôt de 20 \$) Info : 514 989-5226.

39^e journée familiale au parc Westmount

Le samedi 31 mai de 10 h à 16 h. Amusez-vous au parc entre voisins et amis lors de cette fête annuelle. Il y aura des activités pour tous : courses, jeux gonflables, animaux, promenade aérienne, kiosques communautaires et plus. Les informations vous parviendront par courrier sous peu. Info: 514 989-5353.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Système d'appels d'urgence CodeRED

Le 1^{er} mai 2014, Westmount a mis en œuvre le système automatisé d'appels **CodeRED**. Le système permet à la Ville de joindre les résidents par téléphone ou par texto concernant les situations urgentes et ce, dans un délai de quelques minutes. Si vous avez une ligne téléphonique résidentielle fixe, vous êtes déjà inscrits. Vous devez toutefois vous inscrire si vous désirez recevoir ces messages sur un appareil mobile, une ligne fixe confidentielle, ou par courriel. Consultez le site Web de la Ville au www.westmount.org pour vous inscrire.

Bois Summit : les chiens doivent être en laisse EN TOUT TEMPS jusqu'au 15 juin

En raison de la période annuelle de migration 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.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Remise de compost gratuit aux résidents

Le samedi 10 mai à compter de 9 h aux ateliers municipaux, rue Bethune. Apportez un contenant et une pelle. Info : www.westmount.org ou 514 989-5390.



CITY HALL

City Offices closed Monday, May 19th

Westmount's administrative offices will be closed Monday, May 19th for the Victoria Day holiday. The garbage and kitchen waste collections will take place according to the regular schedule.

LIBRARY

Author Reading: David O'Keefe

Wednesday, May 7 at 7 p.m. Meet David O'Keefe, author of *One Day in August: The Untold Story Behind Canada's Tragedy at Dieppe*. Info: 514 989-5299.



Readers to Readers Book Club

Tuesday, May 13 at 10:15 a.m. Info: 514 989-5386.

Author Reading: Antoine Ouellette

Wednesday, May 14 at 7 p.m. Meet Antoine Ouellette, author of *Musique Autiste: vivre et composer avec le syndrome d'Asperger*. Info: 514 989-5299.

Author Event: Soman Chainani

Thursday, May 15 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Come meet author Soman Chainani, author of *The School for Good and Evil* and book two in the same series: *A World Without Princes*. Books will be available for purchase. This event is co-sponsored by Babar Books and Harper Collins. Info : 514 989-5229.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Gallery at Victoria Hall: Exhibition

April 24 to May 16. The Gallery is pleased to feature *Coincidence*, an exhibition of figurative drawings and paintings by Westmount artist Jennifer Goddard. Info: 514 989-5521 / victoriahall@westmount.org.

Montreal West Operatic Society: *Patience*

Wednesday May 7 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, May 10 at 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, May 11 at 2 p.m. at Victoria Hall. MWOS is pleased to announce its 75th Diamond



Jubilee production: 'Patience, or Bunthorne's Bride.' This lesser-known work from the Gilbert and Sullivan canon was chosen for its outstanding music! Tickets: adults, \$25; seniors/students, \$20; children under 12, \$10. Reservations: www.mwos.org or 514 990-8813.

Artisans' Festival: call for submissions

Friday, May 9 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall. The 2014 Westmount Artisans' Festival will take place November 8 and 9. This year's jury meets on May 9th and 10th at Victoria hall, Prud'homme Room, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W. Bring samples of your work on Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. and return to pick them up on Saturday between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Please note that all work must be utilitarian and that food items are not accepted. It is important for artisans to bring their work in person. Info: westmount.artisans@videotron.ca.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, June 2

Perennial Plant Exchange

Thursday, May 15 from 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Westmount Conservatory. Bring perennials from your garden and obtain coupons that can be exchanged for other plants. Exchange at 6 p.m. and plant sale from 7 p.m. Info : 514 989-5213.

Opera Primavera Lyrica : a fundraising concert for the Victoria Hall piano

Sunday, May 25 at 2 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Tenor Jaime Sandoval and soprano Brigitte O'Halloran present a medley of the most alluring opera selections. Tickets: \$40 (includes tax receipt for \$20). Info: 514 989-5226.

39th Annual Family Day in Westmount Park

Saturday, May 31 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Enjoy fun in the park with family and friends at this annual event. There's something for everyone : races, inflatable games, petting zoo, zip line, community kiosks and more. Watch your mailbox for more details soon. Info: 514 989-5353.

PUBLIC SECURITY

CodeRED Emergency notification system

On May 1st, Westmount implemented the **CodeRED** automated emergency notification system, which provides the City with the ability to reach residents by phone and inform them of emergency situations, all within minutes. If you have a residential land line, you are already registered in the system. If you wish to receive messages on a mobile device, an unlisted land line or by email, however, you must register. Sign up on the City's website at www.westmount.org.

Summit Woods: dogs must be leashed

AT ALL TIMES April 16 to June 15

Because of the annual bird migration period, dog owners using Summit Woods must keep all dogs on leash at all times **from April 16 to June 15**. Public Security officers will patrol and may issue fines to those contravening the by-law.



PUBLIC WORKS

Free compost for residents

Saturday, May 10 beginning at 9 a.m., Municipal Yard, Bethune Street. Bring a container and a shovel. Info: 514 989-5390 or www.westmount.org.



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT

Poets congregate



The Westmount Public Library's poetry group held its second annual Poetry and Pastry event on April 27 at the library to celebrate National Poetry Month. Over 50 people attended. Group members in attendance included, from left, front row, Paula Pedicelli, Helaine Kliger and Jean Cariere; back row, Margie Golick, Judith Buzzell, Hannah Franklin, Jack Locke, Janet Yensen, Ann Lloyd, Rita Pomade, Carol Weins, Steven Rosenstein and Michelle Smith.

Photo courtesy of Westmount Public Library.

Meals on quilts



Westmounter Lyn Worrell of Mountainside Meals on Wheels with her placemats, which the group will be delivering with meals in future weeks. The Mountainside program has been feeding housebound people in NDG for over 40 years, "but may be forced to close down unless we can attract more volunteers – buyers, drivers and cooks," said coordinator Susan Purcell in a press release. The group serves meals year-round, except in July. It particularly needs help during winter and summer, according to Purcell, when many of its regular volunteers are out of town. For more information call Purcell at 514.488.3503.

Photo courtesy of Meals on Wheels.



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Shaar and its schools team up for MADA



Renee Baltuch with some of the collected materials.

Photo courtesy of R. Baltuch.

The Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, the Foundation pre-school and the Akiva school teamed up with the MADA Community Center to distribute clothing, food, toys and baby items to Jewish Montreal families in need.

Event coordinator Renee Baltuch has

one child at Foundation, one at Akiva and is a member of the Shaar.

"This is a wonderful teaching opportunity for our children. One boy said, 'That's not garbage in those bags. We are helping make Montreal kids and families happy.'"

'Tricky' repairs to Holton wall to be carried out from the top

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Work approved by city council April 8 to repair a concrete retaining wall from Holton up to Mount Pleasant will prove to be unusually challenging since it will require doing the work from the top, Councillor Patrick Martin told the meeting.

The wall holds up the steep portion of Mount Pleasant Ave. at the rear of six row houses on Holton, which makes it inaccessible to workers, he said.

The project, approved at a net cost of \$133,735, involves removing broken or deteriorating pieces, repairing cracks and adding a protective surface.

The work will probably start in May because the contractor "is anxious" to get started, according to Public Works director Marianne Zalzal. "The sooner, the better," she added, so residents can have the work done before the summer.

A notice is to be sent to them shortly before the work starts.

Ticketing starts May 8 for off-leash dogs in Woods

Public Security officials gave warning last week they intend to start ticketing for any dogs they find off leash in Summit Woods starting May 8. Tickets cost \$76.

Officers have been issuing warnings only as part of an awareness campaign to remind dog walkers that between April 15 and June 15 dogs must be leashed at all times in the nature preserve. This is not only the bird migratory period but also the time when new vegetation is starting to emerge and needs special protection.

Posters have been put up at Summit Woods to this effect and "people should know by now what the regulations are," said Public Security director Greg McBain.

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2012

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Renovated Westmount Mini-Mansion



The Boulevard near Study

\$1,888,000

Surprisingly quiet w/flat landscaped backyard. Gorgeous renov. Sun & joy-filled classic, central hall plan, 2 solariums, lots of architectural details, C/A., Sep. side entrance to high ceiling above grade finished lower level - possible walk-out to garden. 4+1 BDR, 4+1 BTH. For couples or families. See video at: youtube.com/westmountrealty

Rental - Immediate



The Boulevard \$6,500/mth

Spacious immaculate home w. large rooms. Huge eat in KIT, patio doors to garden. Family rm. Wood floors throughout, 2 car garage. 3+1 Bdrm, 3+1 bath. Views, close to schools. immed

Habitat 67 - Waterfront



New Price \$499,500

RARE 2 cubes on one level on river. 2BDR, Huge terrace-solarium possibility. Like being in the country, a few minutes from downtown private shuttle, tennis, bike to the islands, video

Gorgeous Renovated Classic, Westmount

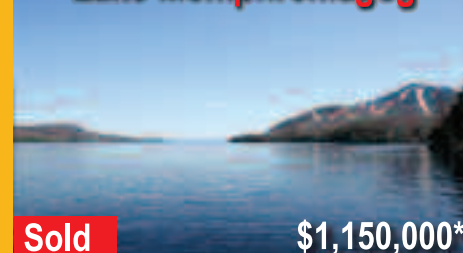


De Maisonneuve near park

\$1,250,000

Gorgeous renov classic honoring older charm. 4+1 bdrm, 3+1 bath, eat in luxurious kit w. granite ctrs & heated floors. Deck & garden, new fin bsmt w. hardwd flrs, renov garage-small car. MBR ensuite., 1.5 block east Westmt Pk. Over \$350K in renov. Great family home & neighbors!

Lake Memphremagog



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ECO DESIGNED HOME featured in Gazette & Harrowsmith. 6 BDR, 3+1 BTH. Double garage. Bi-generational. 5 min. ski/golf Owl's Head, 80 min Westmount. See video

Habitat 67 - City & River Views



Sold \$575,000*

RARE 2 cubes on 1 level facing city. 2 Bdrms, 2 large terraces. Views towards downtown & river. Possibility of adding a solarium. Doorman, tennis, bike paths, dog friendly.

Stunning Sophisticated Westmount Stonefront



Prospect near Stayner Park

\$925,000

Stunning sophisticated stonefront townhouse, approx \$332 500 in renov. Designer KIT w. professional gas stove, glass doors to garden w. water feature. LVR w. gas FP, MBR w. den, original handsome woodwork, only 2 owners! Off Greene Ave, 2 car parking, backing onto Stayner Park, between 2 metros. See video at: youtube.com/westmountrealty

Estrie Agri-Tourism



Stukley-Sud \$690,000

1 hr from Mtl. Magnificent domaine 148 acres Pastures w/ maple grove, spring fed pond, renov. Loyalist 5 bdr, 4+1 bth house-perfect B&B. barn, reception bldg, see video.

You Tube



LUXURYHOMES.COM
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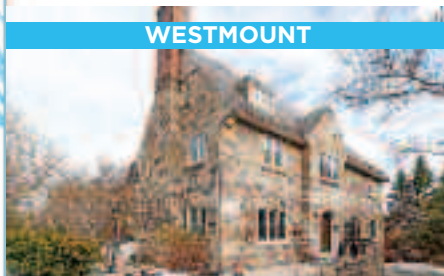
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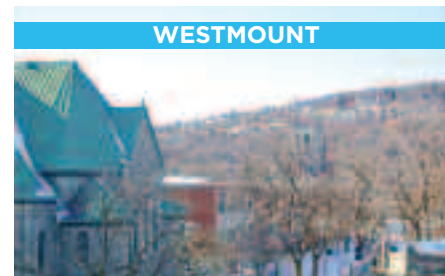
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WESTMOUNT



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DOWNTOWN



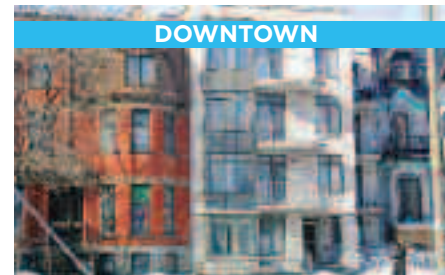
1455 TOWERS

\$420,000 | MLS 9082494
Priced below evaluation!

*Wishing all
mothers a Happy
Mother's Day!*

Jill & Joan

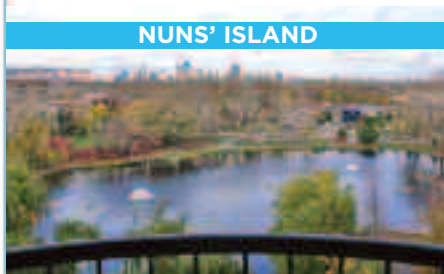
DOWNTOWN



1855 RENE-LEVESQUE

\$390,000 | MLS 17367387
Bright 2 bdrm condo w/garage

NUNS' ISLAND



MARIE-LE BER

\$325,000 | MLS 13506219
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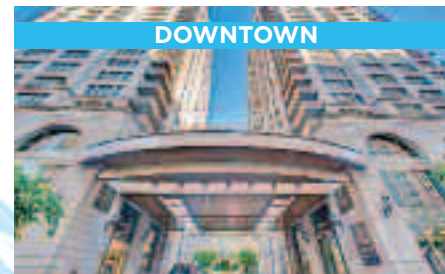
DOWNTOWN



3470 REDPATH

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DOWNTOWN



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continued on p. 32

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ON THE SHELVES

Among recent reading and audio-visual material at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

Magazines

"At Home in Ireland: Where to get the Royal Treatment on the Emerald Isle" by Turtle Bunbury in *National Geographic Traveler*, April 2014, pp. 42-53.

"It's Good to be Green" in *Urban Farm*, April 2014, pp. 35-38. The Green Thumb Awards recognize new plants and garden products for 2014.

"5 façons de faire la cour" de *Fleurs, Plantes, Jardins: L'art de vivre à l'extérieur*, avril 2014, pp. 30-66. Urbain, champêtre, classique, contemporain, riverain... Cinq extérieurs se suivent, mais ne se ressemblent pas.

E-Books (Overdrive)

The Auschwitz Escape by Joel C. Rosenberg
Luc, a French pastor sent to Auschwitz for helping Jews, enlists the help of Jacob, a Jewish man sent to the camp after he tried to hijack a train bound for Auschwitz, to plan an escape from the death camp.

Frog Music by Emma Donoghue
Burlesque dancer Blanche Beunon tries

to discover who murdered her friend Jenny, who was shot through a window in a railroad saloon in 1876 San Francisco, amidst a record-breaking heat wave and smallpox epidemic.

E-books (Pret-numerique)

Calcutta by Shumona Sinha

In this autobiographical novel, the narrator, who emigrated from India, goes back to Calcutta to attend her father's funeral. She rediscovers the city of her youth, rekindles ties with her family and, through memories of her late father, invokes the country's recent past.

Théorie de la vilaine petite fille by Hubert Haddad

This novel is based on the true story of the Fox sisters, two children from New York who, in 1848, became famous for communicating with spirits. Through their journey, the author chronicles half a century of American life.

Adult English - Scandalous women of the 19th century

The Criminal Conversation of Mrs. Norton: Victorian England's 'Scandal of the Century' and the Fallen Socialite who Changed

Women's Lives Forever by Diane Atkinson

A forgotten heroine of the women's rights movement is rescued from obscurity in this biography of Caroline Norton, a respected poet, songwriter, and socialite whose 1836 adultery trial rocked Victorian England.

The Scarlet Sisters: Sex, Suffrage, and Scandal in the Gilded Age by Myra MacPherson

The adventures of two sisters who tried to overcome the male-dominated social norms of the late 19th century and achieved a remarkable list of firsts, including the first woman-run brokerage house and the first woman to run for president.

Adult French - Rediscover Montreal

Confessions de chefs: leurs meilleures adresses

Fifteen chefs describe their favourite haunts (restaurants, cafes, bakeries, fine food stores, etc.). Many Montreal destinations are presented but this guide also offers recommendations in other regions of Quebec.

Marcher Montréal avec un artiste

In this series of bilingual guidebooks, artists of different disciplines present their favourite circuits in the areas where they live. The four guides that have been published so far are: *Le Montréal souterrain*, *Le Plateau*, *Le Vieux-Montréal*, *Le mont Royal*.

Books on CD

Sister Mother Husband Dog, etc.
by Delia Ephron

In *Sister Mother Husband Dog*, Delia Ephron brings her trademark wit and effervescent prose to a series of autobiographical essays about life, love, writing, movies and family. From keen observations on modern living, the joy of girlfriends and best-friendship, to a consideration of the magical madness and miracle of dogs, to haunting recollections

of life with her famed screenwriter mother and growing up the child of alcoholics.

Still Life with Bread Crumbs by Anna Quindlen

Moving to a small country cabin, a once world-famous photographer bonds with a local man and begins to see the world around her in new, deeper dimensions while evaluating second chances at love, career and self-understanding.

Picture Books about Moms for Children

Pauvre Maman! By Vanesa Pérez-Sauquillo

A little girl thinks about all the things she can do for her mother so that she doesn't get bored.

Birdie's Big-Girl Hair by Sujean Rim

When Birdie's mother promises to take her to a salon to tame her long hair, Birdie looks at magazines and consults her friends to find the style that is perfect for her.

Reference

History of Design: Decorative Arts and Material Culture, 1400-2000.

Palmarès des carrières 2014: une sélection de 150 métiers et professions pour bien choisir et réussir.



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WAG field too wet for rugby practice WHS told

A gym class rugby group from Westmount High was asked to vacate the playing field at the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) April 24, Public Security officials said. The field had not yet opened after the winter due to weather conditions.

The group of about 50 students departed.

Local diving champ is aiming for 2020 Tokyo Olympics

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

If practice makes perfect, then Olivia Chamandy is well on her way to being one of Canada's top female divers, after coming close to doubling the number of hours she practises in just the past two years.

The 13-year-old Roslyn Ave. resident currently ranks third in Canada in her age category.

Along with Lindsay Leonard of Montreal, Olivia won an unexpected bronze medal in the girls' three-metre synchro event at the International Youth Diving

Meet competition, which took place from April 24-27 in Dresden, Germany.

Then at this year's Sports Québec Gala, held in Laval on April 30, she was named the province's Best Female Athlete of the Year.

Currently a secondary two student at Collège de Montréal, Olivia became interested in the sport of diving after watching Canadian Olympic diving champ Alexandre Despatie's televised performance at the 2008 Beijing games.

Just two years ago, according to a profile of Olivia compiled by Diving Quebec,

she was putting in 12 hours of practice a week. But this year, she said in an interview with the *Independent*, she added a day's training to her schedule and now practises up to 20 hours every week.

Although she will still be too young to qualify for the 2016 Olympics, Olivia is currently aiming to be a competitor at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

Hit-and-run deploys airbags

A hit-and-run accident April 28 at Montrose and Mount Pleasant avenues left a car leaking liquid and the airbags deployed, Public Security officials said. The driver, a resident of Decarie Blvd., was not injured and was found on the sidewalk talking on a phone just after 8:21 am when a call for the accident was received from Hydro Westmount.

She reported that the other car had left the scene.

Police arrived to take a report while firefighters spread absorbent material on the road to soak up the liquid.

The car as towed to a car dealership.

Chess news

Selwyn's Nicholas Johnson captures third straight provincial crown

BY MICHAEL MOORE

Selwyn House's resident chess king Nicholas Johnson captured his third straight provincial title on April 27, defeating all five of his opponents in the annual Quebec Chess Challenge.

The top-rated grade 10 student in the province, Johnson flexed his strategic prowess to edge out the other contestants in the seven-player field to win the one-day competition held at Le Rizz in St. Leonard.

Johnson, now 16, also finished third as a grade 7 student three years ago.

The annual tournament, hosted by the Chess 'n Math Association, Canada's national scholastic chess organization, brings together the top young chess talent from across the province to compete in grade-specific five-game tournaments.

This year, a total of 328 students competed in the event in age groups ranging from kindergarten to the first level of CEGEP, with winners being awarded transportation and accommodation to the Canadian Chess Challenge to be held on May 18 and 19 at the University of Manitoba.

Among other Selwyn House competitors, grade 1 student Jake Benchetrit-Morrison finished 18th; grade 4's Dylan Lee, Daniel Bergevin and Denis Dariotis finished 20rd, 42rd and 43rd, respectively; Tony Li finished 8th in the grade 5 competition; and Old Boy Houji Yao finished third place in the CEGEP1 division.

Johnson has been a part of Selwyn's chess team since first coming to the school for kindergarten, establishing a level of familiarity as he grows as a player and person.

"It helps a lot. I have a connection with my chess teacher that is more than just

chess," he said.

With the five-game sweep, Johnson's chess rating jumped by 20 points up to 1,867, increasing his lead atop the grade 10 rankings in Quebec and bumping him up to the No. 11 position in the age group in Canada, according to the Chess 'n Math Association.


He has set a goal of finishing the year with a rating of at least 2,200, which would earn him the title of master.

As part of his win, Johnson will also be given the chance to further increase his ranking when he takes on the other top grade 10 chess talent from across the country in the annual nation-wide tournament in May.

Johnson finished fifth in the national competition in each of the last two years, and is aiming for a top-3 finish in May.

"The first time I went I was nervous because I wasn't used to playing at that high a level, but I think now that it's my third year ... I'll be able to manage myself much better," he said.

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Update on Turks & Caicos fundraiser

The Teen Advisory Committee of the Westmount Public Library raised approximately \$280 for the Providenciales Readers Club of Turks & Caicos at a bake sale on April 12. Westmounter Michael Walsh had the idea for the event.

The club works with students aged 5 to 12.

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Greene Ave. in transition

No changes



Tony's is a long time institution on the street and Emma and Vago have been open for years, too.

No change - Closed - No changes



Profusion, SoxBox and Kathryn Osborne are staying put, but Serge & Réal closed earlier this year (see February 25, p. 16).

Moved - No change - Moved



Arevo has moved around the corner to St. Catherine St. and California Closet has closed its Greene store (while maintaining one in Dorval) but Nick's, a Westmount institution, is staying put.

No change - No change - Moving



The post office and Lou Golberg are staying put, but Rogers is moving to Westmount Square.

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May Day, 2014

Anniversary time



Mod's Hair and Nails recently celebrated 25 years on the street (see April 25, p. 30).

Moved in



Bella recently moved from Victoria village to Greene.

No change – No change – New



Royal LePage and Babar Books have been on Greene for years, but Starbucks opened in November.

Closed – Open – Closed



Mochico has closed its Greene Ave. store (but continues to have outlets around Montreal). Petula is open. Maison Carole Franck is closed and its phone number has been disconnected.

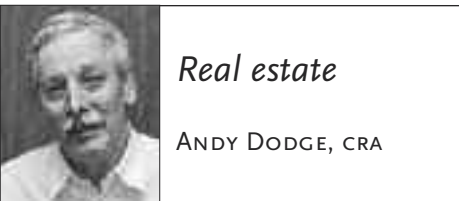
Moving



Lululemon (left) is moving to Prince Albert and Sherbrooke.

Transfers cont'd. from p. 27

For real estate transfers,
please consult paper archive.



Real estate

ANDY DODGE, CRA

Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in December 2013, and January and February 2014, gleaned from non-city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 27.

The Westmount real estate market showed definite signs of weakness in the months surrounding New Year's Day, as buyers hesitated pending the then-upcoming provincial election. Three more sales in December upped the number for that month to six, with only five more in January and 11 in February.

The *Independent* (March 3) reported two single-family home sales in December with prices of \$980,000 and \$1,000,000, and then a duplex at 565-65B Victoria Ave.

December-February transfers: Sluggish volume

which sold for \$2,225,000. Since then, we have learned of three more single-family homes that transferred for prices from \$700,000 to \$1,999,000. The average mark-up for the month, with all the sales included, was 27.5 percent above the 2011 municipal evaluation, slightly higher than the average for the year (25.2 percent), but the volume of six sales was only half the average for the month. The sale of 482 Grosvenor Ave. for \$700,000 was by far the lowest sale in December, well below the \$980,000 paid out for 464 Mount Stephen Ave.

The same lack of interest was indicated by only five more single-family sales in January compared to an average 11 over the past four decades. The prices were fairly strong, with the lowest price of \$915,000 for an attached house at 368 Elm Ave. The highest of \$2,295,000 was for a semi-detached home at 538 Argyle Ave.

Since the new 2014 municipal evaluations came into force on January 1, the January sales showed three out of five selling for less than the values established according to the July 2012 market – though with a strong boost thanks to the 39-percent mark-up at 538 Argyle, the average was a positive five percent.

January also recorded two condominium sales compared to three in 2013, one above valuation and one below, again averaging just four percent above municipal valuation.

Up in February

In February, volume increased to 11 one- and two-family sales, with the top price of \$2,800,000 offering some hope to vendors whose houses are asking upwards of \$2 million, though the next-highest price was more than \$1 million less. The lowest price was \$780,000 for 73 Holton

Ave., another attached house. With the much higher valuations for 2014, all but three sold below the municipal assessment; the biggest mark-down involved 419 Mount Stephen Ave. which sold for 18 percent below the valuation. Highest mark-up was only 10.6 percent, involving 602 Lansdowne Ave., just above Westmount Ave.

Two condominiums sold in February, one in a former duplex, one in a former triplex, the latter of which went for only \$350,000 at 4821A St. Catherine St., though this was still 24 percent above its municipal assessment, the highest mark-up so far in the first quarter of the year.

The only other sale in February involved two mid-sized apartment buildings on de Maisonneuve Blvd. at the corner of Elm Ave. facing Westmount Square, which brought \$3,650,000 to the owners who had paid \$2 million to purchase the pair back in 2003.

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, McGill University's department of Jewish Studies and Concordia University's department of Religion launch *The Sacred Encounter: Jewish Perspectives on Sexuality* edited by Rabbi Lisa Grushcow. Free. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. 7:00 pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Montreal Storytellers' Guild. Westmount Library, 4574 Sherbrooke St. Free. For adults and children over 10. 7 pm.

For the Atwater Library Lunchtime Series, Le Groupe MusiArt, the choir of the MUHC department of Psychiatry directed by Dr. Marie-France Boudreault, performs

a variety of choral music in English and French, including songs written by members of the group. Free. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

St. Matthias' Church spring rummage sale. Lower Hall, 131 Côte St. Antoine Rd., corner Metcalfe. 10 am to 1 pm.

TUESDAY, MAY 13

Westmount Horticultural Society presents "The Art of Butterfly Gardening" by Christopher Cloutier, naturalist at the Morgan Arboretum and teacher at Vanier College. Guests \$5. Westmount library, 7 pm.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Westmount Municipal Association

AGM, Victoria Hall, 7 pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 15

City Perennial Plant Exchange, Conservatory courtyard, drop-off of plants 4:30 pm to 6 pm, exchange 6 to 6:30 pm, sale 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 24

Ben Hur (1925), the classic silent film accompanied by live musicians. \$9. Westmount Park United Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. 7 pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

The Good Doctor by Neil Simon, presented by Dramatis Personae. Lodge Room of Victoria Hall. Donation of \$10 requested. 7:30 pm. Also Saturday, May 31 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm, Sunday, June 1 at 2

pm and Monday, June 2 at 8 pm.

ONGOING:

Tumbling Tots. Centre Greene. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 am to 11 am. Indoor/park playground for parents and children under 5 years. \$3.50/morning drop-in. Coffee and cookies provided.

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

Please send your events in the above format by Friday at 2 pm to cu@westmountindependent.com.

Guest Column

SWAT wins (and loses) its own tournament

BY NICK MATOSSIAN

In 2013, as work on the Westmount recreation centre was still being completed, SWAT was unable to hold its annual Old Timers Tournament, which hosts teams from Quebec, Ontario and the USA, and which has been held annually in December for the benefit of the two children's hospitals over the past 24 years.

To the rescue came Mike Deegan and his crew at the Westmount Sports and Recreation department to offer SWAT ice time at the end of the 2013-14 hockey season to organize a mini-tournament with four Westmount teams. The format was a whirlwind round robin, with each team playing three games, and one final or con-

solation within 48 hours.

SWAT divides

The formidable regular SWAT team was divided into SWAT ONE captained by seasoned Norm Richer and stuffed with ringers like Jim West, Larry Dionne, Vahe D'jourian, Claude Bismuth, Alain Elbaz, Eris Salvatori, Adam Cutler and city councillor Philip Cutler, and SWAT TOO, commanded by patriarchs Hoppenheim and Matossian Sr., aided and abetted by their own juniors, and with the last-minute draft pick of the notorious Ingrid Kovitch Dannenbaum, who, in spite of previous heated exchanges in this newspaper with her elders, had graciously almost accepted to donate her on-ice talents to the SWAT TOO cause.

No one underestimated the Westmount REC-ing crew ("wrecking" is more appropriate) with Captain Dave Lapointe and Bruce "Wall" Stacey and a flurry of rene-gades. Mike Deegan was traded out of that lot to lead the EXEC team, composed of the cream of Exec As and Exec Bs and slightly fortified, if not by Mike Auerbach Sr., then by Auerbach Jr. and several puck-peppering specialists.

The first round of games saw much adrenalin flowing, competing for the much coveted first position to the finals.

Line-up changes

The next day saw tectonic changes in the line-ups: SWAT TOO was grievously unbalanced by the loss of Kovitch Dannenbaum and by the defection of Patrick Baldwin, banker turned mercenary sniper, who fled back to the ranks of SWAT ONE.

Meanwhile, the return of one Alberto Galleone, of notorious presence, tipped the scales of the WREC-ing crew to allow a second victory for Captain Dave over EXEC, though only by a goal scored in the last second. The next game saw a hapless



From left, back row: Nick Matossian, Vahe D'jourian, Norm Richer, Claude Bismuth, Jim West, Mike Deegan, Bernard Larouche, Alain Elbaz, Dave Lapointe and Eris Salvatori; front row: Patrick Baldwin, city councillor Philip Cutler and Adam Cutler.

Photo courtesy of Howard Hoppenheim.

SWAT TOO fall to its better half, thanks to nimble Richer's two goals in the third period.

With the WREC-ers facing SWAT ONE in the finals, could it be ugly? Heated by Westmount standards, and tied to the very end, SWAT ONE, fearing the spectre of overtime on their grinding joints, scored the goal that earned them the mini-tournament trophy. In another sizzler game, at the 53rd minute, EXEC scored and then conveniently rang the buzzer to end the consolation game. For SWAT TOO, alas, dead last.

But egos set aside, the *crème de la crème* of Westmount hockey then proceeded to the awards banquet and the prized silent auction with Howard Hoppenheim as MC and auctioneer. Westmount Recreation had provided ice times that were promptly gobbled up at a premium by players who

clearly needed it, as were professional carbon hockey sticks, together with various items of clothing that were sold at a great premium to an enthusiastic and supportive crowd.

State of the Union

Much fun, a lot of sore body parts and a great weekend: \$6,000 was raised and the SWAT tradition of giving back was continued.

On behalf of the children and my SWAT teammates, our heartfelt thanks to Westmount Recreation and to all those who so generously contributed to making this a success. Looking forward to SWAT's expanded *tournoi* in December.

Survey, cont'd. from p. 1

lenges ahead," Samiotis says.

"We are hoping to come up with a vision that would potentially lead to the re-development of the southern part of the area."

The objectives, she explained, are to find ways to re-connect the residential area south of Dorchester with the commercial strip of St. Catherine (see story September 24, 2013, p. 12). This disconnect was created when some 70 houses on the north side of Dorchester were demolished after expropriation by the city in the 1960s to allow for the widening of Dorchester.

The online survey is to be posted on the city's website at www.westmount.org. Samiotis said she will deliver a paper version to anyone who requests one.

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Trent questions their upkeep

Are 50 city-owned properties too many?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

“Bits and pieces” of city-owned property scattered around Westmount include major parks, parking lots, strips of land here and there, and green spaces used as unfenced dog runs. Some are as small as islands in the street or large enough to be developed.

Many were acquired through deeds of cession, expropriations, fires and cadastral operations.

An inventory of “public property” prepared in 1995 but relatively unchanged today identifies close to 50 pieces of city property that collectively, according to Mayor Peter Trent, are probably too many, considering their requirement for ongoing city maintenance and upkeep.

And this number does not include thoroughfares, public steps, servitudes, rights-of-way or lanes, and some areas maintained from time to time by the city as “no man’s land.”

It also excludes the city’s subsequent acquisition in December 2000 of the train station at the foot of Victoria along with the land purchased from Canadian Pacific for \$250,000. It does, however, include the former fire station No. 2 at Victoria and The Boulevard, unused at the time of the inventory, but not yet sold for conversion to condos, which has now occurred.

As well, there is no mention of the armoury of the Royal Montreal Regiment, which reverts to the city within a decade, as per a 99-year-old agreement (see November 5, 2013, p. 1).



The triangle at Claremont, Westmount Ave. and NDG Ave. near Marianopolis, May 1.



Selby Park between the Ville Marie expressway and the lane behind houses on St. Antoine, May 2. This view is looking east from the children’s fenced-off playground at Greene towards Atwater. Photo: Laureen Sweeney.

While the question of how much land the city should own surfaced recently during suggested uses for the vacant train station or a possible city acquisition of the vacant Hillside armoury, many of the pieces of city land are either too small or inappropriate for development.

Some “probably” can’t be disposed of by terms of their acquisition, location or as means of access to other properties.

“We have nearly two dozen municipal buildings scattered all over our 1,000-acre city,” Trent wrote in a newspaper column in January 1992. These include principal municipal buildings, park comfort stations, two Public Works storage sheds and electrical substations.

Last week Trent told the *Independent* he now estimates that the city’s 120 acres of parks and 140 acres of streets – one-quarter of all Westmount land area – is worth

about \$1.5 billion.

Among the properties in the 20-year-old inventory prepared by the city’s retired assistant director general Edwin McCavour, a former director of Public Works, are 11 parks and playgrounds, two separate neighbourhood playgrounds or “tot-lots” (Bruce and Somerville), 20 unoccupied green spaces, four “undeveloped” properties and 11 occupied by one or more city buildings or used parking lots.

Parks, playgrounds

Along with the city’s major parks is the small lesser-known Argyle Park at The Boulevard and Westmount Ave. as well as the long narrow Selby Park that stretches from Greene to Atwater and from St. Antoine lane to the Ville Marie expressway. This was returned to the city when it was not needed for the building of the

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At left, the city's garage (or "shack") at Metcalfe and Côte St. Antoine, May 2.

Photos: Independent.

highway.

Unoccupied green spaces, other areas

The unoccupied green spaces include medians on Park Place as well as Surrey Gardens and Weredale Park, both unfenced dog runs.

There is also a thin piece of land on the

south side of Prospect St. (also an unfenced dog run) and a large area at the corner of St. Catherine and Glen Rd. An island formed by Claremont, Westmount and NDG avenues is also listed as an unfenced dog run. A similar triangular island is bounded by The Boulevard, Cedar and Clarke.



Vacant lot at beside 468 Claremont, part of which has been paved over for a parking spot, May 2.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney.

One large prominent green space is Garden Point between city hall and the cenotaph. Also unoccupied is land at St. Catherine/Hallowell/Dorchester listed as dating from the Dorchester-widening expropriation in 1965.

In addition, the city owns four parcels of undeveloped land: at the north end of both Aberdeen and Argyle as well as a lot beside 468 Claremont, just south of Windsor, listed as having been used as a garden by a homeowner, on which a parking apron now sits.

continued on p. 36



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Police Report

Coffee shop cashier refuses to hand over money to robber

By MICHAEL MOORE

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

An attempted armed robber fled from a St. Catherine coffee shop empty handed on April 25 after the cashier refused to hand over the money from the register, according to Station 12 constable Stephan Laperrière.

The suspect, described as a white 35-year-old man dressed all in black, reportedly entered the empty café armed with a screwdriver and demanded that the cashier empty the register.

However, the attempted robbery was thwarted by the stubborn cashier, who "didn't take the threat seriously," said Laperrière.

"It was a high risk situation [for the cashier] and that risk more or less paid off. He was lucky there was no injury," he explained.

The stand-off between the two ended when another patron entered the shop, spooking off the suspect, said Laperrière.

Though his attempt had been thwarted, the man was reportedly caught on camera a short while later holding up the Shell station on the intersection of Lambert Closse and St. Catherine just beyond Westmount's eastern edge.

While the café cashier emerged unscathed, Laperrière cautions that the most prudent action in similar situations is to hand over the money.

"We always say: 'Look, it's only money.'"

Don't risk your health and well-being for a bit of money," he said. "You don't know at what point the person might become aggravated and try to [escalate the situation]."

Pickpocketing rises in Westmount Square

Over the last week, Station 12 has received an increased number of pickpocketing-related reports occurring in Westmount Square, according to Laperrière.

"I don't want to get anybody alarmed by suggesting it's an unsafe place, but we are on the case," he said.

Police reportedly have a photo of a suspect in the pickpocketing uptick, which has largely been centered in the food court.

According to Laperrière, some women leave their purses under their chairs or out of their field of view while eating, making the bags prime targets for would-be thieves.

"That's where the purses are most exposed, which gives people the most opportunity to grab inside with easy access without [the owner] noticing," he said.

Properties, cont'd. from p. 35

The fourth is immediately west of 188 Selby where a residential building suffered a fire in 1981 and was demolished in 1985. It is now in the throes of being expropriated for the lowering of the Ville Marie as part of the Turcot project. Compensation for this lot is still a subject of negotiation between the city and province, city director general Duncan Campbell said last week.

Occupied

Along with properties occupied by major city buildings including the lawn bowling clubhouse but excluding park comfort stations are lesser known struc-

tures such as the Public Works "shacks" at the top of Metcalfe and on Victoria north of Sherbrooke.

A large tract of developable land from the Dorchester-widening expropriation in the 1960s is now used by the city as a parking lot between Tupper and Dorchester.

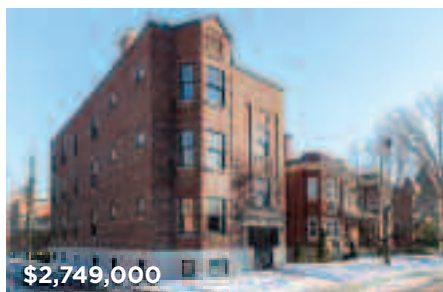
It's one of four revenue-generating parking lots. The others are on Victoria just north of Sherbrooke, on St. Catherine at Prince Albert and on Greene Ave. south of Sherbrooke, which has been coveted by developers over the years.

The Tupper lot is currently being discussed in the context of a city planning study of the southeast sector (see story p. 1).

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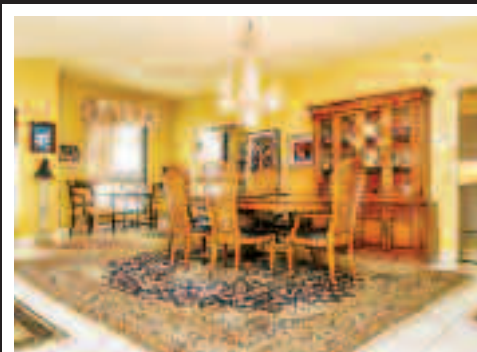
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Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmounter **Gwen Nacos**, in a fabulous jacket with gold-embroidered herons by Dutch designer Dries Van Noten, hosted a presentation of Hilary Radley's coats. Westmount resident Radley, "coat queen" (Eva Friede, *The Gazette*), collaborated with Natural Furs, owned by Gwen and her husband Tom Nacos, to create the collection.

Some pieces were woven with cashmere panels, and others were simply a sumptuous fur jacket or cape. (Fur, by the way, was seen everywhere in Paris during the showing of the 2014 fall collections, according to **Ursula Babiartz**, owner of Ursula B.) That the evening was to be a chic moment was suspected the minute one noted the high notes of jasmine and bergamot. Prestigious perfumes made the room fashionably fragrant, and designer purses – Chanel, Prada et al – sat prettily on the zebra-style rug as guests sat watching the models' presentation.

Stylish sartorially-branded Westmounters included **Ray and Evelyn Schachter**, chic in a simple black cocktail dress;



Hilary Radley.

Nancy Bloomfield, very LA in jeans, stilettos and a bejewelled bracelet from her recent travels in India; **Jewel Lowenstein**, elegant in a pin-stripe suit; **Fernanda Ivanier**, **Julia Reitman** and her mother **Ilse Hatam**; and **Jean de Brabant**.

Also noted were **Marissa Nuss**, **Allison Silcoff**, **Ana Gubert-Gomes**, a Hermès



Ilse Hatam, Julia Reitman and Jewel Lowenstein.

scarf and pocket hankie brightening her pant suit; **Denise Abella**, wearing a marvellous Medici-style Italianate brooch; **Rhoda** and **Joel Pinsky**; the honourable **Balkit** and **Roshi Chadha** and **Monique Nieto**. Guests enjoyed delicious delights from Gwen's daughter **Christina Nacos'** food emporium Fou d'ici.



Tom Nacos and Raphael Schachter.

The invitation-only cocktail had vases of bright spring flowers, a welcome sight as the roads were still knee-high with white from the day's storm. Sadly, some guests had to leave early as the local snow clearing had decided to start at 7 pm that night. However, going into that good night, guests raved about the stylish soiree.



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Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

For a change, guru event planner and former Westmounter **Robert J. Vézina**, president RJV Communications and the Black and Blue Festival (BBCM), had a party planned for him. It was his 50th birthday.

The new Salon St. François of the Queen Elizabeth Hotel was transformed into a party palace. Two immense tables had fabulous floral arrangements by Westmount florist **Alain Simon** who attended with his wife **Nina Drewniak**.

Official toasts honouring Robert were made by his husband **Christian Gagné-Cholette**; by his father, Westmounter **Maurice G. Vézina**, attending with his wife **Monique Lafontaine Vézina**; and by his older brother **Marc**, there with his wife **Julie Rochefort**.

Long time friends and employees **Caroline Rousse** and **Kat Coric** listened with pride.

Montreal DJ **Roxanne Baluch** spun great music hits from the past. In lieu of gifts, more than \$2,000 was made in do-



Renée Vézina, Julie Lafontaine, Jeff Lumby and Daniel Archambault.

Vézina fêted for 50th by family, friends



Christian Gagné-Cholette and Robert Vézina



Maurice G. Vézina and Monique Lafontaine Vézina

nations to the BBCM Foundation, founded by Robert in 1991.

Guests noted having a wonderful time included Robert's sister, Oxford Properties executive **Renée Vézina** and her husband **Daniel Archambault**. His brother, **François**, was in Europe on business, but

was represented by his wife, **Sophie Migneault**. Robert's cousin **Julie Lafontaine** and her husband **Jeff Lumby** came in from Toronto for the occasion.

Also noted were **Jennifer Roman**, **Fannie Charron Bissett**, **Christine Lennon**, **Dominique Poitras**, **Danielle Cloutier** (director PR and Protocol for the University of Montreal), **Steve Audy**, **Dominique Bérard**, **Stéphane Couture** and **Greg Carhart**, **Claude Aubé**, **Josh Bouzaglou**, **Geoff Waxman**, **Sender Liberman**, **Marie-France Chabanne**, **Eve Beauchamp**, executive director of the Jarislowsky Foundation, with her husband **Christopher Gillett** of MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier; **Bob Hendriks**, executive director of Young Photographers Alliance of America and his wife **Patricia Keuroglan** of Rio Tinto Alcan; **Nicholas Rémillard**, CEO, International Economic Forum of the Americas, accompanied by **Louis-Philippe Allard**, vice-president Operations of the Forum; **Daniel Vaudrin**, World Co-Presi-

dent of the Gay and Lesbian International Sport Association; and **Amin Noorani**, who represents the AGA KHAN Foundation in Canada.

Also noted were Robert's "old-time friends" from Westmount's St. Léon's Academy: **Judy Servay**, **Wendy Burpee**, **Ingrid Bossen** and **Johanna Stosik**; as well as **Valérie Savard** and **Alain Ostiguy**, **Julie Gagnon** and **Luc Vinet**, and **Normand Charbonneau** of Normand Coiffure, with partner **Marcel Tessier**. Robert's in-laws, the **Gagné-Cholette** family were well represented at the event, and Robert's mother-in-law, **Michèle Gagné**, made a heartfelt testimonial thanking Robert for all his accomplishments and generosity.

Correction. In our April 29 column ("Les amis de la montagne, on the montagne," p. 21), we misidentified the wife of Robert Tellier. He is in fact married to **Heidi Luber**. We received incorrect information and apologize for the error.



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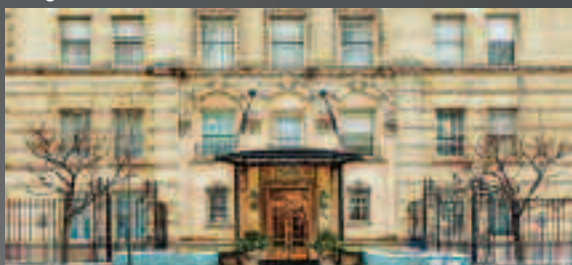
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WESTMOUNT 76 Summit Crescent **\$3,800,000**
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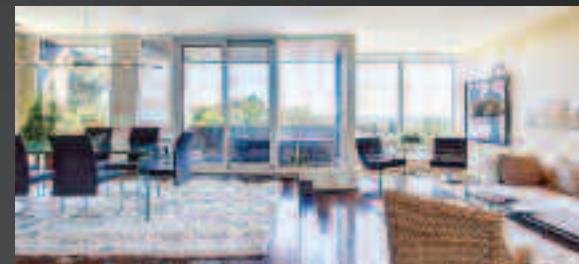
DOWNTOWN 1227 Sherbrooke W, #44 **\$795,000**
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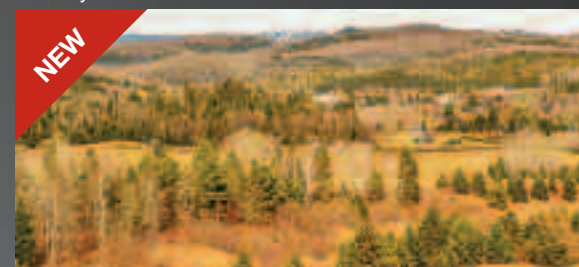
WESTMOUNT 5 Grove Park **\$1,325,000**
Charming, 3 bdr cottage, renovated, garage on the flats.



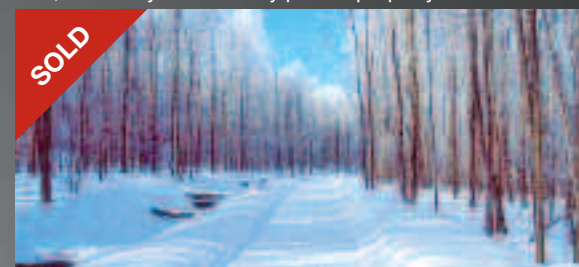
WESTMOUNT 627 Clarke **\$3,395,000**
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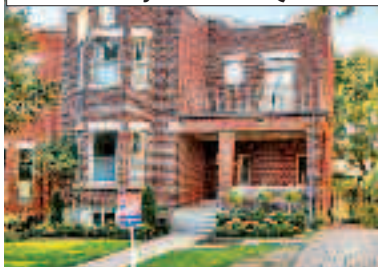
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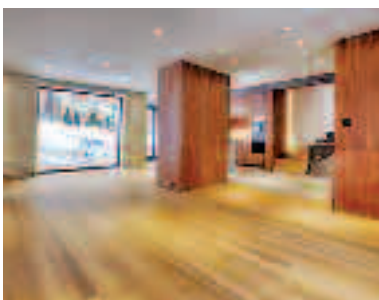


Westmount, 3241 Cedar Ave.
Magnificent, quality built 1926 "Spanish Eclectic" home. 5 bedrooms. SPACIOUS, sun filled rooms. PRIME location. WELL priced! **\$1,298,000**

ANOTHER JUST LISTED!



Westmount, 510 Lansdowne Ave.
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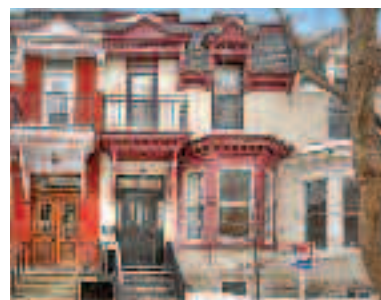
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Westmount, 649 Roslyn Ave.
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Westmount, 118 Lewis Ave.
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Westmount Adj., 5042 Ponsard Ave.
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Saint-Lambert, 126 Upper Edison
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Westmount, 3238 The Boulevard
Spectacular! 1913 "Percy Nobbs" renov. 5 bedroom + den home. A/C, Marvin windows. Stunning architectural details. Great value! **\$1,475,000**

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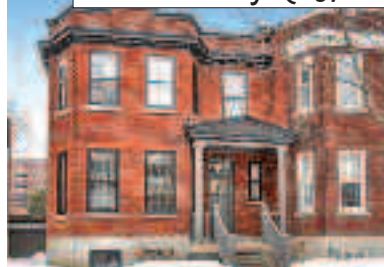
Westmount, 9-11 Parkman Place
Great revenue property! **\$1,065,000**

SOLD @ 95%!



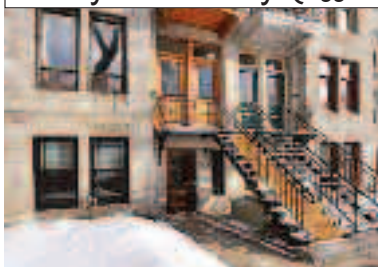
Westmount, 4893 de Maisonneuve O.
4 bedroom, 3½ bath 1983. **\$875,000**

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Westmount, 4398 de Maisonneuve
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Westmount 275 Melville Ave.
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