# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

November 7, 2007

We are Westmount

Vol. 1 No. 11

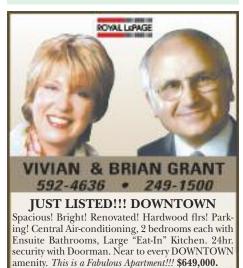
INSIDE Westmount Page p. 15



Profile: Joan Isobel Friedman p. 6



An interview with Marc Garneau p. 22



## Friends of Westmount Public Library So many books make for two separate sales

#### By Laureen Sweeney

So many books have been pouring in for the semi-annual book sale at Westmount Public Library that for the first time it will hold two separate sales Saturday and Sunday, November 17 and 18.

"This shows how we've grown in popularity," said Lee Taylor who has been co-organizing the sales on behalf of the Friends of the Library with Carolyn O'Neill.

She attributed the increasing interest to the quality of books offered for sale and the wide range of subjects which will appeal to both casual readers and those seeking specialized topics. "From the esoteric to the cool, we have it."

#### Cheaper, bigger and better than other sales

In fact, she said, given the typical price of \$1 per paperback and \$2 for hardcovers, "We believe we're cheaper, bigger and better than any other sale of used books."

After many days of unpacking, sorting and categorizing, Taylor said the upcoming sales will provide an opportunity for purchasing interesting Christmas gifts, obtaining books that are now out-print and finding unusual topics.

Contemplating a career change to become a witch, perhaps? Or maybe even a monk? "Then we've got the ..... books to lead you down those paths," she said. *continued on page 2* 

#### Chrysanthemums on display



At the Westmount conservatory adjoining the library, city gardeners Hélène Bazinet and Sébastien Raymond add final touches to the annual Chrysanthemum Show. The display opens this Thursday to the public and will continue for as long as the blooms last. The exhibit can be viewed weekdays from 10 am to 8 pm and weekends from 10 am to 5 pm.

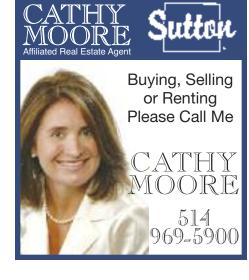
## Black Watch treasure trove found

Sydenham Ave. resident W. Arthur Grafftey fought for three years in France during World War I, and grandson Brian Shemilt has just discovered a complete photographic record of that time overseas.

The city's Remembrance Day ceremony is on Nov. 11 at 2 pm at the cenotaph (Argyle at Sherbrooke). For more Nov. 11 news see Vimy p. 20



Captain W. Arthur Grafftey on his horse Mascotte. Mascottte was killed by a shell on the last day of World War I.



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## World War I through a Westmounter's eyes

The current commanding officer of the

enthusiastic at the discovery

and the Westmount connec-

tion, "We are very pleased to

have the opportunity to exam-

ine the collection. Our history

is well represented in West-

mount, many of our members

have come from Westmount

and we still draw some recruits

from Westmount to this day."

Arthur would be promoted to

captain (major after the war),

wounded twice and awarded

two military crosses. He would

By the end of the war,

Bleury-headquartered Black Watch, Lieu-

tenant-Colonel Thomas MacKay (himself

#### continued from page 1

haps unique piece of Canadian history. Shemilt was helping his uncle, former Brome-Missisquoi Progressive

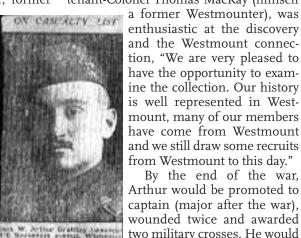
Conservative MP Heward Grafftey, sort through large stacks of family photographs when a plain black photograph album caught his eye.

Among the wealth of other memorabilia was a neatly kept collection of original photographs, newspaper clippings, battle orders and mess hall programs. Heward gave the album to Shemilt, who is digitally restoring the photographs and sharing the album with military historians.

#### Father was an alderman

Arthur Grafftey enlisted in Grafftey was wounded. the 42nd Battalion Royal High-

landers of Canada (better known as the Black Watch) in 1915 after finishing his science degree at McGill University. He was 24 years old. The Graffteys were well known in Westmount: Arthur's father was Alderman W. K. Grafftey.



also take part in numerous bat-Newspaper story that aptles, including the Canadian peared when Arthur capture of Mons, Belgium on

the eve of the armistice - coincidentally the first Belgian town captured by the Germans in 1914. Arthur was the first officer into Mons.

Arthur was also the recipient for his unit of the November II armistice orders – another original document contained in



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Shemilt's photo album.

#### Back to civilian life

Arthur survived the war, settled in Westmount (on de Casson and later Rosemount Cres.) and returned to civilian life. He married Honour Heward in 1926, whom he had met during the war. They had two children together, future MP Heward and Shemilt's mother, Ann.

The 11th hour battle for Mons came back to play another part in his life. He testified on behalf of his former general, Sir Arthur Currie, during Currie's successful 1928 libel lawsuit against the Port Hope *Evening Guide* and one of its authors, W. T. R. Preston. The Guide had alleged the whole Mons action was a "needless waste of human life." In fact, no one died.

Arthur loved his time in the army and tried (unsuccessfully) to re-enlist for World War II. He was vice president and a shareholder of the Montreal Lumber Company

until his death in 1948.

Shemilt's family has many connections to active war service. During World War I, his grandmother Honour was a nurse and ambulance driver for the Red Cross and the Victorian Order of Nurses. Shemilt's father, Gordon (also Westmounter), а

fought in World War Arthur Grafftey's future II as a flight lieu- wife, Honour Heward. tenant in the 23rd During World War I, Squadron of the Heward was an ambu-RAF (where he was cross. awarded the Distin-

guished Flying Cross) and then later in the 401 Squadron of the RCAF.

## The mother of all used-book sales

#### continued from page 1

"One lovely little book I've just come across from 1903 on the Dolomites is called, A Practical, Historical and Descriptive Guide Book to the Scotland of Italy."

With the last two sales generating more than \$7,000 each, the Friends of the Library sales have generated more than \$60,000 since the first in 2000. The library uses the funds to purchase new books and materials.

#### Student volunteers are key

A key component of the sales is the student volunteers trained by Taylor to assist

with the event.

Given the number of donations for the fall event this year, Taylor said, we will be offering different collections on the Saturday and Sunday – both days at the library from 10 am to 5 pm.

Librarians will also be checking through the donations with a eye to augmenting the library's collection. Conversely, some items from the collection will also be added to the sale.

This is a great way to pick up previous best-sellers that the library no longer needs in multiple copies, Taylor pointed out.



Co-organizers Lee Tayor and Carolyn O'Neill sort through the many book donations.



## Westmount budget guidelines announced A break for taxpayers in 2008

#### By Laureen Sweeney

Westmount taxpayers may be able to breathe a sigh of relief for 2008.

"Barring any unforeseen problems at this point, it is council's intention to keep 2008 local tax bills at roughly the same level as those sent out in 2007," Mayor Karin Marks told the city council meeting October 22 in delivering the annual stateof-the-union address.

This means taxpayers could pay the same amount in dollars, even after taking into account the phasing-in of the property valuation roll that went into effect in 2007.

#### Hold down Agglomeration taxes

Westmount and the other demerged municipalities also intend to hold the Agglomeration Council to keeping its own taxes in check, she added. These account for more than 60 percent of the total municipal taxes paid by Westmount homeowners.

One area that might impact the local tax bill is the collective labour agreements currently under negotiation.

The city also intends to maintain its commitment to maintain and upgrade infrastructure (roads, water and electrical networks) at "the same approximate level of spending as was approved for 2007" of \$4.4 million with pay-as-you-go funding.

#### Surplus expected

The city expects to end 2007 with an operating surplus of \$400,000, Mayor Marks said. This assumes the year ends without any unusual snowfalls or major water leaks.

As of August 31, city coffers had brought in more than \$1 million more than budgetted in property taxes, thanks to soaring welcome taxes that resulted from a hot real estate market.

Net revenues from Hydro Westmount have added another \$500,000 more than

expected in net revenue to the city's operating budget.

#### To study arena facility

Over the course of 2008, Mayor Marks said, the city intends to study improvements required to the 1957 arena/pool facility, and the impact these might have on the current debt load.

Westmount's debt at the end of 2006 demerger now stands at \$15 million, largely due to Montreal's financing procedures for capital works costs during the merger years.

This, however, will soon double to \$29.1 million when Westmount is obliged to pay for the acquisition of its water network (\$9.1 million) and new debt. This is debt incurred for the funding of current capital works projects not covered by Westmount's pay-as-you-go process that is being phased-in after demerger.

Mayor Marks reiterated the council's previous announced intent to recover its demerger-claim of \$21.8 million from the city of Montreal.

## Westmount Park debate continues

The city continues to consider alternatives for Westmount Park's fields. At the request of council, the city administration (i.e. permanent staff) recently prepared a paper entitled "Westmount's Playing Fields: Developing An All 'Natural Turf' Strategy."

It recommends two fenced soccer fields and a general use area where the baseball diamonds now are, as well as mini soccer fields where the football field north of the bike path is. It also recommends that a professional be hired to consult on the exact natural turf to be used.

At the October 22 council meeting, Mayor Karin Marks explained that this administration paper was not council policy, but simply a possible solution. It was not voted on by council, but Marks underlined that something must be done regarding the fields given their poor state of repair.

#### Workgroup created

Council did decide to establish an advisory workgroup on the fields and park issue. There will be representatives from Westmount Park School, CPE Narnia, the Westmount Municipal Association and the Healthy City Project, as well as a maximum of two residents for each of the city's eight wards.

The deadline to be considered for membership is November 9. The workgroup will be chaired by councillors Nicole Forbes and Cynthia Lulham.

Save the Park! continues to be vigilant on this issue. In a recent email query to its members regarding the administration's paper, 773 of the group's original petition signers were asked what they thought of the proposal. Of 115 respondents, 111 were opposed, including several vehement ones, according to Patrick Barnard, one of the group's founding members. Barnard was at pains to point out that the results were not a scientific poll.

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## At Second Glance Remembrance Day: Defending democracy

#### By Heather Black

As Remembrance Day approaches, we recall the courage of our veterans and honour their contribution. But we can also pay tribute to those who currently serve to protect rights and freedoms in Afghanistan.

I spoke to Captain Nicolas Gauthier of Westmount's Royal Montreal Regiment to understand one soldier's mission to help secure democracy for the Afghan people.

#### Promoting a free press and education

Since intervention in 2001, Afghan radio and television current-affairs shows – encouraged by the Canadian Forces – have blossomed. Captain Gauthier himself arranged for top-level officials to participate as well as organized equipment repairs for fledgling stations. His message to the Afghan people was, "Is there anything I can do to help?"

Captain Gauthier, as a member of Psychological Operations Directorate (PSYOPS), also promoted education, distributing book bags, pencils and paper and soccer balls with the message "attend school." At one school, he assisted with the production of a newsletter. His eyes shone with pride as he spoke of his 21-year-old local interpreter who opened a school for 1,000 children that employs 50 teachers – all with money earned as an interpreter to the Canadian Forces. He also laughed as he explained that students would giggle in his presence as they could not believe a youth – he must be young, he had no beard – had so much influence. Captain Gauthier then grew a beard.

#### **Building a nation**

Most Afghans live in tribal communities and rarely venture outside their village. To help them develop a sense of nationhood, Captain Gauthier and others distributed a *National Geographic*-style newspaper. Greatly appreciated, it became a "bright spot" on the walls of their homes. He also distributed a newspaper on Afghan events prepared by ISAF which villagers grabbed from his hands. Although many cannot read – the male literacy rate is 51.9 percent and the female is 21.9 percent – they take their paper to someone who can.

But part of his job is preparing for war. He recalled flying in a helicopter dangerously low over a combat area and wondering if he would be shot. That was the day before Operation Medusa, when he was distributing flyers to warn villagers and to convince the "soft" Taliban – those coerced or mercenaries – to surrender. As information regarding the protection of prisoners in the Geneva Convention is



Captain Nicolas Gauthier of Westmount's Royal Montreal Regiment in Kandahar Province. His message to the Afghan people? "Is there anything I can do to help?"

deliberately withheld, they expect death in the hands of their captors.

But are the efforts of the Canadian Forces appreciated by the Afghan people? Although some tribal elders are fearful of Taliban reprisal and keep their distance, many are not. He reports of visiting a chief who told him that "if Canada has trouble with the Taliban, give me a call." And following the death of Captain Nichola Goddard, the mother of his Afghan interpreter phoned him to apologize and to say how sorry she was as, "Canadians are here only

#### to help."

#### Responsibility to protect

Captain Gauthier maintains a genuine concern for the Afghan people and speaks with pride of his accomplishments in creating a safer, freer and more democratic Afghanistan. But he is just one of many PSYOPS officers in Afghanistan at any given time. And that list included fellow Montrealer, Corporal Jason Warren, who was killed in July 2006.

The duty of "responsibility to protect" – where sovereignty encompasses the right to state security and the protection of human rights – was promoted by Liberal foreign minister Lloyd Axworthy and adopted by

the UN in September 2005. But then humanitarian intervention was also the goal of what was described as the "War for Civilization" (1914-1918) and the "Good War" (1939-45) against Nazi tyranny.

So on November 11, remember our Canadian Forces – those in the past and those who currently serve – for their individual contribution and sacrifice in the name of democracy. "Lest we forget."

Heather Black is a Westmount communications designer. If you have suggestions for this column, contact her at atcitizen@gmail.com.

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#### AN OPEN LETTER TO MAYOR MARKS AND COUNCILLORS

Dear Mayor Marks, Councillor Forbes and Councillor Lulham,

The formation of a citizens' advisory workgroup to discuss Westmount Park is to be applauded. However, a principal voice for the citizenry about the park issue has been Save The Park! It is clear to us, and many other Westmounters, that the ground rules for the advisory body exclude Save The Park. This is unfortunate since Save The Park has a great deal of information to offer. To our knowledge, we are the only grassroots movement that has worked continuously on this issue, and the local press has recognized that our activism has fostered community awareness.

From the very beginning of the park debate in October 2006, Save The Park has asked for public consultation. We asked for it at every council meeting, and we kept pressing for an official date. Save The Park spent a great deal of time researching the history of the park, its unique character, its maintenance and the problems with artificial turf. It is fair to say that we are at least as familiar with the various consultants' reports as the people who commissioned them. When the public consultation was finally held in May 2007 – thanks in no small part to our persistence – Westmounters came in large numbers to voice their concerns and show just how much they care for this urban greenspace.

Save The Park! has canvassed every city district and done extensive research about all aspects of the park. Save The Park would make a significant contribution to the advisory group. Not only do we speak for the residents who will be most affected by any unwise changes, we also have given voice to the views of many Westmounters, and we believe that we should have at least one representative on the advisory workgroup.

> MARILYNN GILLIES FOR SAVE THE PARK! SAUVONS LE PARC!

## Dig up your home's roots

#### By Laureen Sweeney

Who first lived in your house so many eons ago? What did they do? And what are the ghosts that share its rooms with you now?

Researching the roots of the Westmount house you call home can be as interesting – and revealing, perhaps – as tracing your own lineage. And probably a lot easier.

That was what more than 50 local residents discovered October 23 as they filled the city council chamber to find out how to tackle the challenge.

"We were really pleased with so much interest," said Joanne Poirier, city urban planning director, after the first of three talks organized by her department on Westmount's architectural heritage.

#### Viewing house plans

A special surprise for those attending was the opportunity to view the original plans or drawings of their home, all laid out for them in advance.

Guest speaker for the evening, UQAM urban geography professor David Hanna, provided many research sources and tips including two annual directories available at most major libraries: McKay's (18421861) and Lovell's (1862 to the present).

Here, householders are listed by street and alphabetical reference where employment information is also provided.

#### Tracing year of construction

Backing up year by year until the house disappears from the directory, he explained, is usually a good indication the house had been built the previous year.

Other sources include: Westmount's urban planning department (www. westmount.org) for homeowner access to plans and drawings from the early 1900s; Montreal's urban planning department (www.service.ville.montreal.qc.ca); and books on Westmount at Westmount Public Library.

Check out as well the Bibliothèque et archives nationales du Québec (www. banq.qc.ca) and the Westmount Historical Association (514.925.1404 for an appointment with archivist Barbara Covington).

Dates of the other two talks are November 6 for "The Westmount Streetscape" and November 20 for "Adding on to your House."

Tickets may be purchased at a cost of \$5 at city hall or Westmount Public Library. For information please call 514.989.5200 or 514.989.5299.

#### Directories, yes; residents, no

The distributors of the recent Yellow Pages proved to be optimistic when it came to residents of 4500 de Maisonneuve moving back to their fire-ravaged building. The fire took place on November 20, 2005. Construction is underway, but according to Gotham Hooja, an owner of one of the building's 11 units, residents "will be lucky to be back by Christmas." Payment from AXA, the building's insurer, has been a major issue for residents and negotiations are still underway. Hooja estimates that approximately one third of the construction cost is still claimed by residents and de-



nied by AXA. At issue is whether the insurance policy covers the cost of bringing the building up to current building codes or the original construction standard. AXA did not return calls for comment.

## Vernissages around Westmount

Collins Lefebvre Stoneberger. Jean-Jacques Duval: Sculpture and paintings. Exhibit continues until November 25. 4928 Sherbrooke St., 514.481.2111.

Galerie de Bellefeuille. Michael Harrington: Paintings. Vernissage: November 8, 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Exhibit: November 8 – November 19.

Tim Merrett: Paintings. Vernissage: November 22, 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Exhibit: November 22 – December 3. 1367 Greene Ave., 514.933.4406.

La Galerie sur Greene. Suzanne Olivier: Paintings. "Sous toutes latitudes." To November 17. 368 Greene Ave., 514.938.3863.

- Gallery at Victoria Hall. Bonnie Shemie: Paintings. To November 12. France-Quebec Exchange: Group Exhibition: Quilting. Exhibit: November 22 to December 15. 4626 Sherbrooke St.
- McClure Gallery Visual Arts Centre. Francine Potvin: Paintings. "Wild Mind." To November 24. 350 Victoria Ave., 514.488.9558.



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# Westmount Profile: Joan Isobel Friedman A remarkable PhD

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Life has never been more exciting for Joan Friedman.

In her seventies, the longtime Westmount resident has just completed her PhD in art history and become an expert in mediaeval illumination.

Making her accomplishment all the more noteworthy is that she not only began her university education at age 35, but was in her fifties when she set out to learn – and become proficient in – Latin and Mediaeval Latin in order to embark on her doctoral research.

"While it has been a lengthy and difficult endeavour," she says, "it has also been a rich and remarkable journey."

#### **Evolution of images**

Friedman's research involved tracing the evolution of painted images as they were portrayed from the late Middle Ages into the Renaissance, with a focus on Italy.

Because many of these paintings and drawings adorned manuscripts and early

printed books, Friedman's work led her to the sites where they are preserved: the inner sanctums of cloistered convents in Tuscany and Umbria as well as great libraries and museums in Europe and North America.

"I basically lived for several months in the library at the Vatican, which has a wonderful manuscript collection," she says. "I felt truly privileged to have the opportunity to work with such a great collection. I am very fortunate."

#### Defence of thesis in Coventry

Friedman's successful defence of her thesis in August at the University of Warwick in Coventry has now become a springboard to more speaking engagements and to publishing the thesis.

"That will be quite a big job," she explains. "I'm currently negotiating the rights with a reputable publishing house in England."

Throughout her research, Friedman has been on a speakers' circuit and has published a number of articles, including

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DAVID PRICE, EDITOR

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Joan Friedman with her cat, Louisa, in this photo taken by her husband, Arthur Friedman.

seven for the Dictionary of Art (1996).

#### Driven by her passion

Despite a number of interruptions and complications that included medical problems during the course of her research, Friedman says it was her passion for what she was doing that kept her going.

"I'm very enthusiastic, energetic and persistent," she explains.

#### Relevant to life today

Although her work deals in history, she finds it to be very relevant to life today.

"I'm dealing in a very turbulent period of history in the 14th century when the plague decimated two thirds of the population. Europe was in a period of major transition, on the edge of the Renaissance and on the brink of the great schism of the church.

"There was great anxiety and you can almost see the parallel with what we're going through today as people grapple with spiritual and ethical issues."

#### Learning to start over

Born in Toronto, Friedman grew up moving back and forth between Ottawa and Montreal when her father was working for the government during World War II. "It taught me to be flexible, make friends, pull up stakes and start over."

It was only after working many years in a variety of jobs in medical and business offices that she decided she was, figuratively, at a dead end.

Not yet married, but having a strong background and interest in the visual arts, Friedman enrolled as a part-time student at Concordia while continuing to work full time.

She had discovered academia.

#### Perpetual student

"I believe I can be categorized as a per-

petual student," she now says.

The new period of her life included a bachelor's degree in fine arts in 1975, marriage to Arthur Friedman, and a master's degree in mediaeval art history from McGill in 1984.

She was subsequently hired by the university as a lecturer in the department of art history.

"This, if anything, convinced me to pursue my PhD," she says. "I loved the reciprocation of teaching."

It was 1985 when she embarked on the challenge, starting her doctorate at the University of Toronto but eventually applying to the University of Warwick.

While Friedman actually submitted her thesis two years ago, she was unable to make the trip overseas to defend it in person until this summer.

"I was offered the chance to do it by Web conference, but I said I wanted to do it *viva* – in person. And I'm so glad I was able to, because it was a very positive experience."

#### Life experience an asset

In retrospect, she says, being older than the typical student and having life experience facilitated her relationship with archivists, librarians and curators, and especially at the convents where her Italian and Latin were put to good use.

She smiles when she recalls how her father dissuaded her from taking Latin in school, saying it was a "dead" language.

"Well," she states, "I have since found out how very much alive it really is!"

#### Westmount Trivia

**Q**: How many of Westmount's nine banks have female bank managers? **A**: Seven.

## Bang on!



Westmount's "speed trailer" has been making the rounds of lower Westmount in the last few weeks. Pictured here is a driver on Metcalfe Ave. at the legal maximum. The trailer does not record the number of incidents or the speeds attained. It will be upgraded over the winter to do just that. The display may also be modified to include the fine the driver would have received if ticketed.

## Westmount High School climbs in rankings

A survey made public on October 25 rated Westmount High School one of Quebec's 10 most improved secondary schools during the last five years. Westmount High is the only English school in Montreal to have that distinction.

The Montreal Economic Institute and the Fraser Institute, both independent research organizations, issued the eighth edition of the annual Report Card on Quebec's Secondary Schools. In it, Westmount High jumped to 193 from an average spot of 333 since 2002. The rankings also put



the school's graduation rate 83.1 percent in 2006 up from 67.2 percent in 2002.

Newsmagazine *L'Actualité* published the results.

## TOP 10 fastest-improving schools, 2002-2006

- 1. École secondaire, Natagan Barraute public French
- 2. École secondaire Duval, Montreal private French
- Phoenix Alternative School, Laval public – English
- 4. École Mont Royal, Mont Royal public French
- 5. École Boudreau, Quebec public French
- 6. Richmond Regional High School, Richmond – public – English
- 7. Westmount High School, Westmount - public - English
- 8. Pontiac Protestant High School, Shawville – public – English
- 9. D'Arcy McGee High School, Gatineau - public - English
- 10. Polyvalente de Normandin,
  - Normandin public French.

## Sauvé-Frankel re-elected to board

Incumbent Ginette Sauvé-Frankel remains on the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) after she beat former FACE School Principal Nick Primiano, 590-340.

Of 5,073 eligible voters, 63 percent cast their ballots for Sauvé-Frankel, compared to 37 percent for Primiano; 930 people turned out to vote, making for an 18.3 percent turnout.

The incumbent also won on the French side, as Akos Verboczy beat Georges Toda, 425-98. Verboczy retains his seat the Commission scolaire de Montréal with 81 percent of the vote, besting Toda's 19 percent.

Sauvé-Frankel and Verboczy have represented Ward 7 (Westmount, NDG) since 2003 when each was elected to a four-year term.

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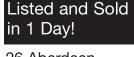
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## Want your leaves collected? Then bag 'em

#### By Laureen Sweeney

As the leaves start to fall in earnest, Westmount residents are reminded of changes in leaf collection over the last couple of years.

The city will now collect leaves for com-

#### **Cornering Roslyn**



Haven Bonhomme and Colin Frost carry Roslyn's new "cornerstone" up the school steps on October 15. The event was a reenactment of the original 1907 ceremony. Jasmin Uhtoff, chair of the Roslyn School Foundation, has pointed out that none of last month's festivities celebrated Roslyn's actual centennial. Technically, the school turns 100 in September 2008 – 100 years after students first entered the school. A "birthday bash" is promised for that time.

posting that have been placed in clear plastic or paper yard-waste bags within three days of being placed behind the public sidewalk.

City crews will no longer pick up unbagged leaves raked into piles, said Marina Peter, city environmental coordinator.

#### Remove all tar-spot leaves

Because many maple leaves have been affected by the tar spot and other fungi again this year, city horticulturist Claudette Savaria emphasizes the importance of removing all these leaves in an effort to prevent recurrence next year.

All contaminated leaves should be bagged since small household composting does not build up the high heat required to destroy the fungus that is generated by the huge composting process.

The tar spot fungus affects Norway and sugar maples while phyllosticta leaf spot similarly afflicts the Amur, Japanese red and silver maples.

Both are caused by wet and humid conditions. While unsightly, they generally do not threaten the lives of healthy trees.

Further information on the leaf diseases may be found at http://ohioline. osu.edu/hyg-fact/3000/3044.html. If leaf bags have not been picked up after three days, residents should call Public Works at 514.989.5311.

#### Batshaw raises funds via art preview



From left: Batshaw Foundation board members and Westmounters Christine Harkness, Nicole R. Mikula (president), Kim Drummond and Mark Lowe on the eve of their annual fundraiser.

The Westmount-headquartered Batshaw Foundation held its third annual fundraiser on October 30. Tickets to a preview of artist Jennifer Lefort's work raised \$60,000. The funds were earmarked for tutoring services.

The foundation supports the government-funded Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, which in turn provide services related to the Youth Protection Act, the Youth Criminal Justice Act and the Act Respecting Heath Services and Social Services. For more information or to make a donation, call 514.989.1885x201 or write 5 Weredale Park, H3Z 1Y5.



Westmounters Andrew Clark and Alexandra Liebich at the October 30 event.

## A quarter-century of music at the Shaar Hashomayim



Congregation Shaar Hashomayim celebrated 25 years of the Hazzan Nathan Mendelson Music Foundation with a gala anniversary concert on October 28. Congregation members packed the house for the event. Pictured above is events coordinator Arlene Scher flanked by Westmount residents and Reception Committee members Irving Shapiro (left) and Stanley Baker.



The performers are pictured above. Front row left to right: Sharron Feifer, Deanna Mendelson, Rebekah Fassler, Sharon Azrieli, Haley Kobilinsky; middle row, left to right: David Mendelson, Norman Fassler, Michael Mendelson, Cantor Jacob Ben Zion Mendelson; back row, left to right: Cantor Sidney Dworkin, Stephen Glass, Cantor Gideon Zelermyer, Robert Mendelson.

Cannon-aid on the way?

## **Empowering seniors**

National Senior Safety Awareness week ends on Monday November 12. The Canada Safety Council has created this helpful reminder for seniors and their loved ones to keep in mind.

Today, seniors are enjoying the possibility of living independently and remaining in their homes for longer periods of time. Since seniors may still be regarded as vulnerable or easy targets for certain scams or crime, the Canada Safety Council has dedicated its Senior Safety Awareness Week (Nov. 6 to 12) to the empowerment of seniors living independently.

#### **Timely reminders**

Secure your home. Have a well-lit exterior and ensure that the exterior lights are not accessible and will not be tampered with. Have your windows visible from the street. Reinforce doors and doorframes. Keep all doors and windows locked and curtains drawn. Keep valuables and money at the bank.

#### Don't open your door to strangers

No matter how well-dressed or kind strangers appear to be, do not unlock your door (even to the police) until you have

taken all precautions to verify and confirm their identity. There are many deceptions used to have seniors lower their guard and unlock the door; so be sure and be safe. The weakest link in home security is when the occupant fails to lock, or opens, the door to strangers. Seniors should practice role-playing different scenarios of having someone waiting on the other side of a locked door as they question them, until it becomes second nature. If you become a victim, don't fight back. Instead, get a good description of the intruder.

#### Telemarketing scams

Seniors are particularly vulnerable to telemarketing scams. Never give personal information to someone on the phone unless you initiated the call. If the caller claims to have a free prize for you, never accept to pay handling or shipping fees. This is a red flag – you should not have to send money for something that is free.

Whatever the context, know to hang up when the conversation becomes a pressured sales pitch. Role playing with family or friends will help you practice ending unwanted calls. You don't need to explain or apologize – just be firm and hang up.

## Free flu shots offered

The CLSC will offer free flu shots to people age 60 and over, babies from 6 to 23 months, those with a chronic illness as well as those in contact with abovementioned individuals. The vaccinations will be available at the following times and locations:

- Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St., December 7 from 9 am to 3 pm (adults only) and 1 to 6 pm (babies and children)
- CLSC Metro, 1801 de Maisonneuve Blvd., November 14 and 15 from 9 am to 7 pm (adults only), November 16 from 9 am to 7 pm (all ages), November

17 from 9 am to 4 pm (all ages)

• Contactivity Centre, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd., November 30 from 9 am to 3.30 pm (adults only)

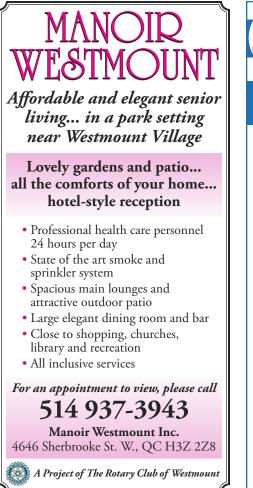
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Remembrance Day is usually a time when all things martial are made to look their best. The cannons in Westmount Park won't qualify this year. They remain in hiding to protect them from graffiti artists and scrap metal thieves, and the carriages have begun to rot away (above). Westmount's Community Safety, Utilities and Environment Committee is aware of the state of the carriages, but has yet to decide on a repair or replacement strategy. There has also been no decision on whether the actual cannon will be on display next summer, inside or out.

• Manoir Charles-Dutaud, 2165 Tupper, December 4 from 1 to 4 pm (adults only). For more information, please call 514. 934.0354.



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Among the many new arrivals at Westmount Public Library singled out this week for special interest by staff are:

#### Magazines

- *Cook's Illustrated,* December 2007. "Foolproof & flaky pie dough: easy to make, easy to roll."
- *Lire,* October 2007. A glimpse into the world of choosing the literary prizewinners.

#### DVDs

- The Wind that Shakes the Barley: Civil war erupts in Ireland and families who once fought side by side against the British now find themselves pitted against one another. Awarded the Golden Palm for best film at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival.
- *The Lives of Others*: Before the collapse of the Berlin Wall, East Germany's popu-

lation is closely monitored by the State Secret Police and there are spies everywhere. Winner, Best Foreign Language film at the 2007 Academy Awards.

#### English Adult

- *The Abstinence Teacher* by Tom Perrotta. The human sexuality teacher at the local high school meets her daughter's soccer coach, an evangelical Christian – pure fun and a satirical look at life in the 'burbs.
- Toxic People: Decontaminate Difficult People at Work without Using Weapons or Duct Tape by Marsha Petrie Sue. Ways for managers and employees to take the lead in fostering teamwork and morale.



#### French Adult

- Alabama song: roman by Gilles Leroy. This retelling of the story of Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald is a candidate for the 2007 Goncourt, Femina, Renaudot and Médicis awards.
- Comment acheter mon premier plex by André Dubuc. Thinking about buying an income property? This book discusses the profitability issues and teaches you how to make a plan that will maximize your chances of making a successful investment.

#### Reference

- *Tax planning for you and your family 2008* (presented by) KPMG.
- Les carrières de la formation universitaire 2007-2008 (presented by) Jobboom.

#### Children's

- Les 13 fantômes de l'Halloween by Robin Muller. In this Halloween version of the *Twelve Days of Christmas*, 10 children, two dogs and a cat enter a haunted funhouse. On their journey through the rooms, they encounter bats and witches and goblins.
- You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Scary Tales to Read Together by Mary Ann Hoberman. This latest edition to the series that encourages parent and child to read together focuses on spooky tales.



#### Terry Evans – 514-933-6077 GROUPE SULTION-CENTRE O



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## **SAVING YOU TIME Traffic Updates Every 15 Minutes**

Photo Credit; Marcos Townsend, The Gazette (Montreal)

# Westmount is hot on the bead

#### By Annika Melanson

If you are searching for that particular style of earring that you spotted in a magazine but are unable to find it, making your own jewelry may be the answer. It may be a little intimidating at first, but once you have invested in the basic equipment (pliers, stringing material and clasps) and bought your beads, beading is fun, therapeutic and economic.

And Westmount boasts several bead classes to get you started on the road to getting creative with jewelry, from earrings to bracelets and necklaces to belts.

The Bead Emporium (368 Victoria Ave., 514.486.6425) offers weekly jewelry



Bead Emporium on Victoria

making classes. Each class costs \$30, plus the cost of materials. You can select from an assortment of beads from all over the world, or have a beading birthday party, which is not only fun but instructional.

Bead It, specializing in semi-precious stones, Czech glass and freshwater pearls (4926 Sherbrooke St W., 514.481.4531, www.beadit.com) also offers jewelry making classes. Classes cost \$35 per hour, plus





Bead It on Victoria

the cost of materials. Beading birthday parties for ages 10 and up are available, too.

#### Folkloric art trip to Mexico

Bead enthusiasts can travel, too. Westmounter Ruth Shine owns the Bead Emporium and has been taking local beading enthusiasts to a unique tour of Mexico. Shine is hosting her thirteenth annual jewelry, beading and folklore art trip to Mexico from January 18 to February 3, in conjunction with the Visual Arts Centre (350 Victoria Ave., 514. 488.9558, wwwcentredesartsvisuels.ca).

Participants will buy beads in Taxco, Mexico's silver capital and travel with Shine, who is fluent in Spanish. They will also take silversmithing classes at Instituto de San Miguel de Allende. They will spend the last few days of the trip beading on the beach.

Those interested in traveling with Shine should contact her at 514.486.6425.

## Westmounter featured in Nutcracker

Westmounters attending Les Grands Ballets Canadiens' *The Nutcracker* may spy a familiar face on stage. Joanie Moreau, a professional ballerina who will be performing for the second year in that muchloved production, also teaches ballet at Victoria Hall as part of Westmount's Sports and Recreation program.

The Montreal native started taking classes once a week at age five. By the age of 10, she became more serious about her dancing and began taking up to four classes a week. She went on to study ballet professionally at the School of Alberta Ballet, where she danced six days a week from 9 am to 6 pm for four years. She returned home to Montreal in 2005 to work for a small ballet company, Ballet Ouest.

#### Right place, right time

When asked how she came to teach in Westmount, Moreau replied, "I was in the right place at the right time." Taking classes at Victoria Hall herself, she heard that a teacher was needed for the children's class.

It was Moreau's first experience with teaching, "I love it. The best part about teaching children is that it reminds me why I started dancing. They love it so much and it's great to see their joy."



Professional ballerina Joanie Moreau with her young Westmount ballet students Amel Melanson and Laetitia Hurtubise Ballester.



WES

## WESTMOUNT ARTISANS' FESTIVAL

Saturday and Sunday November 10 -11 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Admission: Non-perishable food items or 2\$

VICTORIA HALL 4626, SHERBROOKE O.

#### Westmount Today, Yesterday and Before

#### By Doreen Lindsay

**Question:** What did Sir William Macdonald do for Westmounters? For the answer, please see page 14.



## See paper archive

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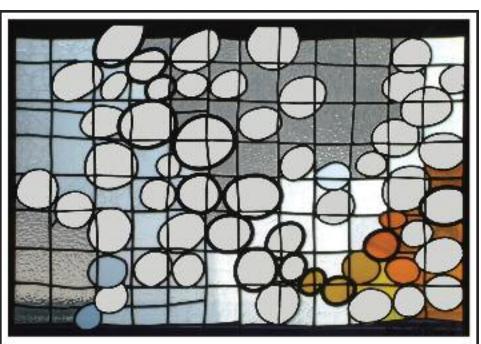
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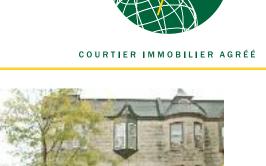
Westmount adj. Wonderful, well-maintained and updated detached duplex with bachelor is situated on treelined street. Offers 2 exterior parking spaces, and 2 revenues. Occupancy in the upper for the new owner. Asking \$665,000

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## Retail Watch Several long-time businesses celebrate anniversaries

By Annika Melanson



Tony's (1346 Greene Ave., 514.935.2993) and Martin Swiss (313 Victoria Ave., 514.481.3369) are both marking 70-year anniversaries this year. Robbie Fargnoli is the

great-grandson of Tony,

the founder of the well-known Westmount shoe store. He attributes the success of the family business to "loyal clientele and good staff." Manager Julio Di Biasio (pictured with Fargnoli) has worked for the



Julio DiBiasio and Robbie Fargnoli of Tony's



Tracy Gartner of Trink



Michelle York and Jonathan Cheung of Bon Appétit

Fargnoli family for 44 years and all four generations.

The original owner of Martin Swiss was Martin Swiss and the store was on Sherbrooke St. W. at Beaconsfield. The business moved to Westmount in 1953, where it has been since. The present owner, who simply goes by Martin, bought the business in 1974. "Our success is due to service and the fact that other people don't do jobs that we do, both with locks and bikes," he said.

Eastern Townships native Chantal Boulé is celebrating the 10th anniversary of her interior decorating business Vie de



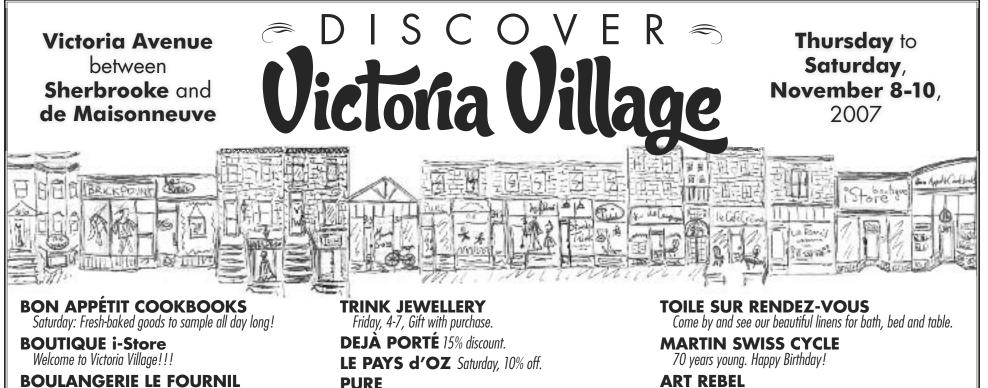
From left: Marie Mercier Powney, Chantal Boulé & Marie-Suzanne Brodeur of Vie de Campagne



Martin Swiss, then and now



Campagne (361 Victoria Ave., 514.484. 2199). "I have been in business for 18 years but since moving to Westmount, many doors to the city have been opened as well as other areas of the countryside, especially the Laurentians," said Boulé, who recently started carrying the soughtafter US carpet line Dash & Albert. The line is exclusive to Vie de Campagne in Montreal. continued on page 21



Saturday, 1-3, Kids Cookie Decorating

VIE DE CAMPAGNE Happy 10th Anniversary!

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## Westmount vous informe... Westmount Page



#### SPORTS ET LOISIRS Groupe de travail consultatif Terrains de jeux du parc Westmount

Le conseil lance une invitation aux membres de la communauté désirant faire partie d'un comité spécial formé de 12 citoyens. Le groupe de travail se penchera sur la dernière phase de conception des terrains de jeux et soumettra ses recommandations au conseil. Afin d'assurer une représentation diversifiée de l'ensemble de la communauté, nous prions les personnes intéressées de s'inscrire, en fournissant leur nom et leurs coordonnées, au plus tard le vendredi 9 novembre :

**Conseillère Nicole Forbes** Projet des terrains de jeux du parc Westmount 4333. rue Sherbrooke Ouest Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1E2 Tél.: 514 989-5443 Téléc. : 514 989-5481 Courriel : assistance@westmount.org Web: www.westmount.org

Pour en savoir davantage, veuillez consulter notre site Web. 🖤



#### TRAVAUX PUBLICS **Collecte de feuilles mortes**

Veuillez noter que le personnel des Travaux publics ne ramassera QUE les feuilles et autres résidus de jardin qui auront été mis dans des sacs en PLASTIQUE TRANSPARENT ou des sacs en PAPIER destinés à cette fin. Les feuilles entassées en vrac derrière le trottoir NE SERONT PLUS ramassées. Info : 514 989-5390. 🖤



#### ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

**Concert : Autour de Marin Marais** Le mercredi 14 novembre à 19 h 30 au Victoria Hall. La flûte et le hautbois se retrouveront dans ce programme pour célébrer le génie de Marin Marais, compositeur français à la Cour des rois de la période baroque, ainsi que la musique de ses contemporains. Un magnifique programme de musique qui plaira à tous. Gratuit. Info: 514 989-5226.

#### DATES À RETENIR

Jusqu'au 11 novembre Œuvres de Bonnie Shemie La galerie du Victoria Hall

À compter du 8 novembre Floralies de l'automne Conservatoire et serres

Les 10 et 11 novembre Salon des métiers d'arts de Westmount Victoria Hall

Le 11 novembre - 13 h 30 Céremonie - Jour du Souvenir Cénotaphe

Le 12 novembre - 13 h Club de lecture française en après-midi Bibliothèque

#### Le 20 novembre - 19 h

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#### Salon des métiers d'art

Visitez le Salon des métiers d'art de Westmount : exposition et vente les samedi 10 novembre et dimanche 11 novembre de 10 h à 18 h, au Victoria Hall. Prix d'entrée : denrées non périssables ou 2 \$. Info : 514 934-0294. 🖤



#### BIBLIOTHÈQUE Vente d'automne de livres De bons livres à de bons prix

Les Amis de la bibliothèque tiendront une vente de livres les samedi 17 novembre et dimanche 18 novembre de 10 h à 17 h dans la salle Westmount de la Bibliothèque. Tous les profits de la vente serviront à acheter de nouveaux livres pour la Bibliothèque. Veuillez noter que des livres supplémentaires seront ajoutés le dimanche. Info : Carolyn O'Neill au 514 483-5604. 🖤





#### SPORTS & RECREATION **Citizen Advisory Workgroup** Westmount Park Playing Fields Project

Council is inviting members of the community to take part in a special 12-member citizen workgroup. The workgroup will study the latest design plan for the playing fields and will offer recommendations to Council for consideration. To ensure a varied and diverse representation from the community at large, interested citizens from all electoral districts are asked to submit their names and contact information to the following no later than Friday, November 9:

**Councillor Nicole Forbes** Westmount Park Playing Fields Project 4333 Sherbrooke Street W. Westmount OC H3Z 1E2 Tel: 514 989-5443 Fax: 514 989-5481 E-mail: assistance@westmount.org Web: www.westmount.org

For more information, please consult our Web site. XWY



#### PUBLIC WORKS **Autumn Leaf Collection**

Please note that all leaves and other similar yard waste must be bagged in either CLEAR PLASTIC or PAPER yard waste bags for collection by Public Works crews. Leaves piled loose behind the sidewalk WILL NOT be picked up. Info: 514 989-5390.

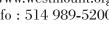


#### COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Concert: Autour de Marin Marais** 

Wednesday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Flute and oboe take centre stage in this concert which celebrates the genius of Marin Marais, composer of the French courts of the baroque period, as well as the music of his contemporaries. This magnificent programme of music will please everyone. Free admission. Info: 514 989-5226.







Vo<u>l. 1/10</u> Publié par Westmount • Published by Westmount

DATEBOOK

Until November 11 Works of Bonnie Shemie Gallery at Victoria Hall

**Beginning November 8** Fall Flower Show **Conservatory and Greenhouses** 

November 10 & 11 Westmount Artisans' Festival Victoria Hall

November 11 - 1:30 p.m. Remembrance Day Ceremony Cenotaph

November 12 - 1 p.m. French Book Club (Afternoon) Library

November 20 - 7 p.m. A Heritage to Build on Adding on to your house City Hall

#### Westmount Artisans' Festival

Everyone is welcome to attend the Westmount Artisans' Festival exhibition and sale on Saturday, November 10 and Sunday, November 11 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Admission: nonperishable food items or \$2. Info: 514 934-0294. NW/



#### **Friends of the Library Book Sale** Great books at great prices

The Friends of the Library will be holding their Fall Book Sale on Saturday, November 17 and Sunday November 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Library's Westmount Room. All proceeds from this sale go towards the purchase of new books for the Library. Note that more stock will be added on Sunday. Info: Carolyn O'Neill at 514 483-5604.

www.westmount.org assistance@westmount.org

Westmount, à votre portée. Pour toute question ou commentaire, veuillez nous contacter : Westmount at your fingertips. Contact us with any comment or question:

## The Westmount Parent Colder weather means indoor arts and crafts

#### By Annika Melanson



As the weather turns chilly, outdoor activities make way for indoor ones. Arts and crafts projects are a wonderful way to spend a cold afternoon at the kitchen table, while chatting and spending quality

time with your child. If you are shopping for art supplies, head over to Westmount Stationery (4887 Sherbrooke St., 514.481. 2575) or Omer de Serres in Place Montreal Trust (2134 St. Catherine St., 514.938.4777, www.omerdeserres.com). You will find paint, glitter glue, scissors, coloured paper, art smocks and more. For older children involved in more serious art projects, try the Concordia University art store (1395 René Levesque Blvd. W.)

#### Craft activities and parties around town

Aside from art projects at home, the area offers plenty of fun workshops and classes for those who would like to get out. My daughter Amel was recently invited to a "make your own teddy bear" birthday party for a friend who was turning four. The party was held at Univers Toutou (503 Place d'Armes, 514.288.2599, www.plushfactory.com). The party revolved around guests making their own teddy bear, which



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A \$75 deposit is required for groups of six children or more. The price per child is \$19 and each participant receives a stuffed bear, a passport with photo and a traveling suitcase for the bear. Group entertainment is provided. Food is not included. Ordering pizza is a good idea and it can be paid on delivery. Get juice boxes and a birthday cake and you're all set.

Arts and crafts birthday parties are a



Westmounter Si Qi Sherwood experiments with volcano eruptions at the Redpath Museum.

wonderful idea and a fun way to keep kids busy. Children love bringing their masterpieces home. Some other great party ideas:

- Beading parties: Bead Emporium (368 Victoria Ave., 514.486.6425) and Bead It (4912 Sherbrooke St., 514.481.1375).
- Creative T-shirt parties: Christmas and Hanukkah parties are available (514.933. 7034, www.t-shirtparties.com).
- Cooking parties: Académie Culinaire hosts parties for ages 8 and up (360 Champ de Mars, 514.393.8111),

#### Creative weekend workshops

For a weekend activity, check out what is happening at local museums. The Redpath Museum (859 Sherbrooke St., 514. 398.4086, www.mcgill.ca/redpath) hosts Sunday Discovery Workshops, which are fun, educational and include a hands-on craft. My four-year-old and I participated in a volcano workshop a few Sundays ago, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed – especially the part where the kids got to make their own clay volcano and watch it erupt as red-coloured vinegar was added to baking soda.

The next theme is Mummies (in English) on November II. There will be a short talk about the secrets of Egyptian mummies followed by a craft. Other upcoming workshops:

- Nov. 18: Sea Horses (in French)
- Nov. 25: Origami Sea Creatures (in Eng.)
- Dec. 2: Dinosaurs (in French)
- Dec. 9: Dinosaurs (in English)

Two sessions are available: 1:30 to 2:30 pm and 3 to 4 pm. The price is \$6 per child, free for adults. Registration is required a week in advance. Call 514.398. 4086, ext. 4092#.

The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (1380 Sherbrooke St., 514.285.1600, www. mbam.qc.ca) hosts free Family Sunday activities. The next one is on December 9 from I to 4 pm. The theme is Spotlight on Ritual Objects and will focus on world cultures. A bilingual art workshop will be given at 1, 2 and 3 pm where children will create a box of secrets out of clay. The museum will also offer Tour-in-a-Wink: A Taste of Asia and Pre-Columbian Civilizations, a guided museum tour geared towards children. The tour will be given in French at 1, 2, and 3 pm and in English at 1 and 2 pm. Admission to these activities is free and passes are available in the lobby of the Jean-Noël Desmarais Pavillion starting at 12:30 pm.

#### iCraft

My daughter is only four and already loves pointing and clicking on our computer. The iStore (386 Victoria Ave., 514. 333.6737, www.boutiqueistore.com), which opened on October 27, hosts a children's area where kids can use iTunes, iPhoto and the new Leopard version of Photo Booth. This is a great way to show kids how to put together photo albums on their computer. A great craft project minus the messy glue.

#### Knit one, purl two

If you are expecting a wee one, why not



Westmounter and birthday boy David Layman celebrates his birthday party at Univers Toutou.

start knitting and purling? Brickpoint (318 Victoria, 514.489.0993) sells pattern books and lovely soft wool that comes in different weights and is machine washable. For those concerned about wool allergies (although they are very rare) consider acrylic, bamboo and soy wool.

For beginners, private classes are given for \$20 an hour. "Knitting is not hard to learn, but takes practice," said Belinda Fox, Brickpoint owner.

A book for children learning to knit is *A First Book of Knitting for Children* by Bonnie Goose and Jill Allerton. Available at www.amazon.ca and costs \$20.

#### Other stuff happening around town

The McGill Ski Team will host its annual ski sale from November 8 to 11, 10 am to 9 pm daily. Sunday hours are from 10 am to 5 pm. The sale takes place at the Shatner Building, 3480 McTavish.

Geordie Productions (4001 Berri, 514. 845.9810, www.geordie.ca) is presenting *Hana's Suitcase*, the true story of Hana Brady, an orphan who died in the Holocaust. This show is suitable for children 9 and older. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$13.50 for children under 14. Show times are:

- Thursday, November 22, 7 pm
- Saturday, November 24, 4 pm
- Sunday, November 25, 1 and 4 pm
- Saturday, December 1, 4 pm
- Sunday, December 2, 1 and 4 pm





#### Discover Victoria Village



From Thursday November 8 to Saturday November 10, Victoria Village merchants are participating in an event meant "to encourage people to walk down Victoria Avenue," said Victoria Village business owner and fashion

*Astri Prugger* designer Astri Prugger. "There are many small businesses here and it's a part of our neighborhood. We want to show people what an interesting, cool area it is."

Some retailers will be offering discounts, others will be serving special treats.

Participants offer everything from custom services (Astri Prugger Design, Trink Jewelry, Art Rebel), decorating services (Toile, Vie de Campagne), coffee and tasty treats (Le Fournil, Café Crème), vintage and high-end second-hand clothing (The Hunt, Déjà Porté, Le Pays d'Oz), locksmithing and bicycle repair (Martin Swiss) and everything in between (Bon Appétit Cookbooks, Boutique iStore, Pure, Voyages Westmount, Brickpoint Studios).



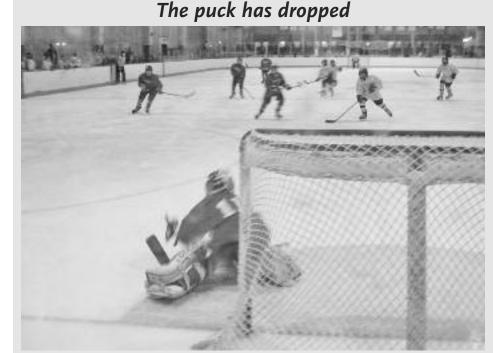
Action Against Hunger hosts rock concert

> In 2002, after taking her leave from Knightsbridge Bussandri Macdonald, a career transition and organizational consulting firm, Westmounter Diane Bussandri became interested in international development. Action Against

*Diane Bussandri* Hunger (Action Contre la Faim), an international leader in the treatment of malnutrition, approached her last year and she is now the group's executive director in Canada, based in Montreal. The non-profit's programs are at the forefront of life-saving efforts in the fight against worldwide hunger.

On November 21 at 8 pm at Club Soda, the non-profit organization is launching Artistes Contre la Faim, an evening to benefit its worldwide program, hosted by Radio-Canada's Geneviève Guérard. Eve Cournoyer, Luc de la Rocheliere, Sebastien Lacombe, Mara Tremblay and Gilles Tremblay will perform.

More than 90 percent of the funds will go toward ACF programs, said Bussandri, who spent several weeks in September 2006 in Darfour, site of the group's biggest operation. This past September,



Canadiens goaltender Devin L. makes a save against the Seals in Pee Wee action on October 30. Benjamin Shingle

she was in Haiti, where her group's main focus is water sanitation.

The group runs programs in 43 countries. It manages emergency and therapeutic feeding centres, food security programs, agronomic training and water and sanitation projects.

Tickets are \$20, including tax. To buy tickets call 514.908.9090 or visit www. ticketpro.ca. To make a general donation to ACF, go to www.actioncontrelafaim.ca.



\*Offer valid for a limited time. Television may not be exactly as shown. Contest rules available at New Look. No purchase required. Contest ends December 21, 2007. One television drawn daily, Monday to Friday between 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Details in stores. Michel Laurendeau, optician

## THE WESTMOUNTERS

#### News

#### Skating instructors sought

The city of Westmount is seeking instructors for its skating and powerskating classes for children ages 4 to 15 years old. Candidates for these paid positions must be energetic with strong skating skills. Powerskating instructors must also possess superior hockey knowledge. Classes take place Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3:30 to 7:30 pm. Please call Anitra Bostock at 514.989.5212.

#### COMING UP

#### Polymer clay at Visual Arts Centre

Westmount artists Ruth Shine and Linda Gould host monthly polymer clay **workshops** at the Visual Arts Centre. Meetings are held on every first Tuesday of the month. For more information, contact Shine at 514.486.6425 or Gould at 514. 931.8667.

#### Donations accepted

Donations are being accepted through Friday, November 16 for Sisterhood/ Brotherhood of **Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom's annual rummage sale**. The temple is at 395 Elm Ave. Pick-up is available for those without means of delivery. Please call 450.672.9788 or 514.486.7162. The rummage sale takes place 9 am to 1 pm on Sunday, November 18 in the downstairs Grover Auditorium (people should enter via 4100 Sherbrooke St., corner Wood Ave.). Admission is free. Proceeds go to Sisterhood/Brotherhood's community projects.

#### **Tweens online**

What are young people up to online? How are media and technology affecting today's tweens? What roles do parents play? At 7:30 pm on Tuesday, November



20 at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, Sandra Weber, author and editor of *Growing Up Online*, will discuss some of the hype and misconceptions by describing how **young people integrate technology** and media into their everyday lives. There is a \$10 donation at the door. To register, please call Bette or Rosie at 514.937.3575. The temple is at 305 Elm Ave.

#### Contactivity sale, bazaar

The Contactivity Centre (4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd., 514.932.2326) is having its **Artisan Sale and Bazaar** on November 8 (10:30 to 3:30). Refreshments will be served.

#### Craft fair on tap

Westmount's craft fair will be held 10 am to 6 pm on November 10 and 11 at Victoria Hall's Concert Hall. Organized by a collective of artisans, it is a juried event. Artisans presented samples of their work to a jury last May and 35 were chosen to exhibit their work. Admission is \$2 or a nonperishable food item, which is donated to charity through the Westmount Public Security annual food drive.

#### Victoria Hall goes Baroque

Autour de la flûte will be playing *Autour de Marin Marais*, a baroque piece, at 7:30 pm on Nov. 14 at Victoria Hall. For more information, please contact the Community Events Division at 514.989.5226.

#### St. Matthias fair

St. Matthias Church is holding its Christmas fair from 10 am to 2 pm on Saturday, November 10. This is the place to be if you're looking for attic treasures, jewelry, crafts, books, Christmas puddings, baked goods, jellies and more. Lunch will be served. The church is at 10 Church Hill. For information, please call 514.933.4295.

#### Marriage information meetings

Couples **considering intermarriage or conversion** by one partner before marriage are invited to tour **Emanu-El-Beth Sholom** and learn about its policies and practices from Rabbi Leigh Lerner. Appointments can be booked with Rabbi Lerner following a brief meeting. Call 514.937.3575.



## Summit Park "grows" Did you even know this was in Westmount?

City council passed first-reading resolutions at its October 22 meeting regarding the zoning of three lots owned by the city on Côte des Neiges, near where it is met by Remembrance. The city acquired the lots (including one from Amis de la Montagne) with a view to preserving them as parkland. The merger/demerger with Montreal delayed the complete fulfillment of that promise.



The "Clifton" lot

The new resolutions zone them officially as parkland, with all attendant protections. One lot, where the Clifton Apartments used to be, is east/north of the semi-detached houses at 4380/82 Côte des Neiges; two are south/west and end at the condo's parking lot. Trees have been planted on the "Clifton" lot and will be on the two others.



The two lots

## History quiz: Sir William Macdonald's gift to Westmount

#### By Doreen Lindsay

**Question from page 12:** What did Sir William Macdonald do for Westmounters?

Answer: He bought land from seven owners on the top of Westmount summit and gave it to McGill University in 1895 for the use of its Department of Botany. McGill was then known as The Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning.

Although he reportedly hated smoking, Macdonald had become wealthy by developing the MacDonald Tobacco Company. Education of future generations was of the utmost importance to him, as was nature, which he believed was essential to the continuing good health and wellbeing of all people. If he had not had the foresight to collect the lands on the summit when he did, the land would have been divided into residential lots and developed for housing during the years of expansion.

The City of Montreal had begun to acquire land for a park in 1869 and it officially inaugurated Mount Royal Park in 1876. Frederick Law Olmsted, the foremost landscape architect of the day, had been hired because of his belief in the connection between nature and human wellbeing.

#### An observatory on the Summit

In the 1920s the McGill Survey School used the land to set up a Macdonald Observatory on the summit. It constructed several small buildings, a mess hall, a high tower and facilities for a campground. Today, we can still see the large stone blocks in the woods above the Westmount Lookout which surveyors installed as support for their Meridian telescopes. McGill abandoned the site by 1928 but by 1934 some Westmounters felt a need to purchase the land.

In 1940, the Town of Westmount bought 46.20 acres from McGill for \$300,000 and Westmounters continued to use the Summit for cross-country skiing, nature walks, biking and bird watching, as they had always done. A long toboggan slide from the top down to Côte St. Antoine Road was popular. A portable mast had been put up by Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company in 1922 and the YMCA held a rally on Halloween in 1921.

Macdonald in fact saved the summit for us to enjoy today. It is still a relatively undisturbed natural forest area.

Doreen Lindsay is president of the Westmount Historical Association.

## Wine: What's In Store... Popping open the winter beauties

By Carola Price



The seasonal closing of our local Dairy Queen means the opening of my "winter cellar." There is nothing finer than going down and looking at the shelves that house my big, fat reds. These beauties

are the wines for hearty stews, braised bones dripping with wine-laden sauces and succulent roasts.

November is a great time to start experimenting with heavier red wines. Wines of significant popularity include Syrah or Shiraz (same grape different spelling). The French offer bottles from many regions, but outstanding Syrah comes from the Rhone. The combination of fruit and earthiness on the palate is not found anywhere else. A rich, chocolatey fruit flavour comes from the West Coast. Best known to this market is, of course, Australian Shiraz. With its dark, peppery

#### **Playing bridge** for a great cause

A Westmount tradition for the good part of two decades, the annual bridge luncheon to benefit the Montreal Children's Library took place at Mountainside United Church on Wednesday, October 24. Head Librarian Robin Sales, right, told the 120 Westmount participants how crucial their support is for the library's three branches, including one at 1200 Atwater Ave. (inside the Atwater Library building) Westmounter, past board president and bridge convenor Heather Gibbons told the Westmount Independent, "You can't imagine how hard the board members work on this. They make their own food, they prepare it and they serve it. It's a wonderful, old-fashioned way of fundraising and for such a great cause."



and slightly jammy flavour, it is wine that stands up to the best roasted and stewed meats. Blends of Syrah, Grenache, Mouvedre and Merlot or Cabernet are also well worth the effort when looking for a nice bottle to curl up with.

#### Shiraz, RH Phillips, EXP, California, USA SAQ#00864801, \$19.80

The dark, rich fruit on the nose leads to a light vegetal and pepper flavour with rich tannins that stand up to grilled and roasted meats, rich and aged cheeses, preferably runny. The alcohol is a bit high so let it stand in a bigger glass for a bit and swirl it around before every sip.

Available at the following SAQs (at press time): Across from Atwater Market, Victoria, Westmount Square, Pepsi Forum.

#### Grenache/Syrah/Mouvedre, Réserve Perrin, Rhone, France SAQ# 00363457, \$15.80

This is an old standby for the classic Rhone taste. It is medium-bodied, dry, slightly floral on the nose and rich red fruit on the palate. It goes nicely with roast chicken and pork, grilled vegetables and medium-bodied cheeses with mild herb flavours.

Available at the following SAQs (at press time): Atwater Market, across from Atwater Market, Victoria, Pepsi Forum. Stonehorse, Kaesler, Barossa Valley, Australia

#### SAQ# 10758309, \$23.40

Are you a

Montreal chapter.

The next meeting

is on Thursday,

Dec. 6, 7-9 pm

Public Library.

at the Westmount

The November 8 release sees loads of amazing Shiraz from Australia. Treat yourself to this black beauty. Loaded with black plum, eucalyptus, pepper, baked fruit and blackberry this full-bodied dry red can be decanted for a delicious Sunday roast lamb or beef. The alcohol is balanced with the fruit and the tannin will help it age easily for 10 years in the cellar. Not available at press time.



Esprit du Sud (320A Victoria Avenue, 514.482.8191), which opened on November 1, is "the only place where one can find luxury provençale bath products in Westmount," said owner Didier Zorroche. Zorroche has the Canadian exclusivity of Côté Bastide and Fragonard perfumes and products as well as Saoya jewelry.

## Free Alzheimer's seminars at temple

Temple Emanu-el Beth Shalom, 395 Elm Ave., in association with Alzheimer Groupe Inc., is inviting caregivers and other professionals to a free two-part series on Alzheimer's.

From 7:30 to 9:30 pm on Tuesday, November 13, Marlene Levine and Susan Sofer will discuss "Demystifying the assessment process/Driving." From 7:30 to 9:30 pm on Tuesday, December 11, Rita Pileggi will discuss "Keys to effective communication."

A question and answer period will follow each seminar. Refreshments will be served. Pre-registration is required. Please call 514.485.7233.

#### Your morning smile: Another act of vandalism or international news item?



If an alien lives in this control box at Victoria and de Maisonneuve, we at the Westmount Independent haven't seen it. If it turns out to be true, we will have missed a story right under our noses: our office is in the nearest office building.



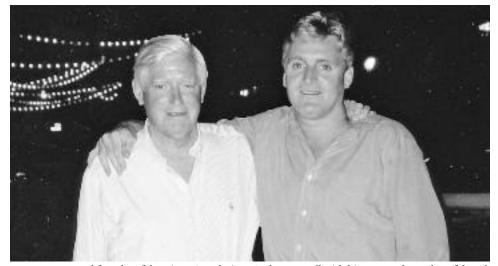
## Vimy Foundation teaches students about WW I battle

organization that was founded in 2006 by Westmounter Andrew Powell. The goal is to make young Canadians more aware of Canadian history and the events that helped to form their country. The foundation was inspired by Canada's victory at Vimy Ridge, where Canadian forces were the first to break the German line, which the British and US forces had been unable to do. 3,598 Canadian soldiers died at Vimy. Approximately 50,000 Canadians died in World War I, a significant number considering the population was 7 million. The capture of Vimy Ridge is one of the reasons why Canada was granted signing rights at the Treaty of Versailles, a giant step towards Canada moving from a colony to an independent nation.

Last year, competitions in five schools

The Vimy Foundation is a non-profit in Canada and the United Kingdom were held. The winners, students between the ages of 15 and 17, were selected as Vimy Foundation winners. The award consisted of a two-week visit of sites in England and France and, of course, Vimy Ridge. On November 6, Selwyn House hosted an event where the winners of the Vimy Foundation trip made a presentation and shared their experiences. The event coincided closely with Rememberance Day.

> Students wishing to participate in the competition must be between 15 and 17 years, Canadian, have at least a 75% average, show leadership skills, have an interest in history as well as be willing and able to present their knowledge to their classmates. For more info: Vimy Foundation, 1181 de la Montagne, 514.932.2388, www. vimyfoundation.ca.



Westmounter and founder of the Vimy Foundation, Andrew Powell with his son (and member of the advisory committee), Nicholas Powell.

## Par-plus: what does a high dollar mean to Westmounters?

As shoppers, Westmounters recognize good news in the shrinking US dollar and rising Canadian dollar. But what are other ramifications of the loonie's recent rise?

"The effect of the rapidly rising Canadian dollar has both negatives and positives," said Westmounter Tim Price, who

## Underdog

#### By Fern Breslaw

One month ago the Westmount Inde*pendent* ran a piece on

Nala, a little lady pitbull mix who had already been at the SPCA for four long months. She had been adopted once, then returned and now, as we head into month five, is still no closer to finding



herself a forever family. Nala is not for just anyone. She likes to test people to see if she can get the upper hand, but once

she knows who's the boss she is a total doll and will roll over for you (literally). She is very smart, and she's sterilized and vaccinated.

Find out more about adopting Nala by contacting the SPCA at 5215 Jean Talon W. or 514.735.2711. If you choose to adopt Nala, please let us know. We hope to write a few words letting everyone know what happens to her.

is the CEO of investment dealer Mac-Dougall, MacDougall & MacTier. "Manufacturing and tourism have definitely been hurt. For manufacturers, foreign revenues decline in Canadian dollar terms and foreign products are more competitive. Tourism is hurt as time in Canada becomes more expensive for foreigners, and Canadians more often go abroad to take advantage of their dollar's buying power. On the other hand, some retailers benefit when the cost of goods they sell falls in Canadian dollar terms, and to the extent they pass on the benefits to their customers, consumers benefit. It all depends on where your exposure is."

And investing-wise? Price's recommendation, "Our view is that the dollar has appreciated by too much and too quickly. It wouldn't be surprising to see it ease off. Certainly, if oil prices fall, we would expect the Canadian dollar to fall as well. As a result of the high Canadian dollar and other factors, we are more positive on the US market than we have been in recent years. The strong dollar also creates an interesting opportunity to look at international investments."

#### Another (not so different) view

Eric Roseman, president of ENR Asset Management Inc., also pointed out the negative effect of a high dollar on manufacturing. His Westmount Square business manages assets for non-Canadian clients. From an investing point of view, Roseman suggested foreign markets - and a realistic, history-based view. "For me, I'd

be taking a strong Canadian dollar as an investor and buying foreign securities. This is the time to do it. I think over the next 12 to 18 months the Canadian dollar is going to be lower. There's no way the Canadian dollar is going to defy a US slowdown indefinitely. That has never happened in history. The loonie is gonna come down hard probably in 2008.

Financial advisors at bank-owned firms with offices in Westmount directed us to their Toronto head offices for comment. Another local financial advisor declined to comment.

### **McClure** showcases 'Wild Mind'

The Visual Arts Centre's McClure Gallery (350 Victoria Ave.. 514.488.9558, galeriemcclure@centredesartsvisuels.ca) is presenting "Wild Mind," a mixed media exhibition of works by Francine Potvin, through November 24.

The installation includes ceramic works, a series of collagraphs and a mosaic of approximately 60 cyanotypes. Through it, Potvin addresses the mysteries of plant life and humans' multifaceted relationship to flora.

The gallery is open noon to 6 pm Tuesday through Friday and 10 am to 5 pm Saturday.

Westmounter directs play



Westmount resident Paul Hawkins is directing Dating Jesus, a new play by Montrealer Louise Arsenault running November 6 to 18 at Theatre St. Catherine. Hawkins and fellow Dawson College teacher Laura Mitchell founded Montreal theatre company Unwashed Grape, which is producing the play. Hawkins has directed several Unwashed Grape productions. Laura Mitchell, Debra Kirshenbaum, Janis Kirshner and Taylor Baruchel star. For reservations, please contact 514.284.3939 or reservations@theatrestecatherine.com.

#### Tune in for Parent Talk with Lianne & Andrea Sundays at 12 noon on 940 AM. www.parenttalkradio.ca

Or buy their book. Recipes and nutrition for children aged zero to one!



## THE WESTMOUNT TOWNSHIPPER

November in the Eastern Townships means hunting and while hunters are familiar with the myriad laws and rules governing this potentially dangerous activity, most lay people are not. Here is an abbreviated guide to the sometimes confusing laws that dictate the conditions of the deer hunt.

#### Different zones, different rules

Separate laws for each of Quebec's 28 hunting zones

dictate bag limits, the animals in season, the weapons that can be used and the season's duration so it's vital to know which exact rules apply before you open fire - or even just venture into the woods for a hike.

The Townships comprise zones 4, 5 and 6. Zone 4 contains the easternmost Townships, extending east from East Angus and Cookshire. Zone 5 extends from Farnham in the west to Memphramagog in the east and touches the US border in the south. It includes Cowansville, Knowlton and Sutton. Zone 6 is much larger and extends north from the border

#### Long title, interesting book

Harrison Yates has just launched his book The Knowlton Chronicles: How My Wife Made Me Move to the Country Even Though I Hate Nature. It is available at Brome Lake Books in Knowlton.



to include Lennoxville, Orford, Richmond, Sherbroooke and Stanstead.

#### Know the seasons

The most popular hunting season is deer-buck hunting with rifles and it began November 3 in all three zones. It ends November 16 in zone 5 and November 18 in zones 4 and 6.

Black powder shooting, also known as muzzle-loading, runs: November 27 to December I in zone 4 south and zone 6 south; November 24 to November 30 in zone 5 east; and November 24 to December 2 in zone 5 west.

While it is forbidden to hunt near a public road or at night, neither distance from the woods nor daytime guarantee safety so it's best to familiarize oneself with the basics of hunting in the Townships. Know the rules, hunting-safety experts advise, and wear a fluorescent orange safety vest to distinguish yourself from the game.

#### Retail Watch...

#### continued from page 14

Michelle York and Jonathan Cheung are a couple in life as well as in business. They are celebrating the two-year anniversary of their store, Bon Appétit Cookbooks (388 Victoria Ave., 514.369.2002). In addition to carrying a vast array of cookbooks, Cheung hosts cooking classes. One must sign up early as space is limited and the classes are wildly popular. For the two Vancouver natives "living in Westmount as well as having our business here has made it feel like home," said York. Of the resurgence in people's interest in cooking, York said "people are going back to the table. They are tired of not knowing how to cook and are more interested in food." The business has grown considerably in two years. "When we first opened, our bottom bookshelves were lined with poinsettias," said Cheung. Now they are filled with cookbooks.

Tracy Gartner will celebrate the twoyear anniversary of her custom crystal handmade jewelry business, Trink this December. She has always loved making her own jewelry and started out by selling her custom pieces to other stores before she took the plunge and opened her own boutique. Her pieces are made from Swarovski crystals and sterling silver. "The

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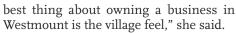
Call me for winter rentals: condos, farmhouse.

ANTIQUE-LOVERS' HOUSE Definitely for someone who ap-

preciates the older homes with their characteristic plank flooring. A fireplace in the living room, a sunroom on the garden

side of the house, separate insulated atelier and the acquired

right to sell antiques. \$229,000



Pure (342A Victoria Ave., 514.504. 8466) is turning one. On October 26, owner Stella Mindorff threw a party to celebrate the boutique's birthday. Mindorff carries an array of heavenly scented organic soaps as well as bath bombs, soy candles, body brushes, hemp slippers, organic fabric handbags and satchels.

#### Halloween winners

The city has announced the winners of the Halloween House Decorating Contest. The winning homes were selected by volunteers who evaluated the spooky entries on Halloween night: North of Sherbrooke St. 1st Prize: Zipkin Family, 58 Forden Cres. 2nd: Cohen Family, 631 Murray Hill 3rd Prize: Halickman Family, 596 Belmont South of Sherbrooke St. 1st Prize: Norris Family, 310 Roslyn 2nd Prize: Mark Camacho, 102 Columbia 3rd Prize: Beverley LeBlanc and Greg Macgregor, 110 Columbia A gallery of winners and selected non-winners is now available on the

city's website at www.westmount.org.



SUNSET OVER BEAUTIFUL BROME LAKE is the vista from your living/dining area. Pretty two-bedroom country cottage with updated kitchen and baths, wood-burning fireplace, private garden and your own lakefrontage across the street.



SPACE, CHARM, VALUE - Keywords to describe this Knowlton village home. Cedar shingle siding, new veranda and win-dows, renovated kitchen and baths, five bedrooms, original wood flooring. With a large and private yard, this one is perfect for your growing family. \$309,000



BROME LAKE ACCESS just steps away and, right at home for your pleasure, a lovely inground pool set in well-landscaped grounds. Three bedrooms, open plan living area on the main floor, family room downstairs, woodstove. \$289,000

#### AURÉLIEN GUILLORY LDS.0

Designer d'intérieur

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We are pleased to announce the opening of a satellite office in the Townships. 450 538-0359

Nous sommes heureux d'annoncer l'ouverture d'un bureau satellite dans les Cantons de l'Est. 450 538-0359

## **Introducing Marc Garneau, federal Liberal nominee:**

#### By David Price

As announced on October 19, former astronaut, first Canadian in space and Wood Ave. resident Marc Garneau is the federal Liberal nominee for the next election in Westmount-Ville Marie.

Wherever you stand on the political spectrum, you will agree that the 58-yearold Garneau's CV is impressive. Since first joining the Canadian navy in 1974, he has been to space three times (1984, 1996 and 2000) and was the president of the Canadian Space Agency (2001 to 2005).

Since then, he has run for MP in Vaudreuil-Soulanges, been active on the speaking circuit and sat on a number of corporate and non-corporate boards.

I sat down with him to get his view of Westmount, political life and federal politics.

#### Westmount life

**WI**: You're from Quebec City and have lived much of your life on the east coast because of your navy career. How long have you lived in Westmount? Why did you choose to move here?

MG: I have lived in Westmount for seven years. In 2000 (after my last space mission), I was invited to be vice president of the Canadian Space Agency, located in

I align

Canadians.

St. Hubert. My family and I found a great place on Wood Ave., and we moved in.

For the record, I grew up all over, including eight years in Germany and England. I've lived nine years in Houston and 10 years in Ottawa. My father was in the military, I was in the military and then in the space program. It meant a lot of moving around.

Another thing people often think is that I am purely

French Canadian because of my name, but I am English Canadian through my mother, who was from the Maritimes.

#### Personal career

WI: For the layman, it is not obvious how a navy career leads to one in space. How did that happen?

MG: In 1983, Canada had the opportunity to fly Canadians in space. Any Canadian could apply, so long as you had a science, engineering or medical background.

The navy is closer to being an astronaut than people think. The environment is challenging and, at sea, you are isolated. And there are technical requirements. I



often point out that space vehicles are called space ships.

In any event, there was an ad in the paper [about Canadians being considered for the space program] and I said to myself, "I've got to send in my name."

WI: Why go from military and astronaut life to federal politics?

MG: I have been interested in politics my whole life. My parents read the paper and discussed the issues of the day openly, be they local, provincial or naturally with federal. Throughout my life, I continued to read the paper Liberal values, and be interested.

Then in 1988, Paul Martin as do the largest approached me about runpercentage of ning. It was not a good time for me, but it planted the seed: one day I could. I was approached again by Martin in 2005. It was one of those moments that is a crossroads of your career. Do you take on a challenge or not? I'd

spent 22 years in the space program. It was a good time for something else.

**WI**: Have you always been a capital-L Liberal?

MG: Yes. I align naturally with Liberal values, as do the largest percentage of Canadians. I admired Pierre Trudeau. I admired Pearson as a statesman. I admire the Liberals for the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, for being tolerant and pragmatic, for appealing to largest number of Canadians. I am in the centre like them.

#### Family, MPs and charity

WI: Please tell us about your family. Do

some of them live in Westmount?

MG: They do. I have two grown children from my first marriage: Simone (who lives and works in Westmount) is an engineer and Yves is a photographer in Switzerland. With my second wife, Pamela, I have two young boys: Adrien, 11, and George, 8. They go to school in Outremont, but are involved in Westmount's soccer and hockey programs.

WI: What role do you see for Westmount's MP? What portfolio or shadow portfolio would you like to take on?

MG: In terms of role, I am a proud Canadian who wants to represent the interests of Westmount-Ville Marie. I will do so by being aware of issues with a federal connection and by being responsive.

In terms of a position in a cabinet or shadow cabinet, it

is the leader's role to choose, but I know I bring a contribution in science and technology. Not many MPs are engineers or scientists. And science is important. If called to do something in that area, I would do so with great interest.

Canada is rich in resources, but we need to focus on being more innovative. Products and services require research and development, and science.

WI: You are the honorary patron of Hope Air and Project North Star. What are they?

**MG**: Hope Air is a charity that offers free flights to people in outlying areas who need medical diagnosis or care that are only available in large urban centres. For instance, someone in Prince George, BC or Goose Bay may need to get to Vancouver or Montreal. It has existed for 22 years and has provided 50,000 flights.

We work with the airlines, who are generous, as well as with private pilots with their own planes.

Project North Star is more specialized. The North Star was a Canadian-designed and-built passenger aircraft that was used by Trans-Canada Airlines, the predecessor of Air Canada. There is one left, and we are restoring it. It is a part of aviation history and the government doesn't always have the money for restoration. I have been fundraising for them.

WI: Are you a pilot?

MG: I am a lapsed pilot. I have given it up to focus on golf.

#### **Big-picture politics**

WI: Tell us about your political development. Were you always a federalist? A federal Liberal?

MG: Yes and yes.

We need a

federal voice

saying:

"Hey, it is

time to

wake up."

WI: What specific items do you oppose in the Conservatives' current program?

MG: Firstly, Afghanistan. I am in favour of the Liberal proposal to formally notify NATO and then withdraw from Kandahar. It is time for us to move to a less demanding role. We have been on the

> front lines for a while. The Liberals are in favour of maintaining our humanitarian role, but we have to share the burden with the other NATO countries.

Secondly, I don't believe that the Conservatives are addressing the environment. The Liberals have a strong platform that offers us the opportunity to start a new industrial revolution. We can develop technologies that will

work for us, but that we can also sell internationally.

Thirdly, we have heard nothing from the Conservatives on poverty. We need to do something about that in these wealthy times.

Also, the Conservatives have done nothing on productivity. Canada lags in productivity. And we may end up less wealthy.

#### **Economic matters**

WI: What do you think of Harper's reduction of the GST?

MG: Every economist has said if you want to cut taxes, then reduce income and corporate taxes - not the GST. The reduction of the GST is a populist move, which

## I'm ready to serve Westmount and my country

on its face is good. But the best way to give a benefit is to lower income tax.

Stéphane Dion has said he will reduce income and corporate taxes to help individuals and stimulate the economy. The Conservatives have kept their promise, which is good, but it is not a smart move.

WI: What is your view of the high Canadian dollar? Is it a threat to Quebec industry? East-west relations in Canada? Do you support the Conservative government talking to retailers about lowering prices?

MG: The "petro-Loonie" is overheated. Market forces will take care of it. In the end, consumers will equalize the dollar. There

is a booming economy driven by oil in the west. It has driven up the dollar. Has it overshot? The market will decide.

I don't see it as an east-west issue. It is an exporter-importer issue. For exporters, it will be challenging. In the space sector, I know that at 62 cents it was attractive and it became difficult at \$1. That's the reality. But importers are getting things cheaply.

#### **Partisan politics**

WI: There has been some controversy about your nomination. It was reported that you wanted the Outremont nomination. Then you weren't offered the Westmount nomination and stated that you wouldn't run. Now you have the nomination. How should voters look at the whole nomination discussion? What do you say to those who wanted an open nomination contest in Westmount–Ville Marie?

**MG:** I would say I *offered* to run in Outremont, not "wanted." I had been working with the Liberals for quite a while at that time, and I wanted to continue. It was not be.

When Lucienne Robillard decided not to present herself, I submitted a letter of interest. I was prepared for a run-off. I believe Westmount is a natural place for me. In Vaudreuil-Soulanges, there were some comments made that I was not from there. But I am from Westmount.

It is true: I was named. It is difficult for a leader to *choose*, as opposed to allowing a run-off. But it was felt that it was important for me to run because of my profile. I can help here and be put to use elsewhere in Quebec.

WI: What did you learn from your loss in Vaudreuil-Soulanges? What will you do

I am an environmentalist. Going to space does that to you.

differently? Does it even matter in a safe riding like Westmount?

**MG:** No, I will not assume it is a safe riding. I will campaign.

In terms of Vaudreuil-Soulanges, there is no school for politics. I ran in a Bloc Québécois riding. It was a long campaign,

in winter. I met a lot of people. I learned to be careful when speaking about certain things.

There is dilemma with being forthright and honest. As an engineer and astronaut, I learned to be accurate and direct. Miscommunication can lead to serious problems. Also, I think politics is different in Quebec than elsewhere in the country. I don't *know*,

because I haven't campaigned elsewhere, but I think there is a higher emotional content.

WI: You've been quite frank, for instance making some harsh statements about separatists during the 2006 election and sharing your thoughts with the press about your recent nomination issues. How do you think being subject to party discipline will fit with your personal style?

**MG:** I have two years more experience and I know that things can be taken out of context, like my remark about separatists.

What I said was that separatists have not fully thought about what they are getting themselves into, in the same way that the US – by its own admission – had done in Iraq. This was turned into me saying

that there would be blood in the streets, as there is in Iraq.

I have learned to be clear. And I maintain that separatists have not thought through the important economic and other issues.

Indeed, I am one of 14 authors of a French-language book, *Reconquérir le Canada*, arguing that it is time to look again at the federal option. For a long time, the federalists have been muted by the Parti Québécois and Bloc Québécois, who have been very effective.

We need a federal voice saying: "Hey, it is time to wake up." Otherwise Quebecers will lose out.

A separate Quebec will not be Shangri-La. Quebec should stay – and contribute.

#### **Canadian unity**

WI: Dion came onto the scene as a hardline anti-separatist, cul-

minating in the Clarity Act of 2000. Recently, there has been a lot of pressure for him to backtrack on that line of thinking. How do you stand on the Clarity Act?

MG: The Clarity Act is a good thing. Any [referendum] question should be clearly phrased. I hope there is not another referendum, but people must understand what "yes" and "no" mean.

WI: Where do you stand on the partition of Quebec into Canadian and Quebec portions in the event of separation?

MG: Notwithstanding that Quebec separatists argue that Quebec is indivisible, if a yes vote happens, close to 50 percent will have voted against it and will want to do something. They have the right to lobby for a different arrangement. This is hypothetical, of course.

**WI:** Is that a yes [to partition]?

**MG**: This would be a traumatic situation. Close to half will have voted against separation. It is inconceivable that they be forced to take or leave it. I can understand that. If you're an ardent Canadian forced to make a decision, it is perfectly legitimate to search for a new arrangement.

WI: Where do you stand

on all the reasonable accommodation discussion?

MG: The Liberal Party advocates a multiethnic society. The Liberal Party has preached tolerance. We are an accommodating society enriched by cultures. "Multicultural" means all cultures, not just ones close to European ones. Canada will continue to accept immigrants out of tolerance and need. I hope the end result will be a clear sign that Quebec is tolerant.

#### Energy

WI: I noticed in your CV that you are the director of a public oil sands company (UTS Energy). What do you think of Alberta's critics, like the *Gazette*'s William Marsden in his book *Stupid to the Last Drop*, who see the whole oil sands projects as an ecological and, when all costs are considered, economic nightmare?

theless.

[...]

MG: When I was approached to join the board of UTS, I told them: "I am an

environmentalist." Going

to space does that to you.

They said yes to me never-

must balance energy and

the environment. Yes, re-

newables can reduce our

carbon footprint. At the

same time, it takes time.

Eighty percent of our en-

ergy is met by carbon fuels.

It won't change overnight.

economy because of what is

happening in Alberta, and

Quebec benefits too. It is

not a simple question of

We have a booming

The reality is that we



Garneau in his astronaut days. He points out that he is running as a riding resident, not an astronaut.

> stopping what is going on out west. The federal surplus is in part because of the resource sector. Taxes can come down, and spending on health and education can increase. I am an environmental voice at UTS, but I have also realized the complexity of the issue. [...]

> WI: Climate change and cleaner energy are becoming important political issues. Hydrogen was used extensively in the space program. Do you have any hope for it being used on Earth as an alternative fuel?

> MG: Yes, but it takes time. The space program used fuelcells and had hydrogen rockets that powered the engines at the back, but these were specialized and expensive. They were few in number and maintained by an army of people at a high cost. To make these technologies affordable and reliable for cars in the Canadian winter is another matter.

[...]

#### What Westmounters should know

**WI:** Did we miss anything in this interview? What should the residents of Westmount know?

**MG:** I have a track record of performance. I am in a position to devote myself wholeheartedly to serve my country. I know that people are cynical about phrases like that, but that is my motivation. I have had more than my share of good fortune. Canadians made it possible.

I want to do something for them. My father and grandfather served their country, fought for their country. Now, I am in a position to do it. I want to do it.

*Now, I am to [serve]. want to do it.* 



# BRIAN DUTCH

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Westmount – 322 Elm Ave. Stunning renovations! Victorian elegance-Modern convenience. \$1,535,000



Westmount – 4400 Montrose Ave. Gorgeous renovations! Incredibly bright. Best location. \$1,450,000



Westmount – 4355 Westmount Ave. Totally renovated and extended! Amazing location. \$2,250,000





Outremont – 574 av. Davaar Absolutely best deal around. Great location. \$679,000



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