

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 5 No. 11d

We are Westmount

November 22-23, 2011

Hope fades for aggro pension relief in 2012

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

No quick fix appears to be on the horizon for Westmount and other island taxpayers faced with Montreal's soaring pension plan costs. These are expected to be reflected in the 2012 agglomeration budget to be tabled shortly.

It's the pensions of police and firefight-

ers in particular that are most worrisome because they dominate pension costs borne by the aggro budget, Mayor Peter Trent said last week. Overall pension cost estimates of \$579 million for next year reflect an increase of close to 30 percent, though a "smoothing" measure over the long-term will lessen the impact to some degree, he explained.

And, for first time ever, there will be more Montreal retirees drawing pensions – including police and firefighters – than there *continued on p. 5*

Chicken returned home safely

A chicken was found running around outside 422 Prince Albert shortly before 10 am November 9. It was caught by a public safety officer and taken home nearby, Public Security officials said.

Centre Greene raises \$3.5K



Centre Greene held its annual Treats and Treasures bazaar on November 19. About \$3,500 was raised. See p. 19 for story.

Photo: Erica Bloom

More than double last year's amount

Artisan festival generates \$4K for PSU food drive

It was a result unequalled in the long tradition of the Public Security Unit's annual food drive launch at the Artisans' Festival.

Those attending the weekend event November 12 and 13 at Victoria Hall opened up their wallets and their hearts to a tune of \$3,868 as well as bringing along enough non-perishable food to fill six large wheeled recycling bins.

A total of \$1,786 was raised last year.

In announcing this year's record amounts, assistant Public Security director Greg McBain said that the generosity

of people was further underlined by the fact that some \$2,230 of the proceeds came from \$5 bills, though the suggested price of admission was \$2.

"It's thanks to the Artisans' Festival that we were able to get off to such a great start," he said.

Collection bins for non-perishable food have been set out in all municipal buildings. The money will be used to buy fresh turkeys and hams as well food vouchers that recipients can use for perishable or missing items. *- LS*

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Bike path rerouting launched last week

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

Westmount's bike path was rerouted off de Maisonneuve between Olivier and Greene avenues Monday last week, as scheduled. The south sidewalk has also been closed.

Both measures were undertaken to improve the safety of cyclists and pedestrians during construction of the condo development at 1250 Greene, according to city director general Duncan Campbell.

In the wake of the decision November 7 to keep the bike path open conditionally this winter, construction vehicles are now being directed to use the portion of road on the south side, essentially the bike lane, forcing closure of the bike route in this area (see November 15, p. 6).

Most users of the bike path came upon the change by surprise when it was implemented November 14.

Signs were installed directing cyclists to walk their bikes on the north sidewalk for the one block or else detour to the south or north. Police and Public Security personnel, along with a flagman, were also on hand to explain the new procedure to users.

While many cyclists complied, others



Cyclist detours around the signage on the corner of Olivier and de Maisonneuve, November 19.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

chose to keep going "but at their own risk," said Campbell who was on the scene at 8 am. Many pedestrians also ignored the directive to use the north sidewalk, he said.

The city's parking meters between Greene and Atwater will remain hooded for the winter effectively removing parked cars from the bike lane (see separate story, p. 4).

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Westmounter Andrew Macdougall, left, belts out a solo, accompanied by his pet shark (under his arm) and a group from the Montreal West Operatic Society. The full chorus will perform a concert of various extracts from the Gilbert & Sullivan canon and a song from Offenbach's "Orpheus in the Underworld," Wednesday, November 23 at 7:30 pm at Victoria Hall. Other Westmounters who will be performing are producer Robert O'Brien, Cameron MacLeod, Chantal Montreuil, Mary Vipond and David Herz. It also plays on Wednesday, November 30 at the Rialto Theatre. Ticket prices are \$20 general admission; \$16 for seniors and \$12 for students and can be purchased at www.mwos.org or by calling 514.990.8813.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Vandals escape capture

Public safety officers and police searched the neighbourhood around the city's Public Works yard November 9 for three graffiti vandals seen writing on walls at the west end of the property at 3:13 am November 9, but to no avail.

According to Public Security officials, the three male teens were spotted by the city's night watchman, who raised the alert. More graffiti was subsequently found on the fence beside the Glen Rd. tunnel.

Three teens "vaguely" matching the description were spotted walking along St. Catherine at Lansdowne but ran away.

One was later spotted on Academy Rd. and then jumping a fence at 119 Blenheim Place. The search was called off at 4:58 am.

Clean sweep of squirrel

A public safety officer used a broom to chase a squirrel out of the basement of a house on Somerville November 14, Public Security officials said. The officer, who was called to the home at 9:05 am, reported that once outside, the squirrel climbed right up a tree "to its nest."

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City reaffirms potential \$ loss from bike path meters

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City director general Duncan Campbell last week reaffirmed earlier estimates that the city could lose up to \$100,000 in revenue from parking meters by keeping the bike path open over the six winter months. This is now being challenged by at least one cyclist as too high.

Paul Marriott, vice president of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), has launched a request under Ac-

cess to Information for previous years of meter revenues.

While the city does not record revenue for individual meters, Campbell said, the estimated loss as stated is an average ball-park figure based on the meters operating at close to 85-percent capacity – data obtained from the Genivar consultants engaged to prepare a master traffic plan for Westmount.

The figure does not include loss of fines that might otherwise be collected from

delinquent meter parkers, since that amount is difficult to calculate and could offset periods when a meter was out of service, Campbell suggested.

The meters in question are those on the south side of de Maisonneuve between Atwater and Greene in the path of the bike route. These have been hooded in summer, and will remain so in winter with the opening of the bike path.

Keep bike path and meter revenue

But Dan Lambert, president of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association (WWCA), suggested to the *Independent* that the exact amount of revenue loss does not have to be an issue.

There are at least two ways he can think of whereby the city might keep at least most of the meters in operation year round while retaining the bike path at the same time.

With a little line painting, he said, both the meters and the bike path could remain in place by moving the parking row to the other side of the bike lane separated by a “dooring” zone as a buffer between cyclists and opening car doors. He has seen this type of configuration in the Plateau.

While he acknowledged the existing

two lanes of traffic would have to be reduced to one along the busy stretch between Atwater and Greene – with an obvious need for reserved zones for emergency vehicles – it would be motorists who would bear the cost, through inconvenience, rather than cyclists or taxpayers.

Another solution would be to relocate the 42 meters he has counted to another area of the city.

The point is, he said, to find alternate solutions that will enable the city to promote active transportation while respecting budgetary needs.

Car broken into on Roslyn

While public safety officers were completing a call for a complaint of loud music at a house on Roslyn November 11, they discovered a car broken into outside 545 Roslyn, Public Security officials said. A door was found open and the car appeared to have been searched. The door was closed and a card left behind advising the owner to call police.



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Pension costs up 30%

continued from p. 1

are active workers.

The forecast for 2012 followed a meeting of the Association of Suburban Mayors, which Trent chairs and which has begun studying strategies for future pension action. Since then, Trent has been actively engaged in a campaign on the subject, focusing on the French media.

While, in his own words, he has been “begging” Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay since April to go to Quebec City with him to seek provincial assistance in pension fund relief, no trip materialized. In part, this is because “it seems that Montreal’s blue collars are ready to talk about pension modifications,” Trent explained.

Despite whatever success Montreal reaches with blue collar workers, however, the real issue facing the agglomeration budget is the impact of pensions for police and firefighters, whose services are island-wide expenditures.

“My view, which is shared by my fellow mayors, is that we need to work in unison with Montreal and form a common front with Tremblay to obtain assistance from Quebec. After all, the taxpayers in the Plateau are also suffering.”

Total pension plan costs for 2012 are estimated at \$579 million, up from \$450 million in 2011 and \$198 million in 2008, explained Trent, who is vice chair of the Montreal/agglomeration Finance and Administration standing committee.

“This shows just how much the problem is escalating. If we don’t come to grips with that, the rest of the budget increases are almost derisory.”

The issue is compounded by the total number of retirees drawing pensions: a total of 23,000 retirees, out of a total of 45,000 retired and active employees who are enrolled in the pension plans.

The \$579-million pension costs are almost evenly broken down between the Montreal and the agglomeration’s budgets, with \$294 million borne by the agglomeration budget while Westmount’s share accounts for more than half its overall budget.

Of the \$579 million total pension costs, \$228 million goes to service costs (the employer’s contribution per active employee) and \$351 million to pensions paid to retirees, including the actuarial deficit needed for current and future pensions.

“Another interesting statistic,” Trent

Barking dog rescued from rain

A tiny dog tied to the book return depot at Westmount Public Library November 10 was unleashed and taken to a patrol vehicle after public safety officers were called to the scene at 12:06 pm.

They were told on arrival by two women that the dog, resembling a Yorkshire terrier, had been barking for almost 30 minutes in the rain, Public Security officials said. At 12:36 pm, a man was heard whistling for his dog and was issued a \$75 ticket for leaving it unattended. He was identified as a resident of Cobourg, Ontario.

said, is that under the current pension formula, Montreal as the employer contributes 72 percent of the service costs while employees contribute 28 percent. By comparison, Quebec and Ontario government pension funds call for a 50-50 contribution.

The total increase in the agglomeration’s 2012 budget has not yet been made public. The 2011 budget was \$2.46 billion, a 7-percent hike over the previous year, boosted in large measure by pension increases. Westmount’s share was \$48 million.



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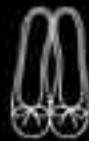
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MEASURE BIKE PATH'S SAFETY BY RIDING IT

The Westmount Citizens for Safe Cycling (WCSC) considers the Westmount de Maisonneuve bike path to be unsafe “any season” (Letters to the editor, November 8, p. 6), quoting various standards to support its view.

I don't share that opinion.

I believe that the best way to reach a conclusion is not by reading standards, but actually riding the path.

I crisscross the various bike paths on the island of Montreal and I can testify that the de Maisonneuve stretch in Westmount is one of the safest.

Why? Because it crosses a quiet residential neighbourhood with little traffic.

Contrast that with the path on Rachel St., for instance, where there's hardly a day when I don't see a close call between a car and a cyclist.

I have yet to see one over an entire season in Westmount.

I suspect that the motives invoked by the WCSC may be different from what its mission states. Maybe it should rename itself “NBPIMB” – “No bike path in my backyard.”

It may more accurately describe its actual agenda.

GUY SAUVÉ, ST. CATHERINE ST.

MESSAGE TO MAYOR TRENT: DON'T GIVE IN TO 'GREEN' 'ECO-FANATICS'

Regarding “Bike path gets conditional winter opening,” (November 15, p. 6), apparently whining does pay for cyclists who have been crying for weeks about keeping the bicycle path open this winter.

City council and Mayor Trent should know better than to give in to these eco-fanatics, who think riding a bicycle in the winter is green.

In fact, it's a brown strip up your back from slush and snow.

In addition, because of construction on Greene, the bikers will be tripping up to Sherbrooke or down to St. Catherine to get downtown, and we all know how much attention they pay to traffic lights on busy streets.

Finally, it is now dark [earlier in the day], and many bikes do not have lights on the front (which I believe is illegal).

I have almost been hit in Westmount Park by these lightless madmen, and I have seen children almost killed by a speeding biker, who thinks he has a right to ride all winter but doesn't give a damn about the rights of others ... like pedestrians.

JOHNNY “RED” DAVIDSON, MELVILLE AVE.

FIDDLESTICKS TO FIDO, BUT THANKS TO THE COMMUNITY

Dog owners are loyal and passionate about their dogs, and I am no exception. I love my dog Chaucer.

I love him enough and am crazy enough to have spent hours upon hours the last month trying to encourage my friends, family and participants at Victoria Hall to vote for him as the “New Face for Fido.” Simple idea – an online doggie popularity contest created by Fido – the “funky, social media savvy mobile telecom-



Chaucer, left, and Amy Creighton.

munications arm of Rogers,” requiring nothing more than a photo of the dog, a few words and then as many of your friends and family as possible voting every day for a month.

Things were going well. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of his Westmount and international supporters, Chaucer moved from 5985th place to 174th place, when he, along with hundreds of other dogs, was removed from the competition without a word of explanation from Fido.

After I contacted the *Gazette*, it published two stories on how Fido had bitten the hands that were feeding it, forcing the company into finally providing an explanation. Fido cited illegal voting as the reason for removal, then backed down and reinstated all of the dogs that had been eliminated, making even more of a mess and creating even more negativity toward the company.

For all of the people who had worked so hard and so diligently on Chaucer's “campaign,” a simple thank you really isn't enough. Your constant encouragement and advocacy turned what was just a contest into a real community of enthusiastic and dedicated people working together for a common goal.

And that, in the end, is a far greater reward than winning a social media competition.

AMY CREIGHTON, OLD ORCHARD (NDG)

BANKING INSTRUCTIONS IN ENGLISH, SVP

The question to the bank clerk on November 19 was: “Is this closing of the ATMs only for francophones?”

At the entrance to the ATM area of the Royal Bank at the corner of Victoria and Sherbrooke in Westmount, the notice was only in French. I went into the bank and asked my question. No, I was told, the closing was for all, as the machines are being upgraded.

Okay, no problem with upgrading, but there are a lot of seniors, like me, who prefer notices and instructions in the language with which we are most comfortable – English.

We don't care if the print is smaller, if it has a tad less information; we want it in a language that we, with our magnifying glasses, can read without having to concentrate

too hard. Also, as a senior who is still working, who uses the ATM at her bank regularly in the early morning, I am not interested in taking time away from my job to wait until the bank opens with real humans available to assist me.

However, this is not my complaint. I can live without an ATM while I wait for the upgrade. I can learn to do my banking, with real people, during my lunch break for the next two weeks. What I object to is the fact that a federally chartered bank feels that it is unable to provide information in both of Canada's official languages.

I have no complaint with the people at the bank with whom I spoke. They were all very considerate and conciliatory. What I do object to is, that as a bank client and as a senior, I don't think that I should feel the need to write a letter such as this.

LYNN PECKNOLD, GROSVENOR AVE.

Clarification

The title of Bertha Dawang (“Deal with Church Hill traffic, resident pleads,” November 15, p. 4) is more accurately “director of the McGill/EMSB Explorations Camp,” at McGill's faculty of education, the full title of which was not included on her business card.

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WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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Weekly

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We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please “redline” them instead of resending the whole letter. Email any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.

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Statistical samplings for October, station 12 news

Foot patrollers to check car doors as thefts double

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Like a yo-yo, the theft of items from cars in Westmount seems to go up and down – almost every other month. And October was no exception.

After a low of 14 in September, October's number more than doubled to 29, according to crime samplings reported by local police station 12 last week.

Station commander Stéphane Plourde said the increase was unexplained except that, with one person caught red-handed in the throes of such a crime on Roslyn November 8, the surge in October's figure may decrease. This often happens when perpetrators are apprehended.

On the other hand, with the holiday shopping period about to begin, he said, thefts from vehicles could stay up if people leave their parcels on the seat in plain view – and especially if they leave car doors unlocked as happened in the incident on Roslyn.

"The suspect told us he only targeted cars that weren't locked," Plourde said.

Starting November 20, the station's MAP (module d'action par projet) team

will be assigned to foot patrol in the commercial districts. "This is a good time of year to bring police closer to the community and encourage people to shop safely," Plourde explained. This involves prevention of robbery and pickpocketing.

In an effort to reduce thefts from cars and protect shoppers, he said, the patrollers would be asked to check cars doors and enforce the Quebec Highway Code requiring motor vehicles to be left locked when unattended.

October was the third consecutive month showing a drop in graffiti incidents. This coincides with a change in the reporting system from Public Security, which now turns over to police only those tags that are known or of particular concern. This is done to expedite the removal of graffiti (see October 25, p. 7).

New lieutenant named, introduced

The station's new second-in-command was appointed October 18. He is Lieutenant Jacques Meunier, who began his police career in 1989 with three years at what was then Westmount's station 23 before its status changed into a smaller



At the reception to open the fall flower show November 9, local police commander Stéphane Plourde, left, introduced Lieut. Jacques Meunier. Meunier becomes station 12's second-in-command.

neighbourhood station.

Meunier, who came from station 16 in Verdun, was introduced to city officials and residents during the reception at Victoria Hall November 9 to open the fall flower show. Until his arrival, the position had been filled by two sergeants in an interim capacity following the departure of

long-time lieutenant Pierre Liboiron.

"It's always nice to have a different challenge," Meunier told the *Independent*. Fluently bilingual, he's worked at stations in LaSalle, Côte des Neiges and Hochelaga as well as at police headquarters and the detention centre on Guy St.

As part of the station's efforts to move closer to the community, the Group 1 team is organizing a blood donor clinic De- *continued on p. 9*

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Station 12

continued from p. 7

ember 16 in the vacant quarters of the closed SAQ store at Westmount Square,



Male members of the Group 1 team at local police station 12 show off their new moustaches grown for the Movember awareness campaign for men's health, specifically prostate cancer. From left are Sgt. Luc Gendron and constables Simon Lambert, François Compagnat, Carl Éthier, Luigi Vitaro and Yannick Paradis.

Plourde said. "This is our first blood clinic, and we hope citizens will support us." Cst. Émilie Dalpé is coordinating the event in conjunction with Héma-Québec.

Fundraising for prostate cancer

The men on the same team have sprouted moustaches to raise awareness of men's health issues including prostate cancer. Anyone wishing to contribute to the fundraising cause may do so at the station at 21 Stanton St.

Police to take gifts to MCH kids

In the same philanthropic vein, a number of police from station 12 will visit young patients at the Montreal Children's Hospital on Sunday, December 18, accompanied by Plourde and Montreal police director Marc Parent. Gifts – purchased with proceeds from the sale of a police agenda for 2012 – will be given to all kids. "It's become a tradition," Plourde said. "This is the 37th year that police have done this."

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Westmount crime samplings

May to October 2011

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|------------------------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|----------|
| Break and enter | 13 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 10 | 9 | 5 |
| Robbery | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Theft from vehicles | 16 | 11 | 7 | 23 | 14 | 29 | 25 |
| Theft of vehicles | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 1 |
| Graffiti | 31 | 8 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 26 |
| Hit-and-run | 16 | 23 | 14 | 14 | 8 | 17 | 28 |

NB: Statistics released by local station 12 no longer include sexual assault, a broad category that may often be mistaken only for rape cases.



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Sewer work now on Arena Drive, no parking allowed

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Parking is now prohibited on Arena Drive, and traffic is limited to one-way northbound as work to install a new sewer main there proceeds a couple of days ahead of schedule, Public Works officials said last week.

Access to Arena Drive had been blocked at St. Catherine St. last Friday

while the trench for the sewer was being dug at that location.

The project to redirect the sewer and water mains in the area began two weeks ago on St. Catherine just east of Lansdowne, the low point of the new gravity fed sewer main. It runs alongside the north sidewalk on St. Catherine to Arena Drive, where it will connect with the existing one at Academy Rd. (see November 8, p. 7.)

The work along St. Catherine has been completed, and this next phase on Arena Drive is expected to take another week, explained assistant Public Works director Andrew Duffield last week.

The sewer main will be installed at a depth of about 15 feet from the top of the sewer to ground level. After that is completed, a new water main will be laid in the same trench on Arena Drive at a depth of six feet, Duffield said.

The water main will connect to the one on St. Catherine at Arena Drive.

Weather permitting, the project is expected to be complete December 2.

New lighting going into Queen E park

Work to install new lighting in Queen Elizabeth Gardens (the park at Wood and Sherbrooke) was expected to start this week, according to a city notice sent November 15 to residents of the area: Wood, Barat and Vignal.

The work involves replacement of lamp standards, the installation of five additional ones and new underground electrical conduits.

Improved lighting in the park was one of the recommendations emanating from the Safe Walk Audit carried out two summers ago by the Community Life committee of the Healthy City Project.

First time offender warned, friend fined

One Westmount resident was let off with first-time warning November 15 for letting her two dogs run off-leash at the foot of the hill in Murray Park, Public Security officers said. She was also found not to have licences. Her friend, however, was issued a \$75 ticket after having been cautioned in 2008 about dog regulations.

Sewer rehab on St. Catherine delayed

Work to insert a liner into the sewer on St. Catherine St. between Bethune and Lansdowne has been temporarily postponed from the initial date of November 17, Public Works officials said last week.

This project is routine renewal work unrelated to the installation of a new sewer on Arena Drive alongside St. Catherine.

The reason for the delay is to better coordinate the work with the rehabilitation of other sewers under the same contract, said assistant Public Works director Andrew Duffield.

No new date has been set.

1 ticket for 3 dogs, 1 for 1

Two dog owners were issued \$75 tickets November 13 for letting their dogs run off leash in Summit Woods around 11:30 am, Public Security officials said. One was a resident of Belvedere with three licensed dogs described as a black Labrador, a poodle and a Chihuahua. The other, who lived in NDG, also had a current Westmount licence for her black Tibetan terrier.

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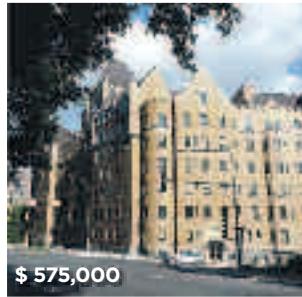
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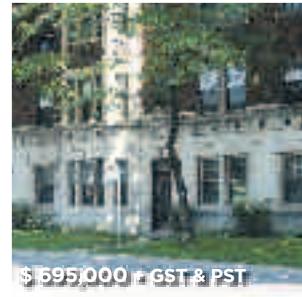
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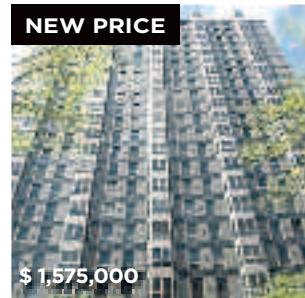
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Accident on The Boulevard overturns car



This seemingly accident-prone section of The Boulevard was the site of another car collision on November 16. The accident occurred at about 5:15 pm on the corner of The Boulevard and Belvedere Rd., closing The Boulevard for about an hour. A resident living in the area reported four fire vehicles, two police cars, two Public Security Unit vans, two ambulances and a tow truck arrived on the scene. Fuel from the overturned car was seen leaking on the ground. The injured driver was trapped inside and had to be extricated. A parked car was rammed onto the sidewalk, bending the front and rear wheels. The car's owner, a Westmount resident, is reported to have now seen her car hit five times while parked on The Boulevard.

Photo: Patrick Martin



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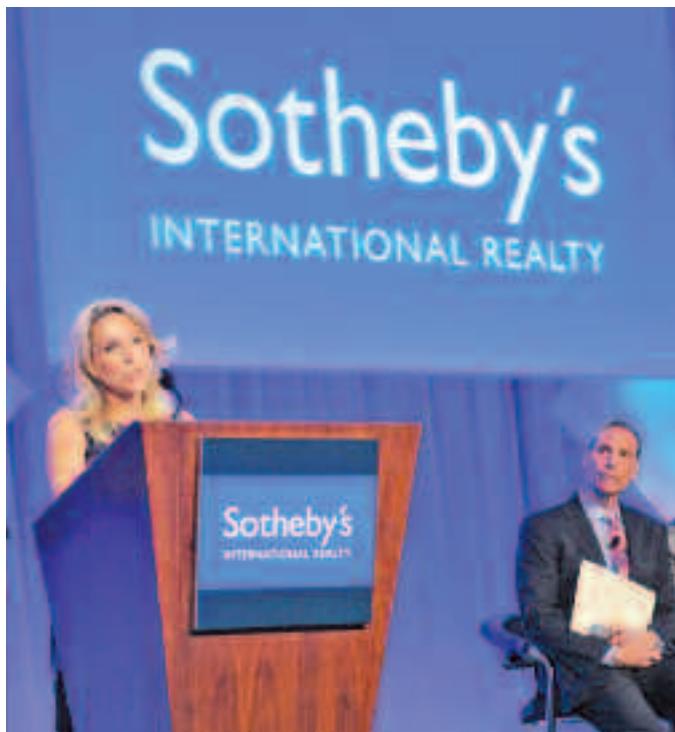
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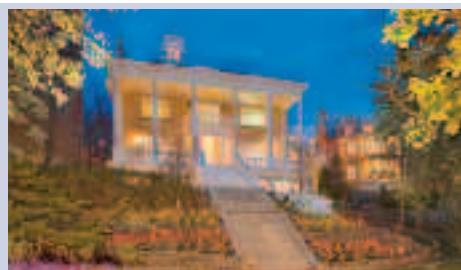
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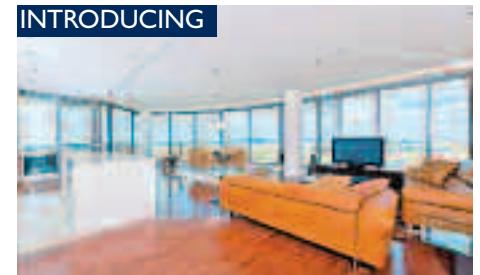
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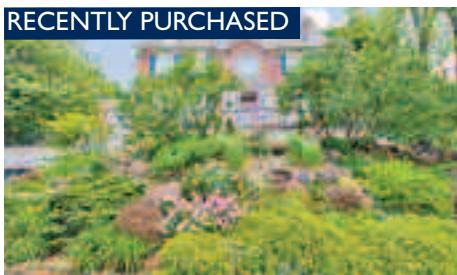
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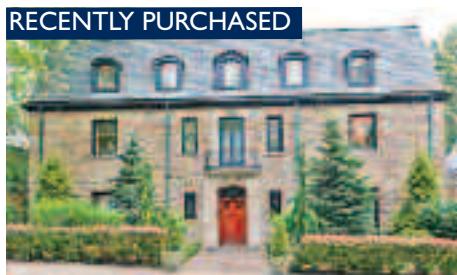
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University Women's Club of Montreal honours the late Elizabeth Monk



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Attending from Westmount were UWCM president **Elizabeth Annesley** and treasurer **Lesley Forrester**; fellow board members **Margaret Jackson** and **Maria Ardito Masi**; **Judith Kashul**, the Canadian Federation of University Women national resolutions chair; lawyer **Nancy Cleman**; and new UWCM member, author **Jeanette Moscovitch**.

During dinner at the Atwater Club on October 26, the University Women's Club of Montreal (UWCM) honoured one of Montreal's pioneering female lawyers, the late Elizabeth Monk (1898-1980).

UWCM program chair **Sheila Horn-Bissailon** organized the presentation, "Women in the Law in Quebec," which was addressed by **Anne-Marie Trahan**, retired judge of the Quebec Superior Court,



Elizabeth Greene, Elizabeth Annesley and Vincent O'Donnell.

Monk graduated in law from McGill University in 1923, but had to wait almost 20 years before legislation was passed amending the Quebec bar act to allow the admission of women. She was one of the first four women to be officially admitted to the bar in 1942.

and **Vincent O'Donnell**, who worked with Monk for many years.

Retired lawyer **Kathryn Mason**, a long-standing *continued on p. 17*



Westmounters Nancy Cleman and Lesley Forrester.



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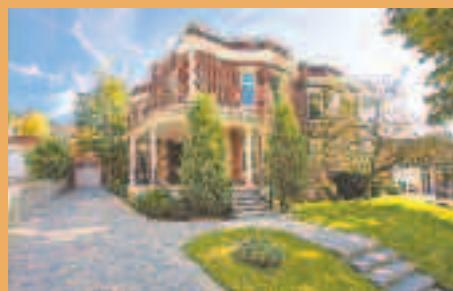
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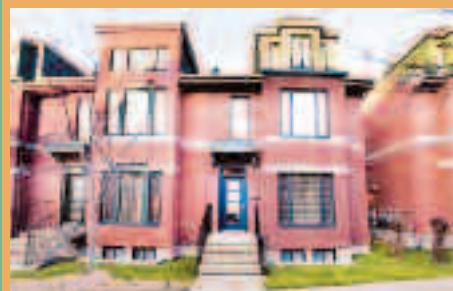


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Social Notes Public Security tails, nabs 2 suspected bike thieves

continued from p. 16

member of the UWCM, added her remembrances of the early days of women lawyers, and **Carol Cohen**, justice of the Quebec Superior Court, told the gathering that Monk's legacy lives on in the recent appointment of Westmounter Nicole Duval Hessler as the first female chief justice of Quebec and of the Quebec court of appeal.

Monk was one of the founding members of the UWCM in 1927 and served as its president on two occasions. **Elizabeth Greene**, bâtonnière of the Barreau de Montréal, announced that in recognition of Monk's extraordinary legal career and long-standing contribution to the club, the UWCM is funding a series of lectures with the Montreal Bar's Women in the Profession Committee.

Funded by the endowment Elizabeth Monk left the UWCM, the talks will start in 2012, marking the 70th anniversary of her joining the bar. Visit www.uwcm.com.

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

While most people slept at 1:30 am, November 11, public safety officers foiled the efforts of three young men to steal bicycles from between houses on Côte St. Antoine Rd. near Murray Ave., Public Security officials said.

One was apprehended on the spot while the others were followed as they ran south. One made good his escape, but the other was pursued (despite his efforts to flag down a "get-away" taxi) and kept under surveillance until police caught up with him outside 340 Roslyn.

No charges laid

While the three were believed to be in the throes of stealing the bikes, they had been prevented from doing so and no charges were laid, said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain. They were identified as aged 17 and 18.

In reporting the incident, he said the three were first noticed on Westmount Ave. between Forden and Murray Hill as public safety officer Marc Franceschini left

Murray Park around 1:30 am.

Bikes found unlocked

Keeping an eye out for them, he spotted them again between houses at 198 Côte St. Antoine, where they were looking at bicycles that had been left unlocked some 40 feet into private property.

On approaching, Franceschini ordered them to stop and apprehended one that did while the others took off.

Officer Paul Moarcas picked up the trail of the two as they ran south on Mount Stephen to Westmount Park. As one tried to hail a taxi, Moarcas advised the cabbie to refuse the fare, and the officer continued to follow the suspect until police arrived to intercept him on Roslyn.

Though no charges were laid, McBain said it was quite obvious the trio would have stolen the bikes had Franceschini not intervened, and the names of the suspects were entered into the police computer system for future reference.

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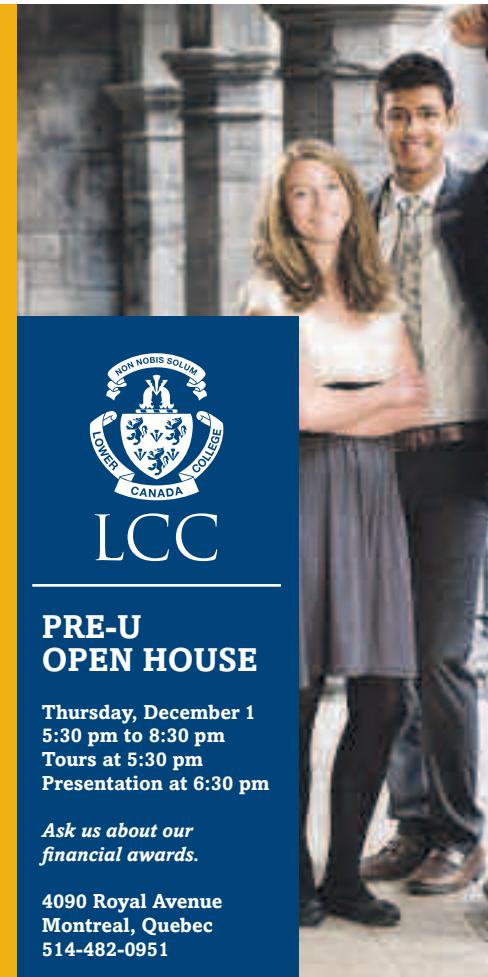
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WWCA teams up with sister organizations in bike path bridge battle

BY ISAAC OLSON

On November 19, the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association (WWCA) teamed up with similarly themed organizations to hold a demonstration at the corner of NDG's Upper Lachine, de Maisonneuve and Decarie Blvd. in an effort to highlight what many say is an intersection in dire need of a safety-focused

facelift.

"Faites le pont! Faites le pont!" chanted a crowd of about two dozen, as they held up signs and waved to passing motorists that, just as they do every day, were ambling through a construction-burdened, heavily congested intersection known as the "valley of death."

The train viaduct's reconstruction project is also under way.

In looking to the future, Montreal officials have said finalized plans for the intersection will be made later – once steps, such as replacing underground infrastructure and widening Decarie Blvd., are completed.

Though Montreal bureaucrats have remained vague about the intersection's future, a call for submissions was sent out in July. It calls for contractors to submit and price various active transit solutions. Nothing has happened since, says NDG councillor Peter McQueen, other than the executive committee's decision to spend \$72,354 on beautifying the area's green space.

This lack of proper planning concerns people like WWCA's Roger Jochym, who said the neighbourhood is undergoing major construction without adequate foresight.

"The whole process *continued on p. 19*

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WWCA's Roger Jochym, left, stands in solidarity with Montreal city councillor Peter McQueen and members of the newly formed NDG Cyclist and Pedestrian Association (NDGCPA) and active-transportation focused Allégo Concordia.

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30 artists display work at Treats and Treasures event

BY LAUREN O'LOUGHLIN

Some 30 crafts people showcased their work at Centre Greene on November 19. Called "Treats and Treasures," the annual bazaar had on display handcrafted jewelry,

clothing, pottery, organic foods and origami bouquets.

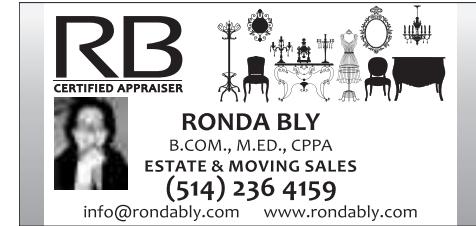
About \$3,500 was raised, Wesley McCoy, the centre's executive director, informed the *Independent* Monday morning at press time.

There were also plenty of home-baked sweets for sale, too, from parents whose children come to the centre, said Wesley McCoy, the centre's executive director, who was kept busy making coffee for visitors perusing the booths.

Centre Greene is increasing efforts this year to raise \$100,000, which, the city of Westmount has pledged to match. (See story, November 8, p. 20).

For those unable to attend the bazaar, Centre Greene is still accepting donations. Instructions are on their website: www.centregreene.org.

See photo p. 1.



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Cyclists rally for bridge

continued from p. 18

should have been integral, but now they are going to try to fit a solution into the design at the end without having considered it right from the beginning," he said. "Active transit should be on an equal basis with mass transit and vehicular access to major institutions."

Jochym stood in solidarity with members of the newly formed NDG Cyclist and Pedestrian Association (NDGCPA) and active transportation-focused Allégo Concordia. The WWCA is hoping to team up with or help form similar organizations across the island to homogenize and improve the bike path network, while inspiring more people to use active transit.

Jochym described the intersection as a

vital link in a bike path that connects downtown Montreal with the west island. Be it students headed to Concordia's Loyola campus or NDGers coming to Westmount to shop, it's the area's busiest bike route, he said, and that is why so many residents feel that link should be completed by a bicycle/pedestrian bridge over the Upper Lachine and Decarie intersection.

However, not everybody at the demonstration was zeroed in on the bike-bridge solution. WWCA member Marilyn Gillies said she thinks the bike bridge is a good idea but, she just wants the intersection to be safer, no matter the solution.

"This intersection is dangerous for cyclists and something needs to be done about it," said Gillies as she joined the fray of protesters. "That's why I'm here."

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NOTICE is hereby given that JANE THERESE D'EON, whose home address is 4340 Montclair Avenue, Montreal, Quebec, will be submitting to the Registrar of Civil Status an application to change her name from JANE THERESE D'EON to TESS D'EON in Montreal, November 17, 2011.



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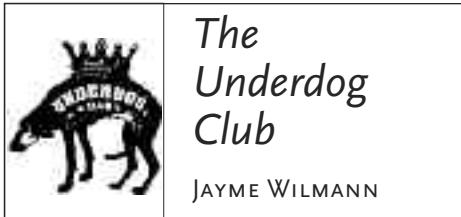
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JAYME WILMANN

Meet Riley, the tiny dog with the huge personality. At 10 pounds and 10 years old, this quirky and boisterous Chihuahua could score a perfect 10 if he finds the



Riley

right home.

Earlier this year, Riley's owner had to go into a seniors' home and simply couldn't bring him along (even though Riley is a senior too!) Luckily, the little dog found himself in the loving care of Kiko Dog Rescue and Adoptions, which is trying to find Riley his perfect forever family.

appreciate his goofy and sometimes demanding personality.

He has some hilariously endearing qualities, such as sleeping *under* his dog bed every night. He also has an interesting relationship with stairs – it is not certain whether he dislikes them or simply sees stairs as a timed obstacle course. Whichever, he will only descend the stairs at a lightning quick pace. Once he gets going, watch out! Watching Riley negotiate stairs always makes his foster mum shake her head, laugh... and get out of the way!

Riley will do just about anything to get cuddled and employs all manner of ridiculous attention-getting antics. It is hard to believe that when he first arrived at his foster home it took seven whole months before he was able to trust someone enough to give them a lick.

Riley's larger-than-life character is most obvious in his vocal nature. While he lets you know when he is happy, he is also sure to let you know when he's not! Riley will growl when he's unhappy and sometimes

Don't let Riley's elder status fool you. This sprightly boy has a zest for life and personality in spades. In fact, when he first arrived at Kiko's he was quite the little Romeo. Getting fixed has quelled his amorous tendencies but certainly not his *joie de vivre!*

Riley is an unorthodox and charming character, who will make an entertaining and adoring pet for someone who can

bark when you leave the room or if another dog steals one of his spots.

Riley can be calm when left home alone, but he will bark when he hears noises.

He doesn't need a lot of exercise and can do his business outside, or inside on pee pads. He is aloof with other dogs and cats but can coexist peacefully with them, and is best suited to live in a family with children over the age of 8.

Kiko's adage is "because for every dog there is a perfect home," and for one home, Riley will be the perfect dog.

Please contact the rescue at regina@kikodogrescue.ca or 514.945.7382.

Underdog Bloom update

Bloom, featured in the issue of October 4, p. 7, is finally on the way to her surgery.

The \$4,000 has been raised and her surgery date has been scheduled for early December.

According to her foster, "this is a true testament to what can be achieved when a community pulls together to support a cause." The foster, along with volunteer Bloom fans, has worked hard "to champion Bloom's cause by raising awareness about her painful physical condition and raising money to fund her surgery."

A spot with a rescue organization specializing in large-breed dogs has been secured, where Bloom can recuperate and get ready for a permanent adoption. While her foster will be sad to see the great Dane go, she is also excited to see Bloom start towards a pain-free life.

"A big thank you to everyone who has allowed this sweet dog to have the future she deserves," she said.



Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount

Séance d'information sur le Projet de règlement concernant la gestion des déchets

Les résidents de Westmount sont conviés à une séance d'information concernant la nouvelle réglementation sur les déchets.

Ce règlement vise à remplacer le *Règlement 884 concernant la cueillette des ordures* pour y inclure le traitement des matières recyclables et organiques ainsi que les résidus domestiques dangereux. La séance aura lieu :

Le jeudi 1^{er} décembre 2011 à 19 h
Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke O.
Westmount

Des membres du conseil et des représentants de l'administration municipale seront présents pour répondre à vos questions.

Le projet de règlement, déposé lors de la séance du conseil du 3 octobre 2011, est disponible au www.westmount.org et à l'hôtel de ville de Westmount, 4333, rue Sherbrooke O.

Information Session on the draft Garbage Management By-Law

Westmount residents are invited to attend a public information session concerning the new by-law on waste.

The object of the new by-law is to replace the existing *Garbage By-Law No. 884* to deal with recyclable materials, organic waste and domestic hazardous waste. The session will take place:

Thursday, December 1, 2011 at 7 p.m.
Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W.
Westmount

Council members and City representatives will be on hand to answer your questions.

The draft by-law, tabled at the Council meeting of October 3, 2011, is available at www.westmount.org and at Westmount City Hall, 4333 Sherbrooke St. W.

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Stir it up!



Elliott Cohen

It's fall. I dread the imminent cold and take refuge in comfort food.

I'm thinking apples, risotto, pumpkins and vodka. I'll spare you the talk about how beautiful the foliage was and that it's time for

lasagna. Instead, I'll let a few of my fall favourites do the talking. Email me at ecca@videotron.ca with questions, photos or comments.

Penne with vodka cream sauce

Serves 4.

For a new spin on the classic vodka sauce, add a splash of brandy or Cognac to the 1/3 cup vodka. Simply substitute 2 tbsp. brandy or Cognac for the 2 tbsp. vodka.

4 tbsp. (1/2 stick) unsalted butter

1 cup heavy cream (35%)

1/4 cup tomato paste

1/3 cup plus 2 tbsp. vodka

2 tbsp. slivered fresh basil

Pinch of red pepper flakes

1 tsp. plus 2 tbsp. salt

1 lb. penne or other tubular pasta

1/2 cup grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese.

Make the sauce. Bring a large pot of water to a boil over high heat. In a large fry pan over medium-low heat, melt the butter with the cream. In a small bowl, dissolve the tomato paste in the vodka. Stir into the cream mixture. Add the basil and red pepper flakes. Season with the 1 tsp. salt. Cook until most of the alcohol has evaporated and the sauce is thick enough to coat the back of a spoon, about 5 minutes.

Cook the pasta. Meanwhile, add the 2 tbsp. salt and the pasta to the boiling water. Cook, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking until *al dente*, according to the package instructions. Drain, reserving about 1/2 cup of the cooking water. Add the pasta to the sauce and warm briefly over low heat to blend the flavours. Add the cheese and toss to combine. Add as much of the reserved cooking water as needed to loosen the sauce and serve.

Pumpkin pudding parfait

Serves 8

2 1/2 c. milk

4 oz. brown sugar

1 tbsp. cinnamon

4 egg yolks

3 oz. cornstarch

3 oz. brown sugar

2 tbsp. molasses

1 c. pure pumpkin purée



(not pie filling, such as the canned E.D. Smith, etc.)

2 tbsp. butter

1 c. heavy cream.

Sugar and pure vanilla extract to taste

16 ginger cookies, ground fine

8 whole ginger cookies.

In a heavy saucepan, dissolve the sugar and cinnamon in the milk and whisk to combine. Bring just to a boil. With a whisk beat the eggs in a stainless steel bowl.

Sift the starch and sugar into the eggs. Beat with the whisk until perfectly smooth. Temper the egg mixture by slowly beating in the hot milk in a thin stream. Return the mixture to the heat and bring

to a boil, stirring constantly.

When the mixture comes to a boil and thickens, remove from the heat. Stir in the pumpkin purée and butter. Mix until butter is melted and completely blended in.

from fridge. Whip cream to soft peaks.

In a pretty glass, place a few tablespoons of pumpkin puree on the bottom to form the first layer. Add a layer of whipped cream then a thin layer of ginger crumbs. Repeat until glass is filled. Cover and chill in the fridge until ready to serve. To serve, place a whole ginger cookie gently on its side in the top layer.

Pour the hot cream into a stainless bowl and cover the surface with plastic wrap. Leave at room temperature until cooled. Place in fridge. Pudding will keep up to 5 days. Whisk to smooth after removing

Cider-glazed baked apples

Serves 4.

4 medium apples 2 to 3 inches in diameter (such as Macintosh, Cortland, Jonagold)

3/4 c. apple cider

3/4 c. dried fruit (apricots, raisins, figs, cranberries, cherries or other)

1/4 c. chopped walnuts

2-3 tbsp. honey, molasses or brown sugar.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Using a paring knife core and carve out a hole about an inch in diameter. Using a small spoon or melon-baller, scrape out the seeds and flesh. Fill the apples with the dried fruit mixture and place about 2 inches apart in an ovenproof baking dish and pour the cider over the apples. Bake about 40 minutes until apples are soft but not mushy. Using a spoon or basting brush baste the apples once or twice.

Discard the juice. Let the apples cool about 20 minutes and serve. Apples can be refrigerated when cool and kept in the fridge 3 to 5 days. Reheat them at 350 degrees for about 15 minutes or eat at room temperature. Great with vanilla ice cream.

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The Indie's Self-Promotion Issue

ADVERTISER FINDS ADVERTISER

It is through the *Westmount Independent* that I found Astri Prugger Design, and what a fantastic discovery that was!

Even though Astri has a beautiful storefront on Victoria Ave., it was her small yet elegant 1/16th-page ad that runs weekly that caught my eye, which resulted in her designing a gorgeous silk wedding dress for me.

Trink Jewellery (of the same ad and address) created custom jewellery and headband with Swarovski crystals, all at reasonable prices. It was such a pleasure to work with them. And I will definitely go back when I need a cocktail dress!

The *Westmount Independent's* graphics and content lend for easy reading and attracts a clientèle who may not even live in Westmount, but works and dances there, such as myself. As for me, the *Westmount Independent* gives my company, Westmount Realty, good exposure in Westmount, which nicely complements my internet marketing efforts, which reach global markets.

Congratulations on your expansion and

looking forward to dealing with your other advertisers!

PATRICIA M. CHANG, WESTMOUNT REALTY

BUILDING BRIDGES

The *Westmount Independent* builds bridges between the community and our representatives. It keeps us informed about what is going on in our beautiful city. The *Westmount Independent* makes me proud to be a Westmounter. I always look forward to reading it each week. What I don't like: I teach at St. Léon de Westmount. I am always disappointed to see that the only French elementary school in the city is never covered. I would be more than happy to provide the link between the newspaper and the school.*

LOUIS GRONDIN, METCALFE AVE.

*Editor's note: We would like to cover news of all area schools the best we can. Please send me your story ideas. – KM

WST. ADJ. WANTS WI

I really like your newspaper and notice that you are expanding your circulation.

I live in Montreal, but Westmount is across the street ... Think you could deliver

to our apartment?

I'm sure everyone in this building would enjoy receiving it since most of us do our shopping in Westmount.

AVI SHAPIRO, ATWATER AVE.

NEIGHBOURS STOP ME

In last week's issue, you suggested that Westmounters send you their comments for use with advertisers. Since I contribute as a volunteer, I felt I had more to thank you for than just sending me all the news that's fit to print in Westmount.

As a Westmounter and a volunteer contributor to the *Westmount Independent's* 9 Lives column, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to reach out to the community on a regular basis to try to do a little bit of good for pets.

My neighbours, loyal *Westmount Independent* readers, stop me and chat with me about my column, telling me how they read it regularly and giving me their comments. It is heartwarming to feel that there is a dialogue in our community about animal welfare and families, that we make a difference. Many thanks for this opportunity to have a voice, to reach out and contribute in our neighborhood.

LYSANNE FOWLER, 9 LIVES

LOOKING FORWARD, EVEN WHEN ABROAD

My wife and I look forward to receiving and enjoy reading the *Westmount Independent*. It keeps us informed of local happenings, especially while wintering in warmer climes. Many thanks.

THE HECHTS, WOOD AVE.

LOCAL NEWS

I do read the *Independent* and like it for local news.

EILEEN DE NEEVE, SHERBROOKE ST.

INFORMATIVE

I enjoy reading your paper every week as it is very informative and covers a lot of interesting subjects. Keep up the good work!

JANE CARSON, LANSDOWNE AVE.

MOWESTERS ON BOARD

Last week, for the first time in the 20 years that I have been living in Montreal West on Courtney Dr., I noticed your newspaper delivered to my home. I suspect a real estate agent may have dropped it into our mailbox as one of the homes listed in the paper was one in our immediate neighbourhood.

Curious about the contents and encouraged by the font size as well as the layout of the various articles, I found myself actually reading the paper from cover to cover.

I paid particular attention to the information having to do with real estate and which particular brokers had sold or listed various properties. I even noted a few telephone numbers of companies that did resurfacing work and general home improvements.

When my husband came home, I shared my findings with him. He works in Westmount and was familiar with the newspaper, adding that he too found it had a certain appeal.

He brought this week's *Westmount Independent* home for me to look at this morning. Noticing your quest for feedback, I decided to drop you a line to applaud your effort in delivering a quality newspaper with such a friendly appeal.

GAIL WISEMAN, COURTNEY DR.
(MONTREAL WEST)

MOWEST ON BOARD 2

Just received your newspaper in Montreal West and really enjoyed it. The main thing was to check out your merchants since I patronize Westmount stores. Hope you keep Montreal West on your circulation list.

BOB BARNES

A MINUTE FOR US

Do you have a minute to help your local newspaper? I HAVE!

With reference to the above, I wish to inform you that I am one of those people.

A recent article quoted Mr. Jean-Pierre Picard, president of the Westmount Municipal Association, and I will use the quotation in an upcoming speech to be given at the Royal Montreal Curling Club on the topic of "The Art of Public Speaking."

The quote was: "Whatever you do in business or in a field of your choice, to be able to write and communicate properly will distinguish you from the rest of the pack."

It is articles and quotes of this nature that you have published that makes me appreciate the *Independent*.

ÉMILIE LATOUR, CLARKE AVE.

KEEP IT COMING!

I very much appreciate your weekly update on the local scene. Please keep it coming!

B. MURPHY, ST. GEORGE'S PLACE

WHAT ARE THE MERCHANTS SAYING?

"Not being located in Westmount, the *Independent* newspaper has helped to direct new clients to The Shayne Gallery.

"I was delighted to discover that the advertisement we placed in the *Westmount Independent* about our upcoming exhibition of paintings by Rick Bond brought us in new clients and we sold one of the paintings in the ad. Also advertising our beautiful jewellery and our array of unique fine art gifts in the *Westmount Independent* has done well for us."

– LAUREN SHAYNE, *The Shayne Gallery*

WE ARE WESTMOUNT – AND WE THANK ALL OUR ADVERTISERS AND READERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

WHAT ARE WESTMOUNTERS SAYING?

.....
continued from p. 22

READ EVERY PAGE

I love receiving the *Westmount Independent* at home and I read every page.

BESTE BARKI, PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

BETTER AND BETTER

The *Westmount Independent* has gotten better and better. I look forward to it and read it avidly from beginning to end.

JOHN FRETZ, LANSDOWNE AVE.

COVER TO COVER

I read the paper cover to cover and appreciate very much the news and features that tell me about the community I am part of.

PAT WEBSTER

ONLY WAY TO KEEP UP

I am a new resident of Westmount, and I am so glad to receive your weekly edition. There are so many things going on in Westmount, that a local newspaper is the only way to keep people updated. Thank you for your wonderful efforts.

LEA ASSI, THE BOULEVARD

ANNUAL FAN LETTER

Something I have been meaning to do for a while is write my annual fan letter to the *Independent*. I look forward to the paper every week and always find it informative, interesting and inclusive! So – once again this year – thank you for the *Independent*.

DEANNA BARWICK WALL

LOVE IT

Love your paper – keep it coming

JACKIE MARGOLESE

REGULAR READER

I read the *Independent* regularly.

ILENE STATTNER, SHERBROOKE ST.

ARTIST FOUND VENUE

I am a new resident to Westmount as of July 1. I moved from de La Montagne in downtown Montreal to Weredale Park in Westmount. I am an abstract artist who works in mixed media collage/painting. The move included my in-home art studio.

I am happy to be receiving the *Westmount Independent* in my mail box. I am pleased at the variety of articles and mini to larger stories in the publication. And, of course, being an artist extra pleased on the notices and writings on the arts.

It is here that I was made aware of the fundraising event at the Visual Arts Centre on Victoria Ave. and am pleased to say I am a participant in the fundraising exhibit and sale titled the “Square Affair” on November 22 through November 26 at the centre.

If I do have a dislike in this publication it would be that I find the splitting of an article in two with the continuation being sometimes as much as 20 pages away from the beginning frustrating at times. Just a suggestion...but I feel for better reading if the continuation could follow on the next page or at most the page after that.

Keep up the good work and I look forward to the future issues in my mail box.

JOHN J. EMBERLY, WEREDALE PARK

USEFUL FOR WHAT'S ON

We really appreciate receiving a local newspaper. We recently moved here and have found the *Independent* to be very useful in letting us know what is going on in the neighbourhood, what events are taking place (including local promotions), and what we can do to become involved in our new community. Thank you!

CHRISTINE ST. JOHN & MICHAEL HOHM,
CEDAR AVE.

TASTEFUL WAY

I really love the *Westmount Independent*! It keeps me abreast of what is happening in our community in a most tasteful way! Congratulations.

JUDY ECHENBERG

COVER TO COVER – AND SQUIRRELS

We read every issue cover to cover. Where else would we be able to catch up with the antics of the Westmount squirrels? Please keep publishing this valuable local resource!

THE BERTOIA FAMILY, GROSVENOR AVE.

FT, GLOBE AND MAIL AND THE INDEPENDENT

To you and all your editorial team: keep up the great work.

I read the *Westmount Independent* with great pleasure each week and, as a former newspaper journalist myself, I am impressed with the quality of writing and issues covered for a small local paper.

My daily reading includes the *FT* and *Globe and Mail*, among others – but both my husband and I rely on the *Westmount Independent* for our local news.

GILLIAN MACCORMACK, LANSDOWNE AVE.

THANKS FROM THE ARTISANS

On behalf of all the artisans participating in this year's Westmount Artisans' Festival and the Public Security Unit's food drive, I want to thank you for all the advance publicity you have given us in your paper.

FLORA-LEE WAGNER

HAMPSTEADERS ON BOARD

I love perusing through the *Westmount Independent* while I'm eating lunch. Even though I live in Hampstead, I have many Westmount connections and pick up the *Independent* as often as possible when I'm shopping in Victoria village. It's informative about current community issues and personalities with lots of shopping ideas. Keep up the good work!

KIM DAVIDMAN, THURLOW (HAMPSTEAD)

ADVERTISEMENTS TOO

I like reading the *Westmount Independent*'s articles and advertisements. It's simple and clear, entertaining and informative.

GABRIELA BANDALA, CLAREMONT AVE.

SIMPLY SUPERIOR!

ARLENE SPROULE, CÔTE ST. ANTOINE

WELL RESEARCHED, INFORMATIVE AND HUMANE

I am not only speaking on my behalf, but on behalf of others who perhaps are too busy to write. We look forward to and enjoy reading the *Westmount Independent*. The articles are always of concern, well researched and informative. The adoption of cats and dogs column is also very humane, and needed. I am sure that a lot of desperate animals have found great homes. Westmounters love pets. Thank you and continue the great work.

MARY LIKOUDIS, MOUNTAIN AVE.

MORE THAN ONE REASON TO LOVE IT

Why do I love the *Independent*? Let me count the ways. So much information is packed into each issue. There is detailed reporting and follow-up of council meetings. Comin' Up is brimming with local happenings, and the library's list of new books is good to browse.

Profiles of local residents are always interesting. Letters to the Editor gives space to many viewpoints.

There is humour in the single parent column, in the hard-to-place pet columns, and in the odd quirky photo and headline. And where else would you find that the local supermarket, when it rearranges the shelves for the first time in ten years, makes the front page?

Also, when I have a problem – perhaps with the overall balance in an issue, an article's necessity to readers of a community newspaper, or the lack of a columnist – the ideas are considered and often taken on board.

The advertisements are kept fresh, relevant to the community and there is rarely an insert to flutter out of the issue delivered regularly by Canada Post.

Its email brightens Tuesday supper-time. And should you need to refer to a back issue, you can find it on the website.

Congratulations. The *Independent*'s hard working team deserves all the accolades.

SYLVIA WEDGE, GROSVENOR AVE.

SENSE OF COMMUNITY

I do appreciate the *Westmount Independent* tremendously. It gives me the impression of living in a small, contained community; like bygone days where there was a sense of belonging.

Your weekly also helps me to be aware of my surroundings, whether it be new events, the condition of our trees or even a lost animal! All important matters to me.

Thank you for a beautifully written and presented periodical.

AMIRA ZAIDAN, SHERBROOKE ST.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR LETTER WRITERS!

We appreciate your support and will work to turn your comments into more advertisements – which means more pages of content for readers.

And if you still want to write, please do! Another letter always helps.

DAVID PRICE, PUBLISHER,

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Enjoy the *Indie* at supper time on Tuesdays!

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Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- Montreal West Operatic Society season-opener "A Gilbert and Sullivan Soirée," a compendium of G&S "show-stoppers, 7:30 pm at Victoria Hall. Tickets: 514.990.8813; tickets@mwos.org and on-line tickets via PayPal, www.mwos.org.
- On **cyber-bullying** – balancing free expression, safety, privacy and supervision of young people, with professor Shaheen Shariff, 7 pm at the Westmount Public Li-

brary. Final part of the library's health series talks. Free. Info: 514.989.5386.

- The **Manoir Westmount Bazaar** from noon to 2 pm. Tables include afghans, cushions, seasonal crafts, knitted items, nearly new items, jewelry. All proceeds to benefit Montreal charities. At Manoir Westmount, 4646 Sherbrooke St. Info: 514.937.3943.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- **Art exhibition and bake sale at St. Margaret's Day Centre for Seniors** of the CSSS Cavendish, from 10 am to 2:30 pm. 50 Hillside Ave.
- "**Entre Nous – Gershwin, Bernstein and the Jazz Effect**," with former Westmounter Mark Simons on clarinet with pianist and composer Matt Herskowitz, 8 pm at Marianopolis Concert Hall, 4873, Westmount Ave. Tickets: \$15. Free parking on site. Info: 514.402.0314 or jensen.alexia@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- **The Friends of the Westmount Public Library's used book sale**, 10 am to 6 pm. Also Sunday, November 27. Info: 514.483.5604.
- **Sleep-over for 9 to 12-year olds** to mark the end of the Westmount Public Children's Library's 100th anniversary celebrations. Starts at 7:30 pm and goes until Sunday, November 27, 8:30 am. Register: 514.989.5229.
- "**Ways of dreaming**," with pianist/composer Mark Pinkus, soprano Louise Yard and pianist Pierre McLean, 7 pm at the Unitarian Church of Montreal. Cost: \$20. Info and tickets: 514.846.8047 or 514.739.3830.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- **Dix Mille Villages** of Monkland Ave. will have a boutique at the Westmount Y from 5 to 8 pm. Fair trade foods and gifts. Info: Janet Boeckh at 514.933.9096.
- "**The Trial of Winston Moseley**," with professor Carrie Rentschler (art history and communication studies), 5:30 pm in

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the Atwater Library auditorium. Cost: \$15. Register: www.mcgill.ca/iplai.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- Flu vaccination clinic, 9 am to 6 pm at Victoria Hall. **Free influenza vaccines** for: people residing in the area; who are aged 60 years and older; infants aged 6 to 23 months; people with a chronic illness; people having frequent contact with the above individuals; or caregivers, volunteers and health care workers. Bring medicare card and wear short sleeves. Info: CSSS de la Montagne, 514.934.0354.
- Montreal author **Anita Rau Badami** reads from her new novel, *Tell It to the Trees*, 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Info: 514.989.5386.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

- **Public information session on the proposed new garbage by-law**, 7 pm at Victoria Hall. See story, November 15, p. 12.
- Tali Brady performs the solo show "**Afternoon Tea with Jane Austen**," 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. Free.
- Abstract artist and Westmount resident **Antonietta Grassi** will be showing her new series "**Rococo**," 6 to 8 pm at the McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria Ave. Info: www.visualartcentre.ca.
- **Nicholas Hoare** presents his selection of the best books of the season at Nicholas Hoare bookstore (1366 Greene Ave.), from 6 to 7:30 pm. Free. RSVP: 514.933.4201.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Fundraising vernissage of artwork of **Open Door** clients and local artists. Proceeds go to continue art workshops and purchase supplies. Refreshments, live music, 6 pm to 9 pm at St. Stephen's house, 1 Weredale Park. Info: 514.939.1970.

Friends of the Westmount Library

invite you to their

QUALITY USED BOOK SALE

Sat. & Sun. November 26th & 27th

10 am – 6 pm in **Victoria Hall** 4626 Sherbrooke W.

REQUEST FOR BOOK DONATIONS – in excellent condition on all topics may be left at the Front Desk of the Library now (4574 Sherbrooke W.)
Proceeds go towards purchasing new materials for the Library.

Info: (514) 483-5604



Jewish Interfaith Family Forum

of Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom
Presents

**"Chanukah and Christmas:
Fond Memories, New Traditions"**

Monday, November 28, 7:30 PM

395 Elm Avenue, Westmount

JIFF invites interfaith couples and families to join Marion Usher, Ph.D., for a discussion of some of the important issues surrounding the holiday season. Dr. Usher has over 16 years of experience leading workshops for interfaith couples and their families across the U.S. Some of the questions she will address include:

- Should we celebrate both holidays in our home?
- How to deal with parents' expectations
- How religious choices affect children

For more information, please contact Rabbi Julia Appel at 514-937-3575, ext. 212 or rabiappel@templemontreal.ca

R.S.V.P. jiffmontreal@hotmail.ca

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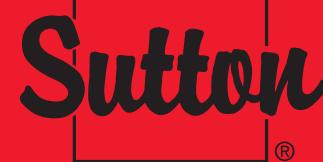
Our on line calendar has it all!

*Concerts, exhibitions, launches, events,
public meetings, community links,
sports and hockey schedules*



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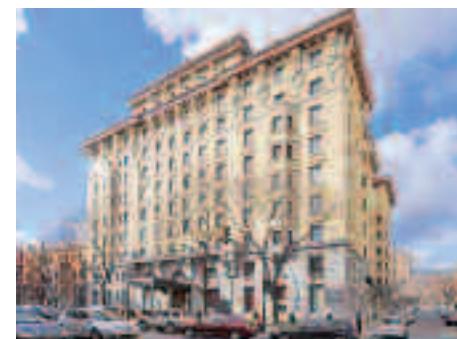
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DOWNTOWN – THE ELEGANT LINTON APTS: 2 bedrooms – 2 bathrooms – facing West. MLS 8540748. **\$849,000**



THE ACADIA APTS – DOWNTOWN: Elegant, bright and spacious – 3 bedrooms – MLS 8630789 **\$860,000**



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- Custom designed solid core double entry door.
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- Gas fireplaces and appliances (in selected units).
- Walk-in closets.

The images are artistic renderings and final results may vary.

Glee showdown



Selwyn House, the only all-guy team at this year's Glee competition, performed a remix of "Empire State of Mind."



St. George's performed the 80's hit "Jump" by Van Halen.

BY LAUREN O'LOUGHLIN

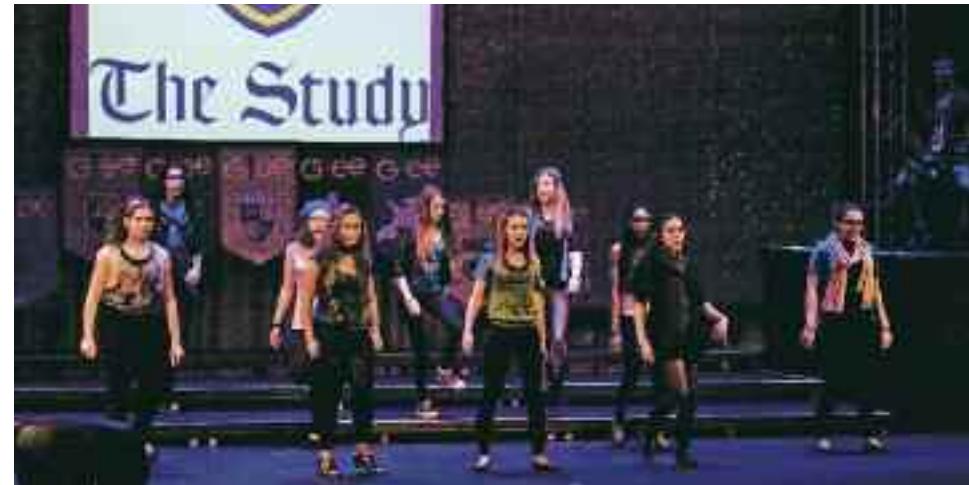
Three Westmount schools participated in the Just For Kids Foundation (JFK) Glee High School Showdown on November 13.

St. George's, Selwyn House and the Study sent their dance and voice troupes

to Loyola High School's Eric MacClean S.J. Centre for Performing Arts for the second annual competition. The auditorium was packed with over 750 attendees.

Bialik High School took first prize, while Trafalgar came in second.

The showdown event generated a



Lady Gaga's "Telephone" was performed by The Study.

\$102,000 cheque, which was presented to the Montreal Children's Hospital at the event.

The fundraiser competition, the brainchild of Jill Aberman, a former president of Just for Kids, began in 2010 and is now one of JFK's annual fundraising events. "The aim is to raise money for the anaesthesia department of the Montreal Children's Hospital," said Glee committee member and volunteer, Jillian Zrihen.

Schools enter by raising and donating \$1,000 to the foundation. "I think it's kids giving back to kids. It gives them a sense of purpose, creates a challenge and gives them a more ambitious goal," said Zrihen.

The competition's "success is 100 percent to do with the TV show," she continued.

A signed script by the cast of the *Glee* TV show was auctioned for \$1,000 during the event.

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their support!**

**Celebrate with us and get
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Testimonials:

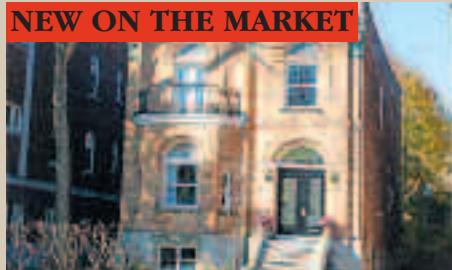
- "Great food, tasy specials... the way it used to be, maybe better...thanks!" – Mike C.
- "J'aime la nourriture de confort et l'entretiens" – Normand Brathwaite
- "Bistro is my home away from home – wonderful food. Fantastic service – every Monday & more" – Avi S.
- "Love coming every Monday...good friends and delicious food!" – Judy M.
- "Our favourite every Monday night hangout – the Threesome"
- "Paul and Gopen remember how the Bistro used to be... doing a good job on bringing it back..." – Denyse LeC.

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NEW ON THE MARKET



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NEW ON THE MARKET



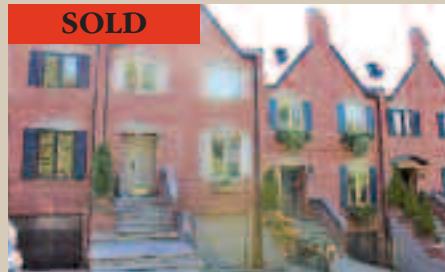
DOWNTOWN Le Château, 1321 Sherbrooke, 91F
\$4800 / month

NEW ON THE MARKET



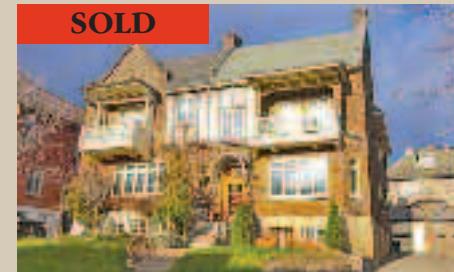
DOWNTOWN Le Château, 1321 Sherbrooke, 90F
\$2400 / month

SOLD



WESTMOUNT 2701 Hill Park Circle

SOLD



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WESTMOUNT 4822 de Maisonneuve
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VILLE-MARIE 10 Place de Trafalgar
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VILLE-MARIE 2935 Hill Park Circle
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VILLE-MARIE 1545 Dr. Penfield #309
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