

Transport ministry's feasibility study presented

Sound barrier options taken to design, costing phase

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The decades-old issue of a sound barrier in Westmount to muffle noise from the Ville Marie expressway took another step forward last week when the first part of a feasibility study from the Quebec Transport ministry (MTQ) was presented to city officials.

The MTQ study from the engineering firm of Dessau is required by the government as a preliminary step to helping fund noise abatement along provincial highways. It was funded 50-50 by Westmount and the MTQ.

The study provided several options and types of measures that could be used along the Westmount Athletic Grounds and to

the eastern city limits, said Councillor Theodora Samiotis after the presentation September 11.

"We agreed on some options and gave instructions to proceed to the second phase of the study, design and costing," she said. "The key thing is that something is possible."

This second phase is expected to take seven or eight weeks before plans can be put to affected residents for consideration, Samiotis told the *Independent*.

Presentation of the report came on the heels of a commitment by Samiotis to bring the feasibility process to the point where the sound barrier issue can finally be resolved, she told
Bruce Ave. resident Bron- continued on p. 10

Gas leak closes Wood, Sherbrooke



At about 11 am on September 12, houses on Wood Ave. were evacuated due to a gas leak caused by construction, according to firemen and police officers, who also blocked off Sherbrooke St. Residents were asked to leave their front doors unlocked, close the front windows of their houses while leaving open the windows at the back.

Photo: Matt Faigan

Letters p. 6

Social Notes by V. REDGRAVE p. 26

Batshaw p. 25

Ordered almost a year ago

Bike stands for Greene square coming 'shortly'

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A new model of bicycle rack is expected to be installed in the next couple of weeks for use outside the Greene public square, Public Works officials said last week. The same model had been ordered for the new Prince Albert square.

The stands enable the frame of a bike rather than only a wheel to be attached, providing improved anti-theft security, explained Councillor Cynthia Lulham at the

council meeting September 2.

She was replying to a question from Susan Kazenel of Kensington Ave., who asked for more bicycle parking on Greene, near Les 5 Saisons, saying that in the absence of racks, cyclists were attaching their bikes to the city's new trees and damaging them.

Lulham said the new racks had been "ordered," and she was requesting protection for the trees.

"We've already re- continued on p. 23

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Requires government to open purse strings

WTAG: More needed to stem noise from added trains

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As the new Train de l'Est was unveiled last week, hope that a solution to noise and vibration along the commuter line through the Westmount rail corridor may be next on the Quebec government's agenda, according to David Schachter, president of the Westmount Train Action Group (WTAG).

Despite railway work under way to install a third commuter track along the corridor to "ratchet up" the number of trains, there is still no breakthrough, he said last week.

"We just want a solution and hope the

new Quebec government opens the purse strings," he told the *Independent*.

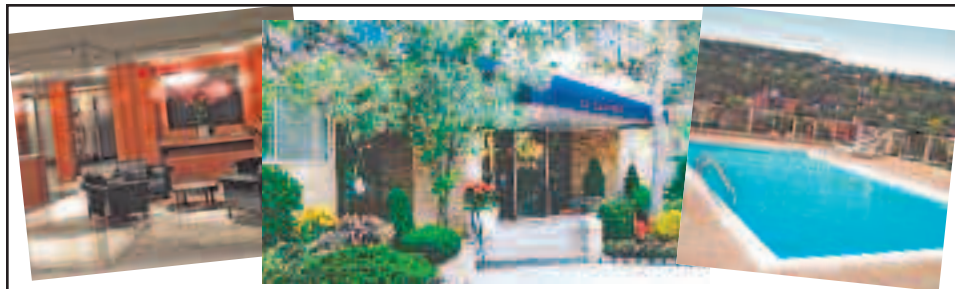
Among several solutions are new and quieter equipment, as well as the potential electrification of the rail, which Mayor Peter Trent stated the city supported in a letter last February to then Transport minister Sylvain Gaudreault and to Nicolas Girard, president of the Agence métropolitaine de transport (AMT), which operates the commuter trains.

While the mayor said last week he had not yet met with either of the new ministers for Municipal Affairs (Pierre Moreau) or Transport (Robert Poëti) since the Quebec

continued on p. 9



This train was heading westbound destined to pass through Westmount around 12:35 pm September 11.

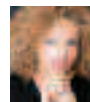


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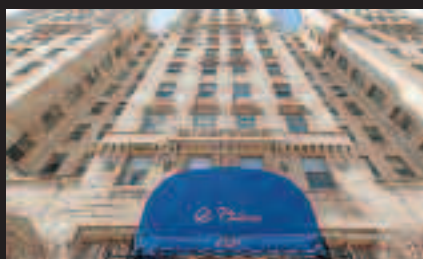
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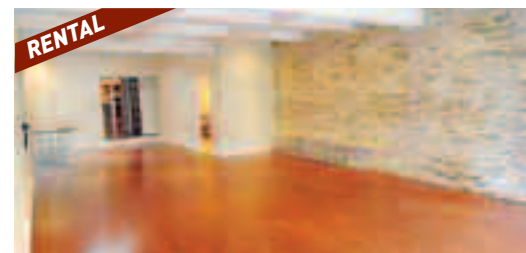


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Hospital, Westmount officials to discuss noise

By ISAAC OLSON

With noises being described as a high-pitched whine coupled with the roar of a jet engine still infiltrating the neighbourhood bordering the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) super-hospital's construction site, Westmount officials have demanded a meeting with the hospital's top brass to resolve the issue.

That meeting is set to happen this week.

The noise, hospital officials have said,

is likely related to the facility's dozens of chimneys and customized cooling towers. These towers, some of the largest in Canada, are located on the easternmost portion of the site, just north of the St. Jacques St. parking garage. The Glen Yards property includes land in Westmount, but the temporary offices, currently on the Westmount section, will be replaced with green space once the hospital project is finished.

"We have received complaints from two Westmount residents," said SNC-Lavalin spokesperson Diane Rivard. "We are in the process of balancing the system of this huge hospital complex. It takes time. It cannot be done overnight. Right when the first person complained about this, we started looking at mitigation measures but, at the moment, nothing about the system has been finalized."

Rivard said the system will be fully calibrated by the end of September and, during that time, the firm has hired an acoustic expert to develop mitigation measures. Rivard said SNC-Lavalin has already submitted a report to Westmount showing that there is "no evidence that we are not respecting the by-law. But that doesn't mean that we aren't still looking



Hospital officials say these cooling towers, some of the largest in Canada, may be partially responsible for the noise some Westmount residents are hearing.

into mitigation measures."

Westmount's District 5 councillor Christina Smith said that just because

SNC-Lavalin has only received complaints from two people, doesn't mean there are only those

continued on p. 5



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Noise cont'd. from p. 4

upset by the noise. She said people complain in different ways, such as contacting their local provincial legislator, the city's Urban Planning department, the director general or their city councillor. The complaints have been rolling in, she said, and the city is taking this issue very seriously.

"We are going to have a meeting, and we're hoping a solution comes out of it," said Smith. "We're very pleased that this meeting is taking place."

Montreal's NDG-district councillor, Peter McQueen, said he has not heard any complaints directly related to the hospital's ventilation system or cooling towers.

'Constant sound'

York St. resident Dorothy Lipovenko and Somerville Ave. resident Jean-Phillipe Lord both describe the noise coming from the hospital similarly. Both residents, in separate phone interviews, recognized that there are accepted noises, such as the train, that come from living in southwestern Westmount, but what they describe as the constant sound from the hospital is disrupting their ability to enjoy their properties.

Lipovenko said that, at this point, the decibel levels might meet pre-set standards, but that doesn't make it okay. It's the constant, disruptive sound that she

says violates the city's nuisance-noise by-law. She said it is making it impossible for her to enjoy a property she has owned for some 14 years.

Her backyard, she said, is unusable. When barefoot, she said she can feel the vibrations in her home office. She and her husband have been thankful for the cooler summer as they have been able to keep their windows closed much of the time but, regardless, she said the around-the-clock noise still makes its way into her house and disrupts their sleep to the point that she said she has trouble functioning during the day.

Representatives from SNC-Lavalin, Lipovenko noted, have visited her property and consulted with her on the issue, but the problem hasn't gone away since the ventilation system was fired up back in November 2013. She questioned the planning behind a super-hospital that puts a mega-sized, noisy ventilation system so close to a residential neighbourhood.

"This is a persistent, consistent noise of which there is virtually no prospect of it ending," said Lipovenko. "They turned it on in late November and, with the exception of a one-hour shutdown a couple weeks ago for testing, there has been no silence at all. This neighbourhood has never resumed its regular ambiance of noise that we all expect."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ARE PARKING METERS BIASED?

Did you know that Westmount parking meters are biased toward toonies? I could not believe it. A two-dollar coin seems to buy one hour at the municipal lot on Greene and Dorchester. I only had quarters recently and spent \$3.25 to get one hour and 15 minutes!

Have I lost my mind?
It does seem odd that the type of coin gets more time instead of the value of it.
Here's an idea: Host the "Great Westmount Parking Meter" challenge. Let's see if they are all the same or if some are more expensive than others – and then find out why.

AMY CREIGHTON, NDG

THANKS FOR PEDESTRIAN LIGHT AT WOOD

Thanks to the city for installing automatic pedestrian lights at the busy de Maisonneuve and Wood intersection.
A pedestrian was killed at that intersection by a left-turning truck last fall, and our association had asked the city to change the old "on-demand" pedestrian lights for automatic lights, since our sur-

veys found that most pedestrians either did not know about the on-demand pedestrian light button or they were not prepared to wait up to a minute for the pedestrian light to appear after pushing it.
Pedestrians can now cross that intersection without having to first push a button and then wait. Since the new lights are four-way, pedestrians do not have to worry about cars being in the intersection at the same time. The Wood intersection now offers the same pedestrian safety as many other busy intersections in Westmount, like the Sherbrooke and Victoria intersection, for example.

Kudos to the city for that safety improvement.
In addition to the automatic pedestrian light, our association had asked that the busy Wood intersection be equipped with a 10-second straight-ahead green arrow during the east-west light sequence to allow cyclists (and drivers) to proceed straight ahead before vehicles can turn left across the bike path. This would help reduce the risk to cyclists from vehicles turning left across the bike path and not respecting the straight-ahead priority of cyclists.
Green arrows are already standard at

every left-turning intersection along the de Maisonneuve bike path through Ville Marie. The director general has said that the city is studying this request.
DAN LAMBERT, PRESIDENT,
WESTMOUNT WALKING AND CYCLING
ASSOCIATION

LANSDOWNE CORNER ALREADY LOUD

To all the dog owners: Please do not ask to have a dog run at Lansdowne and St. Catherine. It is already one of the noisiest corners in Westmount.
We have traded a dog run for a swimming pool. Whistles and the not-so-dulcet tones of children in the water serenade our dinner on the balcony. On days when there is a meet or a special event, there is the blare of announcements and music.
The commuter trains pass with regularity. Trucks rumble up through the Glen. Traffic will only increase once the hospital opens.
In winter, Public Works sends out its artillery of snow clearance vehicles from just around the corner.
You say the park at the corner is not being used. Yes it is – as a buffer to some of that sound and as a peaceful oasis.
There is no perfect spot for a dog run, but making this one corner of Westmount the area for more noise-causing activity is unfair to the residents there!
SUSAN BLOOM, LANSDOWNE AVE.

ADD ME TO THE ROSTER OF NO DOGS AT SHUFFLEBOARD

A dog run in the heart of Westmount Park? What can they be thinking?
It isn't just that the noise and smell in the shuffleboard area will be appalling and will affect everyone either sitting nearby or walking on any of the many pathways through the park that run close to the area.
It's also that the dogs and their owners will have to get there. They will be arriving and leaving that area from all directions. We will have to say goodbye to any hope of a peaceful stroll through the park or a quiet read on a park bench.
I applaud [those letter-writers] who have pleaded eloquently that the shuffleboard area should not be the solution.
We truly cannot let it happen.

ROSEMARY HADDAD,
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

OPEN LETTER TO MAYOR TRENT

Recently, Westmount residents have expressed their feelings against a dog run in

Westmount Park by flooding the *Independent* with letters. Almost, if not all, are against the plan. Many, including myself, have focussed our displeasure and even anger on the proposal to use the so-called shuffleboard site for a dog run – indeed, on any site at all in our much loved Westmount Park.

Frederick Law Olmsted, who [inspired] Westmount Park, Mount Royal Park, New York's Central Park and others would be outraged to know that, besides other monstrous changes, Westmount has encased in concrete the very heart of Westmount Park.
The principles Olmsted's landscape artistry may be found in "A bridge, a pathway, a tree, a pasture: any and all elements are brought together to produce a picturesque style, each to achieve a particular effect." (Wikipedia)

Concrete is a dead substance. It is discordant with the very alive greenery of Westmount Park. But if Westmount is prepared spend thousands of dollars to remove this concrete for a dog run, would it be prepared to spend money to remove the concrete for humans to stroll in and take pleasure in [the park], for their need and desire to breathe fresh air to improve their health? For the chance to meet and converse with friends and other residents?
[Putting in] a curved wooden bridge near the ornamental rocks at the tranquil waterfall to join the great circular green field across the lake would "produce a picturesque style." It would bring life again into the heart of Westmount Park.

On the green island, the beautiful willow, which was cut down a few years ago, is springing to life again!
And by bringing life again into the heart of Westmount Park, [it would] leave a legacy by which you would be long and, fondly remembered.
STEPHEN CHIN, SHERBROOKE ST.

SHUFFLEBOARD SITE FOR THE QUIET, NOT THE DOGS

Fair weather favours a unique worship service at the shuffleboard site, a proposed dog run site in an allegedly "under-utilized" area of Westmount Park.

continued on p. 25

Clarification

In "New structure combines Community Events, library," (September 9, p. 4), it is Donna Lach who was "a graduate of McGill, [who] has also worked as a registered respiratory therapist at the Royal Victoria and Kingston General hospitals."

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Westmount goes to Montreal's 'rescue' over major water leak

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It was Westmount water works that went to "the rescue" of Montreal when one of its major distribution pipes burst September 5 on Greene Ave. just north of St. Antoine St. near the entrance to Selby Park, city officials said.

Public safety officers reported finding water 12 to 15 inches deep after being called to the scene at 12:12 am by a resident of Greene. The street was closed northbound, allowing St. Antoine to be reopened. The work, contracted to Canbec Construction after agreement from Montreal, took until 3 pm to complete.

While the affected pipe belonged to Montreal, said Public Works director Marianne Zalzal, "We did the intervention because we can close off the water relatively quickly."

Increase in water pressure

The cause of the problem was believed to relate to an increase in water pressure from Montreal, where work had been under way elsewhere. Several other simi-

lar incidents had also been reported nearby in Montreal, she said.

A chain reaction of breaks caused by increases in water pressure occurred several years ago along Côte St. Antoine when water repairs were under way on Decarie (see story April 26, 2011, p. 7).

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Kiely, Blackader challenge MUHC board on hospital accessibility, mobility

By ISAAC OLSON

During an NDG-based public meeting on September 9, the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) board of directors faced some tough questions from Westmounters wanting to know how people with reduced mobility are supposed to access the incoming super-hospital and, once there, how are they supposed to nav-

igate the mega-sized medical facility. “We do not have and will not have in the foreseeable future a second handicapped entrance to the Vendôme Metro that will help people who are wheelchair bound, those with limited mobility and those families with young children,” said Maureen Kiely as she asked the board what temporary measures will be in place when the hospital is supposed to open in June 2015. The second entrance, transportation officials have said, will cost some \$70 million and take at least four years to complete, but the province has yet to foot the bill. That entrance, if realized, will tunnel to the hospital under the train tracks. Until then, the Quebec government is offering a \$3.4-million upgrade to the inter-modal station as it faces a predicted 35-percent increase in riders by 2017. Currently, the station sees 11.1 million riders annually. Kiely said those who have cars or use a taxi won’t have a problem accessing the hospital, but “it is a problem for many families.” *continued on p. 18*



The MUHC board of directors updates the public attending the September 9 meeting on the super-hospital. Inset: Westmounter Maureen Kiely asks the board what measures will be taken to get people with reduced mobility to the hospital once its built.



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Election may be coming



Our Man in Ottawa

MARC GARNEAU, MP
FOR WESTMOUNT-
VILLE MARIE

It has been a very productive summer for me, and I can't believe it's drawing to an end. There were many outdoor festivals and celebrations in the riding as people took advantage of the good weather. This included the ALPS swimming finals hosted by Westmount at its magnificent sports and recreation centre.

My party held its summer caucus meeting in Edmonton and I took advantage of being in the West to include trips to Calgary and Vancouver.

I also had the pleasure of taking my family to Switzerland for two weeks to visit my oldest son and his family and to do a little mountain hiking.

As Liberal critic for Foreign Affairs, the summer has been particularly busy with the many conflicts occurring in the Middle East in Iraq, Syria, Israel and Gaza as well as Ukraine and several African countries such as South Sudan and Central African Republic.

Canada has an obligation to contribute in the most constructive manner possible to the resolution of the many conflicts occurring in these troubled regions.

Last week, I accompanied John Baird and Paul Dewar on a visit to Iraq to speak

to government leaders, visit a refugee camp and go to the northern frontline in the fighting against ISIS.

Parliament resumes on the 15th of September. While we focus most of our attention on debating legislation, there is also the undeniable fact that we are only about a year away from the next federal election.

While Mr. Harper announced some time ago that the election would occur on a fixed date in October 2015, nothing prevents him from choosing another time. For example, he could choose to run a spring election.

15 bills await debate

In total, there are about 15 government bills awaiting debate, many of which deal with criminal justice, a focus for the current government.

In terms of specific fall legislation, there are a number of bills that will likely receive a great deal of media attention this fall, the first being the legislation dealing with prostitution, which is currently in committee.

Another bill that will get noticed is Justin Trudeau's private member's bill calling for greater transparency in parliament and through the Access to Information Act.

As usual, we can expect a budget to be delivered next February and after seven deficit budgets, this one is expected to be in surplus. Given that it is delivered in an election year, we can certainly expect the government to make election-type promises as it delivers this budget.

All in all, an exciting year ahead and I look forward to continuing to serve you.

Shaar roof fire sends Akiva to Selwyn

Students from Akiva School were relocated to nearby Selwyn House September 5 while firefighters extinguished a roof fire at the Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, Public Security officials said in relating the incident.

The building, which houses the school, was evacuated as a precaution and the students' parents were notified to pick up their children at the new location.

The fire broke out around 3 pm during roofing work on the portion of the roof over the sanctuary and caused major traffic congestion in the area. Côte St. Antoine, Church Hill, Kensington and Metcalfe were closed off by public safety officers and police to allow for the passage of emergency vehicles.

The fire was reported out by 4:17 pm.

Trains cont'd. from p. 3

election in April, he noted that Girard remains AMT president.

Schachter said that WTAG, which now has 175 members, hoped to hold another meeting as soon as possible with representatives from all three levels of government "to advance our hope for a solution."

A previous meeting in February at AMT offices that included representatives from the offices of federal MP Marc Garneau and provincial legislator Jacques Chagnon had led to the mayor's letter.

Another meeting in July at city hall, however, did not have provincial representation but included a presentation from a Concordia study on the impact of noise pollution in the Montreal area, Schachter said.

"The priority is infrastructure" as a means to reducing noise and vibration, said Councillor Theodora Samiotis, who chaired the July meeting and represents Trent on the Train de l'Ouest committee.

She said an important "breakthrough" in the process, however, was a dialogue had been created with all three levels of government, citizens and railway officials. This had emerged in the summer of 2013 from the fight by residents and city officials to reduce construction noise on the rail bed and positioning of new signal gantries (see August 6, 2013, p. 5).

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Galerie M is an "Alternative Retail Environment." Whereas most retailers change their merchandise seasonally, Katz has new merchandise arriving 2-4 times a week. The Store's reputation has customers and decorators shopping from Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec City, Toronto, Vancouver and even some parts of the United States.

Galerie M also provides a prime opportunity for sellers. Whether you're moving, redecorating, recently inherited home furnishings, or simply don't have enough space for all of your possessions, Galerie M professionally prices and stages your furniture and decorative accessories to ensure that your piece finds the right home and that you receive payment for your item(s) as quickly as possible while respecting and ensuring sellers privacy. Katz and her team carefully select desirable, high quality items for the store and offer a personalized service to each buyer and seller, providing expert advice and creative home-décor tips. Katz is the Master of "THE MIX", mingling cool style with uptown elegance. The unique concept attracts high foot traffic, and ensures quick product turnover and repeat customers. Additionally, an online showroom, e-newsletter, and social media marketing significantly increases each item's exposure, as local buyers who find a piece online know that they can see it in-person in the Galerie.

Recent arrivals include a stunning Baker Secretary (retail list price \$20,000, Galerie M price \$2,500), and a French heritage commode (retail list price \$5,500, Galerie M price \$1,458). The 3/10 pricing policy makes purchasing thrilling! All prices on items are held firm for three weeks, and then discounted by 10% every three weeks until it is sold or reaches its last price. Those willing to gamble will wait out the reductions, but savvy shoppers know if they wait too long, the item will be gone!

For those who share Katz's passion for home decor and the 'thrill of the hunt' for unique pieces this 5,000-square foot showroom features soaring ceilings in a loft-like atmosphere, which best showcases the assortment of one of a kind and unexpected avant-garde and classic home furnishings are not to be missed.

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New features, participants outlined

Art Westmount to showcase work of record 75 artists

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

This year’s edition of Art Westmount in late September will feature several new highlights, Councillor Nicole Forbes, the co-chair, told the *Independent* last week. A tradition of innovation has characterized the biennial event since its inception in 2006.

For starters, a record number of 75

artists are participating this time. Two new venues have been added to include artists from Manoir Westmount and Westmount One, and a special breakfast preview for sponsors will be introduced.

Another new feature is the publication of a full-colour 88-page book of participants, Forbes said. “It’s really a beautiful coffee-table type book that devotes one page per artist.” It replaces a smaller catalogue and will sell for \$5.

The fifth edition of Art Westmount to showcase the community’s artists takes place Saturday, September 27, noon to 6 pm, and Sunday, September 28, 10 am to 6 pm.

The exhibits will be centred at Victoria Hall, the Gallery and the library with additional venues at Place Kensington and the newly participating Manoir Westmount and Westmount One, a seniors’ residence on Côte St. Luc Rd. just west of Victoria and the Westmount border.

The event coincides with Quebec’s Journées de la Culture “and recognizes the importance of art and the passion of our amateur, emerging and established artists,” Forbes explained.



Highlights of Art Westmount 2014 are announced at the city council meeting September 2 by Councillor Nicole Forbes.

tween the artist and buyer.

Being self-financing and not involving any money from the city, Forbes said, the event counts heavily on its main room sponsors as well as advertisers. As a result, the program is introducing a special

“breakfast preview” on the opening morning for sponsors and their guests.

The organizing committee for 2014 is co-chaired by Forbes and artist Ramez Rabbat. It consists of volunteers Mona Agia, Diana Bruno, Mui Bui, Anna Gedalof, Jennifer Goddard, Cynthia Graham, Nathalie Guez, Lily Lam, Pierre Le Gourriérec, Chantal Montreuil, Tamara Scullion and Bonnie Shemie.

The volunteers are supported by the city Community Events staff of Jillian Barnes, Virginia Elliott and Hélène Mitko.

Fire put out under expressway

A small fire under the Ville Marie expressway across from 350 Selby was found by patrollers September 6, Public Security officials said. It was quickly extinguished by firefighters shortly after 11 am. Police were called to identify three itinerants who had set it.

Sound barrier cont’d. from p. 1

wen Mantel at the September 2 city council.

“My role as your councillor is to see this through,” Samiotis stated. “I made a commitment to my residents to see this through.”

Samiotis was reacting to lengthy allegations by an obviously frustrated Mantel that the city had failed to follow through on previous plans and options.

In a heated exchange with Mantel, Samiotis, Councillor Cynthia Lulham and Mayor Peter Trent explained how many scenarios had been changed, abandoned or updated as the Turcot project unfolded and Canadian Pacific (CP) refused to allow Westmount to use some of its land for a berm (see June 18, 2013, p. 22).

A lot of work had been done by the city on the issue, they explained. Much of the data collected by the city’s own feasibility studies had been handed over for the MTQ study.

Once the Turcot plans had been finalized to lower the Ville Marie Expressway west of Hallowell, the council decided to move ahead on the government’s terms by accepting its 50-50 terms of funding the MTQ study (see December 10, 2013). It had previously wanted Quebec to pay 100 percent.

Democratic venture

“Last time we had more than 1,200 visitors, and we’re expecting even more this year,” she said. “It’s a very democratic venture because we have no jury. Anyone can join in who is brave enough to show their paintings, sculptures and photographs.”

Arrangements for the purchase of works of art are conducted privately be-

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Westmount Art Scene

Ronc and Monet: Inward significance

BY HEATHER BLACK

This month, Cécile Ronc's fluid landscapes create an atmospheric neverland at the McClure Gallery at the Visual Arts Centre, while André Monet's bold portraits dominate Galerie de Bellefeuille. Although different in subject matter and style, the work of both artists evokes insight into their chosen subjects.

Cécile Ronc at the McClure Gallery

In this exhibition, Ronc's large-scale canvases are ethereal and atmospheric. Entitled "Le pays où l'on n'arrive jamais," diffused shapes evoke both memories and dreams. The muted greys and subtle pastels convey reflection within a playful and painterly style.

In "Courants contraires," rich textures create a dynamic landscape, where water flows and freezes in mid air. Inspired by Iceland's northern landscape, complex lines and shapes recreate barrens and glaciers.

In "Serendipity," yellow paint splattered across a smooth canvas evokes meadow flowers within a cool, inhospitable beauty. A butterfly-shaped composition is cleverly titled "Hisser le papillon noir."

Ronc's calm yet dynamic paintings suggest uninhabited landscapes. A large untitled painting with dark brushstrokes as foliage against crater-like mountains recalls Chinese traditional landscape. Here, the asymmetric composition evokes an emptiness of an undetermined promised land.

Playful yet tranquil, these paintings evoke an evolving natural world and, for the artist, an evolution in artistic style.

"Le pays où l'on n'arrive jamais" continues until Saturday, September 27 at the McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria Ave.

André Monet at Galerie de Bellefeuille

Monet's exhibition of large format portraits entitled "V.I.P." includes paintings of over 30 cultural icons, from Pablo Picasso, Coco Chanel and Marilyn Monroe, to the contemporary Cate Blanchett or Amy Winehouse. Painted in black acrylic in a Warhol-like graphic style, a unique background of newspaper clippings, stamps or maps add context as well as colour.

In "Ali," the boxer's hard-edged, close-cropped face dominates the landscape-format can- *continued on p. 12*



André Monet "Elizabeth Taylor"



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The Emmaus Anglican Church, which usually holds its Sunday worship at Westmount Park United Church, took advantage of the weather the morning of September 7 to hold its service outside in Westmount Park. Some 70 people gathered to listen to the music of Ana Sares on the flute, Tom Zalatnai on the guitar and Lucam Chauny on the drum. Interim rector Trevor Potter led the service and others spoke from time to time. Afterwards, they had a picnic and barbecue.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Art Scene cont'd. from p. 11

vas. Painted larger than life, a blood-red magazine clipping in the left-hand corner mirrors his fierce, competitive spirit. In contrast, the pose of Montreal Symphony conductor Kent Nagano, painted on sheet music, is characteristically lyrical.

For the portrait of a young Elizabeth Taylor, the black outline is softened by diffused edges. The subject's innocent expression is juxtaposed with the text "Mon Mariage" suggests an evolving personality as well as social mores. In contrast, for "Jackie O," the vibrant and multi-faceted Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis is painted as six unique portraits against orange back-

grounds in a Warhol-like two-row, three-column format.

Monet's unique style of collage, both lively or faded like yesterday's news, brings these legends to life. This dramatic and thought-provoking exhibition is on display until Wednesday, September 24 at Galerie de Bellefeuille's new showroom at 1366 Greene Ave.

New in technique yet reassuringly familiar, Ronc's soft palette conveys the solitude of a northern landscape, while Monet's strong mix of painting and journalism elicits social commentary. Yet as images of reflection and personal insight, both artists invite the viewer to experience life through their eyes.

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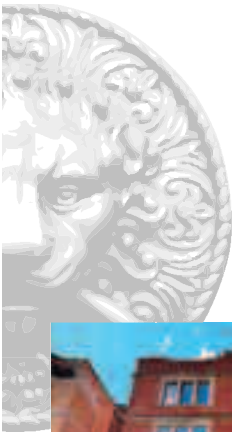
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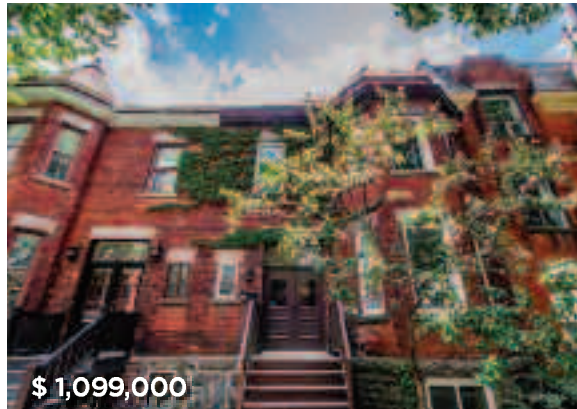
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Access ramp marks first fruit of temple’s capital campaign

By MARTIN C. BARRY

A ground-breaking ceremony took place on September 9 at Temple Emanu-

El Beth Sholom to mark the start of construction on an accessibility ramp outside the sanctuary entrance on Sherbooke St.

It is the first phase of a five-year capital campaign.

“The fact that we are starting this project by building a ramp so that you can get into this building with dignity and with respect and with openness and with welcome is the best possible way that I can think of to show the value of this community – you’ll forgive the pun – in a very concrete way,” said the temple’s senior rabbi Lisa Grushcow.


Temple president Stephen Yaffe said that when the campaign was launched more than two years ago, “we didn’t know how much we would need, but we knew that we would need a lot, and we would need to look at the access to our building. And so today it is fitting that this is our first project.”

Yaffe spoke of long-time temple member Gordon Lax, the lead donor for the ramp, as someone who “led quietly by example.”


Coming phases in the capital campaign are said to include an interior access ramp, improvements to the community hall, main sanctuary and the chapel.



Holding the ceremonial ground-breaking shovel outside Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom on September 9 are, from left, donor Gordon Lax, temple president Stephen Yaffe and senior rabbi Lisa Grushcow, while congregation members look on.



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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 August 4.

3122 Daulac: at a Category 1* house, after work on French drains, restoration of landscaping, repair of rear terraces, stabilization of land grade and the addition of some stones and walls to allow for plantings;

3200 The Boulevard: landscaping to include a new walkway at the side and a terrace at the rear, a new fence and retaining wall provided the retaining wall is silica stone and a planting bed minimum 2 feet wide is maintained along the side property line.

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the city council meeting August 18.

695 Victoria: landscaping to include replacement of retaining walls by new stone walls, redoing some of the flower beds, installing a rear fence and a patio at grade;

28 Rosemount: to cut down a tree provided a replacement is planted within a year of issuance of the tree cutting certificate;

MUHC/CUSM: to pave the access road at Glen Rd. and install a metal fence of more or less 25 meters including a double swing door of 7.6 m;

4100 Sherbrooke: to construct an access ramp at Elm and Sherbrooke provided natural stone is used instead of Arristcraft stone;

11 Rosemount: to build a one-storey small addition at the side with a roof top terrace, and replace some windows and doors;

475 Lansdowne: to build a rear terrace and modify an existing rear balcony;

60 Oakland: landscaping to include a new walkway to the front door and a new rear terrace;

4050 St. Catherine: to erect a restaurant sign;

4943 Sherbrooke: to erect a sign for Café Starbucks;

4124 St. Catherine: to replace storefront

windows by bi-fold doors and replace the front door;

4919-4925 Sherbrooke: alterations to openings of the storefront façade;

565 Roslyn: to replace garage door and windows;

493 Elm: at a Category I house, to replace some windows and a rear door;

419 Roslyn: to replace all windows and two doors;

9 & 11 Parkman Place: to replace some of the windows, a garage door and enlarge a rear opening;

565 Roslyn: to replace some windows and a rear door;

372 Kensington: to replace some windows;

330 Roslyn: to replace some windows and a rear door provided the door has a fixed glazed panel;

374 Roslyn: to replace some windows;

534 Côte St. Antoine: to erect a rear fence;

95 Columbia: to replace some windows;

509C Claremont: to replace some windows.

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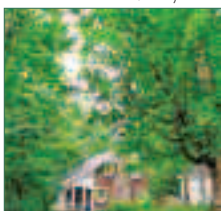
Sutton
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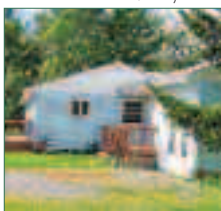
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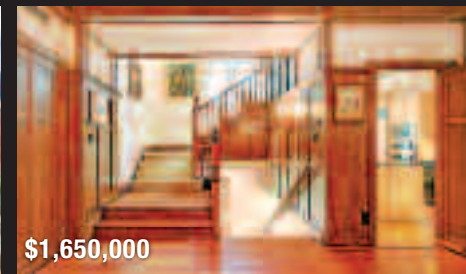
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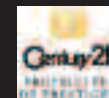


\$469,000

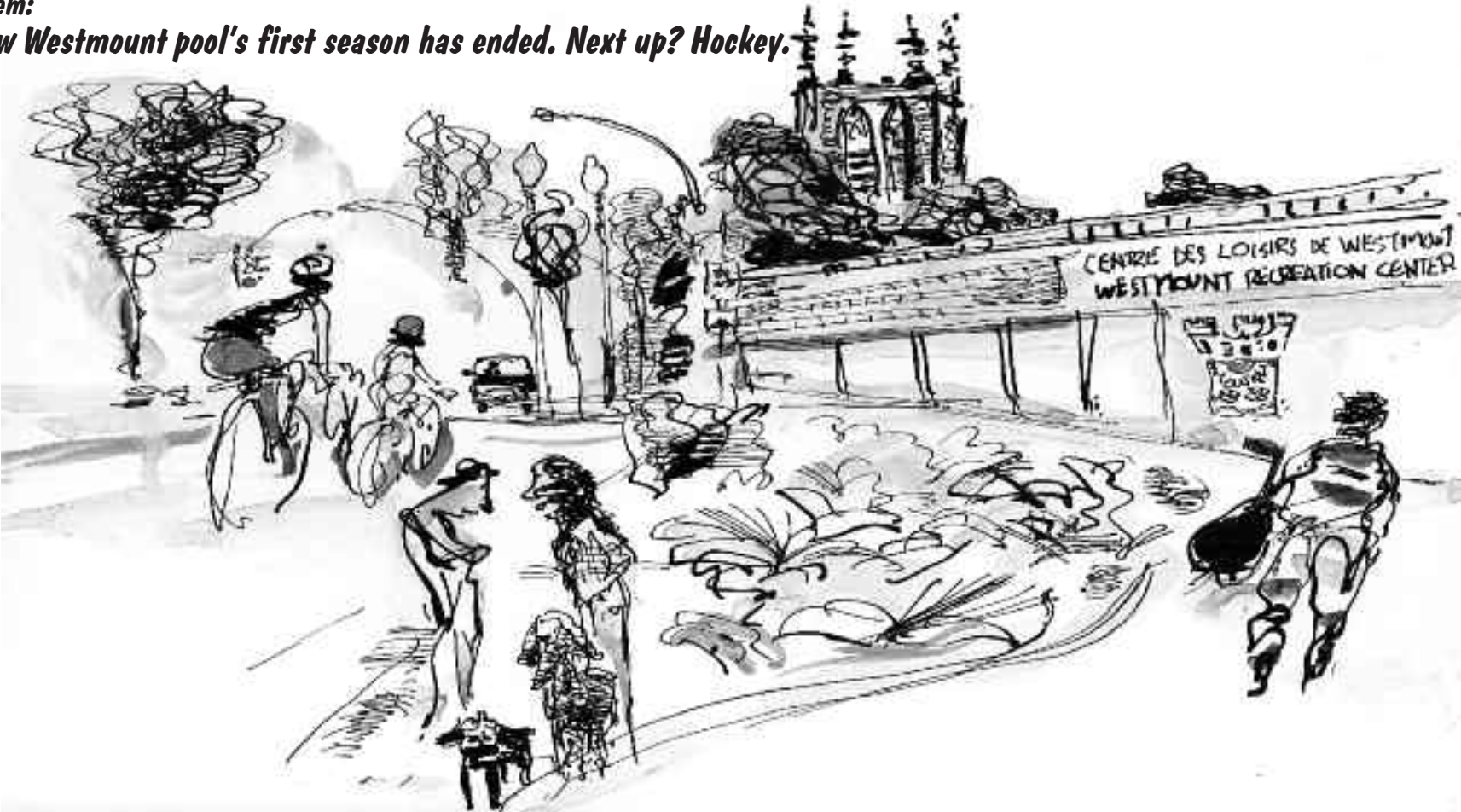
Upper Condo across from park.

mls 1822322

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News Item:
The new Westmount pool's first season has ended. Next up? Hockey.



Congestion on Hillside Lane

When public safety officers were called September 3 to Hillside Lane for a truck and trailer blocking passage at 11:09 am, they found traffic backed up to St. Catherine St., Public Security officials said. The truck had apparently been unable to manoeuvre the sharp turn onto Hillside Ave.

while pulling the trailer loaded with lumber. The problem was eventually sorted out.

It was not reported whether or not the lumber was destined for the condo construction site at 175 Metcalfe accessible only by Hillside Lane.

MUHC cont'd. from p. 8

She said the inter-neighbourhood coalition, known as the Concertation Inter-quartiers (CIQ), is currently circulating a petition, which will be submitted to the relative authorities soon as there are “many, many people in western Montreal that are very worried about this.”

MUHC director general and CEO Normand Rinfret replied, “Clearly our agenda has been to push highly on the government, municipal as well as provincial, to ensure there was going to be the right connectivity between the Vendôme Metro station at the opening time.”

Rinfret said he is happy to see that there are going to be temporary measures to help control the congestion at the station. However, he said, it still won’t be handicapped-accessible. There is an ongoing discussion regarding the potential of installing a shuttle bus to the station, he said, but a decision has not been made.

The second entrance, he said would allow a handicapped-accessible entrance to the Metro station’s platform and the hospital. There is a design made in collaboration with the Société de transport de Montréal and the Agence métropolitaine

de transport.

“I hope this will get the priority that it should,” he said. “We are still putting pressure on this, I guarantee you.”

Citing the fact that many people are already going to have “enormous difficulty” getting to the hospital, Bridget Blackader asked how patients are going to circulate around such a large facility as there is so much distance between the different departments.

Rinfret said when patients go to the site, there is going to be handicapped-access and ways of navigating the facility. Imma Franco, the MUHC’s associate director for planning of programs and services, said, “Although it is a very large site, it is very localized for the different clientele and patients.”

The necessary services, she said, will be “co-located.” A parent with a child, she said, will go to one floor to get their x-rays and blood drawn. There are very few patients that will have to traverse from blocks A to D. It’s very unlikely that such a case will happen, she said, but if it does, “our transport staff will do that with wheelchairs and other means.”

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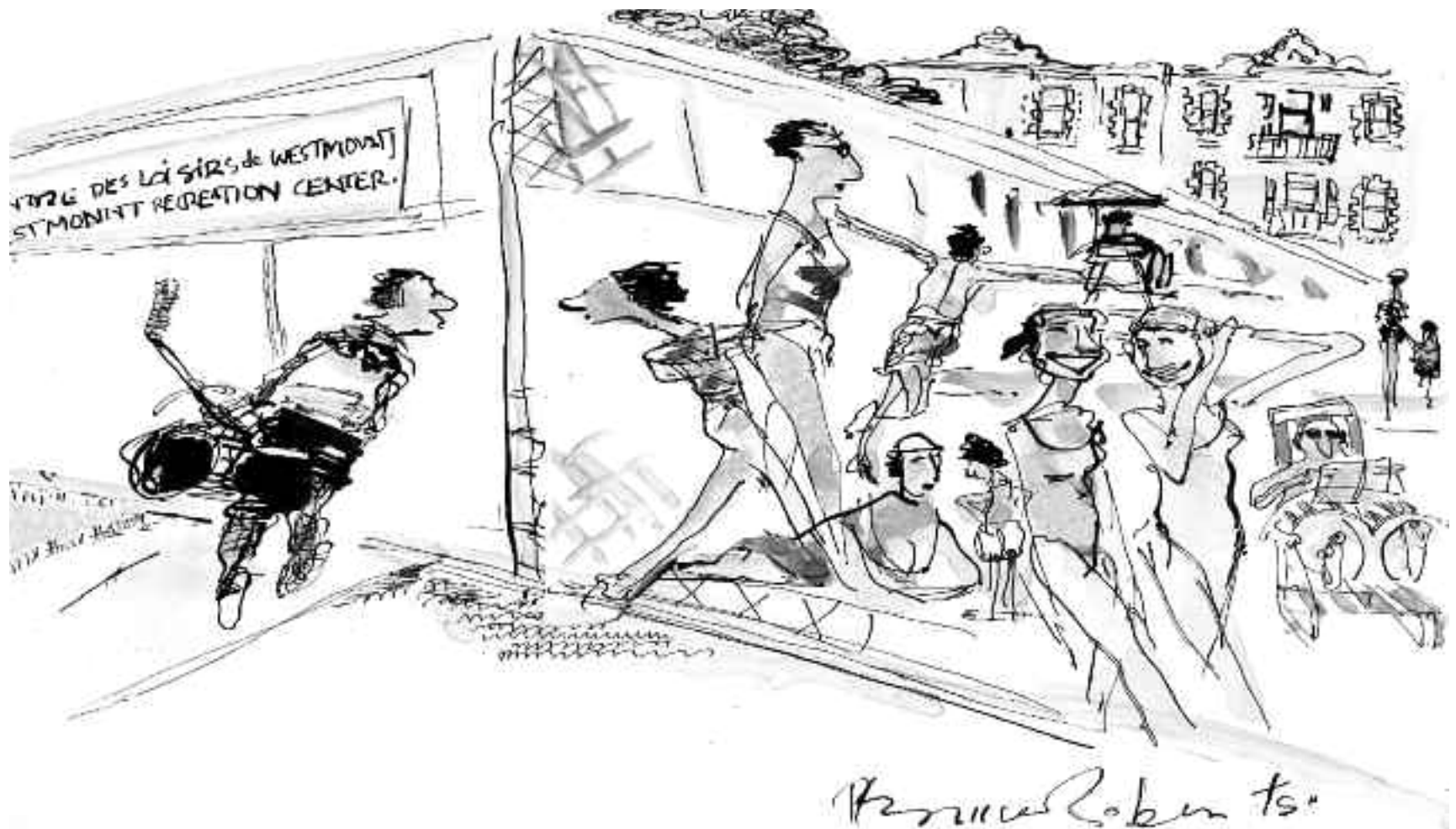
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For story, please see paper archives.

**9 in 10 child seats
incorrectly installed**

At a verification of child car seats September 8 at the daycare at Centre Greene, public safety officers reported finding nine of the 10 had been improperly installed and were re-installed.

In most cases the seats were not secured tightly enough to prevent movement, said Public Security director Greg McBain. The belt also has to be as tight as possible.

Results are still pending from other checks last week at St. Andrew's and Miss Vicky's. More daycares are also being visited. Public Security will also inspect car seats by appointment.



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Police Report

Victoria merchant victimized by fraud scam

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

BY MICHAEL MOORE

A Victoria Ave. merchant fell victim to a fraud scheme after receiving a phone call from a woman claiming to be from the Canada Revenue Agency on September 5, according to Constable Stephan Laperrière.

The woman allegedly claimed that she was investigating the merchant for unpaid back taxes and fines. She reportedly told the store owner that he could settle the debt by purchasing several prepaid VISA cards, giving her the authorization code

and keeping the transaction confidential.

"It's the first time I've heard of a fraud using this type of scheme," said Laperrière.

According to Laperrière, the merchant purchased and handed over prepaid cards with a combined value of almost \$2,000. The store owner eventually realized he had been victimized and reported the incident to police.

Laperrière couldn't reveal whether the store is actually facing any back taxes or fines and, if so, the total amount.

Before agreeing to any payments over the phone, Laperrière encourages merchants to first verify not only the identity of the caller, but their store's finances as well to ensure the validity of the alleged investigator's claims.

"Shop owners should keep a heads-up in case they get similar calls from people saying they are from Revenue Canada. They should validate who is on the other line by calling them back [at an official number] and verify with their accountant, if they have one, before paying these things off," he said.

If a merchant suspects a potential phone scam, Laperrière recommends immediately dialling *57 after hanging up the phone, which automatically puts a trace on the last received call. If the number fails to match that of the Canada Revenue Service, merchants can contact police to launch an investigation into the number.

Parked car 'relocates'

Public safety officers helped the owner of a car locate his vehicle September 5 after he reported it had disappeared from Dorchester near Greene, where he recalled having parked it. Public Security officials said he sought assistance at 8:30 am, suspecting it had been towed due to work being done on the street. After determining that no towing had taken place, patrollers searched the area and found the car in the parking area behind 4054 Dorchester near Clondeboye.

Noisy party brings 3 complaints

A 19-year-old woman living on Roslyn north of Sherbrooke was told September 6 she would receive a ticket for \$148 after three complaints were received about loud music and voices at her home between 1:47 am and 3:58 am, Public Security officials said. Patrollers could hear "excessive" music and after one call found a party guest lying on the grass after tripping. It wasn't the first time the address had generated complaints.

Four leaf-blowing contractors fined

Four contractors using leaf blowers out of season were issued tickets for \$269 each between September 2 and 4, Public Security officials report. All had received previous tickets for the same infraction since at least 2011. One contractor working on Grenville stated he was well aware of the city regulations but his client wanted the driveway cleaned. Others were found on Church Hill, Westmount Ave. and Upper Belmont.

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Bike racks cont'd. from p. 1

ceived our inventory of the new model,” Public Works director Marianne Zalzal confirmed last week. “They will be installed shortly, probably in about two weeks. We just have to find out where.”

Daniel Lambert, president of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association, who had attended the city council meeting, later told the *Independent* he was surprised that “the mention of a chipped tree seemed to prompt action on this issue.” He said he had liaised with Public Works almost a year ago on this new model of bike stand and wondered why they were taking so long to be installed.

In fact, it was almost a year ago at the October meeting of city council that Lulham had assured questioners the bike racks for the newly refurbished intersection at Greene and de Maisonneuve had already been ordered (see October 8, 2013, p. 13).

Lambert said it was important for the bike stands to be installed in intervals up and down the street so that cyclists, seeking convenience and an easy watch over their bikes would use them, “otherwise they’ll continue to use the trees or posts.”

Bixi station still short 4

He said he also hoped a way could be found to find space for adding the four

Bixi slots that had to be removed from the docking station at Greene and de Maisonneuve when the new street design and the planting of a tree had forced the size of the stand to be reduced initially from 15 to 7.

While the city had managed to squeeze in room for four more slots, he recalled, Westmount’s most-used Bixi station is still lacking four, all for the sake of a new tree, which he hopes can still be relocated.

“Provision for bicycles seems to have been an after-thought in the planning and landscaping of the intersection,” he said.

“Since the city is promoting active transportation, I hope that in future projects the planning for bicycles is done in advance of construction and landscaping.”

Cars still parking improperly on hills

Another incident of a parked car moving on a hill when the wheels were not turned to the curb was reported September 7, Public Security officials said. The car had been left outside 526 Victoria in parking gear but without the hand brake fully applied. It was issued a ticket for \$53 for being parked on a hill without the wheels against the curb. Despite a recent campaign on the issue, parking improperly “is still happening out there,” said Public Security director Greg McBain.



Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount



**AVIS DE DEMANDE DE DÉMOLITION
À TOUTES LES PERSONNES INTÉRESSÉES**

AVIS PUBLIC est par la présente donné que la Ville de Westmount a reçu une demande pour un permis de démolition et un programme de remplacement pour le bâtiment situé au **26, avenue Shorncliffe**.

Ce projet implique une démolition substantielle du bâtiment original. Compte tenu que les travaux touchent plus de 50 % de toutes les façades principales, ils doivent être soumis à l’examen du comité de démolition. Ce projet consiste en l’ajout d’un étage sur le volume principal du bâtiment existant en façade sur l’avenue Shorncliffe.

Tous les documents pertinents concernant cette demande de permis de démolition, incluant les plans, peuvent être consultés au bureau de la directrice du Service de l’aménagement urbain, situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount pendant les heures d’ouverture, soit du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30.

Toute personne qui veut s’opposer à la démolition doit, dans les dix (10) jours de la publication de l’avis public, ou à défaut, dans les dix (10) jours qui suivent l’affichage de l’avis sur l’immeuble concerné, faire connaître par écrit son opposition motivée à la greffière de la Ville à l’adresse ci-après.

De plus, chaque personne désirant exprimer son accord à la démolition proposée ou présenter toute autre proposition, doit également le faire, par écrit, dans cette période de dix (10) jours, à la greffière de la Ville à l’adresse suivante:

Services juridiques et greffe
Ville de Westmount
4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest
Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1E2

Toute personne qui aura déposé auprès du greffe, une opposition motivée par écrit ou fait une proposition par écrit, à l’intérieur de ce délai, sera avisée de la date, de l’heure et du lieu de la séance publique du comité de démolition au cours de laquelle cette demande de permis de démolition, et le programme préliminaire pour la réutilisation du sol à être dégagé seront étudiés. Ces personnes (ou leurs représentants dûment autorisés par écrit) pourront être entendues par le comité de démolition au cours de cette séance publique.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 16 septembre 2014.

Viviana Iturriaga Espinoza
Greffière de la Ville

**NOTICE OF DEMOLITION APPLICATION
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Westmount has received an application for a demolition permit, and for the replacement program for building located at **26 Shorncliffe Avenue**.

This project involves substantial demolition of the original building. As the demolition work exceeds 50% of all main façades, the project must be submitted for consideration by the Demolition Committee. This project consists of an addition of a second storey to the existing main volume of the building facing Shorncliffe Avenue.

All relevant documents concerning this demolition application, including plans, may be consulted at the Office of the Director of Urban Planning located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, in Westmount, during regular business hours, from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A person wishing to oppose the demolition must give the reasons for objecting, in writing, within 10 days of publication of the public notice or, failing such notice, within 10 days following the posting of the notice on the immovable concerned. The written objection must be sent to the City Clerk at the address below.

Likewise, any person wishing to express support for the proposed demolition, or make any other comment in this regard, must also do so, in writing, to the City Clerk, within that period of ten (10) days, at the following address:

Legal Services and City Clerk’s Office
City of Westmount
4333 Sherbrooke Street West
Westmount, Quebec H3Z 1E2

Any person who has filed, in writing, objections or comments with the City Clerk, within the specified delay, shall be notified of the date, time and place of the public sitting of the Demolition Committee at which the application for the demolition permit and the proposed preliminary program for the reutilization of the vacated land shall be considered. These persons (or their representatives who have been duly authorized in writing) may be heard by the Demolition Committee at the public sitting.

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this September 16, 2014.

Viviana Iturriaga Espinoza
City Clerk

Some 130 attend the 100th of Mountainside



Photos: Ralph Thompson

Anniversary organizing co-chairs Tom Zukow, left, and Judy Johnston stand at the foot of a presentation on Mountainside United Church's historical milestones. The timeline was created by Elizabeth and Edwin Coffey and Doreen Lindsay of the Westmount Historical Association for the gala.

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Following the dinner, Margaret and Raphael Castro perform Beethoven's Piano Sonata in D major, Opus 6 for four hands.

About 130 people attended the 100th anniversary dinner at Mountainside United Church on September 13 in the original Leslie Hall building. The guests included congregation members and two former ministers.

“Organizing co-chairs Tom Zukow and Judy Johnston have spent a year with their team of helpers preparing for this anniversary,” said Betsy Zukow, responsible

for communications and a 45-year veteran of the church. Following dinner, guests listed to musical performers including Margaret and Raphael Castro, Valerie Belanger, Katherin Welte, François Guertin, Benjamin Kwong, Candice Santos and Aldy Santos and Caroline Derome. A centennial celebration service was to be held the next day in the Leslie Hall building, built in 1914.

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Letters cont'd. from p. 6

This photo (see below) shows otherwise.

The restorative and spiritual calm of the stately trees appeals to a variety of users. Introducing a dog run in the very heart of the park would be a severe blight to the fundamental purpose of the park – which is after all, play, repose and serenity, and would destroy its overall aesthetics and energy.

This is an ill-conceived solution to an undeniable and urgent need in the southwest sector, a high-density residential area

with many dog owners. Before the arena project, residents had access to a dog run that was more appropriately and conveniently located at the intersection of Lansdowne and St. Catherine. Should serious consideration not be given to restoring it, in an improved state, to its original site?

The city owes it to all residents to find a viable solution for the common good.

JOHN FRETZ, SHERBROOKE ST.

NEXT, MEET THE LIME TREE

I am sure we have all seen this rangy tree by the gazebo and, like myself, never given it a second thought.

For the record, its girth measures 3.5 meters and its neighbour is 2.7 meters. That makes the former well over 300 years old, and the latter (a youngster) at about 230 years! One can just imagine what a different place this was when the trees were saplings.

This tree, now old and diseased, is a lime (tilia) commonly known in North America as basswood.

This species dates back to antiquity and was sacred to the Celts.

Venus, the goddess of love, is mentioned in the tree's heart-shaped leaves.

These trees, like sentinels offering shade, form a row on either side of the footpath between the gazebo and the lagoon.

If the trees were pollarded (removing the upper branches), they would offer a scent that has been described by one author as one that "embraces me every day with the true, the peerless lime-flower scent, making me skip and pirouette un-mindful of my rickety knee."

Not surprisingly, these trees are measured in centuries. For example, a lime in Westonbirt Arboretum in Gloucestershire

Batshaw Children Needing Homes**May has trouble expressing herself**

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

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

She has a history of neglect and lacking in activities to stimulate her development, resulting in delays in area of speech. Sometimes it is hard to understand her as

she has a difficult time with expressive language. May is presently receiving services in the community where she is progressing in this regard.

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

The ideal foster family would be a two-parent Cree/Soto or one of aboriginal heritage for as long as she needs.

For more information about May, please call Batshaw Youth and Family Centres at 514.932.7161, ext. 1139.



September 14 at Westmount Park's 'shuffleboard' area.

Photo courtesy of John Fretz



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A lime tree in Westmount Park in early September.

Photo courtesy of Michael Walsh

is estimated to be 2,000 years old. Another in Naters, Switzerland, still extant, was first mentioned 1357.

Greek mythology tells the story of Zeus and Hermes visiting the land of the mortals and finding that the only house that would offer them shelter belonged to Philemon and Baucis. To reward them for their hospitality the gods granted their

wish: to be together after death. When the time came, Zeus, true to his word, turned Philemon into an oak and Baucis into a lime tree to stay together for eternity.

Perhaps that is the reason there are many oak trees planted adjacent the parks' limes!

MICHAEL WALSH, MELVILLE AVE.



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Woman causes disturbance at Vic Hall

Public safety officers were called to Victoria Hall September 5 at 10:41 pm to help calm down an intoxicated woman, Public Security officials said. The woman was found screaming and causing a disturbance inside the front door after an event

taking place in the building. She was finally ordered outside after reportedly showing her hand in the face of an officer. A friend of the woman encouraged her to calm down and leave. She was reported to have been involved in a personal dispute.

Home-cooked splendour for Château Ramezay



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Blue skies were smiling and sunshine was streaming through floor-to-ceiling windows when local resident **Hainya Wiseman** entertained in her Westmount penthouse on July 3.

A renowned glass and china collector, Wiseman is also a fabulous cook. The proof is in the pudding, as they say, or in her case, in the amazing, abundant buffet. She served Korean sweet potato noodles with assorted mushrooms, fresh Quebec sweet corn in a crunchy vegetable salad with a sweet vinaigrette and mini pizzas with stuffed mushrooms and pickled salmon. Yes, all home-made. And that's not all.

Guests marvelled over her caramel pumpkin cheesecake, pistachio nut brittle,

old-fashioned lemon pie and moist chocolate cake iced with an oh-so-smooth espresso butter cream. Move over Julia Child!

The event was a fundraiser for the Château Ramezay museum. In collaboration with UNESCO, the museum has been chosen as one of the 1,001 historic sites to be on one's bucket list. Built in the 18th century, it was the home of Claude de Ramezay, Montreal's first governor. Its Governor's Garden, with orchard, herb and kitchen gardens, inspired Wiseman in creating her sumptuous spread.

In honour of this historic organization, she decorated tables with her museum-quality dinnerware. Sparkling throughout the various rooms in her two-storey home were monogrammed Minton Celeste blue china, gold ormolu salt cellars, along with Murano glass bowls, under plates and glasses.

Art historian **Serge Quevillion** gave a fascinating presentation of Wiseman's other tableware pieces, carefully kept in special cupboards.

The museum's **André Delisle**, director-curator, and **Gail Grant**, vice president of museum's board of directors, were pleased with the \$8,000 raised.

Westmounters attending included **Nancy Brown**, **Ami Bard**, **Linda Smith**, **Phyllis Thessler**, **Gael Fraser-Tyler**, **Freda Applebaum** and **Yelka Acimovic**, as well as **Jeanne Saunders** and **Anne Baril**.

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



Serge Quevillion, left, and Hainya Wiseman.



From left, Gael Fraser-Tyler, Anne Baril and Jeanne Saunders.



André Delisle, left, and Gail Grant.

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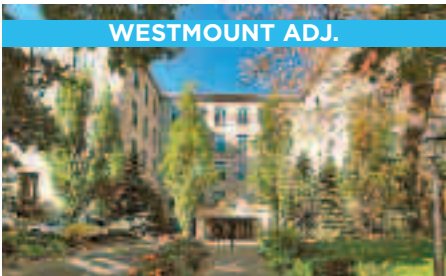
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