

Seek more shade, better deck drainage

Adult swimmers press for scheduling changes

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A group of adult swimmers asked the city council August 3 to ensure that an adult-only swim period be retained in the evening and more precisely that it revert to the previous 6-to-7 pm time period. It was changed this year to 7:15 pm until pool closure.

"We've seen our time cut back," said Claire Sherwood of Irvine. "Are there plans to further reduce the adult-only swim time in the evening? Sharing with the children actually does not work. And could we have it put back to the 6-to-7 pm time?"

The city had already reviewed the pool schedule and decided to move adult swim to the later time on a trial basis, Councillor Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Parks and Sustainability, told them. "There's no [additional] change that's going to be happening this season," she said.

The reply by Lulham, in the absence of colleague Rosalind Davis, commissioner of Sports and Recreation, underlined the decision relayed to the *Independent* by Davis last month after Caroline Hornyak of Arlington made the same request at the July 6 council meeting (see story August 4, p. 10).

Other swimmers following Sherwood questioned one lane being roped off for children's les-

continued on p. 6

Letters p. 8

Social Notes BY V. REDGRAVE p. 17, 18

Art Scene BY H. BLACK p. 19

'401' cyclists arrive from TO



Photo: Martin C. Barry

At least four Westmounters were among the more than 40 bicyclists who arrived at the Montreal Children's Hospital Glen site around 2:30 pm on August 14 after completing a 576-kilometre trek from Toronto in support of Sarah's Fund for the Cedars Cancer Foundation. From left: Robert Bishin, David Fleischer, Earl Ralph and Mark Altman. Although it was the 11th year for the CIBC 401 Bike Challenge, it was the first time the bikers ended the ride at the MUHC's new Glen site.

Two graffiti suspects pursued, stopped by PSOs

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Public safety officers pursued and caught two teens August 9 in connection with a small amount of blue graffiti on the condo building at 1250 Greene, Public Security officials said. One was a nearby Westmount resident.

The suspects, both juveniles, were among a group of four reported to have been shown on the surveillance camera of a building at Greene and de Maisonneuve at 10 pm. Patrollers were alerted and pro-

vided with a description of two heading east on St. Catherine. Two others had already disappeared.

The two were stopped, asked where they were coming from and whether they had paint cans in a school bag. They stated they had come from Greene and had paint cans but denied doing graffiti.

At that point police, who had been called, arrived and informed the two they were under arrest. "One of them suddenly broke away and ran east" along St. Catherine, south

continued on p. 15

Westmount gets its NDP candidate for federal election, p. 4.

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NDG's north side may be 'temporary'

No changes for now in de Mais. bike path: city officials

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city has no plans for now to make changes in the bike path on de Maisonneuve to connect directly with the new NDG stretch on the north side of the street west of Claremont, according to Westmount officials.

Councillor Philip Cutler, commissioner of Public Security, told the *Independent* the matter of switching to the north side through Westmount is not being considered seriously by the city's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). "We have too many other projects," he added.

Westmount's portion of the bike path also depends largely on what Montreal decides to do with the five-way intersection at Decarie, he explained. This could affect the bike path's current configuration west

of Claremont, where cyclists now cross the intersection diagonally.

Cyclist Stan Grossman, a resident of de Maisonneuve at Roslyn, told the *Independent* he advocates installing new traffic lights to facilitate this crossing. Alternatively, he suggests that a bike path "crossover" from one side to the other of de Maisonneuve be established between Prince Albert and Claremont where there is less traffic than at the intersection.

Moving the bike path to the north side is "still an option" being considered by the TAC in the future, city traffic technician Jonathan Auger replied to Grossman in an email July 13. The city would first have to determine the permanent configuration of the bike path west of Claremont.

Dan Lambert, president of the Westmount Walk- *continued on p. 14*



Seen looking east from Claremont August 14, this cyclist crosses over from the Westmount bike path on the south side of de Maisonneuve to link up with the NDG portion on the north side. Inset: the new sign.

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Hughes wins NDP nomination

By ISAAC OLSON



James Hughes talks to reporters after winning the NDP nomination on August 16 to run in the NDG-Westmount riding.

With over 1,000 party members participating in the nomination vote on August 16, the NDP chose its candidate for the NDG-Westmount riding – James Hughes.

“We were very organized,” Hughes told reporters after the nomination. “We had a great team. I’m blessed to have had wonderful people working with me on this nomination battle, and we’re going to take that organization and the organization of the other candidates as well, and we’re going to put it all together, and we’ll take that into the field for the next 70 days.”

Hughes has a long history of public service, including many years as director general of the Old Brewery Mission, the 125-year-old organization dedicated to Montreal’s homeless population.

Hughes, a published author, is the 2014 recipient of the Sheila and Victor Goldbloom Distinguished Community Service Award. He is a lawyer by training and practised law in the areas of commercial and civil litigation, commercial transactions, real estate and bankruptcy. He holds degrees from Queen’s University, University of Cambridge and McGill University. He was the founding president of Youth Employment Services (YES). He has also served as a board member of the National Council on Welfare and is currently a board member of Prosper Canada and Raising the Roof.

His public service also includes working as deputy minister of Social Development in New Brunswick and president of the Graham Boeckh Foundation, which is focused on improving Canada’s mental health care system.

Six candidates ran

In total, there were six candidates, include current Côte des Neiges-NDG city councillor Peter McQueen, but, despite the odds, Hughes took over 50 percent of the vote on the first ballot.

Ticketed for peeing in lagoon

A 17-year-old was issued a \$69 ticket for urinating in the lagoon in Westmount Park August 6, Public Security officials report. The young man was spotted by a patroller at 9:15 pm some 13 feet from the comfort station where the washroom door was open. He claimed it was locked. He lives in Côte St. Luc.

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12 ticketed in one day in crackdown at lookout, many more follow

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Public safety officers reported ticketing 12 people within one day, July 24, in the area of Summit lookout. The men and women were caught either breaking the midnight park curfew or possessing alcohol in a city park. Both by-law infractions generate tickets of \$76.

The city's security cameras have already been installed at the lookout and are alerting patrollers to municipal by-law infractions in the area (see story July 6, p. 1). Officers are continuing a concerted campaign to reduce parking, noise, litter and other annoyances to residents of the area.

On the day in question, tickets were initially issued to four young men for being in Sunnyside Park, just below the lookout,

at 12:40 am. They ranged in age from 19 to 22 years and lived in St. Léonard, downtown Montreal, Montreal North and Montreal East.

Eight men and women aged 20 to 29 were ticketed later in the day – between 10:10 pm and 10:30 pm – for alcohol possession in three separate incidents. They lived in Montreal, Pointe Claire, Longueuil and Outremont.

Another eight were ticketed July 28 for alcohol possession. They lived in Georgia, California, Laval, Rigaud, Montreal and Longueuil.

Seven others received tickets for alcohol or curfew violations on August 1 and 2.

On August 3, the cameras picked up three people around 1:49 am walking back and forth with cups in hand, though it could not be determined what the cups contained, if anything. Therefore, when officers arrived at the lookout, they warned the trio against alcohol consumption but issued curfew tickets instead. They were all from Montreal.

From August 5 to 10, more than 20 tickets were given out for curfew and alcohol possession, officials reported August 11. None of the recipients lived in Westmount.

Injured falcon found on Hillside

A young injured falcon was found July 28 on Hillside with a possible broken wing, Public Security officials said. The Quebec wildlife service was contacted and picked up the fledgling for rehabilitation.

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Speaks only Spanish, man waits 90 minutes for daughter

A man who spoke only Spanish was reported to have been walking around Westmount Public Library and Victoria Hall July 31 for 90 minutes, Public Security officials said. Checking out a call at 11:50 am for a possibly disorientated person, patrollers called an officer to the scene who spoke Spanish and discovered his daughter had dropped him off and arranged to pick him up outside the library. He was informed she would be arriving soon.

Adult swimmers speak out

cont'd. from p. 1

sons during the heavily used 12-1 pm adult swim period and an apparent lack of drainage from outside showers that enabled water to collect on the pool deck making it slippery and “smelly.”

Richard Lock of Lansdowne said that adult time had been halved while the time for families on Saturdays and Sundays had been increased to 10 hours each of those days.

Barbara Houghton of Côte St. Antoine pointed out a difference of perspective regarding adult swim that changes with the years. Some 15 years ago when she was one of the parents helping to set up the city’s Dolphins swim team, she would have said “get rid” of adult swim, she explained. Now, however, her views have changed.

“The parents who complained about adult swim [even] five years ago were no

longer complaining,” she had been told. There should, however, be no children’s lessons during adult swim, she added. “The schedule has to be reworked.”

Lulham explained that the city has been increasing opportunities for families by providing splash pads at the pool and parks as well as a pool for wading at King George (Murray) Park. She said the city was currently taking usage counts at the pool and would try to come up with the “best possible” schedule.

Jacques Adam of Irvine later asked for more awnings saying that “on sunny days there’s a fight for chairs in the shade.” He also asked when pool-designed wheelchairs would be available for use on the access ramp.

A wheelchair had been ordered and is expected to be delivered this week, according to Sports and Recreation director Dave Lapointe.

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Claire Sherwood of Irvine leads off requests from adult swimmers at the city council meeting August 3.

Clarification Bike routes not yet approved

The two bike routes for Westmount Ave. and Côte St. Antoine announced by Councillor Philip Cutler at the city council meeting August 3 are expected to be officially approved at the September meeting, he clarified last week.

While the resolution authorizing them

on the council agenda was pulled before the council had a chance to adopt it, the routes are planned to go into effect next week month after completion of the water main work on Westmount Ave., he explained.

– LS

Setting a pool schedule tricky



Councillor's Column

ROSALIND DAVIS

Summer in Westmount is the season many of us look forward to the most. We are drawn to the outdoors and to all the open-air activities that are available in our community, from plays in the park to soccer games to swimming in our new outdoor pool. The pool is a very popular spot, especially on hot days when everyone wants to have a dip and cool off.

Setting a schedule that satisfies all of the users of the pool makes a Rubik's cube look simple. Having been involved in pool activities for over 20 years, I am very aware of the demands and pressures that the Sport and Recreation department faces each year as it looks at the hours to be dedicated for different pool activities and different groups of Westmount citizens. It is almost impossible to find a schedule that is equally satisfactory to all.

In this regard, the swimming pool is no different from the skating rinks where certain hours are set aside for different age groups.

Westmount's approach to pool hours is similar to a number of community pools that have hours dedicated to adult swim, although it is not a universal practice.

With a view to best meeting everyone's interests, this year and last, changes were made to pool hours. These also reflect the addition of the splash pad to the pool area.

Programs for children use the pool almost exclusively from 8 am until noon. Then, following an hour when adults use the pool (although swimming lessons still continue during this time), it is general swim open to all until 7:15 at night, followed by another adult swim until closing. It was felt that this early evening period would be one that the vast majority of Westmount's families could benefit from, rather than having to vacate the pool from 6 to 7 pm, as in past years.

This new schedule does mean that fam-

Patroller helps woman walking dog

A woman walking a dog in front of 51 Belvedere August 8 received help from a passing patrol officer when she had trouble breathing at about 5:48 pm, Public Security officials said. Her husband and Urgences Santé were called. She was reported to have a history of asthma.

ilies may not return to the pool for the balance of the evening. Yet, statistics demonstrate that this later hour has been used less by families in the past; hence the change earlier this summer. We are aware that not all citizens are satisfied, so perhaps further changes will be required in the future. These will be considered carefully by the Sports and Recreation department, following study of the attendance at the pool this summer.

In making any adjustments, Westmount will need to be cognizant of its demo-

graphic make-up and assure the needs of each different group of its citizens are considered.

To give a voice to all pool users, we have put together a short survey on pool usage. This can be found at the pool desk, and we encourage swimmers to give us their opinions.

Managing a public pool is a dynamic process, and your input will help us make your pool time as enjoyable as possible.

*Councillor Rosalind Davis,
commissioner of Sports and Recreation.*

LEED plaque unveiled at WRC



A reception was held at the Westmount recreation centre August 13 for the unveiling of a plaque certifying the building, completed in 2013, as having achieved LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) gold certification from the Canada Green Building Council. Among those present were Mayor Peter Trent, right, with Louis-Philip Bolduc of Pomerleau construction, who was the lead manager for the project, along with several city councillors, project designers and engineers.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANKS FOR QUICK HELP

On the morning of July 31, I was in need of an ambulance, due to difficulty in breathing. I cannot say enough about the Westmount ambulance service*. My call was answered immediately, and they stayed on the line with me until the paramedics arrived.

All this was conducted in my language, English. I was transported to the hospital of my choice, the Montreal General, and was given immediate care.

Thank you , Westmount , for your wonderful and efficient ambulance service.

BEVERLEY HUTCHISON, KITCHENER AVE.

** Editor's note: The "Westmount ambulance service" did exist in its own right years ago but is now defunct. The letter writer is likely referring to the Urgences Santé network (911), to which she likely would have been patched through if she called the main line to Westmount Public Security. – KM*

CAN A CAR BE INSECURE?

With regard to your article about an unlocked car on p. 3 of your August 4 edition ("Valuables inside, unlocked car runs for

an hour"), I was left with feelings of sadness for that poor "insecure" vehicle ("The ticket was issued for an insecure vehicle"). Instead of issuing a ticket to the owner, officers might better have recommended a psychologist or perhaps proper medication. I can understand that a ticket would be justified for an "unsecured" vehicle, but not for a poor little insecure car in need of sympathy.

WILLIAM GILSDORF, LANSDOWNE AVE.

Editor's note: An entry in a 2000 edition of the Oxford dictionary defines "insecure" as "not secure or safe," which correctly defines the car described in the news brief we published on August 4, p. 3. Law enforcement generally uses the term "insecure" when defining vehicles that have been left unlocked. In the newsroom, there had been friendly debate over whether this word or "unsecured" was more correct. One side won. – KM

ROUGH RIDES

As one who often cycles the routes mentioned ("Bike routes on Côte Rd., Westmount to work in tandem," August 11, p. 1), I applaud the pilot project and antici-

pate it becoming permanent and extended. It's been long coming.

That said, I recommend riding these routes, as well as Sherbrooke, as long as you have excellent dental coverage, and/or either a soft suspension or tougher wrists and elbows than mine.

Riding with one eye on the potholes and the other on the rest makes for the special excitement of cycling in Montreal – not to mention the orange cones!

With proper markings and surfaces, these routes will be much used and appreciated by all two-wheelers.

DAVID ENGELS, OLIVIER AVE.

WHY NO REFERENDUM ON DOG RUN LOCATION?

The city council and Mayor Peter Trent deserve high praise for the way they carried through the establishment of the new Westmount recreation centre (WRC). But the latest "final" design for a new dog run defies logic, not to mention the visionary spirit of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, who must be turning over in his grave.

The August 4 edition of the *Independent* reports (p. 1) that work is scheduled to start in the week of August 10. To make room for a fenced-in, 8,000 sq. ft. dog run area at the already busy Lansdowne entrance of the park, the bicycle path will be repositioned as well as pedestrian paths created across the WRC roof just north of the tennis courts.

Is there no one on city council capable of looking at the broader picture? Consider, for one, that part of a precious environmental oasis near the lagoon will be lost. Consider the close proximity to car traffic and inherent security risk around the local church.

Also by flanking the soccer fields, the new dog run will be facing a beautiful tranquil section (putting green in bygone times) that is prized by people of all ages, including kids escorted through the park by daycare groups, sunbathers and elderly individuals.

This same section, too, provides an excellent location for the popular annual Shakespeare-in-the-Park theatrical shows. So one can surely expect the dogs to offer cacophonous concerts of their own during theatrical evenings.

It is very unfortunate that a referendum vote of all Westmounters was never held on the final design.

For many Westmounters, no convincing arguments have been offered to explain why the former discreet site at St. Catherine and Lansdowne, where there is

still plenty of space, cannot be revived.

Regretfully, one can only conclude that something is not quite right in this affair. Or, to borrow a famous line from Shakespeare's Hamlet: "Something is rotten in the State of Denmark."

LEO RYAN, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

DOG RUN LEAVES NO GREAT LEGACY

Recently, I have been expressing my viewpoint to Westmount about how the decision to place the dog run along the tennis courts in Westmount Park was a huge mistake as the dogs would get fixated on the balls, chasing them and barking, ultimately ruining the beautiful serenity of the park. I guess someone heard my concerns, as well as many others in the community, and at the last minute changed the plans to one that will even top the previous plan!

The new plan, in the works right now, ahead of schedule, which is only done when a city planning team knows it is in the wrong, will now be surrounded on three sides by pedestrian walkways and the other side by the bike path. Who out there has never walked by a fenced-in house and had a dog jump out at them, startling the hell out of them? This will now become the common occurrence as people jog by, kids scoot by, elderly people stroll by and many ride by on the bike path.

To top it off, as the dogs bark and jump out at you, you will no doubt have their owners shouting at them to be quiet.

Trent's final legacy is letting the park go to the dogs. I, for one, will make sure that this one shadows anything else he has done well for the community as this one is totally up there as one of the worst decisions – especially seeing that the original location has nothing but grass growing on it, upon which not one soul has walked since the dog run was taken away from that area, the most logical location for a dog run.

ALLAN GOLDBERG, LANSDOWNE AVE.

CITY NEEDS CITIZEN APPROVAL ON DOG RUN

I live on the south side of Westmount Park and was horrified today to see the desecration of our beautiful green space...to build a bloody dog run. This is absolute madness, Our park does not belong to Mayor Peter Trent, city council or the members of one barking lobby group.

You have no right to destroy part of a precious

continued on p. 17

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

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Film crews descended on Lewis Ave. August 10 when this photo was taken by Irvine resident Nigel Goddard. “Our little corner of Westmount was awash in film crew trucks, food for the crew, lights and uniformed security directing traffic,” he said. “They used a recently sold house on Lewis that was supposed to be in Washington, DC.” The crews left two days later, “and we got our neighbourhood back.”
Photo courtesy of N. Goddard



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Library's summer reading club draws from 'Alice' Puzzles, board games replace computers to promote 'play'

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Disconnect the computers, put them away for a day and bring out puzzles, Candyland, the chess board and a host of other favourite board games.

"Playing without technology" is one of the ways the children's department of Westmount Public Library has been carrying out its Summer Reading Club's theme of "play" based on *Alice in Wonderland*. Celebrating its 150th anniversary this year, the well-known classic "is all about play," explains children's librarian Wendy Wayling.

2 days, no screen time

"We've had two days without the computers so far and a third one is taking place August 21," she said.

Monitoring the reaction of a computer-free day has been interesting to staff though some kids were noticed in a corner working on their own iPads, Wayling noted.

In one case, however, "two younger teenage boys were just about to ask for a password to use the teen computers when they noticed the chess board set up on the

children's side. They turned away from the teen area and decided to sit down and play chess instead."

Desk clerk Caroline Proctor came up with the idea of a computer-free day, which seemed to appeal to at least one father who was reported to have been overheard telling his kids he was taking a photo of the Spiderman puzzle they had just completed "so it shows we did something productive today."

Play!

Among other ways in which the "play" theme has been depicted over the summer are: the decorating of bird houses; a day at the Lawn Bowling Club; a visit from a specialist in Minecraft, a video game; messy play using Play-Doh; gardening and a puppet workshop.

Yet to come is a session from the Westmount Croquet Club (awaiting a sunny day) when staff will be dressed as *Alice in Wonderland* characters. A movie night is also planned for Friday, August 28 when a new Cinderella film is to be shown.

So far this year, the club has recorded 390 members aged up 13. This compared with 391 last year.

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July sales: Get'em while you can

Mood of the Market

ANDY DODGE, CRA

The following article relates to offers to purchase Westmount residential dwellings that were reported by local real estate agents as having been accepted in July 2015. Because they are not final registered sales, the addresses cannot be made public but give a good idea of current trends in local real estate activity. The graph offers a picture of these trends over time.

Last month saw the sale of three houses with prices in the \$700,000 range, an indication that speculators and renovators are grabbing whatever is left in Westmount at those prices; in fact, there are only four houses now on the market asking less than \$800,000. Apparently the buyers are concluding that the Westmount market is still strong and will stay that way, thanks largely to the new McGill University Health Centre and the pitifully low interest rates.

Those three house sales joined one other in the under-\$1-million category, and on the other end, there were no sales reported

above \$2 million, with the highest price \$1,950,000.

Eight sales were reported in July, but with some agents taking time off, it can be expected that there will be several July sales posted in the coming weeks. It shows that the summer months are still reasonably busy, and in fact agents we have talked to say they are having trouble finding a way to slow down!

Of the eight sales, only two were for less than municipal evaluation, the lowest a 10-percent mark-down on a house, which had been on the market for more than a year. In fact, the highest mark-up involved a house which sold for \$750,000, still 36 percent above its tax value. The average mark-up was seven percent, just about equal to the average for the entire year so far, though the average price of the eight sales was kept down by the three between \$735,000 and \$765,000.

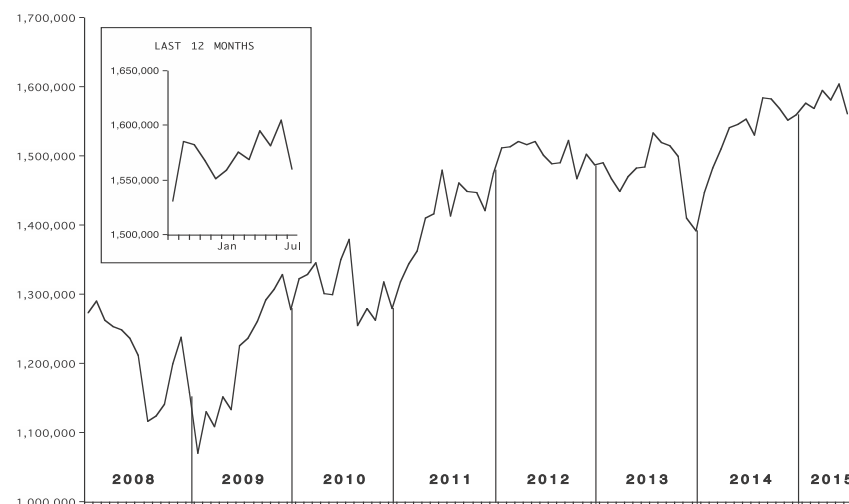
Condo sales

Only one condominium sale was reported in July, again six percent more than evaluation so the averages are about the same in that category. Average mark-ups for the first two quarters of the year were 8 percent and 9 percent, respectively, so there is not too much variation over the year. Two co-op apartments at Westmount Square also were sold in July. So far this year five apartments at No. 2 Westmount Square and another two at No. 3 Westmount Square have been reported, making up almost half of the 13 co-op sales in Westmount.

Picking up outside of Westmount

If the real estate wheels were churning slowly in Westmount, they certainly picked up in adjacent-Westmount areas, particularly to the north of the city limits, where four sales were reported for prices ranging from \$656,206 to \$1,260,000.

Average adjusted price of a 'typical' Westmount home by month, Jan. 2008 to July 2015, based on accepted offer dates



Four other sales were sprinkled through eastern NDG, Trafalgar-Daulac and the Square Mile, and condos sold in two buildings on Westmount's eastern border. Prices are generally up from 5 to 10 percent in most of these areas, though for some reason they are down slightly in eastern NDG.

Through July, a total of 51 adjacent-Westmount houses and duplexes have sold, compared to 91 sales inside the city limits.

By mid-August the number of house listings in Westmount had dropped from 158 in mid-July to 154, of which only 14 are asking less than \$1 million while another 14 are priced over \$4 million.

'Under influence' at lookout?

Public safety officers called police August 7 when they suspected the man behind the wheel of an illegally parked car at Summit lookout at 12:26 am was smoking what appeared to smell like marijuana. Public Security officials said the car contained four people who began insulting the officer with taunting remarks. Police arrived and checked out the driver of the BMW for possibly being in control of a vehicle while under the influence. A \$53 parking ticket was issued for the car being parked illegally after 9 pm.

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988 dog permits issued, post check finds few lacking

A spot check of city dog runs at King George (Murray) Park and Summit Woods between July 29 and August 1 indicated that many pet owners seemed to be heeding messages to obtain dog licences, Public Security officials said August 4. Of some 65 dogs checked, six were found without valid tags and owners were given 14 days to

obtain them. Only one was a Westmount resident. Others lived in nearby Montreal and in Côte St. Luc. At the time of reporting, the city had issued 988 licences for 2015.

Residents pay \$20 per dog for an annual license. Non-residents pay \$40.



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Bike path cont'd. from p. 3

ing and Cycling Association, said he understands the new north-side route in NDG is only temporary until the St. Jacques overpass re-opens in a couple of years.

If Upper Lachine Rd. is closed at the Decarie intersection, the bike path could switch over at that point to link up with the south side through Westmount and downtown Montreal.

In the meantime, Westmount has installed new signage at the Claremont intersection, which is within its territory. This directs cyclists to cross on the pedestrian light.

Its aim, in part, is to limit the newly created conflict between cyclists and east-bound left-turning vehicles, according to Auger.

"It's confusing to many because it's an exceptional case that required exceptional treatment," Lambert said. On the other hand, however, "to enforce the Highway Safety Code, police have been giving out tickets at Greene and de Maisonneuve to cyclists using the pedestrian lights at that intersection."

Lambert's group is monitoring the intersection and explaining the "exceptional" signage to as many cyclists as possible, he said.

The de Maisonneuve bike path is one that Lambert and city director general Mike Deegan cycled together August 7 to look at it from the perspective of a cyclist. They also took a look at the new routes announced at the city council meeting August 3 for Côte St. Antoine and Westmount Ave. (see story August 11, p. 1 and this issue, p. 3).

Like Grossman, Lambert said he hoped police and Public Works departments from both Westmount and NDG could meet as soon as possible to discuss the option of installing bicycle lights at the Claremont intersection.

Brie courted for Lacrosse talent



Seen here on Sherbrooke St. August 3, Max Brie, 15, hopes to study law in university while paying part of his tuition by playing lacrosse.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A Westmount teenager in love with the sport of lacrosse is being courted for his talents by several US and Canadian universities seeking to boost the strength of their lacrosse teams.

Max Brie, 15, was named to the very select All Star Team at the All Canada Lacrosse Games held from June 29 to July 1 in Oshawa, Ontario. The games bring together male and female lacrosse players from schools in North America. He was the only Quebecer named to the team.

Brie, who attends St. George's high school, is a product of the Westmount Lynx lacrosse program, which he joined at age 12. He had started playing lacrosse in Westmount's recreational lacrosse league at age 10.

He is currently the head coach of the Lynx U11 lacrosse team. He is also a member of the elite Ottawa Capitals Lacrosse Club, which has a number of other Westmount Lynx alumni on its roster.

"I have a couple of offers and I'm doing what's best for me," Max said in an interview with the *Independent*. Were he to accept, part of his tuition would be covered by the university in question.

However, he said he didn't want to reveal which universities had made offers. "For now, I'm still pretty young recruiting-wise, so I'm weighing all the options. I think that probably I'm going to wait until next summer before deciding."

But if anything, Brie's decision will be influenced by the fact he wants to play on a lacrosse team at a university where he can attend law school. "I see lacrosse as a tool to get into the right school," he said.

While hockey usually gets credit as Canada's national winter sport, lacrosse was recognized in 1994 by the federal government as the country's national summer sport.

The game has long been associated with Canada's aboriginal peoples, who are believed to have started playing lacrosse as long as 900 years ago.

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TD celebrates gay pride



The TD branch at Clarendon and Sherbrooke was colourful on July 31, in anticipation of Montreal gay pride week, which ran from August 10 to 16. "Once again this year, TD Bank Group will be the official presenter of Montréal Pride, and many TD employees will be attending the Montréal LGBTQA Parade scheduled for Sunday, August 16.... Our commitment to the LGBT community is year-round, and our track record proves it by proudly supporting hundreds of LGBT organizations and sponsoring over 50 Pride festivals across Canada and the US," said public and internal affairs representative Mathieu Beaudoin in an email the same day. Branch manager Isabelle Ierfino, front left, stands with TD staff.

Photo: Westmount Independent

Graffiti cont'd. from p. 1

on Atwater and west into the lane between St. Catherine and Tupper," said Public Security interim assistant director Stephen Payne.

He was caught in the lane by public safety officers and detained, again, for police.

Charges most likely related to resisting arrest or obstructing the work of an officer are expected to be pursued against him, Payne said. Neither teen, however, is to be pursued for graffiti.

In a group, it is sometimes not possible to know who is responsible for an act of mischief or vandalism, Payne explained.

When the identity of graffiti perpetrators is known, however, their names and addresses are forwarded to the city's Legal Services department in an attempt to recover the costs of graffiti removal.

Graffiti contract given for \$26K

At the city council meeting August 3, a contract for the cleaning of graffiti in the city was awarded at a cost of \$26,125 after tax rebates to the firm of Nettoyage Spécialisé GE Inc.

This is in keeping with preventing graffiti based on a theory that quick removal of it reduces the proliferation of more.

A Royal cheque for Greene



Photo courtesy of RBC

Willem Westenberg, investment and wealth advisor at RBC Dominion Securities, right, presented a \$1,000 cheque from the RBC Foundation to Westmount's Centre Greene on July 31 at the Royal Bank in Westmount Square. Accepting the donation was the incoming executive director of the community centre, Beth Symansky, who has succeeded Wesley McCoy.

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The exit will be closed as of **August 23, 2015 at 11 p.m.** until the end of **November 2015**.

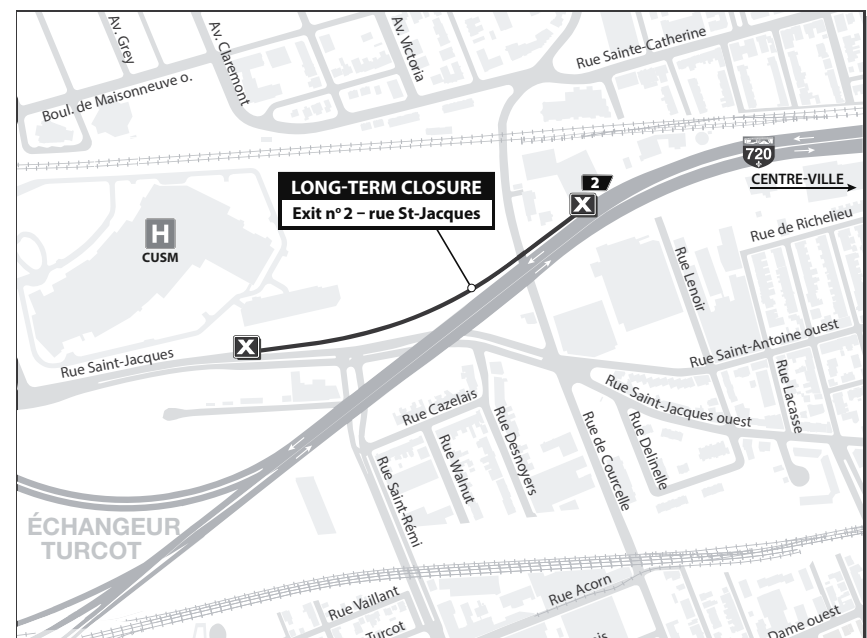
Detour:

Road users who want to access rue Saint-Jacques must continue on autoroute Décarie northbound and take Exit n° 66 — Ch. de la Côte-St-Luc / Ch. Queen-Mary / Ch. de la Côte-St-Catherine.

From there, they will be invited to follow the detour signs installed on the road network.

For any comments, questions or complaints, you can call **514 873-1372** or contact us by email at turcot.commentaires@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

For more information on the Turcot project, consult our website at www.turcot.gouv.qc.ca



Campers get surprise visit



City of Westmount day campers, ages 6 and 7, had a surprise visit from Montreal Alouettes' player Ky Hebert August 12. The visit was part of the football team's community outreach program. According to Andrew Maislin, operations manager with the city's Sports and Rec. department, the kids "were shy at first but by the end of the event, they were jumping all over him and asking him all kinds of questions." The Alouettes donated 30 tickets to the camp for the August 13 game. Campers in blue t-shirts stand in front of camp counsellors and CITs, who are from top left: Josh Jay, Sasha Jones, Dylan Barnes Huet, Gabrielle Jay-Riendeau, Livingston Lee, Alice Webster, Chloe Bell, Hebert, Patrick Marler, Basil Al Mhamied, Emma Westenberg, Helen Bitz, Emma Armony-Fridman and Amelia O'Connor.

Photo courtesy of Sports and Recreation

Lift for broken-down crane damages roadway

A towing operation to move a broken-down crane on Stanton St. August 4 damaged the pavement, Public Security officials said. The crane had been working at

the apartment building across from the city's protective services building when the damage occurred at 3:10 pm. The crane's support legs were down at the time.

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The gospel of bike repair



Members of the congregation of Kanata Baptist Church (based in Kanata, Ontario), repair and clean bicycles of passing cyclists on Sherbrooke St. in front of Westmount Baptist Church on August 13. It was part of "Chain Reaction 2015," trips modelled after Jesus' travelling ministry. Jesus and his disciples were said to have travelled from town to town healing the sick and injured and sometimes washing their feet. The Kanata-based church has been sending teams of around a dozen members who cycle across Quebec and Ontario every two years since 2005. The services are provided for free.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

Owner ticketed for 3 dogs barking

A dog owner on Redfern was ticketed \$76 August 4 after Public Security received four complaints within 35 minutes after 8:45 pm about three dogs barking at the home. Officials said a previous ticket had been issued for the same offence June 21.

Battery changed in beeping detector

A public safety officer was called to a house on Windsor August 6 at 1:40 pm for a defective smoke detector. Public Security officials said the officer changed the battery when she found it beeping.

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Kent honoured at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmounters **Sara and Eugene Riesman** were the emcees for the evening honouring **Bruce Kent** held at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom June 11.

Kent, vice president and director, portfolio manager, RBC Dominion Securities, attended with his lovely daughters **Victoria** and **Katherine** – both summer stylish in white – his wife **Joelle**, elegant in cobalt blue, and his mother **Agnes** in a smart black cocktail suit.

The local res was honoured “as a community philanthropist and temple member.” He is a lead donor for the temple’s capital campaign. Patrons’ tickets were \$500 and friends \$360 at the sold-out event



From left: Victoria, Joelle, Bruce, Katherine and Agnes Kent.

held on a perfect Greek-blue sky summer eve.

Tributes to the award-winning wealth fund manager were given by **Freddie Naimer**, president, Montreal Lighting and Hardware; **David Cape**, president/CEO, Groupe Marcelle and chair, Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs; the honourable **Joseph Nuss**, senior counsel for Woods LLP; the temple’s rabbi emeritus **Leigh Lerner**; and senior rabbi **Lisa Grushcow**; **Rick Leckner**, president, Maison Brison Communications; **Denise Grossman**, temple president; Bruce’s mother and daughters; and **Nathalie Roussin** and **Sholom Tabak**, RBC.

Westmounters enjoying the cocktail party included **Gordon Echenberg**, **Joanne and Douglas Cohen**, **Victoria Cape**, **Gibby and Soryl Rosenberg**, **Meryl and Sheldon Elman**, **Marc Gold** and **Nancy Cummings Gold**, and **Paul and Jewel Lowenstein**, chair 2015 gala committee, who worked with able committee members Westmounters **Felicity Blatt**, **Rona Davis**, **Penny Echenberg**, **Nancy Engels**, **Susan Levine**, **Nancy Maklan**, **Martha Oppenheim**, **Julia Reitman**, **Lynn Waxman** and **Sally Yaffe**, as well as **Sheila Goldbloom**, **Vivian Grant**, **Marilyn Green**, **Susan Greenberg**, **Sandy Martz**, **Lillian Mauer**, **Lillian Shiller**, **Cynthia Telio**, **Nancy Pedvis Strohl**, **Lillian Vineberg** and **Elaine Paperman Woolner**.

Noted in the crowded room – deliciously catered by Java U – were **Sheri and Gary Levitt** and **David Martz**. **Irwin Cotler** was unable to attend due to responsibilities in Ottawa. His wife **Ariela Cotler** sat at the Kent’s table.



Jewel Lowenstein, left, and Rabbi Lisa Grushcow.

City contractor ticketed, uses leaf blower

Public safety officers ticketed a city contractor \$270 August 4 when he was found using a leaf blower in the Tupper parking lot, Public Security officials said. He had been using it to clear away dust at 8:15 am and had been warned on a previous occasion about seasonal regulations.

.....
Letters cont'd. from p. 8

heritage to make room for unleashed dogs. Why is the city buckling to dog owners and insulting green environmentalists? I demand that a stop be put immediately to this destruction and a referendum be held to determine whether this atrocity should continue.

We all have rights here, and the city cannot destroy our land without the agreement of all the citizens of Westmount.

JOHNNY DAVIDSON, MELVILLE AVE.



Gene, left, and Sara Riesman



Gordon Echenberg, left, and Ariela Cotler

Man stopped for walking in street

A man seen loitering at 1:45 am behind 5 Weredale Park August 6 aroused the suspicions of a resident who called Public Security, officials said. Officers caught up with him and followed him as he walked in an apparent state of intoxication along Dorchester. By the time he reached St. Catherine and Redfern, he was described as walking in the street and in danger of being hit by traffic. He was questioned, ticketed \$38 for not using the sidewalk and identified as a 62-year-old resident of Côte St. Luc.



Sandy, left, and David Martz.



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Sistine Chapel premiere attracts Westmounters



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The world premiere of “Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel: The Exhibition” took place on July 10 at the Palais des congrès. The exhibit featured re-creations of the iconic ceiling frescoes of the Chapel, taken from

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licensed photographs shot 20 years ago during renovations. Local res **Mosé Persico**, CTV host, was emcee, introducing guest speakers **Martin Biallas**, CEO, SEE Global Entertainment; **Raymond Larivée**, CEO, Palais; **Chantal Rossi**, city of Montreal; and **Sisi Aggad**, senior partner Icon Vision Media (IVM), attending with her husband **Rudee Vyas**, CEO, IVM.

Full disclosure: I handled this event for the organizers.

Biallas, the visionary behind the show, chose IVM as the Montreal partner for the blockbuster. Noted being welcomed by the Swiss guards were Italian consul general **Enrico Padula** and his wife **Milena**.

Westmounters seen at the cocktail included CJAD host **Aaron Rand** and **Valerie Wiseman**, **Ann and Storrs McCall**, **Nancy Cleman**, **Bunny Berke** and **Larry Lusko**, **Dana and Bill Bell**, **Hanka and Sonny Gordon**, **Melissa Schachter**, **Lillian Simpson**, **Louise and Mark Leibner**, **Andrea Lockhart**, **Louise and Michel Blouin** and **Milica and Michael Vachon**.

Also noted at the private reception were as well as **Roslyn Takeishi** and **Réal Defossés**, **Louis Villeneuve**, **Georges Remus**, **Cheryl and Alan Goffman**, **Aurélien Guillery**, **Silvia Renusa**, **Sondra Palanghio**, **Mariam Pillath**, **Vincent Prager**, **Roberto**



Mosé Persico, left, and Mariam Pillath.

Menegati and **Roberto Reino**, director Christofle Montreal, which provided an amazing door prize: a Christofle-set table and dinner for 10, won by St. Lambert res

Peter Hartley.
The exhibition is on through October. For more information, visit chapelsistine.com.



Enrico, left, and Milena Padula.



From left: Martin Biallas, Raymond Larivée, Sisi Aggad, Rudee Vyas and Chantal Rossi.



From left: Larry Lusko, Bunny Berke and Roberto Reino.

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Westmount Art Scene

Jensen-Nagle and Hoffer: The play of light

BY HEATHER BLACK

This summer, Galerie de Bellefeuille featured photographer Joshua Jensen-Nagle's beach series and painter Peter Hoffer's landscapes. As visual explorers and innovators within contemporary art, Jensen-Nagle's elegant sense of design and Hoffer's classic imagery are memorable.

Jensen-Nagle's beach scenes

For the exhibition *At the Beach*, photo-



Joshua Jensen-Nagle "Dreaming from Above"

graphs of swimmers and sunbathers evoke the joys of summer. Some, flooded with light, convey beachgoers as simplified forms of saturated colour. Others, aerial views of beach blankets and umbrellas, are almost abstract designs.

For the aerial scene "Sunbathers of Sydney II," beach blankets along a white beach create a rhythmic pattern. Taken from a helicopter, a diagonal line of white surf divides a crowded beach from a turquoise sea in "Dreaming from Above." In contrast, the distinctive yet muted shoreline of "Sunbathers of Cefalu," taken at eye level, resembles a 1930s postcard.

Others like "Never Ending Sun" express the universality of the beach experience. Here sun-soaked imagery of individuals in swimsuits set against indistinct landforms transcends time or place. Suggestive of memory or reverie, Jensen-Nagle's images are both magical and playful. Images from this July exhibition are on display throughout the gallery.

Hoffer's trees

Hoffer's mixed-media paintings of trees

set against vast skies recall the landscapes of Gainsborough or Turner. Painted on distressed linen, prism-like colour bands or blotches like sunspots modernize and enliven classic imagery. Composed at eye level, grand vistas challenge viewers to be both observer and participant.

In the large scale painting, "Poet," a small grove of trees low in the canvas evokes the romantic era. Peaceful and majestic, vertical bands in pastel tones and areas of unpainted linen create a contemporary feel. Lush trees fill the cracked and chipped canvas in the "Sorrow of Young Werther." Although this scene evokes landscapes of Goethe's time, colour bands add a controlled, linear dimension to the composition. In contrast the lone pine of "Portrait (3)," painted in multiple layers to create a 3D effect, evokes the quintessential Group of Seven image.

Throughout this exhibition, Hoffer's imagery conveys the dignity of nature. His technique of painting on clay on linen to create distressed surfaces mirrors nature's process of building up and breaking down land forms. Recreating new yet familiar

imagery, Hoffer personalizes the impersonal with a novel use of colour and textured surfaces. This interesting exhibition continues until August 25 at 1366 Greene Ave.



Peter Hoffer "Portrait (3)"

These artists reveal an eye for found design and technical experimentation. Jensen-Nagle invents novel yet familiar imagery through light exposure and colour saturation, while Hoffer breathes new life into classic landscapes with added colour and texture. Their imagery is a result of personal discovery, what Expressionist painter Emil Nolde described as "a continuous chain of little inventions, little technical discoveries of one's own, in one's relation to the tool, the material and the colors."



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