

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 12 No. 3d

We are Westmount

March 27, 2018

**Yes, 52 pages is a record. Thank you, advertisers**

**Number of permits up 16%, values up 86% to \$93M**

## Building activity rises to new all-time high in 2017

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The amount of building and renovation activity in Westmount rose last year to an all-time high as 16 percent more work permits were issued than the year before. This is 67 percent more than 10 years ago.

According to figures released last week by the city, the total of 1,449 construction and plumbing permits also represented a surprising increase in construction value of 86 percent to reach \$92.8 million, considering no new large projects were involved.

"The difference with last year is just the high volume from home renovation," said Urban Planning director Tom Flies.

This type of work is becoming more and more complex because many properties are at the limit of their site coverage,

he explained.

As a result, owners are having to find ways to enlarge their homes by other means such as going underground. "And with the heritage component involved, this can involve structure reinforcement."

By comparison, the all-time record for declared construction values of \$109 million in 2012 included some \$48 million from several large projects, such as the Westmount recreation centre, condo projects at 215 Redfern and 360 Selby, as well as water towers at the MUHC site and the now closed Target store at Alexis Nihon.

It's too early in 2018 to foresee whether this trend to increased renovation is continuing, Flies said. The number of permits was down in January compared with last year, but

continued on p. 10

## Wilkie meets again with dalai lama



Westmount resident Dr. Tara Wilkie, bottom row, third from left, met with Dalai Lama Tenzin Gyatso in Dharamshala, India earlier this month as part of his 33rd Mind and Life Dialogue. Wilkie is a psychologist whose work on social and emotional learning has similarities to the dalai lama's concept of secular ethics. This photo was taken on March 16. For more, see p. 17. Photo courtesy of T. Wilkie.

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## Mayor Smith vows to persist with gas-model ban

## By-law changes to start reducing leaf blower noise

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The implementation of new noise restrictions from leaf blowers began taking shape March 19 when city council filed notice of motion to change its noise by-law to reflect shorter day-time use for these devices.

But Mayor Christina Smith vowed to carry on with a previous plan announced

last month to ultimately ban the use of gas-operated models, despite an outcry from contractors, suppliers and some residents (see story February 13, p. 1).

The city had initially announced it would prohibit the use of gas-operated blowers and expected it would be able to legislate by April 1. The outright ban was recon-

continued on p. 10

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## Library activities, hot off the press



The spring and summer program booklet for library and community events, was presented at the city council meeting March 19 by Councillor Mary Gallery, commissioner of library, culture, Sports and Recreation. It is available at city hall, the library, Victoria Hall, the Westmount recreation centre and can be seen on the city's website.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney.

## Council members to attend FCM and UMQ annual conferences

Mayor Christina Smith and three councillors will be attending conferences on

municipal affairs in May, according to a resolution adopted by city council March 19.

Maximum amounts of \$3,500 before taxes were allocated each to councillors Anitra Bostock and Mary Gallery to participate in the annual conference and trade show held by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities at the new Halifax Convention Centre from May 31 to June 3.

Smith and Councillor Jeff Shamie were authorized to spend up to \$3,000 each to attend the annual conference of the Union of Quebec Municipalities (UMQ) taking place from May 16 to 18 at the Hilton Lac-Leamy in Gatineau.

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*Based on ‘no tolerance,’ not breed*  
**City to make submission to Quebec on dog law**

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

An unusual questioner made his way to the mic during city council’s question period March 19.

Jack, who lives on Grosvenor, didn’t utter a woof and kept looking behind him, leaving his owner Paul Marriott to speak on his behalf.

“Jack wants to know if the city is going to make a submission,” to the Quebec government’s commission on so-called dangerous dog legislation, Marriott asked. The commission held hearings for three days last week.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham confirmed it would be doing so. Lulham’s Urban Planning commissioners for zoning, economic development and parks includes dogs.

Marriott also asked where the city was in its efforts announced last summer to stiffen its own dog by-law to increase no-tolerance measures for dangerous dogs. This would be based on Calgary legislation rather than breed-specific lines such as those brought in by Montreal under the Coderre administration against pit-bull



types and now rescinded. Mayor Christina Smith later told the *Independent* that while the city “would submit a short submission” on its position, she would not be speaking to it in person.

She also acknowledged the city’s anticipated by-law modifications had “dragged on” but pointed out the new council, after its inaugural and budget meetings and orientation sessions, had really only held a couple of regular public meetings.

While efforts to update the relevant portions of the by-law were to be carried out by the city’s legal department, none were forthcoming at this time.

Last August when the outgoing council was asked by Cynthia Grahame, of Jack’s family, how citizens could ensure the by-law changes were carried through, Lulham had replied: “I would say to you, after the election, to come forward and ensure it does” (see story August 15, p. 7).

Marriott raised the issue of the by-law status at the February 5 meeting, but it was during an absence by Lulham.

Council intends to table changes to the dog by-law at the council meeting April 3, Lulham said March 22.



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## Speed, smiles and (implied) frowns



On March 9, around 6:15 pm, obedient drivers were greeted with a smile on Victoria Ave. between Côte St. Antoine and Sherbrooke if they remained below the speed limit. Above 40 km/h, they were warned with a flashing red recorded speed. In a period of about 15 minutes, three vehicles recorded speeds between 41 and 44 km/h. Only two cyclists passed, both were clocked at between 35 and 37 km/h. The speed limit there is 30 km/h.

Photos: Ralph Thompson.

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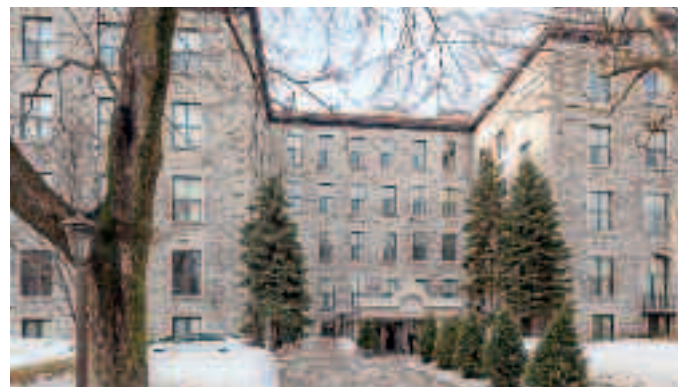
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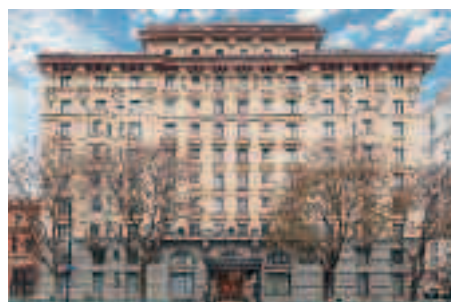


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HE EATS IT!

What is it about winter that puts the thought in some dog owners' heads that it is okay to NOT PICK UP THEIR DOGS' POOP?

We walk our dog in Westmount Park three to four times a day and come across fresh poop with almost each walk.

Along with having to hold our dog back as HE EATS IT, we really find it irresponsible that dog owners seem to not be bothered to pick up after their dogs!

Maybe if Westmount Public Security patrolled the parks in the winter as they do in the summer and hand out tickets, it would get around and remind people to pick up after their dogs, but seeing not one security officer has been seen in the park since October, it has allowed people to become lax and not take on the responsibility that comes with having a dog, picking up their poop!

The dog runs are another area of neglect, where people gather with their dogs, get caught up on socializing with each other and do not see when their dogs POOP, leaving it, as opposed looking for it and picking it up! This happens throughout the year in the dog run and I am tired of picking it all up so my dog doesn't eat it!

From someone who has had two dogs in the past 10 years in Westmount, I have always picked up after them and it disgusts me that others don't do the same!

I demand that the city either patrol the park to ensure people are responsible for picking up after their pets, or the city, if it doesn't care about enforcing the responsibility on dog owners, then hire

someone to clean up the poop in the park daily.

I would suggest putting my dog on the payroll since HE EATS IT, but I would rather that he didn't!

ALLAN GOLDBERG, LANSDOWNE AVE.

WESTMOUNT SQUARE WAS SUPER PRE-BARRETTE

RE "Westmount Square Medical Centre to be a 'super clinic,'" (March 13, p. 4).

Westmount Square Health Group is already a super clinic, no thanks to our minister of Health, Gaétan Barrette. He plans to install blood-test and x-ray equipment? News flash, Gaétan, such has always been part and parcel of the centre. I was one of its first patients and it is still my "go-to" when I need those services.

Hands off, Dr. Barrette. It isn't one of your supposed "super clinics." Neither are most of the rest. There were already in existence before your announcements.

Stop blundering around. Haven't you heard "What ain't broke, don't need fixin'"? – at least not by you.

PAULA J. McKEOWN, SHERBROOKE ST.

No to 4898? ASTOUNDING

I was astounded that our city council has rejected the residential development for 4898 de Maisonneuve at Prince Albert. It may be true that the proposed project does not conform with the SCAOPI by-law\*, but surely there is a provision to permit construction of worthwhile buildings that do not conform.

The rendering of the proposed design as shown in the *Independent* would indi-

cate the construction of a very pleasant residential building with the advantage of a rooftop garden. It is questionable that the garden should constitute a fifth floor. A height of five storeys or 59 feet does not seem unreasonable given the many residential buildings throughout the city that far exceed this height.

If there is any way this project could be

approved, council should make every effort to do so.

TIM CARSLEY, BARAT RD.

*\*Editor's note:* It is our understanding that the SCAOPI by-law is not a zoning by-law, but exists to create a way to make exceptions to current zoning, and that council has firmly closed the door on this application. – DP.

Many contracts given out for streets, parks & gardens

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council on the last day of winter, March 19, awarded numerous tender contracts, among them 11 related to spring and summer roadwork as well as parks and gardens. Some were year-long extensions or renewals of contracts reflecting a cost of living increase of just over 1 percent.

"We have a massive agenda," Mayor Christina Smith announced, saying the number of tenders would normally be dealt with at the February meeting, but were delayed this year because of the later budget adoption in January.

The renewed contracts included those for the collection and transport of refuse and food waste by Services Matrec Inc. for \$1,175,324, street line painting by Lignco Sigma Inc. for \$91,883 and the maintenance of parks and green spaces by Groupe Nicky for \$200,038.

As well, a contract for the collection of secondary recyclable garbage was to be renewed with Environnement Routier NRJ Inc. for \$247,954 while the second year of a contract was required to be ratified for the collection of paper and cardboard in the commercial sectors by TTI Environnement Inc. for a maximum of \$50,497, including taxes.

**New contracts awarded**

A new tender contract for street and sidewalk cuts throughout the city was .....

**Correction: Film club**

The article "Library Film Club screens Frank Zappa documentary" (March 20, p. 5) incorrectly stated the end of the club's season. In fact, it continues beyond its Tuesday, March 27 2 pm showing of *Eve and the Fire Horse*, including two events in April: *Faces Places* (Wednesday, April 4 at 7 pm) and *The Florida Project* (Tuesday, April 24 at 2 pm), and four more in May in June.

awarded to low bidder Cojalac Inc. at a maximum of \$277,210 taxes included.

Another new one for water main rehabilitation by structural lining on different streets went to Aquarehab (Canada) Inc. for \$1,203,133. It was the lower of two bidders.

A contract for reconstruction of the community gardens went to Motexa Inc., the lowest conforming bidder of five for a maximum of \$152,650, including taxes. The others provided quotes ranging between \$241,855 and \$365,621.

The preparation and daily maintenance of Har-Tru Tennis courts at Stayner, King George (Murray) and Westmount parks was awarded to H/B Sports Enterprise Inc. for \$82,782. It was reported to be the only quote received. Last year, the contract went to the same firm for an amount of \$77,387.

Maintenance of the sports fields went to another repeat provider. This was Techniparc for \$66,364 for the seasonal maintenance of five fields, three in Westmount Park, one at King George (Murray) and one at the Westmount Athletic Grounds. Three other firms reported being unable to quote. Last year, the contract was awarded in an amount of \$44,745 for three fields.

This year, 150 self-watering planters are to be supplied to replace the previous concrete ones on Victoria and Sherbrooke by Sybertech Waste Reduction Ltd. in B.C. for \$53,131. This is described as "an exclusive product manufactured and sold directly by the manufacturer Sybertech" for which there are no distributors in Quebec.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham, Urban Planning commissioner for zoning, economic development and parks, explained that considerable research had been put into finding suitable planters that could be picked up by a fork lift for winter storage, were of a more contemporary design and could prevent the earth from drying out daily between watering.

A number of other contracts were awarded for Hydro Westmount equipment and electric vehicles.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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PRESSTIME: Monday at 10:30 am

LETTERS & COMMENTS: We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. Letter writers should not expect to be published in every issue, or in back-to-back issues, or repeatedly in the same season or on the same topic.

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## Mantel tells council about a traffic stop by police

Bruce Ave. resident Bronwen Mantel told city council March 19 she had been stopped by police the previous day at 3:15 pm while cycling west on St. Catherine and turning onto Kensington after signaling.

She said she had been asked for identification, which she did not have. Asking why she had been stopped, she said she had not been told, and after some discussion ensued, had been handcuffed and placed in the back of a cruiser until asked to get out “after I had calmed down.” She refused, she told the council meeting, because she wanted to be taken to the police station.

Instead, she was removed from the car by three officers and issued a \$43 ticket “for putting a vehicle in jeopardy” though those circumstances remained

unclear as to what had actually happened.

She concluded by saying if her experience could have happened “to a 69-year-old Westmount woman,” what would happen to someone of a more diverse background.

Mayor Christina Smith said she was sorry to hear what had happened and that a police representative was attending the council meeting as usual.

Lieut. Jacques Meunier, second in command of local SPVM station 12, told the *Independent* at the end of the meeting he was not in position to comment, but that Mantel had been issued a ticket and there was no report of the incident. He said he had given her a complaint form to file with the police ethics commission if she wished.

## Dog run sand too dusty, council told

Claudia Baruch of The Boulevard asked city council March 19 to do something about the type of sand mix now being used at the dog run in King George (Murray) Park (and others).

She said in the summer it causes “urine-infected dust” to arise causing “a health hazard” to dogs and humans. She was told the city would look into adding more granite to the sand. This would reduce the dust, according to Councillor Cynthia Lulham, whose commissioner-ship includes parks and dogs.

Lulham, who takes her small dog to the run in Westmount Park, explained that this sand and granite mix is used in dog runs throughout North America and was chosen for Westmount as a preferred substance. She said she had not received previous complaints.



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### EASTER HOLIDAY:

#### Business Hours and Municipal Services

Administrative offices of the City of Westmount, including City Hall, Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount, Public Works, Public Security and Recreation, will be closed Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> and Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 for the Easter holiday.

Westmount Public Library will be closed Friday, Sunday and Monday.

**Garbage and kitchen waste collection will take place as usual, according to the regular schedule.**

[westmount.org](http://westmount.org)

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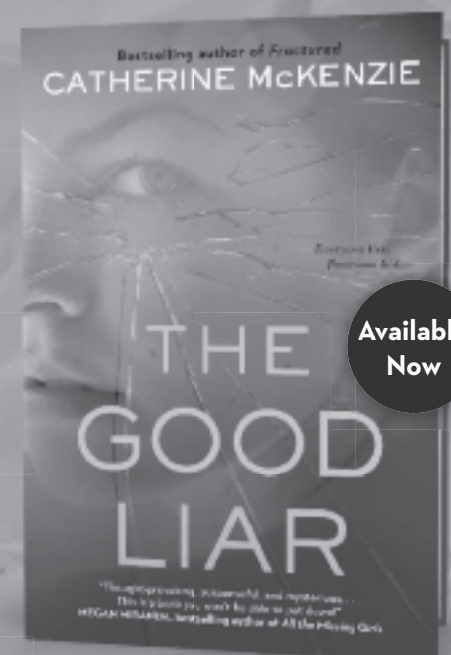
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City already exploring ‘options’: Cllr. Peart

# Concerns raised by repeat requests to override zoning



Councillor Conrad Peart agrees with residents' concerns.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

How can the city prevent non-conforming development proposals from being presented publicly for the same site one after the other when it knows they are unacceptable to both the city and the neighbourhood?

The question arose March 19 when the city council passed a resolution refusing to give further review to the second application in two years for an oversized residential development at 4898 de Maisonneuve at Prince Albert.

"The process has been disrupting and costly in terms of time, energy and resources for all concerned," said Michele MacDougall of Prince Albert, one of those who has fought against both projects. "In my opinion, it is not fair to either the res-

idents or the developers."

"I agree. Full stop," said Councillor Conrad Peart, Urban Planning commissioner for permits and architecture.

Had there not been an early stage public meeting, the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) would have dismissed the proposal before the community even knew about it, he pointed out.

"Discussion is already under way between the administration and the PAC to explore our options," Peart said the next day. "At this time, we do not have any new information or insight to share."

Mayor Christina Smith noted at the meeting that the two proposals for the de Maisonneuve site had come from different developers who had the right to ask for zoning variances just as citizens had asked for early consultation on non-conforming



Process for non-conforming projects disrupted the community, Michele MacDougall of Prince Albert tells council March 19.

proposals in the name of transparency.

That the city would receive two such non-conforming proposals for the same site that had far exceeded the current zoning requirements was not foreseen when the by-law called "Special Construction, Alteration or Occupancy of an Immoveable (SCAOPI)" was written in 2016.

The site in question at 4898 de Maisonneuve currently includes an almost vacant three-storey office building and a large adjacent parking lot. The two proposals have called for six- and five-storey residential buildings respectively. These exceeded the height, massing and other zoning restrictions that call for one and two-family dwellings up to three storeys.

MacDougall said, "It seems clear that the residents of the area will only be satisfied with development that respects the R3 zoning, which has been in place for many years."

MacDougall said she felt there was a big flaw in the SCAOPI process that allowed the second proposal to have even been presented when it so far exceeded the zoning.

Her concerns were followed up by York St. resident Laurel Bossen. "What I propose is that for any property, this [kind of application] can't be done more than once in 10 years." She said this would mean that developers would be more serious about meeting neighbourhood concerns "and we should also be spared."

### Discussion under way

The aim of the SCAOPI by-law is to enable the repurposing of sites, such as those with religious uses or other heritage buildings, to overcome certain zoning restrictions as long as the new development provides special benefits to the community as a trade-off.

The SCAOPI process does not follow the regular permit procedure and requires plans to be presented to public feedback almost immediately upon reception by Urban Planning. At the preliminary stage, there is no "back and forth" between the city/PAC and the developer to modify the project.

The council, by its resolution March 19, refused to allow further examination of the most recent proposal and accepted a recommendation from the PAC, which found the development out of scale with the neighbourhood and not meeting the SCAOPI criteria (see story March 20, p. 1).

"It was clear to us it was not suitable to the neighbourhood feel," Peart explained of the council decision. "So, unfortunately, the community was put through this a second time."



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**Permits, cont'd. from p. 1**

could well reflect the severe winter and could start to pick up quickly with the approach of the construction season.

The number of permits requested last year for all types of work was also reflected in the 2,577 files that went through review by the department's Board of Inspection last year. This was 20 percent more than the previous year, without any increase in staff.

"If you consider that the board held 50 meetings to review 1,575 new items and 1,002 re-submissions, it's 50 files per

meeting, which is crazy," Flies said. There was also an increase of 145 dossiers (24 percent) examined by the Planning Advisory Committee for exterior work. Of the 749 reviewed, 458 received favourable recommendations, while one did not. The remaining files were deferred for minor modification and can be resubmitted, Flies said.

Interestingly, these figures do not include "special projects," such as the SCAOPI proposals for developments that do not conform to zoning such as the first one for 4898 de Maisonneuve or for 500 Claremont.

**10 years of construction and renovation figures from annual reports**

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
# of permits	869	974	1,033	1,095	1,207	1,295	1,287	1,249	1,223	1,255	1,449
Work (in millions)	\$44.5	\$51.1	\$47.8	\$58.1	\$80.0	\$108.9	\$98.2	\$86.7	\$63.3	\$49.8	\$92.8

**Blowers, cont'd. from p. 1**

sidered for the time being, however, when Smith met with gardening contractors and suppliers and heard from some residents citing the expense of investing in new electric equipment on short notice (see story March 6, p. 1).

Under the interim change proposed last week: "No person shall use or operate, or cause to be used or operated, a leaf blower except from April 1 to May 1 and from October 1 to December 1 of the same year, from Monday to Saturday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm."

Previously, the blowers could be operated in season from 8 am to 6 pm, but two weeks are now to be added to the fall clean-up time, which previously was from October 1 to November 15.

If the by-law is adopted at the April 3 council meeting, the changes in allowable times could go into effect part way through the spring period, according Martin St-Jean, the city's director of Legal Services.

**Timing just too ambitious**

"It's not something we're going to back

away from," Smith told the council meeting. "We were just too ambitious on the timing."

She said that if some other municipalities were to take similar action, as a couple of them might, it would be easier for Westmount since the market for the electrical equipment would increase.

Fred Girvan a resident of Victoria, urged Smith during the meeting's question period to move forward and not be intimidated. He recounted ways, he alleged, in which some contractors had been finding ways to override the city's current noise restrictions associated with various equipment models.

"I wouldn't say I was bullied" into postponing the ban from this spring, Smith replied. "No one is more disappointed than I."

Smith said the city would "lead by example" by using electric leaf blowers in the parks to dispel arguments from the contractors that the industrial models were not strong enough for heavy duty work. They have now been informed a ban was coming, she said. "It's now fair game."

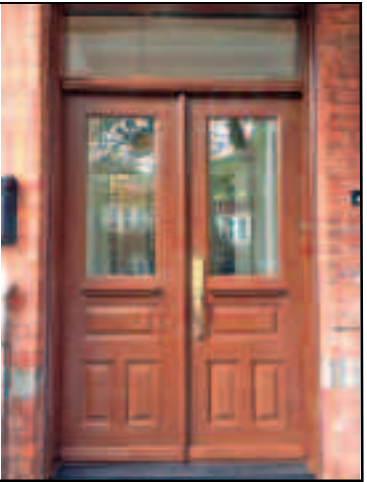
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# Aslin to head ECS

Lauren Aslin was named head of school at Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School (ECS), the school said in a March 22 press release. Aslin "has been a valued member of the ECS community," it said, "for almost two decades. In her most recent role as acting head of school, she has successfully demonstrated that her vision, passion and experience ensure that ECS remains a thriving tier-one school for girls."

Aslin holds a bachelor of arts from McGill University, as well as a master of education from Concordia. She began her tenure at ECS in 1999 as the director of information technology and curriculum integration, the first position of its kind in Quebec. After 16 years in that role, Aslin was appointed assistant head of learning and TechKNOWledgy in 2015 before her appointment as acting head of school in the fall of 2017.

"If we are teaching our girls today the way we were taught yesterday, then we are not preparing them proactively for tomorrow," Aslin was quoted as saying in the press release. "At ECS, we encourage each girl to embrace her curiosity and cultivate an entrepreneurial mindset to best pre-



Photo courtesy of ECS.

pare her to thrive in the future. I'm thrilled to have been offered the opportunity to continue to serve this community that I know and love."

## City calls on artisans

The city of Westmount's Community Events Advisory Committee (CEAC) is calling on artisans to participate in Artisans Westmount, to be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 10 and 11 in Victoria Hall, its website announced March 1. The event aims to showcase high quality, functional goods. All work is to be handmade by the artisans. Artisans should send their name, address, phone number, email, one or two photos, and a short description of their work by Friday, April 6, 2018 to [artisans@westmount.org](mailto:artisans@westmount.org).




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## Lent & Easter services



**Sunday March 18, 10:30am:**

Lessons & Carols for Lent

**Sunday March 25, 10:30am:**

Palm Sunday

**Thursday March 29, 7pm:**

Maundy Thursday Eucharist

**Friday March 30, 7pm:**

Good Friday Passion according to St Mark  
by Charles Wood – Choir, Soloists, Organ

**Sunday April 1, 10:30am:**

Easter Day Choral Eucharist  
Choir, Organ, Trumpet, Tympani

**St. Matthias' Anglican Church**

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Clodagh Wheatley in her apartment on Melville. In the background, one of her paintings, *Typographic Painting: Study in Orange and in her arms, Percy (left) and Polly.*

I often see Clodagh Wheatley walking her dogs. Percy, a tiny Yorkie, seems to see himself as a ferocious animal as he snarls at everyone, but then jumps up to be cuddled. Polly, a gregarious cairn terrier, just loves life – and people! An ex-ad exec, Clodagh is now a full-time painter.

Winters are spent in her Westmount home and summers on her farm in Sutton. As global brands flail in a sea of throw-away fashion, her style philosophy is totally aligned with today's mood of the three Rs: re-cycle, re-create and re-use. It's a growing trend. Proof? A recent fashion event featuring Montreal personalities was just held at Renaissance, a local thrift store.

("Donate to the planet").

And as you will read below, an "up-cycled collection" for Value Village (one of the most popular second-hand destinations) was recently created by a young Canadian designer. As a trendsetter, Clodagh Wheatley, has finessed this new aesthetic.

### STYLE

*How would you describe your personal style?*

I wear simple clothes with exciting and bright accessories. I love the look of hand-crafted jewellery, particularly the textures and colours.

*You take your two dogs out early each*

# TRENDSETTERS

## CLODAGH WHEATLEY

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON

### Anything goes, especially sustainable

*morning. Do you have a "morning dog walk" outfit?*

I wear flannel pyjamas and a very long LL Bean down coat in the winter. When it's warmer, silk pyjamas and my Burberry raincoat.

*What do you like to wear on weekends?*

In the daytime, I'm in barn clothes – Le Chameau rubber boots, t-shirts and jeans – because I'm actually mucking out the stable before taking my horse into the riding ring. When I'm sitting on the tractor mowing, I always wear my Tilley hat.

*You seem to love animals.*

Well, yes. I have had dogs all my life. Before this dynamic duo, I had a gentlemanly Airedale called Rupert. I ride my Morgan horse Beauty in the country. And I have a much-beloved old Paddington bear who would be most upset if I ever replaced him with one of those new Vuitton bears!

*You spend a lot of time in England.*

*How do you dress for the plane trip?*

Yoga pants, an old black turtleneck and a massive cashmere scarf for snuggling up and sleeping. And, of course, loafers to take off at customs. I only take a carry-on and roll up my clothes so they don't crease.

*Do you dress differently in England than in Canada?*

I went [recently] to a lot of races. There, what one wears is a good Burberry raincoat and Wellingtons. There's lots of mud! And usually a hat as the weather changes. I layer sweaters to keep warm. I carry a Liberty scarf in my pocket.

*Do you have favourite art (or artists)?*

David Hockney, "The Portrait Series," just shown at Tate Britain. I also love Bottero – for his still life paintings – and Duane Hanson for his humorous personality portrayals.

*Do you have art in your home?*

I have some wonderful art by friends such as Louise Scott, Prudence Heward-Morgan, Michael Newman and Peter Dagliesh.

*If you had a choice, where would you live in the world (money no object!)*

At my farm in Sutton. And Bermuda in the winter.

*Who would you invite to a dinner party if you could have anyone in the world, and from any era?*

I'd actually rather host a cocktail party, so I could have more guests! I would invite Robin Williams, Alan Bennett, Oprah, Miranda (the British comedian), Benedict Cumberbatch, Whopie Goldberg, Alain de Botton, Iris Appel, Joanna Lumley and Jennifer Saunders (the [acting] duo from *Absolutely Fabulous*), Douglas Hofstadter and Stephanie Gregory Clifford (aka Stormy Daniels). Wouldn't *that* cocktail banter be fun?!

*Who is your favourite designer?*

Christopher Raeburn for his vision: designs re-made from recycled materials, like nylon from old parachutes. Rosalie McMillan, for her contemporary jewellery created from re-imagined materials. She recycles coffee grounds and transforms them into delicate yet durable bits and pieces. And Evan Biddell (Canada), for his collection for Boutique VV (aka Value Village). Recently Biddell used second-hand pieces he found at VV and "re-created" them into a line – VV by EB – shown at Eco-Fashion during Toronto Fashion Week. Amazing!

*What do you think of today's fashion?*

I love that anything goes! Today's recycling direction makes sense. There's nothing more thrilling than finding a great piece at a *frippe*. Here's to sustainable style!





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# Henderson to run for Greens in October provincial election

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Alison Henderson, who is running for the Green Party in Westmount-St-Louis in the October provincial election, is a native Westmounter whose first home was on Cedar Ave. on the mountainside, although she's also lived in other parts of upper and lower Westmount.

The worldly and well-travelled 29-year-old – who lists her current occupation as a “green investor” who invests in companies that are socially responsible – has traveled

to every continent in the world, with the exception of South America and Antarctica.

At age 18, she was helping provide relief in the Third World as a field worker for an AIDS support organization in Uganda. Describing herself as an environmental and social justice activist, she says she is a passionate advocate of more equal wealth distribution, environmental protection, universal public health care, free post-secondary education and increased funding for mental health ser-

vices.

She is a veteran of some of Canada's major social justice upheavals in recent years – including the noisy 2012 Quebec student protests, and the violent G20 confrontations in 2010 in Toronto, where she was among the thousands of protesters arrested.

“Most people were not charged – I was not charged,” she said in an interview with the *Independent*, while adding, “I was illegally detained, as were many of my colleagues at the time and held in a makeshift facility for close to 48 hours. All illegally. And it's still before the courts now as a class action.”

So how did she end up becoming a part of this movement?

“You know, that's a great question and one I get a lot, actually,” she said. “My father's quite conservative and my mother was .... a registered Republican for, I think, about 20 years.”

Henderson, who also provided assistance to former NDP leader Jack Layton, attributes some of her political perspective to the fact she attended the “very progressive” Bishop's College School in the Eastern Townships, where from the age of 15, she says, she “was really just turned on to politics. I then got to travel and see the rest of the world at a young age.”

She calls the Greens “an eco-socialist party, bringing environmentalism together with social democracy,” with priority given to the environment.

“For me personally, obviously I am very passionate about protecting our environment, of course, as most people also are. But I definitely think that our environmental issues don't exist in a vacuum. Everything works together.”

While the Quebec Green Party scored nearly 12 per cent of the votes in Westmount-St-Louis as recently as the 2007 provincial election, when they finished second behind the perennially favoured



Seen here on March 16 in a reading room at Westmount Public Library, Alison Henderson is running for the Quebec Green Party in the October 1 provincial election.

Liberals, the Greens fell to fifth and fourth place in the 2012 and 2014 elections respectively with around 4 per cent support each time.

However, Henderson is confident she can improve the Greens' standing.

“What I would like people in Westmount to know is that we're not a one-issue party,” she said. “We are putting the environment at the forefront of our policies, but also we're trying to do something about issues like income inequality, marginalized people and intolerance.”

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*Last Christmas tree?*



This discarded tree was seen on York St. on March 6. How was it still so green? Photo: Independent.

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# infoWestmount

## Abonnez-vous À L'INFOLETTRE DE WESTMOUNT

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### HÔTEL DE VILLE

**Fête de Pâques : fermetures**  
Les bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront fermés **le vendredi 30 mars et le lundi 2 avril** en raison de la fête de Pâques et la Bibliothèque publique sera fermée le vendredi, le dimanche et le lundi. La séance du conseil aura lieu le mardi 3 avril. Les collectes d'ordures et de résidus alimentaires s'effectueront selon l'horaire habituel.

### BIBLIOTHÈQUE

**Brochure printemps 2018 en ligne**  
Consultez la brochure *Bibliothèque, vie culturelle et communautaire* au [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

**Bibliothèque de semences**  
Semences gratuites pour les membres de la Bibliothèque : légumes, fines herbes, fleurs, et plantes patrimoniales. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org) / 514 989-5530.

**Concours littéraire McEntyre 2018**  
Invitation aux étudiants du primaire et du secondaire de Westmount : participez au Concours littéraire McEntyre 2018 en écrivant une histoire, un poème ou un essai sur le thème *une gentillesse inattendue*. Tous les textes doivent parvenir au comptoir des enfants de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount avant 21 h **le vendredi 6 juin** 2018. Info : [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

**Conférence spéciale : Grace Powell**  
**Le mercredi, 28 mars, 19h**, Bibliothèque. *Napoleon: Art and Court Life in the Imperial Palace* avec Grace Powell du Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

**Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd**  
**Le mercredi 4 avril, 10 h 15**, Bibliothèque. Le Groupe de poésie de Westmount compose des poèmes à partir de thèmes proposés par les membres. Bienvenue à tous. 514 989-5299.

**Club de films documentaires**  
**Le mercredi 4 avril, 19 h**, Bibliothèque. *Visages, Villages* (2017). Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

**Vente de livres des Amis de la Bibliothèque**  
**Les samedi 7 avril et dimanche 8 avril, 10 h à 17 h**, Victoria Hall. Tous les fonds recueillis seront consacrés à l'achat de nouveau matériel pour la Bibliothèque. 514 989-5299.

### Prochaine séance du conseil le mardi 3 avril

**Conférences de 14 heures : Craig Morrison**  
**Le mercredi 11 avril, 14 h**, Bibliothèque. *The Songs and Culture of the Psychedelic Era*. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

**Rencontres d'auteurs : Carolyn Marie Souaid**  
**Le mercredi 11 avril, 19 h**, Bibliothèque. Rencontrez Caroyln Marie Souaid, auteure de *Yasmeen Haddad Loves Joanasi Maqaittik*. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

### ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

**Galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition**  
**Du 8 au 29 mars**. La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter les œuvres de Sara Colby. Horaire : lundi au vendredi 10 h à 21 h, samedi/dimanche 10 h à 17 h. 514 989-5521.

**Artisans Westmount : appel pour soumissions**  
**Date limite le 6 avril**. Les artisans sont invités à présenter leurs candidatures pour Artisans Westmount qui aura lieu les 10 et 11 novembre au Victoria Hall. Toutes les œuvres devront être faites à la main par les artisans. Consultez le [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) pour plus de détails. 514 989-5226.

**Concert : Trio Iberia – Impressions d'Espagne**  
**Le dimanche 8 avril, 14 h**, Victoria Hall. Une soirée de musique espagnole classique avec ses influences orientales de flamenco. Présenté en collaboration du Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée. Billets requis. 514 989-5226.

**Série concerts d'été : appel de candidatures**  
**Date limite : le 13 avril**. Le service de la Bibliothèque et des événements communautaires est à la recherche de groupes musicaux pour sa série de concerts d'été 2018. Consultez le [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) pour plus de détails. 514 989-5226.

**Galerie du Victoria Hall : appel de dossiers**  
**Date limite : le 15 avril**. La galerie du Victoria Hall lance un appel de dossiers pour sa programmation de la saison 2018-2019 (septembre 2018 à août 2019). Ce concours s'adresse aux artistes émergents ou professionnels qui habitent Westmount. Info : [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) ou 514 989-5521.

### TRAVAUX PUBLICS

**Rappel : horaire d'entretien des rues en vigueur dès le 1<sup>er</sup> avril**  
L'horaire d'entretien des rues sera en vigueur **entre le 1<sup>er</sup> avril et le 30 novembre**. Vérifiez la signalisation de stationnement afin d'éviter une contravention.

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Visit [westmount.org/ewestmount](http://westmount.org/ewestmount) to subscribe and receive the latest news by email from your City!

### CITY HALL

**Easter holiday closures**  
The City's administrative offices will be closed **Friday, March 30 and Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>** for the Easter holiday and the public Library will be closed Friday, Sunday and Monday. The monthly Council meeting will take place Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are no changes to the garbage and kitchen waste collection schedules.

### LIBRARY

**Spring 2018 brochure online**  
Consult the *Library, Cultural and Community Events* brochure at [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

**Seed Lending Library**  
Free seeds for Library members: vegetables, flowers, herbs and heirloom seeds. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org) / 514 989-5530.

**2018 McEntyre Literary Competition**  
Calling all Westmount elementary and high school students to take part in this year's McEntyre Writing Competition by submitting an original story, poem or essay on the theme *An Unexpected Kindness*. Submit your entry to the Children's Desk, Westmount Public Library, no later than 9 p.m. on **Friday, April 6**, 2018. Info: [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

**Special Lecture: Grace Powell**  
**Wednesday, March 28, 7 p.m.**, Library. *Napoleon: Art and Court Life in the Imperial Palace* with Grace Powell of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

**Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd**  
**Wednesday, April 4, 10:15 a.m.**, Library. The Westmount Poetry Group meets to compose poetry together working with themes proposed by members. Welcome to all. 514 989-5299.

**Documentary Film Club**  
**Wednesday, April 4, 7p.m.**, Library. *Faces Places* (2017). Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

**Friends of the Library Book Sale**  
**Saturday and Sunday, April 7 and 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**, Victoria Hall. Books for everyone at very low prices. Proceeds go towards purchasing new materials for the Library. 514 989-5299.

### Next Council Meeting Tuesday, April 3

**2 O'Clock Conferences: Craig Morrison**  
**Wednesday, April 11, 2 p.m.**, Library. *The Songs and Culture of the Psychedelic Era*. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

**Author Lecture Series: Carolyn Marie Souaid**  
**Wednesday, April 11, 7 p.m.**, Library. Come meet Carolyn Marie Souaid, author of *Yasmeen Haddad Loves Joanasi Maqaittik*. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Gallery at Victoria Hall: exhibition**  
**March 8 to 29**. The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present an exhibition featuring artist Sara Colby. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sat & Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 514 989-5521.

**Artisans Westmount: Call for submissions**  
**Deadline April 6**. Artisans are invited to submit their candidacy for Artisans Westmount, which will take place November 10 and 11 at Victoria Hall. All work must be handmade by the artisans. More details at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) or 514 989-5226.

**Concert: Trio Iberia – Impressions d'Espagne**  
**Sunday, April 8, 2 p.m.**, Victoria Hall. An evening of classical Spanish music with all the eastern nuances of flamenco. Presented in collaboration with the Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée. Tickets required. 514 989-5226.

**Summer concert series: call for submissions**  
**Deadline April 13**. The Library and Community Events Department of the City of Westmount is now accepting submissions for the 2018 Summer Concert Series. Details at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

**Gallery at Victoria Hall: call for projects**  
**Deadline: April 15**. The Gallery at Victoria Hall announces a call for projects for its 2018-2019 exhibition season (September 2018 to August 2019). Emerging or professional artists residing in Westmount are invited to apply. Details at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) or 514 989-5521.

### PUBLIC WORKS

**Reminder: street maintenance schedule in effect beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>**  
The street cleaning schedule will be in effect **from April 1<sup>st</sup> until November 30<sup>th</sup>**. Pay attention to parking signage and avoid receiving a ticket.





# Police report minor incidents, but no burglaries or break-ins

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A car driver who was attempting to park on St. Catherine St. just west of Atwater Ave. around 2:20 pm on March 15 got a nasty lesson in how not to parallel park.

According to a report of the incident quoted to the *Independent* by Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière, “a person was trying to park and scratched up the passenger side of her car and the front driver side of another car.

“They were trying to go in nose first, instead of trying to parallel park,” he added. He said both parties remained on the scene to exchange insurance information following the incident.

On March 20 around 12 noon, a Honda proceeding north along Redfern Ave. collided with a Jeep heading west on de Maisonneuve Blvd., although it's not clear who was at fault.

“We don't know which one didn't do their stop, but they came into collision,” said Laperrière. “There was a passenger in one of the cars and he got a slight injury to

his arm. It was a minor injury. Nobody was sent to the hospital by ambulance. He went on his own.”

The owner of a car who parked on St. George's Place on March 15 found upon returning to the vehicle on March 18 that the driver's side rear-view mirror was broken and there was a dent from an apparent collision on the driver's side door.

A car owner who parked on Wood Ave. near St. Catherine St. on March 18 at 2:30 pm found upon his return around 8:30 pm that the rear right-side window was shattered and a briefcase containing a laptop computer had been stolen.

Since the incident occurred in broad daylight and in a relatively high-traffic area of Westmount, Laperrière said it was a clear example of why vehicle owners should always remember to stow valuables out of view, and preferably locked in the trunk.

On March 15 sometime between 5 and 8:30 pm, a vehicle parked on St. Catherine St. between Wood and Gladstone avenues was broken into through a ..... rear window while the *continued on p. 21*

## Wilkie presents at dalai lama's conference

Westmount resident and psychologist Dr. Tara Wilkie was in India earlier this month to meet with Dalai Lama Tenzin Gyatso and participate in conferences organized by him.

She and business partner Sophie Langri began their trip by teaching at the Central University of Tibetan Studies in Saranath, India. They worked with 40 bachelor of education students, teachers and university professors.

They then went north to Dharamshala to participate in the 33rd Mind and Life Dialogue with the dalai lama from March 12 to March 16. The theme of this edition of the conference was “Reimagining Human Flourishing.”

“Sophie and I have been teaching social and emotional learning for over 10 years,” said Wilkie. “Our approach has been inspired by the vision of the dalai lama.

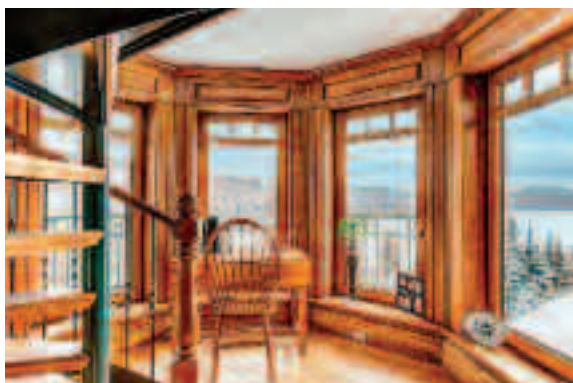
“He has spoken for over three decades about the need to educate the

heart and not just the mind, and he has questioned what a universal approach to teaching ethics might look like. We believe that our approach addresses this challenge ... We believe that what he calls ‘secular ethics’ we call ‘social and emotional learning,’ and what he calls ‘maps of mind’ we call ‘emotional literacy.’”

Wilkie is a psychologist with a private practice in Westmount. She also teaches social and emotional learning two days a week at École Buissonnière, works part time for the Peace Grant Makers network as its director of social and emotional education, and consults with a number of elementary and high schools around the world through the Institute of Social and Emotional Education, founded by her and Langri in 2015.

She first met the dalai lama in Indianapolis in June 2016.

*See photo on p. 1.*



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# Westmount's Earth Hour turns 10



Victoria Hall's main room was divided into subject areas such as kitchen, bathroom, backyard and living room.



Amie Monroe, the coordinator of that 12,000-strong NDG-based Co-op la maison verte, explained how a composting toilet can be an ideal solution for a country home (they are not permitted in the city because of the vent gasses), which only produces a small tray of waste every year.

BY RALPH THOMPSON

The 10th annual Earth Hour exhibition at Victoria Hall was themed around zero waste in the home. The exhibition hall was divided subject areas such as kitchen, bathroom, backyard, living room, outdoors and green space. Representatives from Bird Protection Quebec and Friends of Summit Woods had kiosks explaining the fragility and beauty of vegetation and bird populations.

Hundreds of visitors browsed the tables between 4 pm and 10 pm, three workshops were scheduled in the Ward Room focused on zero-waste kitchens and bathrooms and re-cycling/re-using clothing.

The RCMP pipes and drums band piped in Earth Hour's lights-out at 8:30 pm and members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada erected their telescopes in Westmount Park. Mouton Noir provided eco-friendly vegetarian refreshments.



Four-year-old Emiko Addleman had to climb up a stepladder to peep into Detlev Schmalhaus' 10-inch Dobsonian reflective telescope. Addleman's grandfather is an enthusiastic amateur astronomer.

# The March to Save Lives comes to Westmount

BY RALPH THOMPSON

A group of well over 200 parents, children and dogs gathered March 24 at 10 am at Westmount Park United Church to march to Dawson College CEGEP to "show compassion and love for the families, friends, colleagues and communities of the victims of the [February 14] Florida school shooting," according to Amy Creighton, the mother of Lexington Vickery, the event's organizer.

"About a month ago, I was watching the news and I heard two girls in the USA say they wanted gun controls and wanted to make their schools safer," said 11-year-old Vickery, a passionate and energetic Roslyn student. "So I wrote to my headmaster and asked if I could organize a march." Roslyn principal Nicholas Katalifos liked the idea "so we discussed it with Lexy's parents ... and we talked to our governing board and then we sent out the information on the family's behalf," said Katalifos.

And what would Vickery say to US president Donald Trump if she met him? Without hesitation, she said, "Why don't you talk about this every day? You're going away this weekend because you don't want to see the marchers."

"[Trump] may not love guns," she continued, "but he loves the NRA because he gets money from them."

After a few brief speeches and limbering-up exercises inside the church, the campaigners, led by Vickery and her friends, snaked their way through Westmount Park under blue skies and a chilly breeze, with banners such as "March for our lives" and "Arms are for hugging." With the support of Westmount Public Security and Montreal police, they streamed along St. Catherine St. and around Atwater to Dawson. The demonstrators chanted loudly, to the cheers and claps of onlookers, "No More Guns," "Kids Over Guns," "Safe Schools Now" and "Together We Stand."

"I am very proud of Lexy," said Creighton, rather understatedly.

The group included city councillor Marina Brzeski, commissioner of Sustainability and Accessibility and city councillor Jeff Shamie, commissioner of Hydro Westmount and Administration.



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# March to Save Lives, March 24



Top left, a few exercises at Westmount Park United Church before the march. Event organizer Lexington Vickery and her mother, Amy Creighton, are in the foreground. Top right, Vickery is interviewed by the CBC. She was interviewed in English and French by multiple media organizations. Inset, marchers snake their way through Westmount Park with Vickery and her friends in the lead. Main photo, on St. Catherine St. at Atwater.



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# Debs début at Belle Époque-style Viennese ball



*Social Notes*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

For over 55 years, an elegant Montreal tradition has attracted young lads wearing white tie and tails, and debutantes wearing glittering Swarovski tiaras and identical white gowns created by Westmount designer **Astri Prugger**.

This year, the Austrian Society of Montreal's Viennese Ball marked the 300th anniversary of Empress Maria Theresa's birthday. The first female of the Habsburg dynasty to rule over the largest empire in Europe, her reign of 40 years was marked by modernization and cultivation of the arts.

The ball was held under the distinguished patronage and in the presence of the new Austrian ambassador to Canada **Stefan Pehringer** and **Debra Jean Pehringer**. Special guest from Austria was **Omar Al-Rawi**, member of the Vienna provincial parliament and Vienna municipal councillor, attending with his daughter



Back row (left to right): Eden Alati-Coventry, Léo Vaillancourt, Chris Ramoutar, Zackary Bradley, Marc André Dufresne, Raphael Wibmer, Nicolas Côté, Jonathan Seifert, Florian Höft, Alexy Iliev-Paradis, Zenith Neyaz-Ismaeel; Second row from back: Devon-Leigh Ellis-Durity, Christina Popescu, Lea Henze, Mitzi Ellemers, Claudia Holzner, Christina Duncan.

ter **Amina**. Along with the ambassador and Al-Rawi, head table guests were Westmounters **Astri Prugger** (2017 ball president) with husband **John McGaughey**; and honorary consul general of Austria, **Marc Bissell** and **Morli Shemesh**; along with honorary vice consul **Elisabeth Canisius** and **Christopher Martin**, and president of the Austrian Society **Harold Scheer** and **Ewa Dorynek-Scheer**.

Noted amidst the rustling of taffeta and silk were McGill principal and vice-chancellor **Suzanne Fortier** and her husband



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Austrian ambassador to Canada **Stefan Pehringer** and **Debra Jean Pehringer**



**Astri Prugger** and **John McGaughey**



**Doug Babington**; former ball president **Elizabeth Wirth**; Opéra de Montréal's board pres **Bernard Stotland** and his wife **Merle**, and director general **Patrick Corrigan**; McGill's Schulich School of Music's dean **Brenda Ravenscroft**, whose daughter **Mitzi Ellemers** was a deb; and **Stefano Algeri**, head of voice; as well as Opera McGill's director **Patrick Hansen**, with **Elizabeth Koch**; maestro **Alexis Hauser** and his wife **Cristina** with violinist daughter **Alexandra**; **Nadia Moretto** and **David Sela**; St. Andrew's Ball pres **Jason McCallum** and his wife **Antoinette von Hahn**; and **Dave Greiner**, acting CEO/pres, SOS Children's Villages Canada, with his wife **Michèle Boyer**.

The debutantes were **Victoria Bolanos Roberts**, **Rachel Brown**, **Christina Duncan**, **Mitzi Ellemers**, **Devon-Leigh Ellis-Durity**, **Amy Guyon de Chemilly**, **Lea Henze**, **Claudia Holzner**, **Angie Lee**, **Ana Popa** and **Christina Popescu**.

They were escorted in the opening waltz by **Eden Alati-Coventry**, **Zackary Bradley**, **Nicolas Côté**, **Marc-André Dufresne**, **Chris Ramoutar**, **Florian Hoft**, **Alexy Iliev-Pa Paradis**, **Ismael Zenith Neyaz**, **Jonathan Seifert**, **Léo Vaillancourt** and **Raphael Wibmer**.

Enjoying the strolling musicians playing Viennese tunes were local res **Diane**

**Henry and Jamie Heward**, **Olga Huk** and **Bill Papanastasiou**, **Claudette Dagenais** and **Lionel Collins**, **Naomi** and **Eric Bis-sell**, honorary national president for life of B'nai Brith Canada; and **Suzanne Crawford** and **Paolo Renzi**. Ball guests applauded a performance by members of **Tutu Deluxe** dance school.

Principal dancers and owners of the school, Austrian **Sandra Muhlbauer** and **Diego Castro** enchanted the elegant crowd with their group of 10 tiny dancers.

Proceeds from the evening support SOS Children's Villages, McGill's Schulich School of Music; Leave out Violence – L.O.V.E.; the Alexander von Humboldt German International School and DSQ (German Language Schools of Quebec).

### *Police, cont'd. from p. 17*

owner was visiting a nearby restaurant.

As with many similar incidents involving car break-ins, a laptop computer that was in plain view was stolen.

While there were relatively minor criminal incidents in Westmount over the past week to 10 days, according to Laperrière, there were no household break-and-enter incidents or burglaries during the same time frame.

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Art Scene

HEATHER BLACK

BY HEATHER BLACK

This month, local landscapes, balloon-like sculptures, and glass figures deserve a second glance. Westmounter Sara Peck Colby's rural landscapes at the Gallery at Victoria Hall feature idyllic Township scenes, while Jeff Koons' porcelain swans and Eric Fischl's falling figures catch the eye at Galerie de Bellefeuille. All memorable, these works support Paul Klee's idea: "Art does not reproduce the visible; rather, it makes visible."

*Township escapes*

Featuring hilltop vistas of fields and forest, calm lakes, or quiet country roads,



"Balloon Swan (Yellow)" by Jeff Koons

# Colby, Koons and Fischl: Style and substance



"From the Train IV" by Sara Peck Colby

Colby's landscapes capture the beauty of the Eastern Townships. Rendered in smooth brushstrokes on canvas, winter scenes are majestic in cool blues, while lush summer fields vibrate in acrylic green. Many are minimalist, almost abstract compositions that reveal nature's patterns and Colby's keen sense of colour and design.

In the composition "Recent Escapes," trees, set against a cool winter sky, are bounded by snow-covered fields. A study of dramatic contrasts, dark trees are enlivened by subtle tones of cyan and burnt sienna. For the geometric composition, "From the Train IV," snow-capped, yellow fields are set against a warm blue sky. In contrast, the icy terrain of "Brows Hill in Winter" is rendered in soft blues and grays.

For "Crossing Compton Valley" a country road bisects fields of vivid green. In the foreground, grass tinged with yellow adds both detail and depth. Often reduced to only essential colour, form, or texture, Colby's landscapes are familiar yet foreign, local yet universal. This interesting exhibition continues until March 29 at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St.

*Figures fnessed*

Koons' shiny sculptures "Balloon Rabbit (Red)," "Balloon Monkey (Blue)," "Balloon Swan (Yellow)," resemble twisted party balloons. Beautiful as stylized, elongated forms, a once inflatable material is made permanent in porcelain. Crafted as limited-edition sculptures or plates at the famed Maison Bernardaud, popular-culture ordinary becomes extraordinary

under Koons' audacious eye. Fischl also recreates common experience in mixed-media paintings of a day at the beach. For "Untitled (Family)," each person, painted on separate mylar overlay, is positioned to create a lively scene. Known for invigorating figurative art, the artist's unusual technique ..... is also a commentary on *continued on p. 23*



"Arching Woman" by Eric Fischl.



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## Santini brings 'everyday' sculptures to Three Rivers



From left, Santini, Thérèse Renaud, Roland Labelle and Alain Lacoursiere Feb. 18 with HAY STACK - 2018 – noodles, plexiglass (at right) and ENVIL - 2018 – resin (at left). Photo courtesy of L. Santini.

Westmounter Laura Santini launched a solo exhibition of mixed media and sculptures on February 18 at the Galerie D'Art Du Parc in Three Rivers.

According to her artist's statement and press release, she "brings together an

eclectic array of pieces composed of, and expressing her fascination with, familiar everyday objects rescued from the senseless wasteland of a consumer society blindly generating and then discarding waste."

both artists are currently on display at Galerie de Bellefeuille, 1366/1367 Greene Ave.

### Art Scene, cont'd. from p. 22

individuality. His skill as a sculptor is seen in the bronze "Kneeling Woman."

A New Yorker, Fischl's glass sculptures of falling figures, exhibited at the Sherbrooke St. gallery, are particularly elegant and eloquent. For "Arching Woman," a figure is suspended in mid-air while a horizontal fall is depicted in "Tumbling Woman."

Conceived following 9/11, Fischl's falling figures are commemorative and, as art, express human vulnerability. Works by

### Vision refreshed

In their work Colby, Koons and Fischl make visible fleeting moments in time. Colby's landscapes reveal nature's exquisite and beautiful patterning. Koons' whimsical balloon sculptures preserve the elegant forms of a simple toy, while Fischl's figures reminds us of individuality within the mundane and the horrific. All remind viewers to look anew.

## Comin' Up

### TUESDAY, MARCH 27

PhD candidate in English studies Marie Leconte on "What is Anglo-Québécois Literature?" \$10. Unitarian Church of Montreal, 5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. 1:30 to 2:30 pm.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Turcot project Bon voisinage meeting. Victoria Hall. 7 pm.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Publisher and author Douglas Gibson's show "Great Scots: Canada's Greatest Storytellers with Scottish Links." Free, donations requested. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Friends of the Westmount Public Library book sale. Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. 10 am to 5 pm. Also on Sunday, April 8.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Sundays at the Shaar presents Dr. Victoria Kaspi, astrophysicist, on "Reaching for the Stars: Our Galaxy Inside and Out." \$5 includes a light lunch, reservations required 514.937.9474 ext 139. 425 Metcalfe Ave. 12 noon.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Atwater Library Lunchtime Series presents Donald J. Johnston on his book, *Missing the Tide: Global Governments in Retreat*. Free, donations requested. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

### To be listed in Comin' Up

Please send your Westmount event, to: [cu@westmountindependent.com](mailto:cu@westmountindependent.com)

**Be sure to write by Friday at 10 am for inclusion the next week.**

## Personalized medicines, women's health key areas

## Pearson, Cohen-Tenoudji bring expertise to bear at patient-focused pharmacy



Now a 45-year veteran pharmacist, Donald Pearson founded his own pharmacy with partner Mel Alter in 1997 at the Medical Arts Building downtown. Early on, he focused on a more personal approach to the profession, including health and wellness consultations, and compounding. Compounding combines an ageless art with the latest medical knowledge and state-of-the-art technology to prepare customized medications to meet each patient's specific needs, in collaboration with their

physicians. The pharmacy is, for example, able to offer unique dosage forms (e.g. pills, liquids, creams, gels and sprays – even lollipops), custom flavouring (e.g. for children) and allergen-free medications. Integrative health was also an early focus, including offering nutritional advice, and high quality vitamins and supplements, in addition to the traditional filling of prescriptions.

In the same vein, the pharmacy acquired an expertise in women's health, including treating hormonal imbalances in pre- and post-menopause.

In 2012, Paris native Bertrand Cohen-Tenoudji joined the practice, bringing experience from the pharmaceutical industry and the hospital setting. He oversaw the development of a new 700-square-foot laboratory and worked to develop the dermatological and pain practices. Now on Sherbrooke St. near Claremont, Bertrand Cohen-Tenoudji says of the pharmacy, "The demand for professional compounding has increased as healthcare professionals and patients realize that the limited number of strengths and dosage forms that are commercially available are unable to meet the unique needs of many patients. Each day is very exciting as it brings its lot of original situations: finding an alternative to a discontinued product, creating a topical pain cream when a patient is unable to take oral medication, creating an anti-wrinkle cream for sensitive skin, finding the right administration form for a client..."



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