

Stores to stay open, parking found, curfew planned

## Oak leaf to brand new Prince Albert square, work set for fall

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A final plan and schedule for the city's proposed Prince Albert square at Sherbrooke was unveiled June 26 at an information meeting showing trees and planters, the base for a sculpture, and a surface combining granite with concrete.

An oak leaf motif is to be integrated into the concrete as a branding for the gathering place to reflect the oak forests of Westmount past. The hardwood was used by early settlers as a building material.

The "piazza" is to be marked off at the north and south ends by bollards that can be removed to create a larger space for special events. Lighting is to be kept at a minimum.

The main change over an earlier design

from April 2013 is a sloping extension at the south end of the square as it meets the lower street level to improve access for cars and delivery trucks manoeuvring the lane and driveway behind the commercial buildings.

Among the features presented at the meeting at the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) were pedestrian lights to be installed at Prince Albert and Sherbrooke.

The city plans to go to tender in August for work starting in September, said Public Works engineer Elisa Gaetano, project coordinator. The placement of benches, café tables, bicycle racks and other moveable items has yet to be worked out.

A midnight curfew that was requested by one resident is to be included in a revised parks

continued on p. 11



Lifeguard Daniel Capriolo takes a top-down approach to the "biggest splash" competition at the Westmount pool on Canada Day. For more coverage of the day's events, see p. 8.

Photo: Ralph Thompson.

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Comin' Up, p. 13

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## Record heat causes hour-long waits at new pool Canada Day

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Record-setting heat July 1 caused long waiting lines at the city's new pool during the Canada Day Splash Bash.

"People were waiting for an hour," said Mayor Peter Trent who encountered the back-ups during a visit at 1:30 pm. As a result, the long line-ups are leading to a review of day passes, which the city sells for \$5 to people without recreation passes, he said.

While the new pool can accommodate up to 500 users at a time based on its size, said assistant director Dave Lapointe,

provincial law dictates a pool's capacity (within its size category) by the number of lifeguards.

"Originally, we had decided to keep the number for the first year of the new pool to 299 [the same as at the old pool]," he said, "We in-

continued on p. 10

### See you in August!

The *Independent* starts its summer break immediately after this issue. We will be back in the office the week of July 28 to prepare our August 5 issue.



Westmount Page, p. 9

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## Man falls off wall after quick walk up Grosvenor Avenue

A man was found lying on the ground at Grosvenor and The Boulevard June 24 at 3:08 pm suffering cut hands, a chipped tooth and a bleeding nose, Public Security officials said.

Informed of the incident at 3:08 pm by Public Works, public safety officers found the man surrounded by people, one of whom was described as a medical person assisting him. Officers also tended to him until the arrival of Urgences Santé and police.

The man stated he had walked up the hill at a rapid pace and sat on a retaining wall to rest when he suddenly fell over. He was identified as a 33-year-old resident of NDG.

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## Public Works 'successor' leaves for Sherbrooke

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Alain Cazavant, the city's assistant director of Public Works is leaving the city July 18, the *Independent* learned last week. The position is expected to be posted for new applicants shortly, according to city director general Duncan Campbell.

Cazavant, understood to be the successor to director Marianne Zalzal, began work in January 2013 on a two-year contract and chaired the city's administrative traffic committee. He said he had accepted a position as director of infrastructure and environment with the city of Sherbrooke.

Zalzal, who has worked more than 25 years with the city, was reported to be eligible to retire but like others within the administration, has chosen not to at this time.

Adding that he had been "very open" to remaining in Westmount, Cazavant said

he felt sorry to be leaving even though it was an advancement to his career. "I like it here and I like the people. And I had excellent co-operation and synergy with other directors and assistant directors."

He also said he had come to feel a part of the city culture and to appreciate the concerns of its residents.

His departure is "unfortunate," Campbell said. "He's been a very good asset on the technical side concerning the new technologies. We'll miss him." Cazavant's expertise lies in new technologies for roads and in asset management.

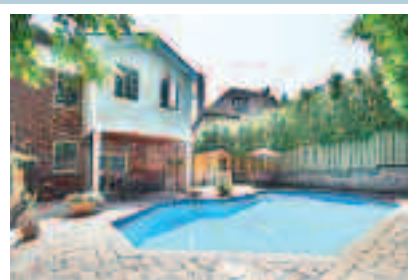
Cazavant succeeded Andrew Duffield, who left the position two years ago after 14 years with Public Works.

Asked if he might consider returning to Westmount sometime if the opportunity

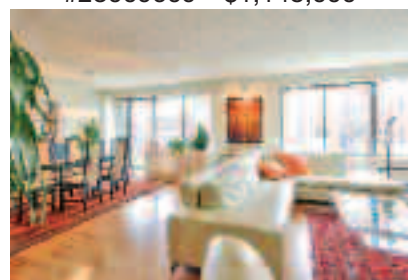
arose, Cazavant replied: "Stranger things have happened."



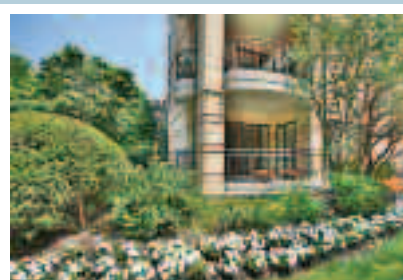
Alain Cazavant, June 26



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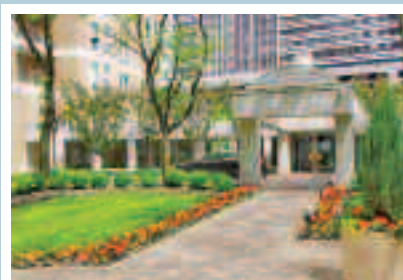
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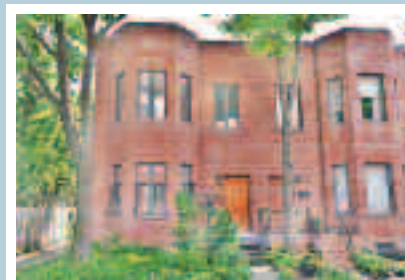
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## Vacation time brings Public Security home checks

Two residents of Lansdowne south of Sherbrooke stopped a Public Security patroller June 24 to inform them a neighbour's rear basement door had been left open overnight and the lights were on. Public Security officials said police were called to search the home but all was found in order though no one was home.

In this case, vigilant neighbours alerted officers to the insecure home, said Public Security director Greg McBain, but residents going on holiday who would like officers to check the exterior of their home during 24-hour patrols can call to register for the program, he said, by calling 514.989.5222.

"We will provide special passing attention to the exterior of houses while residents are away," he explained. Officers check for open doors, insecure windows, an accumulation of parcels or papers and other telltale signs that residents may be out of town.

In any event, "If you are going away, be sure to cancel newspapers and mail," he advised.

## Owner forgets dog was outside

A dog owner on Hillside was to be ticketed \$76 June 28 when she returned home from an excursion to find her dog had been taken to the Public Security station, officials said.

The dog had been caught while running around behind the house after com-

plaints about barking from neighbours at 10:22 pm. People from four homes were outside when officers arrived.

The owner came to the station to claim the dog at 11:15 pm saying she had forgotten it was outside when she left earlier in the day.

## Emergency work okayed at 5 Saisons

After-hours work at the 5 Saisons store on Greene Ave. was allowed to continue on an emergency basis June 26, Public Security officials said. A noise complaint from a resident of Olivier at 6:26 pm had brought out officers who reported workers were pumping grease out of oil bins in the garage.

The procedure normally takes place every two months during an afternoon. On this occasion, however, a hose had sprung a leak requiring immediate attention.

## Rotary Club of Montreal to support NOVA

Westmount's NOVA Montreal is one of the beneficiaries of the Rotary Club of Montreal's annual golf tournament. The event takes place July 14 at the Whitlock golf club in Hudson.

Tickets are \$300 per person. Contact Andy Dang-Guy at 514.813.2639 to purchase tickets.

NOVA provides in-home nursing, palliative care, and respite and assistance to caregivers of people who suffer from Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, strokes and cancer.



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### EUGENIE, OUR QUEEN OF HEARTS

What a wonderful example of athletic ability, composure and sportsmanship our very own Eugenie Bouchard demonstrated to all Canadians and tennis fans throughout the world at Wimbledon. She has proven to be a true example of what sports should bring out in an athlete. The city of Westmount now has an outstanding opportunity to acknowledge what Eugenie has accomplished in tennis as well as the hard work required to obtain her remarkable results.

City of Westmount, it is time now to acknowledge this wonderful young lady. Not a reception at city hall for just a few but perhaps at one of the many courts in Westmount where all can come and appreciate her. J RITCHIE BELL, LANSDOWNE AVE.

*Editor's note:* The city has announced its hope to have "a city hall reception" (see February 18, p. 7).

### WHERE'S THE FOUNTAIN?

I am asking the readership of the *Independent* for assistance in locating the current whereabouts of an old fountain that

was removed from Westmount Park in the 1960s.

During the course of browsing digital archive images of Westmount, I keep coming across a picture from the early 1900s of a beautiful old fountain next to the park's current wading pond. The image is copyrighted - all I can provide is this link: <http://www.mccord-museum.qc.ca/en/collection/artifacts/VIEW-16189>.

The research I have done points to a drinking fountain donated to the city of Westmount by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union to celebrate Queen Victoria's jubilee in 1898.

According to "Women's Christian Tem-



perance Union - WCTU Drinking Fountains, Then and Now," "[temperance union] members were urged to erect drinking fountains in their towns so that men could get a drink of water without entering saloons and staying for stronger drinks. Often the drinking fountains that were erected offered a place for horses to drink, another place for dogs, and of course, a place for humans to drink."

The few fountains that still exist in North America show how beautifully they were designed.

Thinking this would be a wonderful historic addition to the park, if restored to its former glory, I contacted city hall and enquired about its whereabouts. The city of Westmount's Archives and Records Management office kindly did the research, and provided a fascinating insight into this matter. Apparently, in the 1960s a major redevelopment occurred in the park. During that period, the fountain was removed.

Interestingly, the city's archives have a document, with the photograph at bottom, dated 1987, that shows the fountain disassembled, 100 kilometers north of Montreal, in St. Gabriel de Brandon. How the

### See you in August!

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fountain ended up there is a question.

MICHAEL WALSH, MELVILLE AVE.  
& MICHAELD2003@HOTMAIL.COM

### WHERE'S THE SHADE?

We would like to express our disappointment and discontent with the new Westmount outdoor swimming pool. It is inconsiderate and unconscionable that, in this day and age, there is no shade provided around the pool area. Skin cancer from extended exposure to the sun is a real threat and concerned pool users should be provided with shady options. Given the overall budget for the new sports complex, one would think that Westmount taxpayers would have been provided with umbrellas, a gazebo and some trees to find relief from the summer sun.

The adult swim times present another



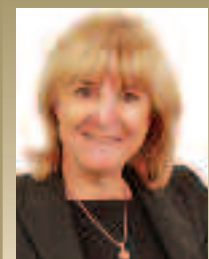
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problem. The summer hours are very early morning, high noon and the evening. The entire morning is given over to swimming lessons and lifeguard instruction. Surely this could take place at the YMCA and allow adults to have more swim time.

Are there any other like-minded people out there who just want a bit of shade and a cooling swim during our short summer? Once again, the health needs of older adults are ignored.

ELIZABETH CAMERON, ALFREDO ABEIJON,  
CLAUDE LALANDE & ZELIA CRAEIVERO,  
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## WHERE'S THE 21ST CENTURY STUFF?

I swam for the first time in the new pool at the recreation centre. Having followed the acrimony stemming from the demands of the hockey lobby that the new rinks be NHL standard, I anticipated that the same quality would be applied to the new pool.

It may come as a surprise but Quebec leads the country in aquatic activities, consequently I reckon you'd be hard pressed to find a pool built anywhere in this province from 1990 on that would allow for grated cement walls within a pool! Adults or children swimming close to those walls will abrade the skin, often causing blood excretions.

Then there are the obligatory gutters that are installed so as to control the waves caused by varied swimming skills. Otherwise it feels like swimming in open water.

If you are a swimmer, then you probably have mastered all strokes. My favourite is the back stroke. To accomplish it without concussing my head on the deck wall, I need back stroke flags. These back stroke flags are mandatory as a prevention against concussions. Lap swimmers back flip and use their feet to push off the wall but they need the flags as a marker!

It appears the present administration has overseen the relocation of 1960s era pool. Any inkling that pool technology has advanced since that date eluded them. In their collective wisdom, they decided that Westmounters are deserving of a 20th century old-style country club pool plopped in the midst of 21st century, state-of-the-art, NHL, hockey rinks. The disparity is indeed glaring!

Lastly, the rule that pull buoys and flutter boards (despite being in use) must be swept up "because the kids take 'em and throw 'em" is absurd.

B. MANTEL, BRUCE AVE.

## LOVE & HATE AT THE POOL

I did my first aquafit class today! Love the pool! Love my instructor, although she probably needs to sort out a program that

deals with a large number of non-aquatic seniors.

Hate the fact that there are so few show-ers that I ended up going home to use mine. Unacceptable!

Also, doing the seniors' fitness program all last fall and winter [in the fitness room], I hated trying to see the instructor around the central pillar, and hated trying not to either kick or hit the people next to me. I feel that my taxes have, unfortunately, gone more to the hockey enthusiast, and less to older taxpayers such as I.

LYNN PECKNOLD, GROSVENOR AVE.

## THANKS, AND OFF TO THE STAMPEDE

It's a behemoth – seven feet high and 30 feet long – of running horses. And it's going to the Calgary Stampede.

Before that, when it just was a crazy idea, Westmount city hall, to its everlasting credit said, "Yes – you can show it."

And at the behest of our city councillors Cynthia Lulham and Nicole Forbes, in charge of the arts, city workers directed by Mike Hunter, hoisted the canvas a good 25 feet in the air, and hung it along the inside of our remarkable greenhouse conservatory wall, where it remained for public viewing for eight days.

The city of Westmount did the work proud. Mayor Peter Trent graced our vernissage with his presence and regaled us about the history of the greenhouse, which we discovered was built in the 1920s. There are apparently only two or three greenhouses like it in North America.

The lovely ladies of Victoria Hall – Jillian Barnes, Hélène Mitko and Virginia Elliott – were there to assist and coordinate the details and return the behemoth safely to its creator.

Thank you Westmount and now on to Calgary.

BRUCE ROBERTS & ANNA GEDALOF,  
IRVINE AVE.

## TICKET THE CYCLISTS

The headline for the letter by Honor Barrett "Not many pedestrians heed lights" (June 24, p. 6) should have been: "Few, if any, cyclists heed pedestrian signals."

I disagree with Ms. Barrett's comments about pedestrians in Westmount. Many heed the walk signals at major Westmount intersections because the police have been vigilant in fining those who do not.

However, we now cross at great peril on the walk signal as cyclists feel free to go through the intersections on the walk sign. One particularly egregious incident occurred when a cyclist yelled at an older woman who had patiently waited for her turn to cross on Greene and de Maisonneuve. "Get outta my way b\*\*\*\*," he yelled.

ed.

If Ms. Barrett crossed this intersection on the walk light, she would quickly be disabused of her grateful attitude for the walk signal. Pedestrians take their life in their hands crossing with the walk signal at this intersection. Cyclists come barreling through *en masse*.

And the police? They are still out there ticketing pedestrians while letting the cyclists go through stop signs, red lights and walk signals.

Riding on sidewalks when the bike path is crowded? Not a problem. Riding where "walk your bike signs" are posted? Not a problem.

Near the Westmount recreation centre, you would have to be legally blind not to see the signs for you to walk your bike. However, cyclists barrel through, almost knocking over young kids going to the swimming pool.

Recently, when I saw a policeman making an effort to ticket pedestrians, I asked why he did not focus on the cyclists. "Oh madam, it is too much work and too difficult," was the reply.

What will it take for the city of Westmount to focus on this cyclist problem? A death of a senior or child? Even one incident is one too many. Police need to ticket cyclists, not pedestrians.

PATRICIA MCKINLEY,  
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

## OPEN LETTER TO MAYOR TRENT: WHAT'S WITH THE HERBS?

Along with the follies of a public square at Prince Albert and the idea of putting a dog run in the middle of Westmount Park at great expense, there is the fairly innocuous folly of pretending that a few herbs and vegetables are a great substitute for colourful annual flowers.

The drab and sick looking plants currently in place don't even come close to offsetting the ugliness of the giant concrete planters along our main street.

Who in the city of Westmount is pro-

moting this poor excuse for summer beautification and why? And when is Westmount going to get around to weeding all the perennial gardens in the park? With all the taxes we pay in various ways, we should at least be able to come up with some good floral decorations and something other than construction projects to look forward to after winter.

LYNDA TAYLOR, STRATHCONA AVE.

## DOLPHINS FAIL TO DELIVER

Canada Day Toonie Pancake Breakfast in Westmount Park was an original initiative. Good pancakes served with fresh fruits and .....  
*continued on p. 6*



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## Communities in Bloom judges to tour city after hiatus last year

# Evaluation day coming for Westmount, July 21

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Citizens are being encouraged to spruce up their front yards and help the city present a clean face to Communities in Bloom judges who will be touring Westmount July 21 to evaluate the city in this

year's national competition.

"Weed, water and wave," said Councilor Cynthia Lulham, who heads the city's Horticultural Advisory Committee (HAC), which was meeting last week to make plans for the judging.

The city will be holding a luncheon for

the judges to which representatives of community organizations will be invited so the visitors will have an opportunity to speak with them and learn about the ways in which these groups enhance the community, she said.

Among the categories that the judges will be assessing are the city's new initiatives related to parks and green spaces, gardens, environmental programs and community-building activities.

The city, as a repeat winner among municipalities, is participating in the "class of champions" in the category of medium-to-large cities, said Jayme Gerbrandt, the city's Horticulture and Arboriculture inspector.

Among the special projects the judges

will visit or hear about are the new beehive at the library, the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) built to the gold level of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), the Greene Ave. and Prince Albert public square sites and preparation of work to refurbish Summit Woods.

They will also visit the retention basin south of the new pool as part of the city's storm management program.

"We're proud of our recent achievements in support of our merchants and residents," Lulham said.

The city did not participate in Communities in Bloom last year given the large construction projects under way on Greene Ave. and at the WRC.

## Cabot Square closed for renovation



Cabot Square has been fenced in to prevent the public from accessing the park while it undergoes a yearlong renovation. The upgrade is part of the Montreal's push to beautify its parks and squares. The recent closing has been an inconvenience for some of Montreal's homeless people, who use the square as a meeting place. Backhoes and other excavating machinery were already busy at work digging on July 7. The couple of dozen maple trees in the square were being wrapped in planks in order to prevent them from being damaged during the work.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith.

## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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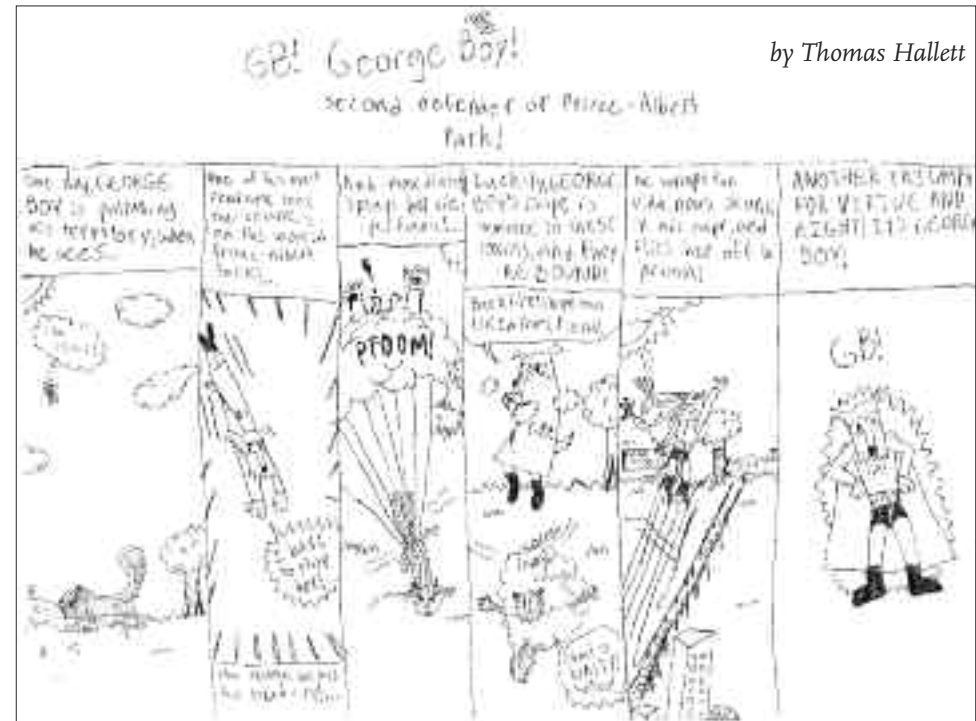
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## Letters, cont'd. from p. 5

syrup, coffee that tastes like coffee and boxed juices thrown in for just \$2. Kudos to the organizers. The weather cooperated as a bonus.

The noon BBQ was not in the same class. I arrived at 12:50, got my tickets for my order and joined a line, exposed to the hot sun, that stretched the breadth of the WRC. Nothing seemed to move. At 1:20 we were informed that they had run out of hot dogs. No mention of refunding the tickets already purchased for hot dogs.

Finally, at 1:30 I was served my cheeseburger. But when I went to the condiments table they had run out of pickles. Such incompetence is unworthy of a

Westmount organisation. I say throw the lot out and bring back the Scouts in the future. Then restoring my faith in things Westmount, our mayor ably assisted by 2 council members, Ms. Samiotis and Mr. Drury, efficiently parceled out the absolutely delicious Canada Day cake without the citizens having to wait in line for an inordinate amount of time. Well done Mr. Trent.

PAUL-ANDRE BILLETTE, REDFERN AVE.

## See you in August!

The *Independent* starts its summer break immediately after this issue. We will be back in the office the week of July 28 to prepare our August 5 issue.





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# PROFUSION

## I M M O B I L I E R

### DISTINCTIVE PROPERTIES



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**WESTMOUNT** | GROSVENOR AVE.



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**WESTMOUNT ADJ.** | NORTHCLIFFE AVE.



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**WESTMOUNT** | SOPHISTICATED SPENDOR  
Breathtaking 4 bdrm, 3 level det. home w/infinite views! Open concept, 3 patios, dble garage & architecturally exquisite. mls22234638



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**WESTMOUNT** | SPLENDID SUBURBAN  
Incredibly spacious & luxurious residence set on 8,560 sf lot w/inground pool. Vast open concept main floor, 5 bdrms w/ensuite. Dbl garage! mls 14527726



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**WESTMOUNT** | GLORIOUS GARDEN  
Awe-inspiring renovated 4+1 bdrm Tudor-style home. 3 levels, 2 garage, on pool-sized private lot. mls 25128696



\$2,950,000

**WESTMOUNT** | BEAUTIFUL BELLEVUE  
Wonderful opportunity to own 8+1 bdrm family home on 12,000 sf. lot. Fantastic back terrace w/views & dbl. gar! mls 22859183



\$2,950,000

**WESTMOUNT** | STEPS TO SANCTUARY  
Wonderful & large Tudor-style home w/endlss views. 3 levels, 6 bdrms, 2 sunrooms, pool-sized lot, 4 garages! mls 10089165



\$2,600,000

**WESTMOUNT** | PRIME LOCATION ON FLATS  
Unique opportunity to own historical 3 level home on prime 7,000 sf lot near all amenities. Must see! mls 9262912



\$2,150,000

**WESTMOUNT ADJ.** | SUPER-SIZED LOT  
Fantastic 5+1 bdrm DETACHED home. 3rd flr loft, amazing back veranda & yard. Central AC & 4 prkg spots. mls28078386



\$1,795,000

**HAMPSTEAD** | HAMPSTEAD RD.  
Stunning, spacious detached home with 5+1 bdrms, central AC, interior garage and huge deck, pool. mls 12352528



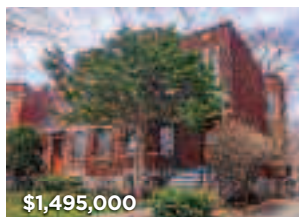
\$1,699,000

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



\$1,695,000

**WESTMOUNT** | MURRAY HILL PARK  
Spacious & very generous 5+1 bdrm home. Large master suite, ren'd kit. & bths, vast bsmt & garage. mls 12589364



\$1,495,000

**WESTMOUNT** | PARKSIDE PLEASURE  
4+1 bdrm semi w/access to Murray Hill Park. large eat-in kitchen, fin. bsmt, central AC & dble parking. mls 19261942



\$1,388,000

**WESTMOUNT** | LARGER LOT  
5+1 bdrm family home on 6,303 sf lot! hdwd fls, arch. details, near Marianopolis, new kitchen & bath; dble gar! mls 9793478



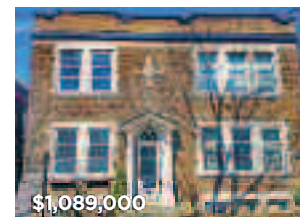
\$1,299,000

**WESTMOUNT** | SUNFILLED SEMI  
Traditional 4+1 bdrm semi, cross hall plan, ren'd kitchen & bath, newly fin. bsmt, garage & so much more. mls 19881951



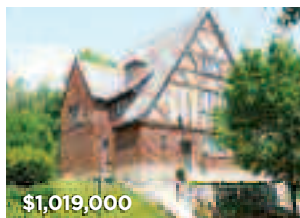
\$1,250,000 or \$6,250/mo

**WESTMOUNT** | BETWEEN PARKS  
Gorgeous semi-det. home near Murray Hill & Wst parks. 3 bdrms, ren'd kit., new plumbing. Steps to Vic Village. mls 28874585



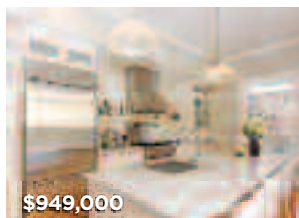
\$1,089,000

**WESTMOUNT** | CLOSE TO SCHOOLS  
Fantastic 4 bedroom, sunfilled semi steps to schools! Finished basement and double garage. mls 17243762



\$1,019,000

**WESTMOUNT ADJ.** | SUNNY & SPACIOUS  
Lovely large semi-det. 5 bdrm, 3+1 bath house w/garage and garden. Close to hospitals & downtown. mls 12589364



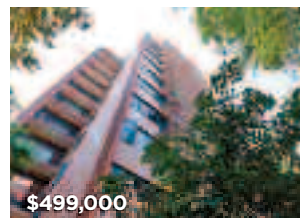
\$949,000

**WESTMOUNT** | NEAR WSMT PARK  
Lovely & bright 2+1 bdrm rowhouse with modern features, bsmt suite, 2 park. & garden w/upper deck. mls 17013483



\$875,000

**WESTMOUNT ADJ.** | TERRIFIC TOWNHOUSE  
4 bdrms, garden, rooftop terrace, dble gar., much storage. Near Wst schools, Mt-Royal, hospital and downtown! mls 11929113



\$499,000

**DOWNTOWN** | MOUNTAIN & CITY VIEWS  
Beautiful & updated 1500-SF, 2 bdrm condo in Le Noble in heart of the Golden Sq. Mile. AC, garage, pool & sauna. mls28553120



\$419,000

**TOWNSHIPS** | POTTON  
5-bdrm corner unit home steps to hills & minutes from tennis, beach & Magog marina! mls 11669208



\$6,500/ MO

**WESTMOUNT** | ELEGANT EXECUTIVE  
Fully renovated 3 level, 5+1 bdrm home on quiet & safe street. AC, fin. bsmt., garden, garage & city views. mls 23410246



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# Canada Day, Canada cakes



As the sun sank below the trees, flames from the log fire stretched into the sky, marshmallows were skewered, a bare foot Noemi entertained the crowd with voice and ukulele on June 30 in Westmount Park as part of the city's Canada Day celebrations. The evening started out with music by Kristina Lipari and the Heart Marshall's while hungry tummies were stuffed with hot dogs and hamburgers. More than 50 tents were set up and over 200 adults and children gathered for a party and a sleepover.

Photos: Ralph Thompson.

After a night under the stars in Westmount Park, sleepy heads emerged from tents on Canada Day to sit around the camp fire, still burning and carefully tended by the camp security throughout the night. 9-year-old Angelika Moore, above, was hard at work making pancakes for hungry campers at 7 am.

◀ Claude Danis (left), Westmount's program & community services coordinator, serves up pancakes on the morning of July 1, while Erikson and Angelika Moore scrape their plates and head for seconds.



City councillor Victor Drury (left), Mayor Peter Trent and Councillor Theodora Samiotis divide up the Canada Day cake at the pool.



School friends Scott Davis Mulumba (left) and Pedro Mayorca tuck into the Canada Day cake served by the city July 1 at the pool.





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# infoWestmount

## HÔTEL DE VILLE

### Horaire estival en vigueur

**Jusqu'au 6 septembre 2013**, les bureaux administratifs de Westmount sont ouverts du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h.

### Fermeture du square Cabot

L'arrondissement de Ville-Marie a entamé le réaménagement du square Cabot, situé entre les rues Sainte-Catherine Ouest, Lambert-Closse, Tupper et l'avenue Atwater. Les travaux dans le parc se poursuivront jusqu'à l'été 2015 et nécessitent sa fermeture complète pendant un an. Pour en savoir plus sur le projet de réaménagement, veuillez consulter le site [www.ville.montreal.qc.ca](http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca) sous les volets *Info-Travaux* et *Autres chantiers*.

## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

### Les concerts d'été au parc Westmount

**Tous les dimanches à 14 h jusqu'au 24 août, au Gazebo.** Apportez une chaise ou un

pique-nique au parc Westmount pour un dimanche après-midi de musique jazz, classique ou populaire. Gratuit.

**6 juillet : Baltimore Parkway**

**13 juillet : Robert Burman Trio**

**20 juillet : Agincourt Celtic Band**

**27 juillet : Mary Ann Lacey et Chad Linsley**

**3 août : Cellobration**

**10 août : Handmade Journey**

**17 août : Mots et musique**

**24 août : L'Esprit de la musique**

En cas de pluie, les concerts auront lieu au Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke O. Info : 514 989-5226.

### Shakespeare en plein air : *Harry the King*:

*The Famous Victories of Henry V*

**Les 7, 8, 9 juillet et les 25 et 26 juillet à 19 h 30. Parc Westmount.** Cet été, la troupe *Repercussion Theatre* présente une adaptation de pièces historiques de Shakespeare pour raconter l'histoire rocambolesque d'un prince rebelle qui devient l'un des rois les plus estimés de l'Angleterre. Un événement spécial est prévu le 8 juillet pour marquer le 25<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de la troupe. Entrée gratuite; dons acceptés. Info : 514 916-PARK (7275) ou [www.repercussiontheatre.com](http://www.repercussiontheatre.com).

**Galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition**  
**Du 10 juillet au 8 août.** La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter l'exposition de groupe mettant en vedette les artistes suivants : John Scott Bailey, Harvey Corn, Mary Lou Freel, Judith Henderson, Ross Isaacs, Sam Kasirer-Smibert, Claire Salzberg et Donna Samuels. Info : [victoriahall@westmount.org](mailto:victoriahall@westmount.org) ou 514 989-5521.

## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Club d'échecs et de Scrabble

**Tous les vendredis de 14 h à 17 h.** Venez jouer une partie amicale ; nous sommes toujours à la recherche de nouveaux joueurs. Info : 514 989-5299.

## Prochaine séance du conseil :

**le lundi 4 août**

### Ciné-club d'été

**Tous les mercredis après-midi du mois d'août à 14 h.**

**Salle Westmount.** Avez-vous une passion pour le cinéma? Alors notre club de film d'été est tout à fait pour vous ! Joignez-vous à nous pour visionner d'excellents films et ensuite en discuter. Âges 13+. Info : 514 989-5386.

### Soirée de cinéma en plein air

**Le vendredi, 22 août à la tombée du jour. Parc Westmount.** Visionnez un film en famille sous le ciel étoilé. Apportez vos chaises pliantes et couvertures! Info : 514-989-5299.

### Club de lecture d'été TD

Cette année, le Club de lecture d'été TD est à l'heure de la connectivité et de la créativité. Tout au long de l'été, la section des enfants de la bibliothèque propose une série d'activités conçues pour inciter les enfants à la lecture. Demandez la trousse au comptoir des enfants ; il y a des prix fantastiques à gagner !

## SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

### Canicules : rappel

**Pendant les vagues de chaleur**, notamment lors d'avertissements d'Environnement Canada ou des agences de la santé publique, il est important d'éviter les coups de chaleur en restant au frais et en s'hydratant. Pour en savoir plus, consultez le [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).



### Rappel : chiens en laisse au Bois Summit : nouvel horaire du 16 juin au 30 novembre

**Du 16 juin au 30 novembre**, l'horaire suivant est en vigueur pour les chiens : sans laisse de 5 h à 9 h et de 18 h à minuit ; en laisse de 9 h à 18 h à tous les jours. Info : 514 989-5222.

### Sièges d'auto pour enfants : vérification

Les petits-enfants sont en visite? Votre famille s'agrandit ? Appelez l'équipe de la Sécurité publique de Westmount et prenez rendez-vous pour faire installer ou vérifier vos sièges d'auto pour enfants. Service gratuit. Info : 514 989-5222.

### Système d'appels d'urgence CodeRED

Recevez des avis d'urgence sur votre appareil mobile, votre ligne téléphonique fixe confidentielle ou par courriel grâce au système automatisé d'appels **CodeRED**. Inscrivez-vous au [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).

### Vous partez en vacances ?

Contactez le Service de la sécurité publique de Westmount; des agents vérifieront la maison pendant votre absence. Info : 514 989-5222.



## CITY HALL

### Summer schedule in effect

**Until September 5<sup>th</sup>**, the City's administrative offices will be open Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Closing of Cabot Square

The Borough of Ville-Marie has begun a major redevelopment of Cabot Square, located between Ste-Catherine Street West, Lambert-Closse and Tupper Streets, and Atwater Avenue. The project requires the complete closure of the Square for approximately one year, as work will take place until summer 2015. To find out more about the project, please consult [www.ville.montreal.qc.ca](http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca) under *Info-Travaux* and *Autres chantiers* (note: text available in French).



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Summer Concerts in Westmount Park

**Every Sunday at 2 p.m. from July 6 to August 24, at the Gazebo.** Bring a chair or picnic and listen to live jazz, classical and popular music. Free.

**July 6: Baltimore Parkway**

**July 13: Robert Burman Trio**

**July 20: Agincourt Celtic Band**

**July 27: Mary Ann Lacey and Chad Linsley**

**August 3: Cellobration**

**August 10: Handmade Journey**

**August 17: Mots et musique**

**August 24: L'Esprit de la musique**

Rain location: Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W. Info: 514 989-5226.

### Shakespeare-in-the-Park : *Harry the King: The Famous Victories of Henry V*



**July 7, 8 & 9 and July 25 & 26 at 7:30 p.m. in Westmount Park.**

This summer, *Repercussion Theatre* takes on a brand new challenge, adapting

three plays by William Shakespeare into one tale of a rebellious prince rising to the occasion and uniting a nation. Admission free; donations accepted. A special event to mark the company's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will take place on July 8. Find out more at 514 916-PARK (7275) or [www.repercussiontheatre.com](http://www.repercussiontheatre.com).

### Gallery at Victoria Hall: Exhibition

**July 10 to August 8.** The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present a group exhibition featuring the following artists: John Scott Bailey, Harvey Corn, Mary Lou Freel, Judith Henderson, Ross Isaacs, Sam Kasirer-Smibert, Claire Salzberg and Donna Samuels. Info: [victoriahall@westmount.org](mailto:victoriahall@westmount.org) or 514 989-5521.

## LIBRARY

### Chess and Scrabble Club

**Every Friday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.** Drop by for a

## Next Council Meeting:

**Monday, August 4**

friendly game; we look forward to meeting new players. Info : 514 989-5299.

### Summer Film Club

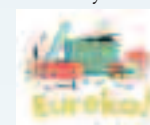
**Every Wednesday afternoon in August at 2 p.m. Westmount Room.** Do you have a passion for film? If so, our Summer Film Club is for you! Join us to view outstanding films and then discuss them afterwards. Ages: 13+ Info: 514 989-5386.

### Movie Night in the Park

**Friday, August 22 at dusk. Westmount Park.** Come watch a fun family film under the stars in Westmount Park. Don't forget your lawn chair and blankets! Info: 514 989-5299.

### TD Summer Reading Club

This year's theme focuses on connectivity and creativity! Throughout the summer months, the Children's Department will host a number of events designed to inspire kids to read. Ask for your Reading Kit at the Children's Desk; you'll earn great prizes!



## PUBLIC SECURITY

### Heat Wave Reminders

**During periods of high heat and humidity**, especially when warnings are announced by Environment Canada or by local public health authorities, it is important to prevent heat illnesses by keeping cool and hydrated. Find out more at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).

### Reminder : new schedule for on-leash hours in Summit Woods June 16 to November 30

**From June 16 to November 30**, the following dog-leash schedule is in effect daily: off-leash from 5 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 6 p.m. to midnight; on-leash from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Info: 514 989-5222.

### Children's car seats : have them inspected

Grandchildren in town for summer vacation? Expecting an addition to the family? Make an appointment with Westmount's Public Safety team to have your child seat installed or verified by trained personnel. This service is free. Info: 514 989-5222.

### CodeRED Emergency notification system

Receive emergency notices on your mobile device, your residential land line, or by email through the **CodeRED** automated notification system. Sign up at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).

### Going on vacation?

Contact the Westmount Public Safety Unit; officers will check on your property while you're away. Info: 514 989-5222.



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
WESTMOUNT



## Prince Albert square 'desperately needed'

# Parking, trees, size among concerns raised

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Citizens attending the public meeting on a final design for Prince Albert Square suggested new ways to position bike racks and benches, and reiterated the ongoing problems with parking in Victoria village, but they expressed little general opposition to the square.

Oliver Sugden of Winchester, who works from home, said the square was something "we've desperately needed."

But he asked the city to find a solution to one particular aspect of the parking issue that is that "a great number of people" who work at a large store in the area manage to park over the time limit "all day every day," by rubbing the parking inspectors' chalk off their tires.

He also asked for a curfew for the square, which is apparently being written into revisions to the city's parks by-law.

It was suggested by Denis Biro of Burton that the square be delayed until after the city had received and dealt with parking-study recommendations for the area. But Elisa Gaetano of Public Works said that parking would be dealt with "street by

street" in a variety of different ways.

"Victoria village is a parking lot," stated Biro. Parking generated by new medical offices allowed under recent rezoning would, he contended, quickly gobble up any additional spaces the city could find to replace the six reported to be eliminated by the square.

When several residents began debating where new parking spaces would be found, Lulham finally said, "we're not going to have an argument about it" and changed the subject.

Architects Jerry Miller, of Thornhill Ave., and Ken London, of Prince Albert, who had not worked on the square project, contended that the north-south linear design of the square's granite pattern would encourage people to walk through rather than linger in a "static" space, as Miller put it.

London also questioned the sloped extension of the square to bridge the height between it and the lower street level. He viewed this as simply creating space for delivery trucks to park. Lulham, explained that the original curved design with a curb had been found in a test of turning trucks

to have proved difficult.

When Lulham explained that the prohibition of truck parking would require enforcement, London replied, "I'm not a fan of design built on enforcement." Lulham later commented that almost everything in Westmount was "built on enforcement."

John Fretz of Lansdowne said he also felt it was somewhat of an alleyway. Lulham said it wouldn't feel linear but "we can't please everyone."

### Sidewalk width questioned

Councillor Rosalind Davis, who had not yet been elected to council when the plan for the square was initially presented in April 2013, asked if the sidewalks were wide enough for snow plowing.

A resident of Somerville wondered if they were wide enough for "pushing a pram."

Lulham said they were and stated in reply to other questions that, yes, fire trucks could access the area; more benches would be supplied than those shown on the design and the bike rack shown near Sherbrooke could be relocated if required.

The matter of sufficient water for trees and even a suggestion about including a fountain were also raised. It was explained that the area had "a lot of technical underground constraints" posed by conduits, which limit certain types of permeable pavers, for example.

The only question from merchants came from Folklore 1 owner Gerard Fellerath, president of the Victoria Village Merchants' Association, who asked what types of trees would be planted. He then pointed out that the Japanese lilacs at the northeast corner of Prince Albert and Sherbrooke had died.

Lulham explained that was due in part to being planted without enough access to water. The city was now using alternative methods and would also be grouping together some of the new trees for the square in common planting areas rather than in isolation. The generally hardy mid-sized Japanese (ivory silk) lilac was one being considered.

### Pool, cont'd. from p. 1

creased the capacity to 350. But we were over capacity for about two hours." That was between 2 and 4 pm. The pool had 20 lifeguards on duty "almost our full staff."

A total of 140 day passes were sold throughout the day but not all were acquired by non-residents, Lapointe explained. "We know many went to residents who didn't have a recreation card," he said.

Line-ups to use pool facilities are not new to Westmount. They were not uncommon at the old pool during heatwaves, he noted. "And you can't take Canada Day as a typical benchmark," he added. Nevertheless, "certain rules governing passes will be reviewed, I know."

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## Prince Albert, cont'd. from p. 1

by-law to be tabled at the council meeting June 7, the *Independent* learned last week.

Businesses on Sherbrooke will be able to stay open during the work and arrangements for deliveries are to be organized with merchants who are most affected. Those are located on the south side whose back doors open onto the lane between Victoria and Prince Albert.

Since construction is to be carried out from Prince Albert Ave., parking will be temporarily removed from that street as far south as Somerville, with alternatives provided for residents.

New parking spots to replace the six that will be eliminated permanently by the square will be found elsewhere nearby “and more,” stated Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who chaired the meeting.

The square’s design was reported as having been approved by the city’s Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) as well as the city council. The original design was presented to the general committee of council in April 2013. In May, it was agreed to proceed, but with modifications regarding the south end of the square. The impact of truck deliveries was to be evaluated and parking was to be studied by the city’s traffic committee.

The square was originally planned for construction in the fall of 2013 at an estimated capital cost of \$250,000 until de-

## Rain floods driveway, house

Heavy rain June 24 and a clogged drain combined to flood a driveway on Kensington south of Sherbrooke, Public Security officials said.

This caused water to leak into the basement. The driveway where the drain was located sloped toward the house.

When patrollers arrived at 11:50 pm, they provided the resident with the names of 24-hour plumbers who might be called to assist.



Illustration courtesy of city of Westmount, compass points and notes by Independent.

layed by the WRC project and the Greene Ave. square.

### Creating an outdoor room

“The concept is to make a little outdoor room that residents can step into,” Gaetano said. The aim is also to create a link with the residential neighbourhood immediately south on Prince Albert.

The scope of the work presented by Gaetano and urban planning consultant Julie St. Arnault includes the planting of medium-sized trees in groups to improve water retention and provide a canopy over the area along with shrubs, flowers and some living ground cover.

There was even mention of a “phase 2” enhancement plan to spruce up the opposite corners on the north side of Sherbrooke.

Public Works engineer Michel Gagné,

who is expected to be a familiar figure as the on-site supervisor during construction, was introduced at the meeting.

### Parking concerns expressed

Questions posed by the audience of some 35 ranged from ongoing parking concerns in Victoria village to the positioning of benches and bike racks. Two local architect-residents suggested the linear pattern of the granite would create a north-south “walkthrough” feeling rather than designate the square as a gathering place (see separate story, 10).

No opposition was voiced by Victoria

## LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

### Found

Necklace in King George (Murray) dog run, on July 6. Call Janet: 514.931.6941.

village merchants, whose association has already given a nod of approval to the concept where Prince Albert Ave. has long been blocked off (see story June 17, p. 7).

The turnout was much larger than seen at other recent city meetings. A wide distribution of notices to addresses in Victoria village had been made by Public Works.

“I’m pleased to see so many turn out on a nice night,” said Councillor Christina Smith, who represents the Victoria village district south of Sherbrooke.

## Do you experience urinary loss?

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## BUILDING PERMITS What's permitted

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the city council meeting June 2.

**128 Arlington:** to build a roof terrace on a backyard garage including access stairs, railings and privacy screens; some window and door openings will also be modified.

\*\*\*\*\*

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the mid-month meeting of city council June 16.

**4606 St. Catherine:** to cut down a tree provided a replacement is planted;

**4 Surrey Gardens:** to cut down a tree to

### Hand brake not applied, 'Transporter' rolls

A van was found to have rolled onto the front lawn of a house on Belmont Crescent June 25 at 11:20 pm, Public Security officials said. The vehicle, a white Volkswagen Transporter model, had been parked without the handbrake applied. The owner, who had obtained a visitor's permit to park overnight, could not be located and the van was towed away.

build a new house;

**110 Upper Bellevue:** to cut down three trees;

**3767 The Boulevard:** to cut down five trees provided a landscaping plan is submitted showing some new replacements;

**3219 The Boulevard:** at Braemar, a Category 1\* house, landscaping to include a new swimming pool and fence at the rear, provided the eastern part of the fence is continuous without attaching to the balcony structure of the main building;

**34 Sunnyside:** to rebuild and extend the rear deck;

**717 Upper Lansdowne:** landscaping to include a new spa, fence and terraces in the rear yard provided the walkways and driveway will be repaved;

**636 Lansdowne:** to redo landscaping to include the reconstruction of front and rear balconies and resurfacing of the driveway;

**379 Roslyn:** to replace some windows;

**50 Bruce:** to replace front and balcony doors and all windows;

**629 Clarke:** to replace the front door and cornice;

**462 Mount Stephen:** landscaping to include a new porch provided all verticals are of cedar;

**4925 de Maisonneuve:** to erect a back fence;

**427 Lansdowne:** landscaping in back yard to include a fence and parking space;

**69 Stayner:** to rebuild the front balconies, stairs and walkway;

**4932 Sherbrooke:** to install a sign for "Flore" provided decorative elements are omitted;

**233 Melville:** to replace a front second-storey balcony door;

**220 Metcalfe:** at a Category I house, to replace some windows;

**16A Sunnyside:** landscaping in the front yard to include planting beds and rearranging walkways and driveway;

**579 Grosvenor:** to replace some windows provided they are double hung as per original drawings of the house;

**327 Redfern:** at a Category 1\* house, to replace the roofing materials;

**353 Kensington:** to replace the windows and modify some openings at the back with certain conditions;

**235 Clarke, apt. 1:** to replace some windows with certain conditions;

**659 Lansdowne:** to replace some windows;

**509B Claremont:** to replace some windows;

**509D Claremont:** to replace some windows;

**5 Grove Park:** to install a back fence;

**4932 Sherbrooke:** to replace two front ground-floor windows;

**16 de Casson:** to replace two doors provided the mullions are simulated-divided-light (SDL);

**220 Prince Albert:** at a Category I house, to replace some windows;

**29 Prospect:** at a Category I house, to replace some windows;

**3488 Holton:** to replace some windows.

### Door insecure in Vic village after midnight

An outside door leading to three commercial establishments on Sherbrooke at Prince Albert was found insecure June 26 at 12:43 am Public Security officials said. Individual interior doors to the stores turned out to have been locked, however, and all was reported in order.

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### Emergency workers converge on Sydenham

A bevy of firefighters, police and public safety officers converged June 28 outside 616 Sydenham Ave. when a gas line was severed by excavation workers at a private property, Public Security officials said. Three residences were evacuated.

The fire department called Public Security at 9:30 am to block off the street at The Boulevard and Westmount Ave. at Carleton. Police were posted at other locations. Patrollers left the scene once Gaz Metro had controlled the leak some 90 minutes later.

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## Bobette, from seizure to adoption (we hope)



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

What a beautiful sleek black beauty, this Bobette.

She has recuperated from the neglect she endured in a hoarding situation in Laval, from which she was rescued. Yes, there are seizures for cats as well, from unscrupulous breeders to overwhelmed hoarders.

Recently a judge in Laval granted legal custody of nearly 80 cats, including Bobette, to the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec. The ministry, with the assistance of Humane Society International/Canada, seized the severely neglected cats in November. Since then, the cats have been in the care of the ministry and HSI staff at an emergency shelter. The judge denied the owner's request to reclaim the animals.

Ewa Demianowicz, campaign manager for HSI/Canada, released the following



statement: "We couldn't be more pleased with the judge's decision to grant custody of the cats to the authorities. These cats were seized from a desperate situation where their lives were in danger. Knowing that they won't be returning to this facility is a huge relief. ...Most were visibly sick and needed treatment, which they had clearly not been receiving.

We will keep you informed of the developments and the adoption process soon.

Your neighbour, LYSANNE

## Dolphins get shirts, new logo – and yoghurt



The Westmount Dolphins swim team received this year's t-shirts June 30 and celebrated with pizza at the Westmount pool and yoghurt at Yeh! on Sherbrooke near Claremont. In honour of the new pool, the Dolphins also have a new logo.

Photo courtesy of Sada Reddy/Dolphins.

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## Kim honoured



Westmounter Da-Eun Kim, right, was awarded a \$2,000 Excellence Science prize by Denise Boucher, left, of the Confédération des syndicats nationaux at a ceremony at the Quebec legislature June 9. Begun by the provincial ministry of Education 18 years ago, the award and its sister prizes aim to encourage women to choose diverse careers. Among those in attendance were Education minister Yves Bolduc.

Also pictured are prize winners Julie Bacon and Coralie Roques.

Kim is in mechanical engineering at McGill. While proud of her Korean background, she noted its "traditional vision" for the role of men and women as an occasional point of friction in her life. Her choice of career did not meet with support from some in her life.

Photo courtesy of Relations publiques Andrée Peltier

## Comin' Up

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

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## Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

A spectacular reception including Westmounters **Brian Mulroney** and his wife **Mila** was held at the RBC executive suites on the 41st floor of Place Ville Marie to honour **Bruce Kent**, RBC Dominion Securities' top portfolio manager in Canada.

**Gordon Nixon**, CEO of RBC, was on hand to recognize Bruce's accomplishments and 30 years' service with the firm. A Westmount resident, Bruce was accompanied by his wife **Joëlle** and daughters **Victoria** and **Katherine**, as well as his mother **Agnes**.

In honour of his mother, and in recognition of his 30 years with RBC, Bruce made a personal donation of \$100,000 to the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, Israel, the most important Holocaust museum in the world.

His mother lost seven members of her family during the Holocaust and was saved by the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg. In his speech, Bruce said that his mother is his "hero in life." He amusingly referred to his role model, Warren Buffett, "who is still going strong at 84 - which gives me 30 more good years in my career."

Other Westmounters present included **Gail Wasserman** and **Albert Benhaim**, **Richard Benzakein**, **Victoria** and **David Cape** and David's father **Michael**, **Joanne** and **Douglas Cohen**, **Guy Casgrain**, **Sheldon Elman**, **Mia Melmed** and **David Goodman**, **Luisa** and **Camillo Lisio**, **Barry Pascal**, **Marcel Pinchevsky**, **Marlene** and **Robert Raich**, **Richard Dubrovsky**, **Sara** and **Gene Riesman**, **Soryl** and **Gibby Rosenberg**, **Tom Velan**, **Robert Walsh** and **Tony Loffreda**, executive vice president, president of the Quebec district, RBC, and former Westmounter **Joseph Nuss** with his wife, event planner **Marissa Nuss**.

Also noted were **Martin Thibodeau**,

# RBC honours portfolio manager Kent



Bruce Kent, Agnes Kent and Gordon Nixon.



Mila and Brian Mulroney.



Gene and Sara Riesman.



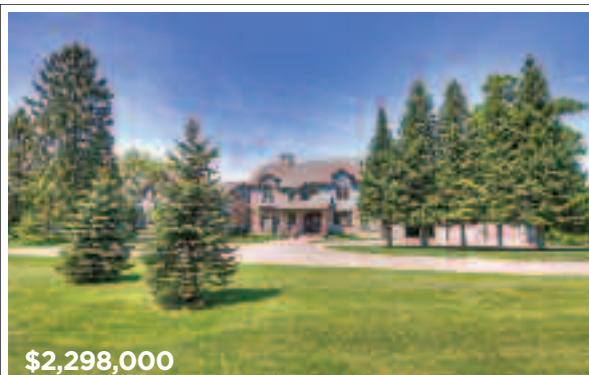
Michael, Victoria and David Cape.



Douglas and Joanne Cohen.

with lobster, as well as sinful desserts beautifully arranged on mirrored trays.

Admiring the panoramic view of Montreal from the sky-high elegant setting, guests enjoyed a seafood bar complete

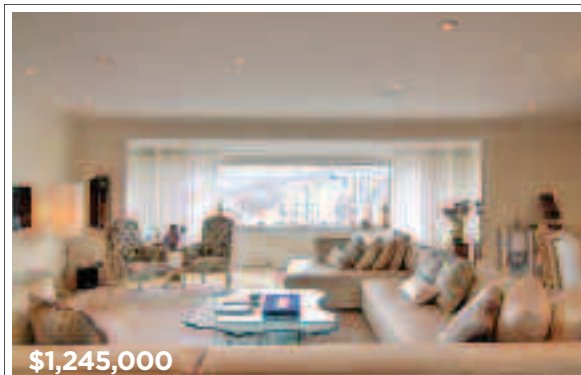


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# Courval ceiling collapses

BY STEPHANIE O'HANLEY

A construction accident July 4 caused the ceiling of Courval, a fine lingerie boutique at 4861 Sherbrooke St. near Victoria to collapse, injuring a 66-year-old woman.

When the accident happened, staff and customers fled Courval unscathed. Then one woman decided to go back into the store to retrieve her purse. Pieces of the building's heavy cement-mesh ceiling hit the woman on the head and she was taken to hospital for stitches, but was not seriously injured.

"It's a shock," said Tony Russo, owner of Cavallero Westmount, one building over. "You see the whole ceiling falling and they're running out the back door just as the ceiling is falling."

An apartment on the upper floor of the two-storey building was undergoing renovations and was completely gutted. As work was done on the upper floor, the impact of the workers' banging caused the ceiling to collapse, said Russo. "It was a flooring ceiling, not a real ceiling," he said. "If the whole ceiling were to fall, everyone would be dead."

Russo said it wasn't the owner's fault because it's an older building and there was no way of knowing what materials were used between the floor and the ceiling. "It's just an unfortunate thing that happened. It could happen anywhere."

After a visit from the Régie du bâtiment du Québec, neighbouring stores Ritsi and

Les Thés David's Tea were evacuated and police tape blocked access to all three of the building's downstairs businesses. Ritsi's ceiling has deep cracks while David's Tea appeared to have suffered no structural damage, but was closed as a precaution, pending further inspection.

The owner of women's clothing store Ritsi hired the security firm Securitas to guard the store 24 hours a day over the weekend, from July 4 through July 6.

On the night of July 4, a man who said he was the uncle of one of the two women who own Courval, Victoria Connolly and Vanessa Brott, said the women were "very upset." A friend of Connolly's told the *Independent* that Connolly is "devastated."

The timing couldn't be worse for Courval, which was recently featured on the LightSpeed and Stylelist quebec blogs.

Both blog articles say that Lingerie Courval has been in business since 1918 and at its current location since 1941. Connolly and Brott are former employees who bought the boutique in 2010.

"It's weird," said Westmount resident Natalia Soris, who on July 5 learned about the ceiling collapse for the first time when she walked by the building. Soris said she was concerned for the woman who was injured.

"I hope she's okay," echoed Westmount resident Esther Silver.

Silver said she's not worried about the safety of buildings in Westmount. "We're in a very safe part of the world but things



Courval and its neighbours on the afternoon of July 4.

Photo: Independent.

happen and that's why buildings and people have to keep maintaining ourselves, maintaining our properties," Silver added. "Things need upkeep."

Neither Connolly nor Brott answered

the *Independent's* requests for an interview.

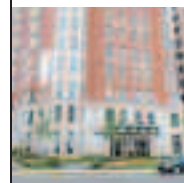
There was no answer July 4 at the Montreal office of the building's owner, Cromwell Management Quebec Inc.



The inside of Courval July 4..

Photo: Independent.

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