

80% generally in favour

More than 1,100 pool-user surveys received

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

More than 1,100 residents had participated in the city's pool-user survey, according to the city's reported number of submissions received by August 4.

While the number was expected to change before the deadline Sunday, August 6, "Most of those returned – some 80 percent – generally favoured the desire and need for an indoor pool," said Mayor Christina Smith.

While other results would take more time to tabulate, she said the city's next step would likely be to examine what in-

door pool facilities already exist in or around Westmount. A number of apartment buildings, for example, are known to have private pools.

The indoor pool survey consisted of a letter of explanation sent to all households in the city. In total, 10,000 letters providing a personal identification number (PIN) were distributed, city director general Mike Deegan said.

The PINs were required to validate internet or hard copy submissions.

"The findings from this research will have a direct impact upon the city's decision-making" *continued on p. 15*



Photo: Laureen Sweeney

Among passersby intrigued by the shaggy dog mosaiculture in Westmount August 4 were Roslyn Ave. resident Katherine Szabo and Luna, her 3-month old puppy, a husky/Keeshond mix. See p. 7.

November 5, 2017 municipal election

Gallery, Matossian: next generation of councillors?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The two latest Westmounters announcing their intention to seek a council seat are truly the "next generation."

Both are following in the footsteps of their fathers.

Mary Gallery for District 6 (being vacated by Councillor Nicole Forbes) is the daughter of Brian Gallery, who served on city council as an alderman from 1975 to 1983 and then as mayor through 1987.

Christian Matossian, son of Nicolas Matossian – a councillor from 1991 to 2001

– intends to run for the seat in District 5. This has been vacant since the acclamation of Christina Smith as interim mayor in April.

While both new candidates live in District 4, "we don't want to oppose Councillor [Rosalind] Davis," Matossian explained. Both are the only declared candidates in their respective districts and support Smith's bid for the mayoralty against *Suburban* editor Beryl Wajzman.

See p. 8 for substantive coverage of Gallery and Matossian's announcements.



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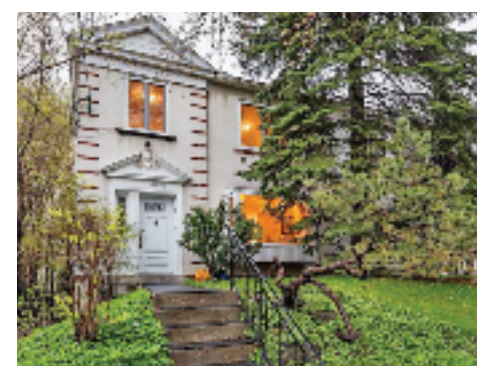
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Developer meets with neighbours

Council postpones Claremont vote again – to Sept.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It now appears that preliminary city council approval of the apartment development project for 500 Claremont at Windsor will have to wait until the September 5 meeting, Mayor Christina Smith said last week.

Neighbourhood opponents, along with developer Gideon Pollack, had been expecting a council vote August 7 after a postponement in July in a complicated referendum process for such projects that do not conform to current zoning.

Smith told the *Independent*, however, that revisions to the original plans would only be viewed and discussed by council members in their closed-door general committee session August 7, after press

time.

It has already been announced that council was prepared to allow the project to proceed through the process (see story March 14, p. 6).

Smith said she expected, however, that the project would quickly proceed to a second public consultation meeting after the September council meeting.

The project has been under review between the city's Planning Advisory Committee and the developer since it was first presented in December.

It proposes converting the 1908 institutional building into 16 or 17 apartments, adding a recessed penthouse as a fifth storey and an extension to the south.

Revisions presented

Modifications to the south extension were presented at a public onsite neighbourhood meeting held by the developer July 20.

"There was a very healthy back-and-forth," Pollack said of his event, which was described as attracting more than 30 people during the evening, which lasted well over two hours.

"It was an excellent meeting," acknowledged Frank Philpott, of Claremont, one of those spearheading the opposition. "Hats off to Pollack."

But despite modifications, he said, he still remains convinced the project is "too big, too high and its parking access off Claremont too dangerous." He also acknowledged that "great improvements" had been made to the exterior look of the building by the modifications.

This had been achieved by replacing much of the win-

dow glazing on the extension with red brick to match that on the original structure. "It now looks like a unified building," Philpott said.

Pollack said there had been no change to density since the first view in December. "Everything, with the exception to reducing the size of balconies, was cosmetic."

Smith said that since the developer's meeting, council members had been re-

ceiving many emails from residents of the area expressing similar concerns as Philpott over the plan. A petition of more than 130 nearby residents had been presented to council July 4 (see story July 11, p. 1).

Claremont resident Kirk Polymenakos told the *Independent* that many at the meeting voiced concern about possible damage from excavation work.



This original rendering in December from the firm of Vezina Architects shows the proposed addition along Claremont with extensive glazing.



A revised rendering from Vezina shows a narrower addition and increased use of red brick.

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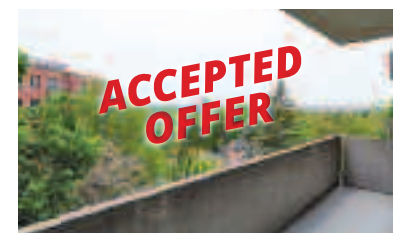
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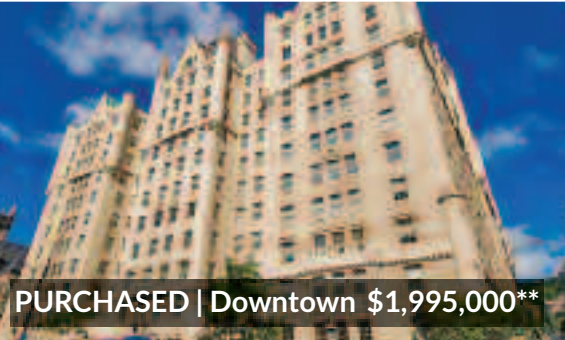


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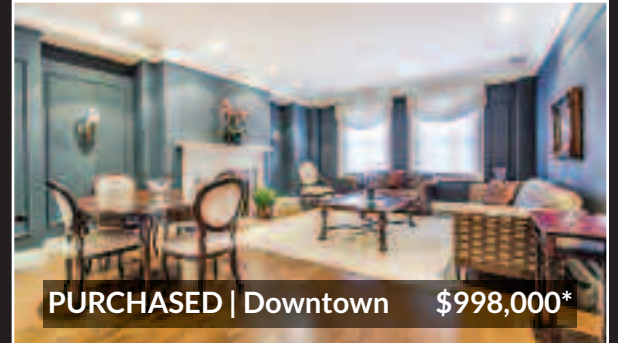


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CITY NEEDS TO STEP UP SANCTIONS ON WAYWARD DOG OWNERS

As a resident of Hillside Ave., dog owner of a Labrador retriever and genuine dog lover, I was shocked to hear of the circumstances surrounding the death of Dean-O! and more so by the details of how he was attacked.

My condolences to Christine Downs. Almost every day Ms. Downs would walk little Dean-O! on Hillside and though senior, he seemed to enjoy his walks.

What a tragic death. The fact remains that dog owners are fully responsible for the actions of their dogs, and the owner of [the attacking] dog is no exception.

At the field at the Westmount Athletic Grounds, many owners ignore regulations and allow their dogs to run loose on the field. This needs to stop, and fines need to be levied to discourage this practice.

While the dog who attacked Dean-O! is a Staffordshire terrier, the breed is not relevant. The dog should have been on a leash, period.

I hope the city of Westmount will consider higher fines, step up surveillance and ensure dog owners respect the law.

BRIGITTE ADES, HILLSIDE AVE.

AN ‘OUTSIDER’ WEIGHS IN

Regarding Denis Biro’s letter “Wajzman is ‘out of touch’” (July 11, p. 6), I am one of the non-residents that brought up bilingual safety signs with former mayor Peter Trent.

About a year ago [former] mayor Trent emailed Public Works (Patrick Raggo) and asked him to order the safety signs. They were supposed to go up months ago. Quite frankly, I doubt that any were ordered as both Public Works and Mayor Christina Smith have not had the courtesy of responding to my emails.

Next, there is the matter of the Office québécois de la langue française (OQLF) making a mistake* years ago that cost Westmount thousands of dollars (\$75,000 including interest). While Westmount charged me 38 cents for the document that illustrated the above, Mayor Smith has ignored my request that Westmount ask the OQLF for the \$75,000, as why should Westmount taxpayers pay for the mistake of the OQLF?

For years Hampstead lawyer Harold Staviss, whose office is in Westmount, strongly encouraged Mayor Trent to post bilingual signs throughout Westmount. In the end, Trent admitted that Staviss was correct in pressing the issue.**

Next was the matter of the Tour de l’Île de Montréal. Some cities have banned the event until the participants are invited to raise money for the charities of their choice. No reply from Mayor Smith. When I asked New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg to do the same with an NYC event, lo and behold, the NYC event began to cooperate with charity and now the organizers are very happy to say that they raise \$1 million a year.

There seems to be from some Westmount quarters, what is viewed as the interference of outsiders in the affairs of Westmount. Will they continue to complain when the roads of Westmount are safer, when Westmount is \$75,000 richer and the Tour de l’Île raises \$1 million a year for charities?

There was a time not too long ago when municipal politicians swore an oath*** “to do fully what is in the best interest of the public, to the best of my ability.”

From what I can see, when that oath stopped, the citizens of Westmount ended up with Mayor Smith!

MURRAY LEVINE, DORVAL

* Editor’s notes: In a May 10, 2016 article, we report on former mayor Peter Trent saying “The decision to phase in bilingual parking signs, he said, follows an April 19 letter to the city from the Office Québécois

de la langue française (OQLF) ‘re-interpreting’ its longtime position against them ... The law itself had not changed, however, Trent said.” (p. 1 – emphasis added.)

** “Pressing the issue” may not be a correct interpretation of Trent’s position. In the same story referenced above (p. 4), we reported on Trent responding to Harold Staviss in the May 2 council meeting question period as saying “Earlier Trent had said the priority of the city’s Public Works department was the reconstruction of roads, water mains and sewers. It had ‘other things to do than mess about with parking signs.’”

*** The oath sworn by members of the current council (to fulfill their duties of office “with honesty and justice, in accordance with the law and with the Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Elected Municipal Officers of the city of Westmount and undertake to observe the rules of that code applicable to me after my term has ended”) was set by the province of Quebec.

At least three members of this council (Victor Drury, Nicole Forbes and now-former member previous mayor Peter Trent) also promised to perform their duties “without partiality, fear, favour, or affection and in the best interest of the city and its citizens.” (See “Mayor predicts fewer brickbats,” October 15, 2013, p. 8). – KM

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Ducks move into pool, temporarily



Diana Anderson of Côte St. Antoine Rd. wrote, of the photo at left: “I was at Westmount pool July 26 and saw that we were sharing the swimming lanes with some ducks from Westmount Park! They swam in the lanes and took some naps on the side of the pool! A neat and rare event I think. The lifeguards were working hard to help and ensure all were accommodated (both ducks and people!). I am not sure about the rest of the story and how the ducks got back to the Westmount Park pond from the pool, but when I went by [later on], they were back at home. Leah Trineer of Lansdowne Ave. wrote, of the photo at right: “The ducks showed up down at the pool when the pond in the park had been emptied for cleaning. They spent the night at the pool [July 25] and were even there the next morning when the Westmount Dolphins were practising. [Pictured above] is my daughter, Hannah Trineer-Roberts, who is assistant pool manager/lifeguard and co-head coach of the Dolphins. She was on duty the evening that they showed up.

Photos courtesy of Diana Anderson (left) and Leah Trineer (right).

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Looking for a name

New 'shaggy dog' takes up home in Westmount Park

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A new brown dog has taken up residence in Westmount Park, unleashed and sitting some six feet high in front of the dog run.

It's not exactly a "shaggy dog story," but the newcomer resembles a shaggy dog; one created by the city's greenhouse staff in the form of mosaiculture – the process of creating designs out of shrubs, plants and flowers.

The idea originated with the greenhouse team headed by Mélanie Banninger and was created by Banninger, Hélène Bazinet and Christine Dupuis, according to Nicolas Mory, the city's superintendent of arboriculture and horticulture.

The team used the steel framework of a generic dog, covered it with mesh through which they inserted grasses into a soil mix. A hose inside keeps the grasses watered.

The new dog "inhabits" the island at the west entrance to the park off de Maison-neuve at Lansdowne that leads to the dog run.

And no, it has no name – at least not yet, Mory said.

Two varieties of grass were used, explains Councillor Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Sustainability and Parks. A shorter grass was used for the face and a longer one for the coat, "which is getting longer now," she said. "It's at its peak for growth."

The plan is to add a mosaiculture heron to the pond next year, she explained.

Since the city greenhouses are now closed awaiting restoration, the gardeners are looking after the flower beds in Westmount Park. The city continues to contract out maintenance of the grass, trees and shrubs. *See p. 1 for photo.*

Excavator gets tickets for \$712

An excavating contractor on Surrey Gardens was issued two tickets in three days apart for failing to observe city regulations, Public Security officials said. The tickets totalled \$712.

The first one followed a warning at 10:30 am July 22 about the use of heavy equipment on a Saturday. When he was found still at work at 1:35 pm, a ticket was issued for \$271. When he failed to adhere to another warning to remove equipment and piles of construction material from the street, he was issued a second ticket July 25 for \$441.



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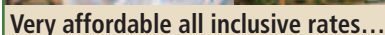
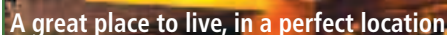
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Water main breaks on St. Cath., closes street at Atwater

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A water main broke on St. Catherine just west of Atwater August 2, a Wednesday afternoon, causing traffic to be diverted from the area as water works personnel from Westmount Public Works closed the valves to stem the flow of water onto the street during the rush hour.

Public Security sergeant Robert Forbes had been patrolling at 4:19 pm when he discovered a large amount of water flowing down Atwater from St. Catherine, said assistant Public Security director Kimberley Colquhoun.

He called Public Works and police, and positioned patrol cars to block off the area.

The Miso restaurant at the southwest corner was among businesses on the south side of St. Catherine evacuated while fire-fighters checked for possible flooding in the underground Metro passage. None was found, she said.

The water was turned off within an hour after Forbes placed his call to Public Works, Colquhoun said.

The break occurred in the 10-inch diameter water main, said Councillor Patrick

Martin, commissioner of Public Works. Crews worked overnight to replace about nine feet of the 100-year-old pipe, completing the work early in the morning.

“Montreal had been doing a lot of opening and closing of water in the area, so the pipe could have been under additional pressure,” he explained.

The roadway on St. Catherine remained closed while the extent of the washout and damage was being assessed, Martin said.

Power outage not related

An electrical outage that affected eastern Westmount from St. Catherine to the summit was unrelated, he said.

According to Hydro Westmount's Sam Lipari, superintendent of operations and maintenance, the blackout began at 10:30 pm when a primary circuit caused a master breaker to trip and leave 572 customers without electricity. Within one minute, however, power was restored to 431.

The remaining 141 were transferred to standby circuits with the last of them, including Martin who lives on The Boulevard at the east city limits, regaining power at 12:06 am.



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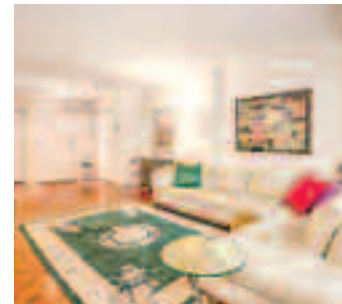


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Then & Now: The Westmount Lawn Bowling Club

Westmount Historical Association

CAROLINE BRESLAW

As you go past the Westmount Lawn Bowling Club on Sherbrooke St. at the corner of Kensington, you can imagine yourself back 100 years. However, the club has changed dramatically since its beginnings in 1902. Three Scots rented land then from the Monk Estate, on the northeast corner of Kensington and Sherbrooke. The property was part of the concession granted to the Decarie family by the Sulpicians. The Grey Nuns eventually owned the lot before it was acquired by Monk.

A small white clapboard clubhouse was erected, with a green fronting on Sherbrooke. In 1916, a second bowling green was added on the north side. In 1920, the city of Westmount purchased the land and leased it to the club for \$1,800 a year.

An extension for women was made in 1935, but the men and women's sides were not connected. Only in 1989 were women



Photos courtesy of the Westmount Historical Association.

The Westmount Historical Association obtained this archival image from the McCord.

fully integrated in the club. The city took over the deteriorating property the same year.

In 1996, the clubhouse was demolished.

The city constructed an electrical substation deep underground and, in 1996, built an enlarged replica of the green-shingled clubhouse above it. The present pavilion, designed by architects Fournier, Gersovitz & Moss, has a modern kitchen, locker rooms, washrooms and a sitting area.

This is the last of the numerous sports clubs that were found throughout Westmount in the 19th century – the Heather Curling Club, the Côte St. Antoine Tennis Club, St. George's Snowshoe Club, the MAAA – and many more.

Lawn bowling continues to be played here, and tournaments are held with other communities.

Caroline Breslaw is president of the Westmount Historical Association.



The club in its current form, July 2017.

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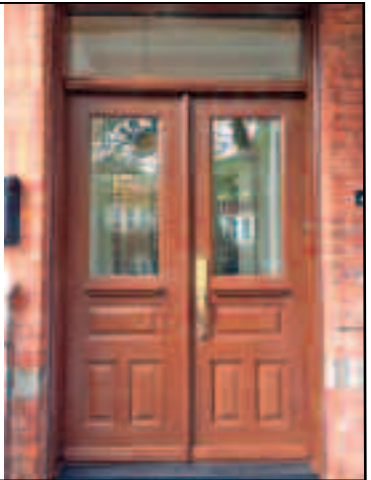
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Summit Circle walking path now waits only for more trees

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After its official inauguration July 20, the city's new walking path that replaces the north section of Summit Circle is now virtually complete, according to Nicolas Mory, the city's superintendent of arboriculture and horticulture.

A few more trees are still to be planted in the fall, he said. These include a mix of species: sugar maple, American basswood, black walnut, shaggy-bark hickory and birch.

Among those attending the inauguration were Mayor Christina Smith, former mayor Peter Trent, Councillor Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Sustainability and Parks, and a representative of the Quebec ministry of Culture, which is paying half the project's \$1.3-million budget through a grant obtained by Lulham.

While the original budget had been \$800,000, it was increased after additional work was required following a risk analysis study, as was the grant, Lulham confirmed last week.

The inauguration went "very well," Lul-

ham said. It was held at the east end of the path. This is the location of a new viewpoint overlooking Mount Royal.

She said she was especially pleased that only enough trees had been pruned to open up the view of the mountain while ensuring the sight of cars and buildings remained hidden.



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The top of Mount Royal is seen here August 4 from the new stone viewpoint built off the Summit Circle walking path looking east.



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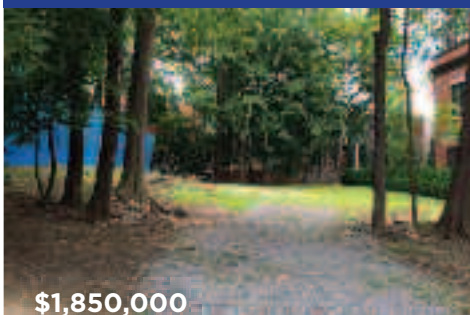
CONDO

JUST LISTED

SOLD

JUST LISTED

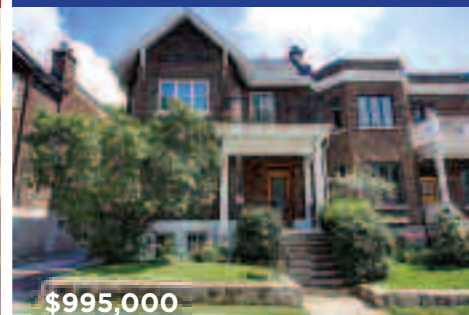
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ASKING PRICE
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This home boast 17 rooms of pure elegance and refinement with over 14,000 sq. ft. of meticulously landscaped grounds complete with a in-ground pool that will please the most discerning buyer. Luxury lives here.



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MAINT





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infoWestmount

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BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Bibliothèque de semences

En cours. Semences gratuites pour les membres de la Bibliothèque – plus de 50 variétés de plantes, incluant fines herbes, fleurs, légumes, et plusieurs variétés patrimoniales. Info : 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture d'été TD 2017

En cours. Bibliothèque. Demandez votre trousse du club de lecture d'été au comptoir des enfants. Le thème cet été est : Canada!

Fermeture temporaire de la Bibliothèque et service de prêt pop-up au Victoria Hall
La Bibliothèque publique de Westmount sera fermée du 13 août au 5 septembre pour effectuer des travaux de remplacement des tapis et de réaménagement des aires de lecture. Tous les items qui auraient été dus pendant cette période seront dus **le vendredi 5 septembre**. Un service de bibliothèque *pop-up* sera offert au Victoria Hall de

11 h à 19 h les jours suivants : du mardi 15 août au vendredi 18 août; du lundi 21 août au vendredi 25 août; du lundi 28 août au jeudi 31 août. Pour plus de détails, consultez le westlib.org.

Film sous les étoiles

Le vendredi 25 août, à la tombée du jour, parc Westmount. *Les aventures de Capitaine Bobette* (projection en anglais). Apportez vos chaises et vos couvertures! Gratuit. Info : 514 989-5229.

Fête de clôture du Club de lecture d'été TD
Le samedi 9 septembre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. avec *The Flying Canoe* de la troupe de Marionettes Rag & Bone. À ne pas manquer! Prix, collations et divertissements! Inscription requise. Info : 514 989-5229.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Galerie du Victoria Hall

Jusqu'au 11 août. La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter les artistes **Lucie Bernard, Ann Elsdon, Eva Ferenczy Reichmann, Brent MacLaine, Eliane Rivard** et **Douglas Scott**. Horaire : lundi au vendredi 10 h à 21 h; samedi 10 h à 17 h. Info : 514 989-5521.

Prochaine séance du conseil le mardi 5 septembre

Tournée Shakespeare-in-the-park

Le mardi et mercredi 8 et 9 août, 19 h, parc Westmount. La tournée Shakespeare-in-the-Park 2017 présentera la tragi-comédie romantique de Shakespeare *Much Ado About Nothing* (Beaucoup de bruit pour rien). Représentation en anglais seulement. Info : 514 989-5226.

Les concerts d'été au parc Westmount

Le dimanche 13 août, 14 h, parc Westmount, près de l'étang. Ensemble vocal QuaVaria. Dernier concert de la série. Gratuit; apportez votre chaise. Info : 514 989-5226.

Mots et musique

Le dimanche 20 août, 14 h, parc Westmount, près de l'étang. Apportez votre pique-nique au parc Westmount pour un après-midi de musique et de poésie. Avec Ka'nahsohon Kevin Deer, BearHeart Medicine Drum, Jason "Blackbird" Selman, et plus! Info : 514 989-5226.



Installation sonore

Les jeudi et vendredi 24 et 25 août, 15 h à 20 h, parc Westmount. Venez découvrir l'installation sonore *Berger le temps*, un projet artistique autour des chaises berçantes chantantes. Présentée par le Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée et la Ville de Westmount. Info : 514 989-5226.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Rappels pour la saison estivale

Souffleuses à feuilles : interdiction entre le 2 mai et le 30 septembre.

Couvre-feu dans les parcs municipaux : l'accès aux parcs est interdit entre minuit et 5 h.

Belvédère du Summit : il est interdit de consommer de l'alcool en tout temps et de stationner son véhicule entre 21 h et 6 h au Belvédère.

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LIBRARY

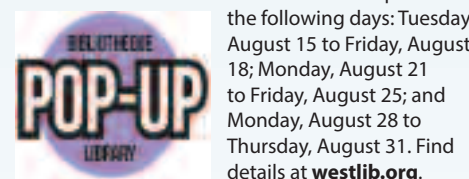
Seed Lending Library

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2017 TD Summer Reading Club

Ongoing. Library. Ask for your Summer Reading Club Kit at the Children's Desk. This year's theme is Canada!

Temporary closing of the Library and pop-up lending service at Victoria Hall
The Westmount Public Library will be closed from August 13 to September 5 to carry out the installation of new carpets and to re-organize the reading spaces. All items that would have become due during that period will be due **Friday, September 5**. A pop-up Library service will be available at Victoria Hall from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the following days: Tuesday, August 15 to Friday, August 18; Monday, August 21 to Friday, August 25; and Monday, August 28 to Thursday, August 31. Find details at westlib.org.



Movie Under the Stars

Friday, August 25, at dusk, Westmount Park. *The Adventures of Captain Underpants* (2017). Bring a lawn chair and a blanket! Free. Info : 514 989-5229.

TD Summer Reading Club closing party
Saturday, September 9, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. With Rag & Bone Puppet Theatre's *The Flying Canoe*. Be there! Prizes, entertainment, food! Registration required. Info : 514 989-5229.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Gallery at Victoria Hall

Until August 11th, 2017. The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present artists **Lucie Bernard, Ann Elsdon, Eva Ferenczy Reichmann, Brent MacLaine, Eliane Rivard** and **Douglas Scott**. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info : 514 989-5521.

Next Council Meeting Tuesday, September 5

Shakespeare in the Park

Saturday and Sunday, July 22 & 23, and Tuesday and Wednesday, August 8 & 9, 7 p.m., Westmount Park. Repercussion Theatre presents Shakespeare's tragic romantic comedy, *Much Ado About Nothing*. Info : 514 989-5226.

Summer Concerts in Westmount Park

Sunday, August 13, 2 p.m., Westmount Park, near the lagoon. QuaVaria Vocal Ensemble. Enjoy the last concert of the series. Free. Info : 514 989-5226.



Words & Music

Sunday, August 20, 2 p.m., Westmount Park, near the lagoon. Bring a chair or picnic and listen to poetry and music in the Park. Featuring Ka'nahsohon Kevin Deer, BearHeart Medicine Drum, Jason "Blackbird" Selman, and more! Info : 514 989-5226.

Sound Installation

Thursday and Friday, August 24 and 25, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., Westmount Park. Come experience the sound installation *Berger le temps*, where contributed lullabies bring rocking chairs to life. Presented by the *Conseil des arts de Montreal en tournée* and the City of Westmount. Info : 514 989-5226.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Summer reminders

Leaf blowers: a ban is in effect between May 2nd and September 30th.

Curfew in all municipal parks: park access is forbidden between midnight and 5 a.m.

Summit Lookout: Alcohol consumption is not permitted at any time, and it is forbidden to park at the lookout between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

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Wills brings the Thunder

Former Westmounter Adrian Wills premiered his new television series *21 Thunder* at the Burgundy Lion pub in St. Henri on July 31. The LCC and Dawson College grad and current Montrealer is one of three co-creators, along with Kenneth Hirsch and Riley Adams. The CBC drama focuses on the trials and tribulations of a Montreal under-21 soccer team.

The network “had come to Montreal looking for shows that were darker and younger,” Wills told the *Independent* on August 3. “I had been watching documentaries about sports heroes, including an under-21 hockey team. It made for great drama. You know what the players’ goals are, but only 4 percent will make the professional leagues. And real life is going to intersect [with their lives].”

Wills won a “best long form music video” Grammy in 2009 for his film *All Together Now* about the making of The Beatles/Cirque du Soleil show *Love*.

His documentarian background may have helped craft a likely tale with his new project. The life of *21 Thunder* character Junior Lolo bears a striking resemblance to that of Didier Drogba, but was laid out before the Ivory Coast superstar came to Montreal to play for the Impact in 2015.



Photo: Westmount Independent

Adrian Wills on de Maisonneuve, August 3.

The seven remaining episodes of *21 Thunder*’s first season air on Mondays at 9 pm and on the web after initial transmission.

Pool survey cont’d. from p. 1

with regard to whether there is sufficient support for an indoor pool to warrant looking into the matter further,” Deegan states in the letter.

Use of a gym

Among details sought on numbers of potential indoor-pool users and their anticipated frequency, the survey asked whether people would use a gymnasium as part of an indoor pool, and if so, for what purpose and how often.

The survey was conducted by Mark Wilkins Consulting as part of a possible “pre-feasibility” study requested publicly by Councillor Patrick Martin, commissioner of Public Works (see Letters to the Editor April 25, p. 6, and May 16, p. 4.)

Councillor Rosalind Davis, commissioner of Sports and Recreation, and a Masters swimmer, called for an indoor pool as her main priority in the upcoming November 5 municipal election (see story June 27, p. 1).

A number of residents also have been asking for one during the planning process for the Westmount recreation centre (WRC). At that time, a possible location was explored by councillors Martin, Cynthia Lulham and Kathleen Duncan (see July 14, 2009, p. 3).

The city decided at its general committee meeting May 15 to launch a pool-user survey, given that indoor pools are “very costly” to operate, Smith said at the time (see story May 23, p. 1).

As a result, the city wanted to find out what facilities currently exist in and around the community, as well as partnership opportunities and user demand before it might consider conducting a feasibility study into costs and possible locations for building a pool.

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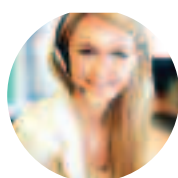
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Sales analysis

April transfers: Pace slows



Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in April 2017, gleaned from non-city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 17. Also included are earlier sales that have come to the Independent’s attention.

The pace of real estate transfers slowed somewhat in April, with 13 one- and two-family dwellings transferred and no condominium sales registered, according to the *Independent’s* research. This after 19 buyers signed on the bottom line in March and 15 in February, leading up to the summer months, which are by far the heaviest-volume months for transfers.

Highest price: Oakland

In April, the highest price was \$2,800,000 paid out for 11 Oakland Ave., a detached stone home backing onto the wooded area, which had been in the same family since 1978.

Only one property sold for less than \$1 million, \$880,000, for an attached duplex on Greene Ave., which had not changed hands since 1963.

Overall among the 13 sales the average price was \$1,667,000 for property evaluated by the city at an average \$1,508,238, so the total represents a mark-up of 10.5 percent, down slightly from the March figure

but certainly an indication that prices are moving up quickly. Compared to the new valuation roll, the January figure was below parity and the February figure was only 7 percent above.

RoseMount estate

In the April list, only two sales were for less than municipal tax value, with the biggest mark-down involving the eastern portion of the former RoseMount estate, 16 Severn Ave., which has been through a great deal of history since its construction in the mid-19th century. The famous mansion was divided in about 1924, and No. 18 became the private Weston School; it sold last November, again for a substantial mark-down after staying in the same hands for more than 30 years. No. 16 had been owned by the Sharp family since 1979.

Mark-down on Delavigne Rd.

The biggest mark-up on the April list, meanwhile, belongs to 52 Delavigne Rd., close to the Severn Ave. property, which brought its owner \$2,650,000 – second-highest price of the month – while evaluated at only \$1,885,200, thus a mark-up of 41 percent.

Besides the 12 single-family homes and one duplex, the only other sale in April involves land on Mount Pleasant Ave., some 7,000 square feet, which went for just under \$175 per square foot. The fact that vacant land is starting to sell in Westmount – two more lots are expected to sell in coming months – is an indication of high demand and low supply here.



1098-98A Greene Ave., lowest price, \$880,000.



16 Severn Ave. biggest mark-down, 24 percent.



11 Oakland Ave., highest price, \$2,800,000.



52 Delavigne Rd., biggest mark-up, 41 percent.

Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in April 2017

For list of transfers, please refer to paper copy.

For Andy Dodge's analysis, please see p. 16.



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ON THE SHELVES

Among new arrivals at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

Magazines – Home improvement

“Makeover madness” in *Style at Home*, June. The before-and-after issue includes make-overs meant to inspire, from living rooms to kitchens and more.

“Furniture fittings: handles and escutcheons” by William Reeve in *Canadian Antiques & Vintage*, May-June, p. 48. A history of furniture fittings from ancient Egypt through the 19th century, this article covers changes in style, means of manufacture and discusses examples of antique handles, locks and other furniture fittings.

“Rénover sans stress?” in *Protégez-Vous*, May, p. 25. *Évaluation de plusieurs sites web qui proposent de trouver le meilleur entrepreneur pour les rénovations.*

E-Books (Overdrive) – Humour

Crying for the Moon by Mary Walsh – In this brilliantly funny and poignant debut novel, actress, comedian and social activist Mary Walsh has created the unforgettable Maureen Brennan, a young woman coming of age in late 1960s in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

When You Find Out the World is Against you: and Other funny Memories About Awful Moments by Kelly Oxford – The best-selling author turns her wit to such subjects as anxiety, parenthood, popular culture and more in a new essay collection.

Livres numériques

Les pièges de l’exil by Philip Kerr – Approached by famous writer W. Somerset Maugham to help defend against a black-mailer who knows dangerous secrets, Berlin homicide detective and unwilling SS officer Bernie Gunther follows leads back to Hitler’s Third Reich and the development of the bomb in Russia.

Taqawan by Éric Plamondon – In this novel, Plamondon takes a plunge at the heart of the salmon war of Restigouche in 1981, as hundreds of policemen from the Sûreté du Québec descended upon the Mi’gmaq reserve to seize the fishermen’s nets.

Adult English – Defying convention

The Price of Illusion: A memoir by Joan Juliet Buck – From Buck, former editor-in-chief of *Paris Vogue* comes a fabulous account of four decades spent chronicling her quest to discover the difference between glitter and gold, illusion and reality, and what looks like happiness from the thing itself.

The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the North Pond Hermit by Michael Finkel – In 1986, 20-year-old Christopher Knight disappeared into the woods. He resurfaced nearly three decades later when he was arrested for stealing food. He had survived by his wits and courage, developing ingenious ways to store food and water and avoid freezing to death. Based on extensive interviews with Knight himself, this is a vividly detailed account of the why and how of his secluded life, as well as the challenges he has faced

returning to society.

Adult French

L’autisme expliqué aux non-autistes by Brigitte Harrisson and Lise St-Charles – This book presents, in a question-and-answer form, 50 notions about the development of autism. It also offers anecdotes from the life of Brigitte Harrisson, who has autism, and of author Kim Thuy, mother of an autistic son.

Guérir Alzheimer: Comprendre et agir à temps by Michael Nehls – Doctor Nehls introduces the most recent research proving the reversibility of Alzheimer’s disease during the first stage of development. He explains the non-drug methods that can stem its progress.

Audiobooks on CD- Memoires

A Horse Walks Into a Bar by David Grossman – A stand-up comedian recalls some of his darkest moments and traumatic memories from childhood on stage in front of a live audience.

The Shepherd’s Life: Modern Dispatches from an Ancient Landscape by James Rebanks – A shepherd in the Lake District of northern England shares his way of life in this memoir about living and farming in a storied landscape.

Celebrating with children’s books

Canada Year By Year by Elizabeth MacLeod – Take a fascinating journey through the events that shaped the nation of Canada since its birth July 1, 1867.

ABCMTL par Jeanne Painchaud – Discover Montreal and its secrets in this beautiful picture book filled with photos and poetry, in time for Montreal’s 375th anniversary.

‘Book club in a bag’

They Left us Everything: A Memoir by Plum Johnson – After the death of the author’s senile father and cantankerous 93-year-old mother, she and her three younger

brothers must empty and sell the beloved family home. The task of going through 23 rooms full of history, antiques and oxygen tanks consumes her, becoming more rewarding than she ever imagined.

The library will be closed for refurbishment August 13 to September 5 (see story June 13, p. 1).

Man flees, crashes car into concrete planter

Tickets for \$149 were issued to two 22-year-old men for drinking at the Summit lookout July 31, Public Security officials said. They were spotted at 10:15 pm seated beneath a sign prohibiting the use of alcoholic beverages. They were reported to live in the area of Pointe aux Trembles.

Before police could attend to verify their verbal identification, one offered to look for ID in his parked car. Instead, he suddenly drove off, crashing it into a concrete planter and pushing the heavy item some nine feet out of position. When police arrived, they were given the car’s licence plate number so the city could claim for damages. It is also believed the driver could be charged with hit-and-run causing damage. The second man remained on the scene.

Dog caught running across street

As public safety officers were checking out a house for special holiday attention around 12 noon July 25, they reported spotting a small dog dashing across Cedar Ave., trailing an attached leash. Public Security officials said the dog was quickly caught just before the owner emerged from a house to say the dog had been in the back yard. The owner was given 14 days to obtain a valid dog licence.

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Anwoth reconstruction to start this week

Grosvenor, Westmount, Argyle work all on time: city

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city's major road reconstruction projects are all on schedule so far, according to Public Works officials.

These include new water mains, electrical conduit, street lighting, sidewalks and road work on Westmount Ave. (Victoria to Claremont), Grosvenor (Sherbrooke to de Maisonneuve) and Argyle (Sherbrooke to Thornhill).

Similar work on Anwoth (west of Clarke) was scheduled to start August 7 and take 14 weeks.

The Grosvenor work was so far advanced that workers were able to take off the second week of the construction holiday, said Elisa Gaetano, city director of Engineering. Those at the other sites remained on the job.

As of last week, she said, work had progressed without incident on Westmount Ave., where sidewalk reconstruction on the north side was scheduled for this week. Road work is slated for August 14 so the project can be completed by the August 25 deadline and the return of students to school. Both Roslyn and Marianopolis are located on the street.

The work on Argyle is also on schedule to be completed in time for the start of classes at Selwyn House.

Grosvenor discovery

Meanwhile, the Grosvenor work is right on track to be completed in November, Gaetano said. This is despite an unexpected discovery of the presence of a Bell installation. Fortunately, she added, it came early enough in the project that Bell was able to modify a discrepancy in the installation's height so that other work was not affected.

"The residents have been very cooperative," Gaetano said, referring to the particular challenges presented by the long block regarding access and parking (see story April 11, p. 1).

"The big focus so far has been on the waterworks. "Some of the plans for later-stage work such as sidewalk reconfiguration and driveway ramps are still "in progress," she said.

Meanwhile, the particular configuration of hilly and crescent-shaped Anwoth was written into the tender specs for its reconstruction, Gaetano said. This means the contractor is well aware of potential challenges in this regard, she explained. The



This week's work on Westmount Ave. is to include the installation of the new sidewalks on the north side as seen to the right, looking west August 4.



With only three weeks to go before the reconstruction of Westmount Ave. (Victoria to Claremont) is scheduled for completion, the intersection of Victoria and west was a hive of activity August 4.

work starts with the installation of a temporary water supply.

A start date for the reconstruction of

Belmont Ave., south of Westmount Ave., has not yet been finalized.

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Beer Review: The Connoisseur and the Philistine

Venue: YÏSST

YÏSST (pronounced yeast), February 15
901 St. Zotique East (and St. Hubert),
Petite Patrie, close to Jean Talon Market.

David Price, The Philistine; Beer drinker
Ideal beer: stronger-than-average lager,
even it's commercial Canadian beer.

Favourite beer: Harp or Sapporo, but
Sapporo-in-a-can beats Harp-in-a-can,
hands down. On-tap research on this ques-
tion is still under way.

Greg Dunning, The Connoisseur; Beer
drinker, brewer, and hunter.

Ideal beer: one that is manufactured by
people who care more about the beer than
the money.

Favourite beer: Too many to mention.

YÏSST opened on May 28, 2015 a block
away from the St. Hubert arcade, recently
made famous by The New York Times (Jan.
11, 2017). Yeast is the core ingredient in
YÏSST's offerings of bread, beer and wine.
Its core value is commitment to small, lo-
cal producers for all its ingredients. This is
a 16-line taproom (13 beer, two cider, one
kombucha). It's not a brewpub, so the of-
ferings are produced off premise. Their
wines and ciders are also from Quebec
and at least Canada as much as possible,
and their bread is produced within the
neighbourhood. Ma Brasserie (10 Holt St.)
is a cooperative brewery built on the shoul-
ders of four existing brewpubs: Succur-
sale, Isle de Garde, Brouhaha and Noire
Blanche. It supplied the house beers for
this night's dégustation.

The Philistine: Blonde Boldwin (4.6%) –
Pale Ale by Boldwin (Boucherville)

I started with a blonde (or a pale ale, de-
pending on whether you trust the name or
the description), which is usually a good
haven for the lager-lover in an ale lovers'
world. This one was no exception. It did
not have "That Taste" (nutty/spicy), which
many microbrewed ales have and which
many connoisseurs seem to love, but it
did have an "Other Taste" which might be
That Taste's cousin. On top of that Other
Taste, it was a bit sweet and mild. I liked it,

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but it wasn't a lager – which almost always
has neither That Taste or that Other Taste.

The Connoisseur: Beur'slack! (5%) –
American Amber Ale by Ma Brasserie
(Montreal)

In winter time, it's sometimes prefer-
able to skip blonde and light to get started.
This amber tastes British to me, but it is
no doubt American because it is hopped
exclusively with Cascade, Chinook, Colum-
bus and Crystal hops, which are sourced
from the Pacific Northwest. The brewer
has utilized them for bittering rather than
for aroma. We are so accustomed lately to
IPAs that use these same hops for grape-
fruit and pinecone aroma bombs that I
was surprised that they were even used.
But there you have it, a perfect start to the
evening.

The Philistine: Jazz (5%) – American am-
ber by Jukebox (brewed by Brasseurs de
Montreal)

Brown ale is a style that for me can be
way too coffee-esque, which my coffee-
drinking colleagues have told me is in fact
a hazel-nut taste (see my comments on
Reservoir's Brown Ale, March 14, p. 19) or
just fine, like Creemore's Altbier. This one
was fine. It had "some taste," as my notes
put it, but too not much. High praise from
someone looking for the cold crispness of
lager.

The Connoisseur: Blanche de Session
(4%) – Belgian Witbier ale by L'Hermite
(Kingsey Falls)

A standard summer-thirst quencher. So,
what is it anyway? If you call it a witbier, or
a white beer, it should contain at least 50
percent wheat and it must be spiced, usu-
ally with coriander and orange peel, which
are added late in the boiling kettle for
aroma. A wit actually has more wheat in it
than most wheat beers, but it is called
white because the big wheat produces a
beige colour versus a typical golden hue.
Purposely unfiltered, it's opaque in the
glass, allowing for a full appreciation of all
the complex ingredients. This Flemish-
style ale is really not that unfamiliar be-
cause you have seen it at Metro and IGA as
Hoegaarden, distributed in pallet-sized
quantities by Labatt, which is the Cana-
dian component of the Anheuser-Busch
InBev empire. A tastier version, Blanche

de Chambly, brewed
by its microbrewery
competitor Uni-
broue, which is now
owned by Japanese
giant Sapporo.
Blanche de Session
is the most drink-
able version of the
three and a great
ambassador of the
style, but I forbade
The Philistine from
sampling it because
he still files this
taste in a third cate-
gory called "tooth-
paste." [Yes, I do.
Thanks for this
"prohibition."– The
Philistine.]

The Philistine:

Baptême (4.6%) – American blonde by
YÏSST and Succursale

Next for me was another blonde, Bap-
tême. This one had That Taste, but less
nutty or spicy than what I usually notice.
And it had a great texture.

The Connoisseur: IPA (6%) – American –
Les Trois Mousquetaires (Brossard)

It was good but you have to like your
American hops, which is a polite way of
saying it was unbalanced. Sweetness and
bitterness have to work together to make
the experience pleasant. Factories reduce
and balance these components to their ab-
solute minimum to drive out costs. Exam-
ples are Sleeman IPA, at one time tasty but
really bland now, and Alexander Keith's
IPA, which has always been an IPA in la-
bel only – pathetic. Okay, so how do you
achieve balance? One way is to produce a
beer with a higher final gravity. What does
that mean? (You chemists running big
pharma can skip ahead here.) Before fer-
mentation, beer is full of sugar, extracted
from the malt, which gives it an original
specific gravity, a measure of suspended
solids in a solution. The yeast eats the
sugar during fermentation, reducing the
sugar content and its gravity. The more
sugar you leave in the beer at the end of
fermentation, the sweeter it tastes. So, a re-
ally bitter IPA needs a high final gravity to
hit those hops with some sugar. I would
have preferred this scenario but if you are
a hophead then you would be fine with
this IPA as is.

The Philistine: P'tite Tranquille – (2.5%)
– red lager by Le Saint-Pub (Baie-Saint-
Paul)

This one had That Taste too, but less



Photo courtesy of Willem Westenberg

than the Baptême. What really shocked
me was that this beer was 2.5 percent! I
was amazed. It was not watery, or weak
bodied, or noticeably less alcoholic. Hon-
estly, it seemed like magic. Hats off.

The Connoisseur: Ahorn – Lager Noire
Fumée (8%) – Smoked lager – Succur-
sale/Boswell (Montreal)

Whenever I see a smoked lager on the
menu, I have to try it to see if it can mea-
sure up to Aecht Schlenkerla Rauchbier
Märzen (SAQ, via Bamberg Germany). I
seriously can't believe how fantastic this
beer is! Oh my! You know you are in the
midst of greatness when your rate of con-
sumption increases as you sip and you
just can't stop yourself. I also love this beer
because it contains one of my favourite
foods, maple syrup. And the brewer has
not overdone it as the sweetness was just
right; a genuine Goldilocks moment. I fol-
lowed it immediately with another 1/2 pint
before moving on. I would have carried
home a dozen of these, if they were offer-
ing growlers, which – by the way – is now
a legal practice in Quebec for brewpubs.

The Philistine: Beur'slack! (5%) – Amer-
ican Amber Ale by Ma Brasserie (Mon-
treal)

My last beer was the Beur'slack, which
had That Taste, but at a quarter strength.
That's good (for me, anyway), but why can't
microbrewers, and tap rooms in particular,
rustle up some lagers (or one!) for the lager
lovers? We're drinkers, too, and there are
some insipid lagers out there to drive
drinkers to the improved varieties that mi-
crobreweries can offer.

The Connoisseur: Loulou Porter (5%) –
British Ale – Hopfenstark

continued on p. 22

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom honours Gold



Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmount's Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom honoured Senator **Marc Gold** with a special gala May 25. Gold attended with his wife **Nancy Cummings Gold** and their children **Jon Gold**, accompanied by his new bride **Kristina Johnston**, and **Jenny Gold** with her husband **Matt Aronson** and their children **Abigail** and **Penelope**, charming in matching floral outfits.

Westmounter **Jonathan Wener**, chancellor of Concordia University, there with his wife **Susan Wener**, chaired the tribute committee.

Supporters included local res **Claudine** and **Stephen Bronfman**, **Joelle** and **Bruce Kent**, **Julia** and **Stephen Reitman**, **Rhoda** and **Robert Vineberg**, **Victoria** and **David Cape**, **Marcia** and **Brian Bronfman**, **Susan Wisebord** and **Steven Cummings**, **Betty Palik** and **Michael Prupas**, and **Eileen** and **Joel Segal**, along with **Brenda** and **Sam**



From left: *Leslie Alcorn, Sandy Martz, Marilyn Green, Sally Yaffe, Risa Libman Scherzer, Jewel Lowenstein, Rhona Davis, Denise Grossman, Nancy Pedvis Strohl, Elaine Paperman Woolner and Sara Riesman.*

Gewurz, Lillian Vineberg and **Morris Goodman**, and **Nadia** and **David Sela**. **Michael Goldbloom**, principal Bishop's University, introduced keynote speaker

Senator **André Pratte**, former editor-in-chief of *La Presse*. Former federal justice minister **Irwin Cotler** introduced Marc

Gold. The honoree's speech brought people to their *continued on p. 22*



Irwin Cotler



André Pratte

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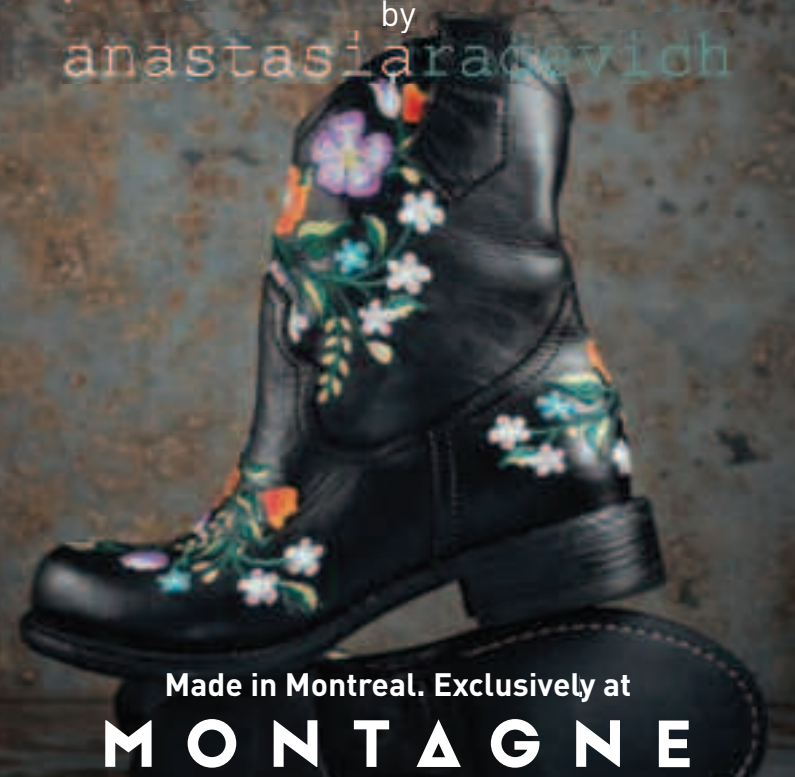
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Social Notes cont'd. from p. 21

feet. A talented guitarist, his musical performance also brought resounding applause.

Senior Rabbi **Lisa Grushcow** welcomed guests, and gala chair **Jewel Lowenstein** thanked everyone for attending. Her committee included local res **Sara Riesman**, **Amy Kornik**, **Cynthia Telio**, **Leslie Alcorn**, **Vivian Billick**, **Rona Davis**, **Susan Levine**, **Nancy Macklan**, **Sally Yaffe** as well as 2016 temple honoree **Sheila Goldbloom**, **Vivian Grant**, **Marilyn Green**, **Helen Kahn**, **Felicity Blatt**, **Sandy Martz**, **Lillian Mauer**,

Nancy Pedvis Strohl, **Lillian Shiller**, **Susan Szalpeter**, **Lillian Vineberg**, **Denise Grossman**, immediate past temple president and **Susan Greenberg**, current president.

Leigh Lerner, rabbi emeritus, created a humorous and educational slide show highlighting the Temple's significant dates as it celebrates its 135th anniversary.

The elegant eve supported a new initiative called The Open Doors Institute for Judaism, and will help the Temple's educational, social justice and outreach programming.



From left, back row: Matt Aronson, Jenny Gold, Nancy Cummings Gold, Marc Gold, Kristina Johnston, Jon Gold; front row: Abigail and Penelope Aronson.

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Mia among the 'left-behinds' from moving day

9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

The SPCA is full to the brim at the worst time of the year, the July moving month. There are many cats for adoption, some of which are adorable kittens like Mia. Please open your hearts and your homes to a loving pet in need. Many have been surrendered or found abandoned as casualties of the moving season. Through this transition at the shelter, they remain perfectly healthy and happy family pets, which are waiting for new homes.

Young Mia is a beautiful and affectionate grey-and-white domestic short-hair with huge green eyes. She is up to date with her inoculations, kitten health treatments and is now spayed. Her pet ID number at the Montreal SPCA is 35753285.

Please drop by the shelter's adoption centre at 5215 Jean Talon. Vis-

iting hours are from 12 pm to 7 pm Monday to Friday, and 11 am to 5 pm Saturday and Sunday. Or call them at 514.735.2711 for more information.

Also keep in mind that if you cannot adopt on the long-term, there are wonderful opportunities to foster a kitten who would benefit from a home environment throughout the adoption process with the basic necessities provided. You can find out more at the Montreal SPCA foster department by contacting 514.735.2711, ext. 2237 or pfa_fp@spcamontreal.com.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



Beer column cont'd. from p. 20

(L'Assomption)

After that last mind-blowing, off the chart offering, this porter tasted respectable. Pretty hard to go back to a simple classic at 5 percent after an 8-percent specialty. Just like you wouldn't have a Portuguese red after a port. But, tasked with trying to cover as much of the menu in one sitting, I digress as much as I can, without falling off my barstool or getting lost on the Metro.

Venue summary

The Connoisseur: I didn't get the feeling that we were in a true beer emporium. The wine and cocktail list dwarfed the beer. There is nothing stopping them from having a beer cellar, since the same Quebec microbreweries supplying YISST with kegs are producing bottle vintages suitable for storage and aging. There are better places to go in Montreal for beer (e.g. 32-tap Vices and Versa). Bars are already appearing in North America with curated beer selections. Next time you are in Toronto, go to Birreria Volo on College St. I will try to come up with a curated Montreal beer bar next time.

The Philistine: I liked this bar more than Greg. I am used to menus that neglect lager drinkers and the ale offerings were good by the lowered expectations that lager drinkers have to expect from beer snobs ... umm ... I mean beer connoisseurs. I liked the atmosphere and service, and one can always tune out wine and cocktails lists. Just sit back and think of lagers. It works for me.

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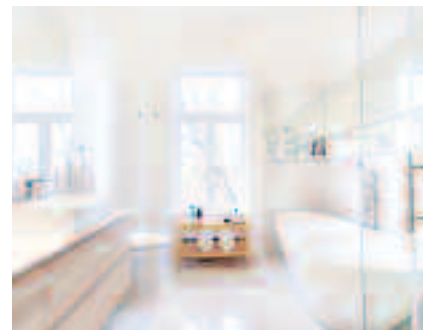
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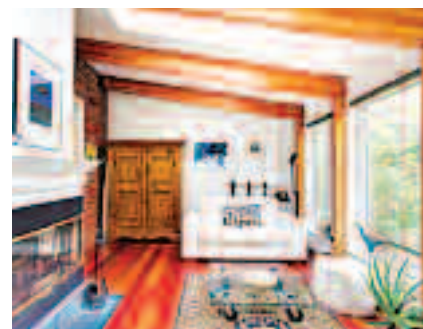
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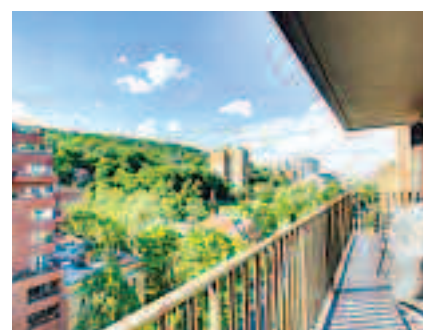
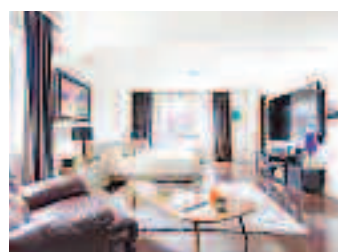
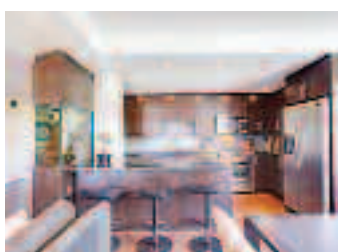
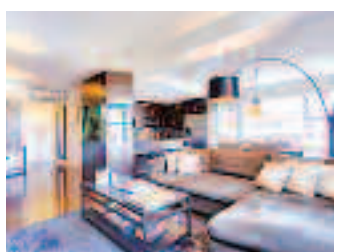
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