

Use of green bin could be 'improved'

53% of garbage diverted from landfill, on par with 2012

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount last year diverted 53 percent of all waste material – garbage – from landfill, according to an annual report card issued June 25 by the Montreal agglomeration. Diversion is one of the main objectives of recycling and other environmental recuperation programs.

Of all the waste material generated in Westmount (11,196 tonnes), the total amount diverted was 5,896 tonnes. This was down slightly from 5,989 tonnes the previous year but relatively the same 53 percent considering that more garbage (11,319 tonnes) had been generated in

2012.

These figures include all recyclables, organics, bulk and construction items, clothing, household hazardous waste, electronics and other items taken to collection depots.

“And that’s ultimately our goal, to produce less garbage along with sending less to landfill,” said city environmental coordinator Marina Peter.

The city’s overall results compare with the island-wide average of 38 percent and are second among demerged municipalities to Pointe Claire’s 57 percent.

In Westmount, of the amount diverted from landfill, most came from recyclable material (the blue bins) and organics in almost *continued on p. 15*



Plante-Wiener to go to Buckingham Palace

Leah Annia Plante-Wiener in the library at The Study, September 25. For story, see p. 14.

Photo: Joanne Penhale

Letters p. 6
Social Notes BY V. REDGRAVE p. 16
Comin' Up p. 15

City-wide test of CodeRED to take place in next 2 weeks

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A city-wide test of the CodeRED emergency notification system is scheduled to take place in the next two weeks, though the exact date is not yet known or being announced in case a last-minute change should occur, city officials said last week.

People can expect to receive a generic message by phone, text and/or email, said communications coordinator Maureen Lafrenière.

Those with published landline num-

bers are automatically in the CodeRED data base as are those who registered their unpublished numbers or mobile and/or internet devices such as cell phones and emails.

The test phone call will come from the number 1.866.419.5000 or “emergency comm,” according to Public Security director Greg McBain.

A limited activation of the system was implemented July 9 to 12 for a boil-water advisory in the southeast sector of Westmount *continued on p. 13*

Don't Miss It:
Westmount Historical Association's walking tour of buildings around Westmount Park, Sunday, October 5. See p. 15.

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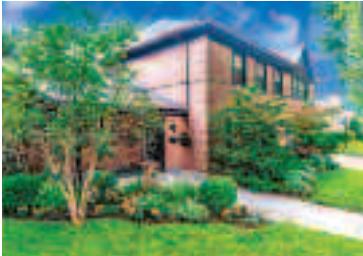


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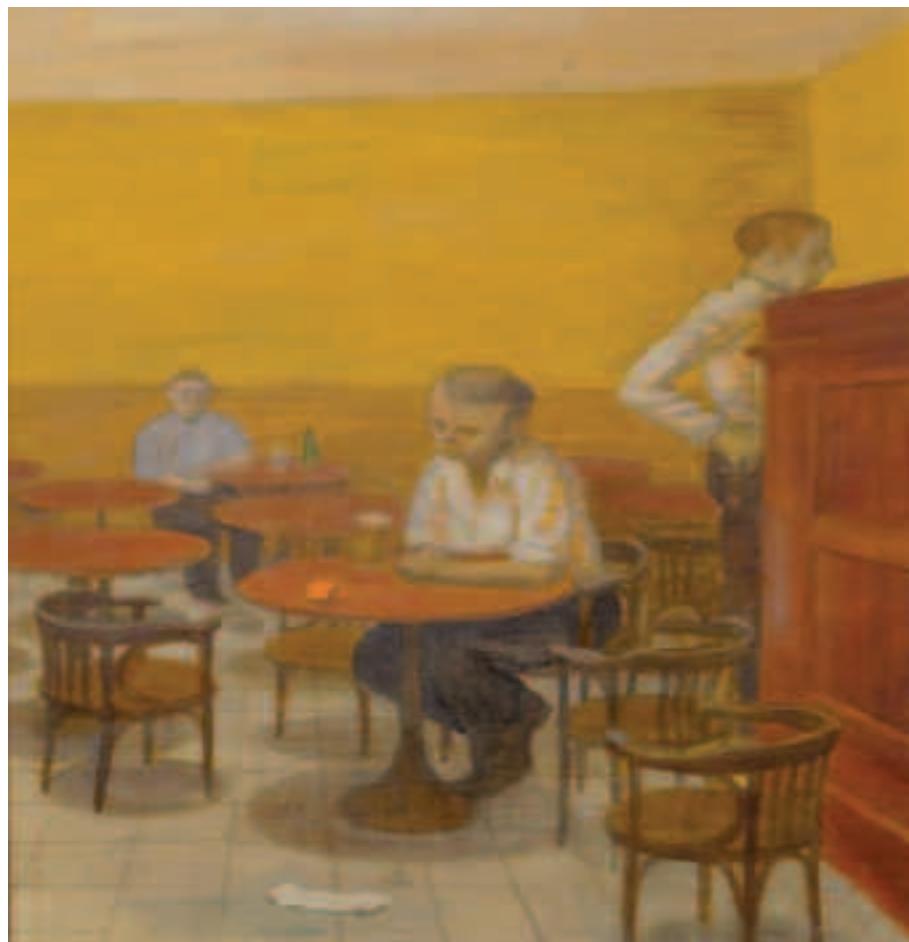
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Sponsors' brunch launches Art Westmount



Art Westmount 2014 sponsors Dorothy Tysen to the left of city councillor Nicole Forbes and Helen Corrigan of the The Rothenberg Group to the right of her were there at the start of Art Westmount 2014, which began at 10 am at Victoria Hall with a brunch to thank the individuals and companies that supported the event. According to Forbes, who was also the event co-chair, "Art Westmount could not happen without sponsorship. We rely on our sponsors to fund the advertising, brochure, catalogue and rentals." Key sponsors of Art Westmount 2014 included Avenue des Arts, The Rothenberg Group, Simply Wonderful Catering, Le Frame Shoppe and realtors McGuigan Pepin (Century 21), Bunny Berke, and Marie-Yvonne Paint.

Photos: Heather Black

Manoir Westmount artists display work



Manoir Westmount residents Rose Robe Reichman, left, and Anita Shapiro were among four artists who exhibited September 27 at a special Art Westmount 2014 gallery created within the residence. For Shapiro, who exhibited at Art Westmount 2012, "It was wonderful to display my collection within the comfort of the residence." The artists, who continue to paint regularly, displayed work completed throughout their professional careers.

Westmount to express 'concerns' over judging Communities in Bloom gives top rating to city

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount earned top recognition in this year's Communities in Bloom competition, scoring five out of five "blooms" and 85 percent in the category of champions.

Among initiatives cited were water conservation and rain run-off control measures as well as the introduction of bees outside on top of the library where they can be seen by the public, said Jayme Gerbrandt, the city's horticulture and arboriculture inspector.

But it was Barrie, Ontario that carried off the first place in the champions category for middle and large municipalities at the awards ceremony September 20 in Charlottetown.

As well, a nature trail in the region of Wood Buffalo, Alberta won a special achievement award for "environmental action," for which the Westmount Recreation Centre (WRC) had been a finalist (see September 9, p. 1).

"Wood Buffalo has a population of 100,000 and includes Fort McMurray," said Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who attended the ceremony and preceding symposium in Charlottetown. "I was really pleased for the leader who was representing the area. She was so proud."

Concern over evaluation

The city intends to write to the Communities in Bloom organization, however, to express its concerns over the judges' evaluation of Westmount in both categories in which it participated, according to Gerbrandt.

Many of the recommendations from

the judges were initiatives already in place and were explained during their visit, she said. She and Lulham plan to go through the judges' comments in detail next week.

Overall, the judges were "very encouraging about many of our projects such as the Greene square and cycling path and urged us to keep working with the edible plants and to encourage more student volunteers to help in the spring and fall clean-up."

In a press release from the organization, the judges visiting Westmount are quoted as describing the WRC as "a remarkable project" that "is now the first gold LEED underground recreational facility in Canada, which made energy conservation one of its key objectives.

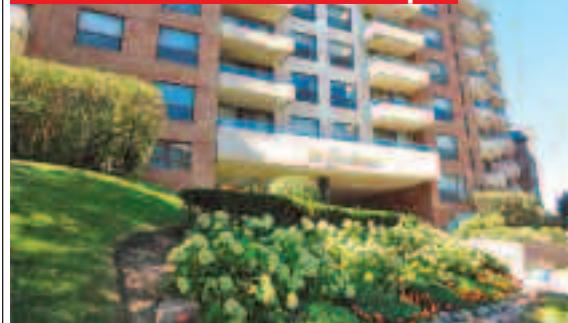
"The expanded park system and pathway network on the green roof resulted in the beautification of the urban core and prevented the visual intrusion of a utilitarian building in the urban landscape..."

They also added the project "would not have been possible without the generous contribution of the local community, which raised an amazing 6 million dollars."

Participating for years

The city has been participating in the national and international components of the competition for many years as a way to share initiatives and learn from others, Gerbrandt pointed out. The aim of the competition is to foster civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community involvement with focus on the enhancement of green spaces.

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TEST DU SYSTÈME PROCHAINEMENT

La Ville effectuera une vérification du système dans les prochaines deux semaines. Tous ceux qui ont une ligne téléphonique fixe résidentielle recevront un bref message automatisé. Pour recevoir les avis **CodeRED** sur une ligne téléphonique privée ou commerciale, un appareil mobile ou par courriel, inscrivez-vous au westmount.org. Si vous n'avez pas accès à l'internet, demandez l'aide d'un ami ou parent, ou l'aide du Service de la sécurité publique de Westmount au **514 989-5259**.

INFORMATION EST CLÉ EN CAS D'URGENCE

Westmount a adopté le système **CodeRED**, qui lui permet de diffuser rapidement des renseignements pertinents par téléphone, courriel ou messagerie texte lors d'événements, tels un incendie majeur, fuite de gaz, ou une panne de courant prolongée.

THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT CodeRED AUTOMATED EMERGENCY SYSTEM

UPCOMING SYSTEM TEST

The City will carry out a test of the system over the next two weeks. Everyone with a listed residential telephone is already registered and will receive a brief automated message. To receive **CodeRED** messages on your unlisted or commercial phone line, mobile device or email, sign up at westmount.org. If you do not have internet access, please ask a friend or family member to sign you up, or contact Westmount Public Security at **514 989-5259**.

INFORMATION IS KEY IN AN EMERGENCY

The City of Westmount has implemented the **CodeRED** system, which allows it to quickly broadcast essential information by phone, email or text during emergencies such as a major fire, a gas leak or an extended power outage.

Veuillez vous inscrire en ligne au
Register on-line at

www.westmount.org



New 'grassy' Devon court now open



The newly reconstructed tennis court at Devon Park was opened for play at the end of last week. A sprinkling of sand used during installation of the synthetic grass will disappear with time but was still evident on September 27. The court previously had a carpeted covering over a hard surface. The new one is described as being more aesthetic, easier to maintain and softer to play on. The contract was awarded by city council July 7 to Terrassements Jopat at a net cost of \$62,154. This was the lower bid of only two received.

Photo courtesy of Patrick Martin



Stratégie verte
Westmount
Green Strategy

Ce samedi, venez chercher du compost GRATUIT!

Le compost fabriqué à partir des feuilles mortes ramassées l'automne dernier sera mis à la disposition des résidents de Westmount à compter de 9 h le samedi 4 octobre aux Ateliers municipaux, rue Béthune, jusqu'à épuisement des stocks.

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

Le compostage domestique

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

Composteur 'Soil Saver'

Dimensions : 28 x 28 x 32 po (h)
Capacité : 12 pi
Fabrication en plastique noir recyclée
Coût : 30 \$

This Saturday, come get your FREE compost!

Compost made from leaves collected last autumn will be available to Westmount residents as of 9 a.m. Saturday, October 4 at the Public Works yard, Bethune Street, while supplies last.

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

Backyard Composting

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

'Soil Saver' Composter

Dimensions: 28" x 28" x 32" (h)
Capacity: 12 ft capacity
Black recycled plastic
Cost: \$30



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Gas line leak on Prince Albert forces evacuation of shops and homes



Police and fire officials responded to a gas-line leak on Prince Albert Ave. September 24. Inset: A Gaz Metropolitan employee uses a meter to check gas levels through the mail slot of a residence close to the leak site.

BY ROBERT J. GALBRAITH

Police and fire department officials responded to a gas-line leak on Prince Albert Ave. south of Sherbrooke September 24 after construction workers ruptured a gas main during road construction.

The leak occurred at approximately 10 am, forcing the shut-off of hydro power in the area and the evacuation of shops and apartments along both sides of Sherbrooke.

Traffic was diverted from both directions of Sherbrooke between Victoria and Claremont, but was flowing regularly by 11:15 am.

Local business owner Glen Campbell of the Campbell Gallery, told the *Independent* that while he was being evacuated from his shop, the smell of gas was thick in the air and the whine of the leak was clearly audible.

A Westmount resident commented that “the quick response of fire, municipal and police officials was something that one only sees in a close-knit city like Westmount.”



FRANKEL, Hugh (Hy)

March 12, 1919 – September 26, 2014

Hugh passed away at the Jewish General at the age of 95. He will be remembered for his talents, kindness, varied and innovative professional life, as well as his sense of humour.

Hugh became a photographic entrepreneur in 1932 at the age of 13, operating his first commercial studio in Old Montreal. His photos in *Life in Cartier* helped elect Fred Rose to parliament. His talents then brought him to the Montreal *Standard*. Through the years, Hugh started and operated several audio-visual companies. He passed on his passion and knowledge by teaching at the École des Beaux-Arts de Montréal, then by setting up the first professional photography program in Quebec at the CEGEP du Vieux-Montréal. He developed a 3D system for Ford, self-paced instructional systems and a rotating module for panoramic photography.

He leaves behind his wife, Ginette Sauv -Frankel, and their sons Mathieu (Tomoe, granddaughters Noemi and Amelie), and Jan (Veronica); and his sons from Leigh McEvoy, Scott and Ronald (grandchildren Holly and Alex, great-grandchild Ryleigh). He is also survived by his sister Ruth Margolese, her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Hugh, we will remember you with love and humour, and miss your keen mind, stories and jokes, and impromptu singing. We will love you forever.

A private celebration will be held for family and close friends. If you wish to honour his life, please donate to the Foundation of the Montreal Children's Hospital (514-934-4846).



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TIME TAXPAYERS KNOW MORE ABOUT PENSION ISSUES

In response to your articles on Westmount employees' pension plan, I am amazed at your one-sided coverage of this current issue.

Contrary to your article on August 19, "Since most funds were running surpluses at the time, the solution was for municipalities to take further contribution holidays while increasing pension benefits to employees," there has been no increase in the 2 percent pension benefit per year of service for city of Westmount employees since 1991.

More importantly, there has been no cost of living increase (indexation) for city of Westmount pensioners in over 20 years.

Please tell both sides of the story.

Our municipal elected officials (the mayor and council) contribute 6.15 percent to their pension fund and receive a benefit of 2.8 percent per year of service, fully indexed to the cost of living.

Our provincial elected officials' pensions cost the taxpayer \$3.47 for each dollar contributed by each official. They in turn receive a pension benefit as much as 4 percent per year of service, fully indexed to the cost of living.

Maybe it's time for our politicians, who created these pension deficit problems by their mismanagement and allowing for "employer contribution vacations," to lead by example.

The pension benefits for municipal and provincial elected officials are obscene. They were never part of a legally negotiated contract with the taxpayer, nor were they ever part of a political platform during an election. Their pensions and severance packages were decided in a backroom via the stroke of a pen, without prior knowledge provided to any taxpayer.

If our politicians are truly concerned with the burden on taxpayers caused by pension benefits, shouldn't they be starting at the top by reducing their most obscene pensions and severance packages first?

KEVIN DAWSON,

CITY OF WESTMOUNT PENSIONER

Editorial note: Regarding indexation, in our initial article, "Bill 3 on track for pension fund sustainability: Mayor Trent" (July 1, p. 1), we did say, "Westmount pensions are not indexed" (p. 8). Regarding publishing other views, we also ran an article afterwards on the unions' perspective ("Unions answer mayors' group...", August 26, p. 1) and one on the council's pension plan ("Council to

discuss need to raise own pension dues to 50," p. 5). – DP/KM

WILL SPORTS & REC TAKE GREATER INTEREST IN SOCCER?

On September 3, the Westmount Soccer Club (WSC), specifically the U15 team, held its annual "soccer olympics" competition to determine the most skilled player in its midst. The winner, an exceptionally talented player, Nico Baez, was pleased with the outcome and his trophy – another fancy soccer ball for his closet.

Fourteen boys were competing in a sprint, slalom, precision kicks and a few other disciplines.

This last practice closed another successful season, which started for this team in early May. The U15 team finished fourth in its division of the Lac St. Louis league. Interestingly, this very team represents a core group of youth soccer enthusiasts, who, three years ago, as U12, inspired its formation of the WSC. The club is spearheaded by a well-known family doctor, Dr. Mark Roper, and supported by a group of volunteers involved in coaching and managing, at this point, five teams. Those teams, U10 and U12 girls, U10, U13 and U15 boys, total over 90 athletes. It is more than likely that next year will bring another expansion of the WSC.

Unfortunately, this grassroots organization is not getting sufficient support from the local Sports and Recreation department. Problems encountered are not only in terms of field access but, above all, frequently unplayable fields.

Repeatedly, marshlands have been created on the fields due to overwatering, grass is not frequently cut and nets were at times completely missing or not properly attached.

With a change in a leadership of the department, the club is hopeful that someone with a rudimentary knowledge and interest in soccer will make necessary adjustments in the department's operations. For a hockey-centric organization one may formulate it this way: "same as with a Zamboni, a lawnmower has to lick a game surface once in a while and nets are not optional but truly mandatory."

MILA FELCAREK, WESTMOUNT SOCCER CLUB TREASURER AND COACH

SEEKING OPINIONS ON DOG RUN LOCATION: WMA

The Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) is asking all Westmounters to express their opinions on the potential loca-

tion for Westmount's third dog run.

In a study conducted by Hodgins and Associates for the city of Westmount, eight potential sites were identified, including the former dog run located at the north-east corner of Lansdowne and St. Catherine, which was closed during construction of the new Westmount recreation centre.

A majority of respondents to an ongoing WMA survey has indicated a clear preference for a dog run located outside the park. However, having identified a total of eight possible sites, the Hodgins study singled out just three for council's consideration, and all three are located within the park.

The WMA believes that all Westmounters should be consulted on the issue because the park exists for the use of, and is funded by, all Westmount residents and taxpayers. The WMA therefore urges all residents to weigh in on the issue by participating in the poll, which can be found at www.wma-amw.org.

PETER STARR, PRESIDENT, WMA

WE NEED TO VISUALIZE POSSIBLE DOG RUN SITES

As a prerequisite for a city-wide poll on the proposed dog run, a landscape architect's pictorial depiction is needed to show what any proposed sites will look like after being adapted to meet the requirements as a dog run.

People can only provide an informed response to such a poll when they can visualize how well the end result will meet its primary purpose to serve as a dog run while also blending in as harmlessly as possible with its surroundings.

For example, to adapt the former shuffle board area as a dog run would require extensive re-work including the provision of an unpaved surface cover in lieu of concrete, replacement of the concrete abutments surrounding trees with sloping earthen mounds, making possible improvements to the lighting and adding hedges to visually separate activity inside the fenced-in dog run from the rest of the park.

JOHN DOREY, VICTORIA AVE.

WESTMOUNT REMAINS DOG-FRIENDLY DESPITE 'VOCAL MINORITY'

Two years ago, our little dog run, meeting area and discussion group venue was taken away from us, inch by inch, by the expanding recreation centre. A dedicated little group of us would still gather, in good

continued on p. 13

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LETTERS & COMMENTS:

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. E-mail any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.

Westmount's public schools shifting to Ward 3 in new EMSB map

BY MICHAEL MOORE

The English Montreal School Board (EMSB) is shifting its trio of Westmount public schools to a new electoral division as the organization prepares for its first election in seven years.

As part of the Sunday, November 2 vote, the EMSB will be reducing its stable of

commissioners from 24 to 10 as part of a province-wide effort by the Quebec government to streamline school boards and reduce education costs.

"It's important for not just parents but citizens to get out there to vote," said Roslyn principal Nick Katalifos. "School boards aren't just responsible for large budgets but for our kids as well, so it's something that we take very seriously."

The three candidates nominated for the Ward 3 commissioner position are Fergus Keyes, Julien Feldman and Ginette Sauv -Frankel.

Chair position up for vote

On November 2, the board's chair position will also be decided by universal suffrage for the first time, with incumbent Angela Mancini vying against Anne Lagac  Dowson.

With a reduced commissioner roster, the EMSB is also redrawing its electoral map, which had previously featured Westmount High, Westmount Park and Roslyn in Ward 7 along with the Mackay Centre

in NDG.

On the new map, Westmount will be included in Ward 3 along with the South-west borough and parts of Ville Marie. The newly defined ward will include the three Westmount schools, St. Gabriel elementary and James Lyng High School, as well as outreach schools Options I and II, Venture and Vezina.

"The wards are quite large the way they have been drawn up," said Katalifos. "The reality is that nine schools is a lot, so whoever wins will have to do quite a bit of work to make sure they understand what the constituents in each school are looking for."

Additionally, for the first time the board's chair position will be decided by universal suffrage rather than by appointment by a vote of the commissioners.

EMSB enrolment struggles

The November 2 vote comes as the beleaguered school board faces looming questions of plummeting enrolment figures *continued on p. 9*



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Allan-Rigby: History was in the DNA of WHA's Lighthall

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

For the Westmount Historical Association (WHA)'s first lecture in its fall series, Ruth Allan-Rigby gave a talk on Alice Lighthall, who founded the WHA 70 years ago and then set the pace for local heritage preservation when she saved the Hurtubise House on Côte St. Antoine Rd.

"History was in her DNA – her life parallels the history of Westmount," the long-time WHA member said during her presentation September 18 at Westmount Public Library about Lighthall, whose father, William, had been one of the first mayors of Westmount.

The WHA was founded in 1944 as an offshoot of the Westmount Municipal Association. Since World War II was still under way in the WHA's first years, Lighthall suggests in comments she made in the group's first annual report that some sort of justification was needed for their activities.

"Some may wonder at busy people taking so much time from their war work to do historical research in these rushed days," she states in a passage that was quoted by WHA president Doreen Lindsay while introducing Allan-Rigby.

"I would answer that this is war work," Lighthall continues. "Those of us who knew the loneliness of far places in the last conflict, know that to many a lad the long dark night in a shell-torn ruin has been made lighter and warmer by memories of home. This little spot of Earth is what he is fighting for."

Lighthall may have learned a lesson from an early attempt she made to pre-

serve Westmount's heritage. In the late 1940s, she tried unsuccessfully to prevent the demolition of the William Raynes residence on Forden Ave.

"That really always upset Alice Lighthall," said Allan-Rigby. "She felt she really should have been able to keep the house." However, in 1955 Lighthall finally gave the WHA something that would be a lasting source of pride.

After learning that the Hurtubise house, which was the oldest building in Westmount, was to be sold and the property was to be divided into separate building lots, she organized a meeting at Victoria Hall and invited residents as well as the media.

Among those attending were Colin Molson, his sister Mabel and James Beatty. The three agreed to purchase the property and a few years later established Canadian Heritage of Quebec, which owns the Hurtubise House to this day and has also paid for its upkeep over the decades.

Other aspects of Alice Lighthall's life that were recounted during the meeting included her service overseas as a field nurse during World War I, her support for

Graffiti marks woods shack

Graffiti was discovered on the shack in Summit Woods during an extra patrol of the area September 3 at 9:10 am, Public Security officials said. Officers are paying special attention to the area following several reported car break-ins at the Belvedere entrance to the park.



Ruth Allan-Rigby gives a summary of the life of Alice Lighthall during the Westmount Historical Association's September 18 meeting.

the Canadian Handicrafts Guild in the 1920s, her extensive knowledge of Canada's native peoples, and her appoint-

ment to the Order of Canada in the early 1970s.

WHA launches season of 70th anniversary lectures

After seven decades of working to preserve local history, the Westmount Historical Association (WHA) has turned to celebrating its own history for the fall speakers' season.

To mark its 70th anniversary, the organization has chosen to highlight its beginnings and the people who have steered its evolution, starting with a season launch

September 18 and the story of founder Alice Lighthall (see story same page.)

On Thursday, October 16, WHA president Doreen Lindsay will speak on the contributions of H el ene Saly, author of *Old Westmount* and Sally Hooff, who wrote *In a Green Shade* and then collaborated with Aline Gubbay to produce *Montreal's Little Mountain*.

Leading from this program, Gubbay's own story will be told by her daughter, Sharon Gubbay on Thursday, November 20. Aline Gubbay, who also wrote *A View of their Own: The Story of Westmount*, served as WHA president from 1995 to 2000.

Talks are open to the public at the Westmount Public Library from 7 to 9 pm. Further information may be obtained at www.westmounthistorical.org and at 514.989.5510 or 514.932.6688.

WHA members will then celebrate the 70 years on Thursday, December 11 at the Gallery of Victoria Hall.



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EMSB cont'd. from p. 7

and the threat of school closings.

The EMSB's student population has dropped precariously in recent years as parents opt for private and French-language alternatives, and provincial regulations limit access to English schooling. Since the 2009-2010 school year, the school board's student body has dropped by 6.9 percent at the elementary level and 15.95 percent at its secondary schools.

The dour figures are actually partially offset by strong enrolment at the three Westmount schools. Westmount High's student population has grown by 3 percent over the last five years, while Westmount Park and Roslyn have expanded by 9.2 and 26.4 percent, respectively, according to EMSB enrolment reports.

Voting eligibility and location

Any parent with a child enrolled at an EMSB elementary or secondary high school this year is automatically placed on the electoral list, as are those individuals who registered for the board's last election in 2007.

To be eligible for placement on the list, individuals must be Canadian citizens aged 18 years or over who have lived in Quebec for at least six months and who are on the permanent list of electors in

Quebec. A form requesting to be placed on the electoral list is available on the school board's website, emsb.qc.ca.

Individuals who are unsure of whether they are already on the list can contact the Directeur général des élections at 1.888.353.2846.

Advance polling

Advanced polling for Ward 3 will take place on Sunday, October 26 at Westmount High between noon and 8 pm. On November 2, voting will take place between 10 am and 8 pm at Westmount High and Roslyn in Westmount, as well as St. Gabriel and Options 1.

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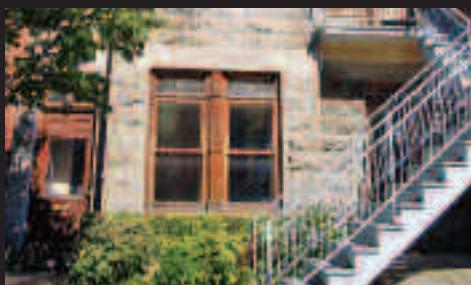
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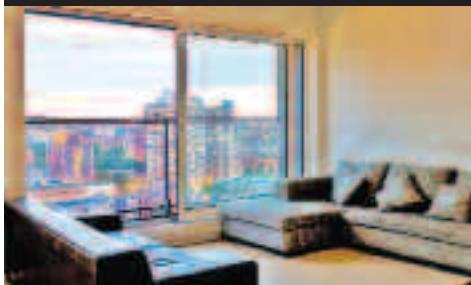
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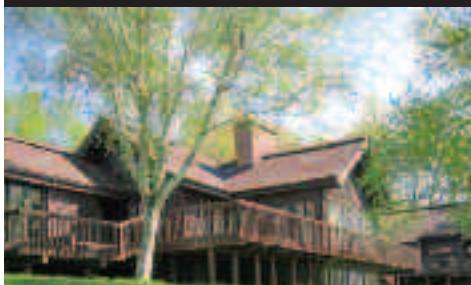
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Buzaglo holds talk on fertility topic at Atwater Library



Dr. Karen Buzaglo, left, and Sarah Elizabeth Richards at the September 11 talk at Atwater Library.

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmount's Atwater Library held a free lecture on September 11 by local resident Dr. Karen Buzaglo, who invited Sarah Elizabeth Richards, a New York journalist and author of *Motherhood, Rescheduled: The New Frontier of Egg Freezing and the Women Who Tried It*, to speak about her experience with egg freezing.

To an audience of about 30, Buzaglo, who works at Clinique Ovo, explained "In 2012, fertility societies deemed that egg freezing should no longer be considered experimental. Since then there has been a huge boom in the US.

"I wanted to start the conversation here in Montreal. As far as I know, it was the first public event on elective fertility

preservation in Montreal," she said.

Recently, the two women presented at the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society in Quebec City, positing that fertility preservation is still possible in the late 30s, although ideal for younger women. They suggested that single women in their 30s, or on long career tracks in their 20s, should consider egg freezing.

Richards pointed out that in Manhattan there are egg freezing cocktail parties. "There should no longer be a stigma. Women feel empowered by this experience because it is a form of insurance without the constant pressure of the biological clock. It's the second revolution after the oral contraceptive pill in terms of reproductive options," she added.

Real estate agents turn out in force for Cairns' send-off



A very large group of real estate agents, partially pictured, from several different affiliations attended a retirement party September 17 for receptionist Kathleen Cairns (fifth from left in front). The event took place at the Sutton office on Victoria Ave., where Kathy has been for 15 years, but she has worked at several real estate offices over the last 40 years.

Photo: Independent

5 Saisons marks a 'first'



Mayor Peter Trent, front right, cuts a first anniversary cake September 25 to celebrate the opening of the "new" 5 Saisons store at Greene and de Maisonneuve. With him are, from left: Lysiane Hébert, administrative assistant, Jean-François Dugal, store director, and a group of their colleagues.

Photo: Courtesy of Metro Richelieu Inc.

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Letters cont'd. from p. 6

cheer and humour, laughing about its postage-stamp size and wondering how small it would get. Near the end, the run was tiny, but we would still meet and speak of the day when it would be restored, better than ever, beside the new recreation centre.

Two years and many letters later about the “scourge,” noise and smell of a dog run, I just have to speak out about these laughable, preposterous letters.

Dog runs are fun, sociable places. They are not a blight, a scourge, nor a source of more noise than a soccer pitch, swimming pool or children’s playground.

Everybody suddenly speaks of the derelict benches and cracked concrete of the shuffleboard area as though it were a shrine. Now people are even saying that dog owners are going to disturb the tranquility of the park just walking to and from the proposed dog run! (“Add me to the roster of no dogs at shuffleboard,” by letter-writer Rosemary Haddad, September 16, p. 6).

Is there no end to the nonsense?

All this fuss for a few months a year when the letter writers emerge to show their faces after abandoning the park all winter.

Winter is the only tranquil season in the park, and the dog lovers are the ones out there daily to enjoy and preserve it.

I am confident the city council will find a solution, but even if they never do (thanks to the bickering of residents) Magoo and I are happy walking the streets of Westmount. We have so many friends.

Despite the mountain of letters to the contrary from a vocal minority, Westmount is a very dog-friendly place.

PENNY ARSENAULT, ST. CATHERINE ST.

BUMP-OUT NECESSARY IN UPPER WESTMOUNT?

Is this really necessary in quiet upper Westmount (Summit Crescent and Lexington)? [See photo below.]

I grew up at that “busy” corner and walk there daily without witnessing any traffic.

Surely our tax dollars could be used for more appropriate upgrades.

HELAINÉ KLIGER, ROSLYN AVE.



Photo courtesy of Helaine Kliger

INTERESTING CRITIQUE OF PARKING JOB

The photo [below] was taken on September 23 in the parking lot of the Westmount recreation centre.

I wonder how long it took the writer to cut out all the letters from his/her roll of hockey tape...

(PS: This is not my car. If this were a tennis match, it would be considered “in!”)

SAM BEITEL, ABBOTT AVE.



Photos courtesy of Sam Beitel

PSOs confiscate beer, assist ‘homeless friend’

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A 40-ounce bottle of beer was confiscated, dumped out and given back to an itinerant person outside 4004 St. Catherine St. September 18 at 7:05 pm, Public Security officials said. He was described as heavily intoxicated. Drinking in the area and related behaviour is a common occurrence.

Public safety officers spent time talking to the man as he vented frustrations and complained that police were preventing him from collecting money in St. Henri, said Public Security director Greg McBain. “We try to send them to the appropriate resources,” he said.

The problem of itinerants in the area has been compounded with the closure of Cabot Square for refurbishment (see story May 6, p. 1).

The next day at 3:50 pm, a patroller was flagged down near the Open Door Mission on Dorchester at Atwater when “one of our homeless friends” was experiencing breathing problems, McBain said.

The 49-year-old man, who was known by name to officers, had chest pains and swollen ankles. He was described as not seeming to be intoxicated. Officers called 911, bringing more assistance from fire department first responders and Urgences Santé. The man was taken to the hospital in an ambulance.

CodeRED cont'd. from p. 1

after which a few “technical glitches” were reported to have been “flushed out” (see August 5, p. 16).

By July 29, the total number of Westmount listings with CodeRED for all devices had reached 7,230 after a number of new ones were registered as a result of the boil-water experience.

“There’s been a lot of checking and adjusting since then,” Lafrenière said. “Coding in the system’s database did not match up with the map in some cases,” she pointed out. “We hope we’ve fixed it, but only a city blitz all at once will be the real test.”

The test is a reminder to anyone who needs to register a device to do so on the city’s website, she said.

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Police Report

Officers drive asthmatic woman to hospital after traffic stop

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

BY MICHAEL MOORE

Station 12 police officers drove an 18-year-old woman to the emergency room after she suffered an asthmatic episode while pulled over in Westmount on September 23, according to Constable Stephan Laperrière.

The officers pulled over the woman, who was driving a white Mercedes, when they reportedly noticed her commit an illegal left turn at the intersection of Severn and Mountain around 8:30 am.

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When approaching the car to speak to the driver, one of the officers observed the woman was having difficulty breathing.

According to Laperrière, the officers radioed in for an ambulance to be sent to the scene and helped the woman find and use her asthma inhaler pump. When the pump had little effect and the ambulance's arrival was delayed, the officers placed the woman in their police car and drove her directly to the Montreal Children's Hospital emergency room, said Laperrière.

The woman, who is not a Westmount resident, is expected to make a full recovery.

"She was given immediate medical attention by the hospital's nurses and doc-

tors," said Laperrière. "She's out of danger and doing well."

A circulation officer from Station 12 drove the woman's car to the hospital so it wouldn't amass tickets.

"The hospital helped out by allowing the car to be parked in a reserved area so that she [wouldn't] be towed away," said Laperrière.

Asked whether she would still receive a ticket for the illegal turn, Laperrière laughed and said it would likely be rescinded.

"We're not animals. The city wants to get money from tickets but not like that," he said.

Study student runner-up in Commonwealth writing competition

BY JOANNE PENHALE

Thirteen-year-old Leah Annia Plante-Wiener, in grade 9 at The Study, will be recognized at Buckingham Palace for the essay she wrote for the 2014 Commonwealth Essay Competition, which has been running since 1883.

Plante-Wiener has entered the contest every year since she was in grade 5, and reflecting on her 2014 submission, she said, "I wanted to write about something I could relate to."

Her topic? A personal account of anxiety. From her essay, "A Hungry Monster." "We can only help ourselves and others if we talk about it, make people understand what we are going through."

The Study student said she has received many positive comments about the piece, including from people with anxiety.

She won runner-up in the contest's category for students under 14.

This November, she will be flown to London to join three other winning students – from Pakistan, Singapore, and the UK. The essay competition is run by the Royal Commonwealth Society, which also plans a week of programming for the winners, including a writing workshop and a visit to Cambridge University. The awards will be given out by a yet-to-be-disclosed royal at Buckingham Palace.

"It's very exciting," said Plante-Wiener.

The Study student says she writes a lot, especially short stories and poems, and she also reads a lot. She plays tuba and discusses world politics – like the recent Scottish referendum – with her family.

Plante-Wiener's essay can be found at thercs.org/youth.

See p. 1 for photo.

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Landfill cont'd. from p. 1

equal amounts.

The total amount of organics (garden debris and green-bin kitchen waste) decreased to 2,242 tonnes last year from 2,304, “a small variance” that can be expected depending on the number of leaves in a particular year, Peter said. Leaves account for the bulk of the weight.

Nevertheless, the collection of kitchen waste is an area in which Westmount could do better, she said in analyzing Westmount’s performance. “I hope we can improve in the green bin collection.

“On the other hand,” Peter added, “this is still a voluntary program and the approach we’re taking is that we want people to participate according to their level of

comfort.”

Hold put on kitchen waste

Amounts of kitchen waste diverted from landfill are expected to increase once the agglomeration allows Westmount to extend this type of waste collection to apartments, she explained. This will come once island-wide treatment centres are able to handle increased amounts.

In the case of recyclables, it is estimated in the agglomeration report that Westmount has reached 69 percent of its potential. This is very close to the provincial target of 70 percent, Peter said.

Within organics, both Westmount and the Town of Mount Royal have reached 43 percent of their potential, whereas Pointe Claire is at 53 percent.

Waste material in Westmount 2013 vs. 2012

Highlights from the agglomeration report card position Westmount in the following manner.

	2013 Tonnes	% diverted of total garbage	2012 Tonnes	% diverted of total garbage
Total waste generated	11,196		11,319	
Diverted from landfill	5,896	53%	5,989	53%
Recyclables (blue bin)	2,323	21%	2,440	22%
Organics (green bin, garden debris)	2,242	20%	2,304	20%
Construction, bulk items	1,254	11%	1,210	11%
Household hazardous waste	30	0.3%	35	0.3%
Textiles (clothing)	25	0.2%	n/a	n/a
Other (electronics)	22	0.2%	n/a	n/a
Sent to landfill	5,300	47%	5,330	47%

Comin' Up

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Filmmaker Malcolm Clarke presents and discusses his film *The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life*, 12:30 at the Atwater Public. Free.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

The Westmount Historical Association, in partnership with the city of Westmount’s Urban Planning department, is

giving a walking tour of innovative buildings around Westmount Park, with an English tour starting at 1 pm. A French tour starts at 1:30 pm. Groups meet at the Gallery at Victoria Hall.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

City council meeting, 8 pm at city hall.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Westmount Horticultural Society’s

speaker Sheena Swintz on “Hydroponics, Aquaponics and Microgreens,” 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Members free, guests \$5.

Please send your events in the above format by Friday at 2 pm to our regular editorial email address at indie@westmountindependent.com.

University Women’s Club of Montreal
Art & Craft Exhibition! Paintings in acrylic, oil, watercolors and mixed media, stone sculptures, plus photography and crafts. Items on display for viewing and sale. Percentage of the proceeds going to the Foundation. Wednesday, October 15th at 5 pm in the Atwater Club, 3505 Avenue Atwater. \$31.04 (members), \$50 (non members; glass-wine included). Reservations required. Newcomers welcome.
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Fundraiser for MAB-Mackay at Hampstead Tennis Club



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

On August 11, Westmount resident **Theodora Brinkman**, executive director of the Montreal Association for the Blind/MacKay Centre (MAB-Mackay), welcomed guests to a Hampstead Tennis Club event.

The club tournament and dinner was a fundraiser for the MAB-Mackay. Hampstead mayor **Bill Steinberg** posed for paparazzi with the event co-chairs, keen players **Nancy and Steven Krychman**. Their son **William**, who attends Westmount's St. George's School, joined them.

Other Hampstead city council members waiting for the BBQ dinner included **Leon Elfassy** and **Michael Goldwax**. "This is the fourth year we have held the tournament," Brinkman explained. "It is an amazing event!"

She was joined by the centre's **Miguel Burnier Jr.**, **Nora Burnier**, **Hana Boxer**..... continued on p. 17



Theodora Brinkman.



Steven and Nancy Krychman.



Hampstead mayor Bill Steinberg.



From left: Greg Boire, Heidi Fischel and Peter Wainberg, Edie Friedman and Charlie Friedman, and Guillermo Jocuerra.

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information (date, title, contact, ticket
price, etc) to: redgrave@videotron.ca

Too early for tennis

Two men were asked to stop playing tennis in Stayner Park until after the 8 am start time, September 19, Public Security officials said. Officers had been dispatched to check out a noise complaint from a resident at 7:25 am.

House on Clarke hit again, leads to study by traffic committee

A car speeding eastbound struck a house at 533 Clarke Ave. between The Boulevard and Cedar September 20 at 5:06 am, Public Security officials said. It was reported to be the second time in three years the house had been hit by a car apparently unable to negotiate the curve where The Boulevard intersects with Cedar.

The driver of the Land Rover had reportedly lost control on the curve, propelled across an island at the fork, crossed Clarke smashed into the property and

through a front hedge, hitting the stairs and damaging the foundation. No injuries were reported.

In response to a request from the owner of the house for the city to take some sort of protective measures to prevent a recurrence, Public Security director Greg McBain said he would be raising some possible solutions with the city's Transportation Advisory Committee.

Other similar accidents had been reported at that location through the years.

Social cont'd. from p. 16

man, Rebecca Alter, Pablo Zoroquian, Glenn Massad and Pat Logan.

Guests loved their t-shirts with the cheerful admonition "Eat, sleep, play." After playing, they enjoyed the eating part, seated on the club lawn, where tables had been set out.

Players enjoying the beautiful evening included **Bonnie Faigenbaum, Wendy and Dave Zelnicker, Sari and Jonathan Antebi, Ina Spoon, Heidi Fischel and Jeff Teitelbaum, Peter, Sharyn and Greg Wainberg, Edie and Charlie Friedman, Tiffany Pinchuk and Brandon Pinchuk, Michelle**

Barg and Ginger Swift, Linda Mashaal, Les Weitzman, Joanne Eisenman, Anna Fraenkel, Lionel, Talia and Jessica Sossan, Jen Lewy, Jennifer Radowitz, Jeff Friedman, Gordon Sauve and Sylvie Tandler, Roger Lambert and Rola Malhas, and Warren Hersh.

The club was well represented by **Greg Boire**, director of tennis and **Guillermo Jocuerra**, director of junior tennis.

Against tenacious tennis talent, winners were **Edie and Charlie Friedman** and runners-up were **Heidi Fischel and Peter Wainberg.**

The fun eve raised \$11,000 for the foundation.

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During a warm and sunny afternoon in Westmount Park on September 24 at around 5 pm, Ji Gyu Lee is seen scooping up crab apples from the lake while her father, Gi Han Lee, left, and her sisters look on. Lee and his family are from South Korea and have been living in Westmount for about one month.

Worker strikes gas line

A gas leak outside 3207 The Boulevard September 19 was caused by a private contractor accidentally striking a gas line, Public Security officials said. At the request of the fire department at 1:05 pm, officers blocked off traffic in the area around Mount Pleasant and Braeside Place until the pipe was capped at 2:52 pm.

Prince Albert tree gets a trim



Branches, including a large limb, were removed from this big cottonwood tree in Prince Albert Park last week. It's one of several large trees in the city's parks and playgrounds where Public Works officials said they are keeping a special eye out for required pruning. The work followed recommendations for maintenance pruning by Luc Nadeau urban forestry consultants.

Photo: Independent



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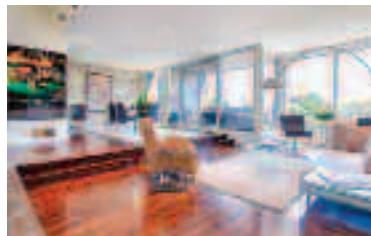


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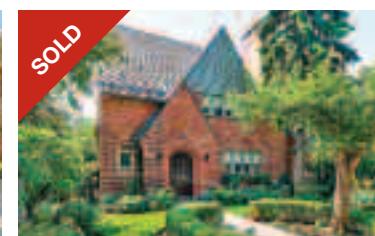
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