

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 4 No. 6c

We are Westmount

June 15-16, 2010

Montreal/agglo committee adopts suburbs' guidelines Tax relief in sight for entire island

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Taxpayers across the island of Montreal could be headed for a huge reprieve in agglomeration tax increases next year thanks to recommendations from the Association of Suburban Municipalities (ASM) – and Westmount, in particular

Guidelines calling for budget increases to be held at 1 percent above inflation were written by Westmount mayor Peter Trent and former director general Bruce St. Louis, said Trent, who has been a driving force behind changes in the budget process.

The guidelines and a commentary were accepted “almost holus-bolus” at a meeting June 11 by the combined Montreal/agglo Finance commission that includes representatives of the suburbs and Montreal opposition parties, he said.

“This is really going to affect Westmounters in a big, big way,” he told the *continued on p. 9*

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Wedding held at Place K for 103-year-old guest

Erica Tencer and Jonathan Silver take their marriage vows at Place Kensington Sunday, June 13. The wedding was held at the St. Catherine St. seniors' residence so that Tencer's grandmother, 103-year-old resident Anna Tencer (left), could attend the ceremony.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

5 Saisons 'rescue' includes village square, indoor parking

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A three-way deal has been struck to incorporate Les 5 Saisons into a six-storey “luxury” condominium development slated for Greene Ave. and de Maison-neuve. The project threatened to close the Metro-owned supermarket, a mainstay of the street for years.

Announced Monday, the agreement between the city, Metro Inc. and Jacob Attias, the property's developer through Ramco, also allows Westmount to create a “village square” or plaza at the corner where people can meet, socialize and eat.

“We listened to citizens asking us to

find a way to save 5 Saisons and the terrace,” said Mayor Peter Trent who brokered the arrangement. “What we're seeing is a very interesting marriage.”

The \$25-million residential development will bring another 24 families to the street, helping to revitalize the area socially as well as commercially, he said. “This is important in furthering our urban planning efforts to create a livable and walkable city.”

Zoning change needed

The deal is contingent on a change in zoning that currently allows a building *continued on p. 9*

Don't Miss It
Centennial of St. Matthias' Church
celebration, Tuesday, June 22. See p. 24.

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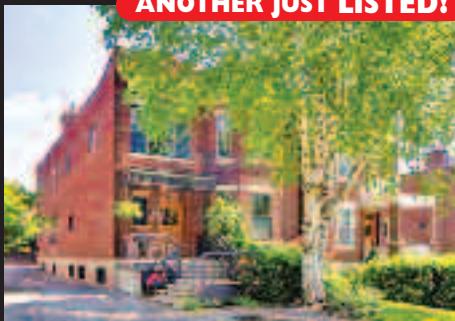
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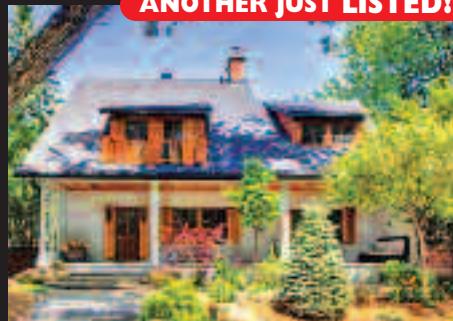
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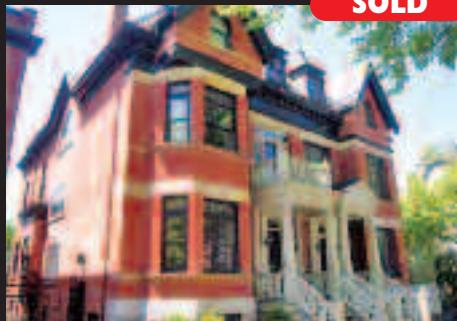


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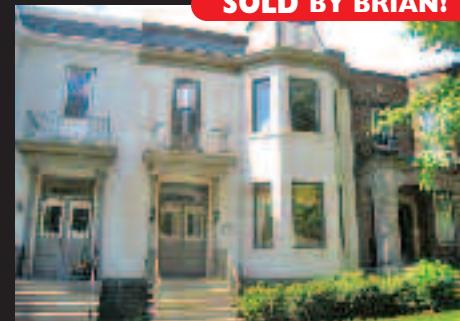
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ECS brings Annie to the Manoir



Grades 4 and 5 students from ECS perform a song from their junior musical Annie for residents of Manoir Westmount. After performing several numbers for the enthusiastic crowd, including "It's the Hard Knock Life" and "Tomorrow", the girls wound down by having tea and chatting with the residents.

Photo: Erin Stropes

Place Kensington watercolour students display art



A dozen senior citizens who live at Place Kensington got a chance to display watercolour works they created in an art class over the past year during a vernissage held at the seniors' residence on June 10. All the works were available for purchase. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres. From left: Clarice Cohen, Frances Josephson, Betty Martin, art teacher Marcia Roszler and Lucile Brisebois.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

City: Feeding wildlife causes rat problem

Council resorts to legal injunction

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council agreed June 7 to seek a legal injunction in Superior Court to stop a local resident from feeding squirrels and pigeons.

The feeding of wildlife, said Councillor Cynthia Lulham, has mushroomed into a public health danger over some five years that has led to an infestation of rats in the St. Catherine St. area.

The unidentified individual is known to many for dumping large quantities of nuts and seeds throughout Westmount Park and other public and private places – even into NDG.

He is not, however, the same person who gained a high profile last year over

one incident known as "squirrel gate" (May 12, 2009, p. 2).

Lulham said the the problem has led to costly repairs to a rat-infested gazebo at Westmount Park, the destruction of shrubs and the regular clean-up of peanut shells, which can pose a hazard to people with allergies (see story December 2, 2008, p. 1).

Exterminators were also hired to try to reduce the proliferation of rats behind the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf and to the west along the railway tracks.

The legal action was approved after numerous attempts to curb the feeding activity reported to be documented in a thick file of reports, fines and efforts to persuade the individual to cease his activities.

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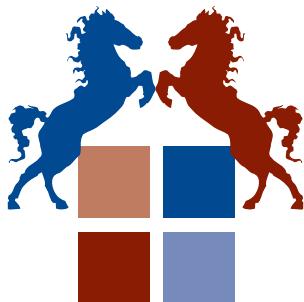
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DO YOUR DOG-WALKER HOMEWORK

Due to a recent bad experience, I'd like to share some thoughts on hiring a dog walker.

Dog-walking is a business where anyone can present their services. Allow me to outline a few questions for which there must be clear answers before hiring someone:

- Ask about the hourly rate and don't accept the promise to "structure a fee schedule," or be referred to a website, or accept that taxes are included;
- Ask when they will come to the house and don't accept a schedule based on other appointments being on time.
- Ask if they will be running personal errands at the same time as walking your dog. Billing a client while taking the dog to run errands or having lunch is not exercise and attention – it's fraud.
- If you are looking for dog training, ask about the program they are offering. Pos-ing as a trainer to get a higher hourly rate is not acceptable. Rough handling by a bogus trainer can ruin a dog's personality.
- Ask if they have first aid training and knowledge. Be warned if there is a promise to take the course later.
- Ask if they know about your dog breed's peculiarities and illnesses.

- Ask what they would you do if your dog was attacked. How to stop a dog fight or get your dog out of an aggressive situation is no joke.
- Ask if you can work together to prepare an emergency plan in case your dog requires immediate vet care on their watch. If they have no interest in organizing a plan, move on.
- If you plan on giving them your keys, ask if they will hand them back promptly upon request. There is no release form that takes away responsibility in case of negligence or theft.

Dog walking is not a part-time cash gig. It's a responsibility for a living being. Let's make sure that Westmounters receive quality care for their dogs by demanding it.

L. FOWLER, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

20 PERCENT IS NOT A MAJORITY

The *Globe and Mail* reported on May 27 that the town of Peachland, BC, in a referendum, turned down a grant of \$2.6 million for a new curling rink because citizens would have to finance the remaining \$1.3 million out of their own pockets through increased property taxes.

If plans for Westmount's projected arena complex are carried through, taxpayers will be looking at property tax in-

creases to cover a potential shortfall of up to \$17 million (and more if the cost of the project increases). Regrettably, here in Westmount we seem to know only how to tax and spend, while the rest of Canada and the world are trying to cut costs and reduce debt. Taxpayers should be concerned at the apparent disregard for this community's financial resources.

Willem Westenberg in a May 25 letter to the *Independent* ("Time-share arena", p. 4), pointed out that only 1 in 5, or 20 percent of Westmount residents, expressed approval for the project. This flies in the face of the prerequisite to proceed with the project, which appearing on the city of Westmount website, states:

"Council would like to proceed with this project, but only if a majority of taxpayers are behind it. It is your money, after all, which will help pay for it."

Council cannot claim that the 20 percent of Westmount citizens who expressed approval represent "a majority of Westmount taxpayers." If council does not mean "a majority of taxpayers," it should clarify this.

The financial future for Westmount may become worse in the coming years unless citizens strongly communicate to council the need to restrain spending and reconsider plans for this costly financial sinkhole.

LARRY KLEPPER, ST. CATHERINE ST.

THE BOULEVARD NOT THE JUNGLE

The city of Westmount can rightly boast of the beautiful lawns that adorn many of our magnificent houses.

Yet the north side of The Boulevard is a disgrace. Trying to walk on the sidewalks, one practically needs a machete to hack away at the bushes and overgrown trees that attack all pedestrians. Walking as a couple is impossible! Furthermore, the street signs are camouflaged by this over-growth.

Why are our homeowners so neglectful? More importantly why do our city councillors not insist that this is unacceptable and susceptible to fines?

MARKUS MARTIN,
THE BOULEVARD (SOUTH SIDE)

PAINT, SIGNS NOT ENOUGH FOR BIKE PATH TO CANAL

I read with disbelief the article "Bike link to the Lachine canal targeted for Aug." in the June 1 issue of the *Independent*. It will consist of "little investment other than line painting and signage, Campbell

pointed out." In other words expect cycling infrastructure that amounts to as close to zero as possible, regardless of all the efforts made by so many citizens to promote cycling as a "healthy cities" cornerstone.

It is obvious that there are no cyclists on council. If there were, a forthright explanation to our director general of how dangerous the Lansdowne-Glen hill presently is for cyclists would be clearly stated. It is rare to find one car that crosses the intersection with St. Catherine that is not at least 15 kilometres over the speed limit, many crossing just after the light turns red.

A couple of gallons of paint will do little. There must be a protected path down and up that hill to guarantee safe passage.

With all the taxes that are collected within this densely populated part of lower Westmount, we deserve the same type of cycling infrastructure Montreal already has on many dangerous streets and is extending each year. Montreal has earmarked \$21.4 million until 2012 for cycling infrastructure. It has kilometers of protected cycling paths with proper light standards, coordinated traffic lights, signals with time delays for vehicles turning across cycling pathways. It has even invented the Bixi. It is a shame for Westmount, which led the way for cycling in the 1990s.

When one considers the 2,700-space underground parking coming to the superhospital, the doubling of parking for the new arena project, with the lack of active transport planning for that project, with the status quo of Greene as a parking lot, Westmount is allowing itself to slip from being a city into a suburb. All our prosperity and knowledge have not given us the perspicacity to visualize any other direction so as to reverse this ever-increasing domination of our public space by the car.

ROGER JOCHYM, LEWIS AVE.

Tipline

Rewards of \$250 will be awarded for tips regarding crime, mischief or intended crimes in Westmount that lead to arrests, until the fund is exhausted.

Please contact the *Independent* with your information.

See story "\$1,000 donated for crime-fighting fund," March 30, p. 6, for details.

Tipline will run any reward-for-information notices being offered by residents, whether as part of the fund mentioned above or directly.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

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Kristin McNeill: 514.223.3578
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Advertising & Sales

Arleen Candiotti: 514.223.3567
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Accounting

Beth Hudson: 514.223.6138
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Westmount Street Festival 2010

PHOTOS BY ISAAC OLSON



Shoppers check out the wares at Folklore I. Facing right, from left: Gerard Fellerath (store owner and an event organizer), Lea McLean, Sara Fellerath (Gerard's daughter) and Carolyne Aubin. Facing left, Sara Lenabat.



For 12 years, Tony Russo (owner of Cavallaro on Sherbrooke) has participated in the street festival, selling about 800 Italian sausages over the weekend.



Shoppers check out the new, made-on-site ice cream and sorbet cupcakes, which can be custom ordered from Le Bilboquet. Nancy Master (an event organizer and store owner) and Charles Dorais display the cupcakes to Sara Lawlor and her mother, Lois Golfman.

Conrad Porteous, who will be four in July, bounces on a trampoline at Art-Enfant while his mother, Nicole Small, and store employee, Talia Kelly, look on.

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BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Parents: Allow families to stay on deck**Protesting adult swim's exclusivity**

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The scheduling and "exclusivity" accorded to "adults only" at the Westmount pool came under attack by residents petitioning for changes at the June 7 meeting of city council.

It made no sense, they said, to evict children and families from using the pool – or at least staying on the deck – during prime time from 6 to 7 pm in July and August, one of three periods a day reserved for adults only.

Starting June 28, three adult swim periods are scheduled on weekdays from 8 to 9 am, noon to 1 pm and 6 to 7 pm. During these times, all children must leave the deck.

While the city has already agreed to delay the start of adult swim by 30 minutes on weekdays and one hour on weekends, residents were told, children are not allowed to run around the deck during this time because it distracts lifeguards from their observation of swimmers.

"The schedules don't reflect the reality," said Anne Monty, of Victoria Ave., in presenting a petition of 160 names.

Onus on A/C owners to curb noise

By-law changes were approved by city council to reduce the noise from air conditioning units. Even A/C units or heat pumps installed before June 10 must comply with the new provisions.

Submitted to public consultation March 23, the more stringent requirements cover the technicalities of A/C installation, positioning, sound limitations and methods to measure sound.

"The onus is on the generator of noise to ensure the equipment doesn't bother the neighbours," said Councillor Patrick Martin.

The new noise by-law has no grandfather clause, he added, so offenders' equipment might have to be replaced. Residents, including himself, who do not have air conditioning, may want to leave their windows open, he explained. Because Westmount is built on a hill, noise from rooftop units can be heard more clearly by uphill neighbours.

She asked that the late adult swim be moved to an even later hour when children would be preparing for bed. The current adult time, she contends, is the only one for many families to be able to enjoy the pool together.

Find accommodation

Research showed that of 34 pools in the Montreal area, only one other one (Montreal West), asks children to leave the deck during adult swim, she said. Many pools rope off a lane or two for adults doing laps or find other accommodation for both adults and families.

"My frustration is at the boiling point," over the "exclusive use" of the pool by adults swimming laps, said Alex Zorbas of Claremont Ave.

Sports and Recreation commissioner Kathleen Duncan said she had done her own study based on Westmount's figures showing that use of the pool during the three adult swims accounted for only 14 percent of overall use.

"I know it does sound like an exclusive club," she acknowledged. While she personally favours moving the adult swim time even later, "we can't make an enormous shift all at once."

Wait for new pool

Hopefully all swimmers would be accommodated once the larger pool and children's pools are built as part of the new complex, she added.

"At the very least, allow families and toddlers to use the deck," asked Carolyn O'Neill, of de Maisonneuve. She said it made no sense to ask them to return after adult swim.

"We're desperate," added Claudia Hernandez of Mount Stephen Ave. "We can't understand why adults can't share with children."

Over the years, children had traditionally been asked to leave the pool deck during adult swim. But Councillor Cynthia Lulham recalled how she had encouraged the city to allow families to stay on the deck some 10 years ago when she was Sports and Recreation commissioner. "It was a disaster," she said.

Diana Hernandez, of St. Catherine St., later told council she was launching a petition asking the city to build an indoor pool.

June 7 city**Park curfew exempts law abiders**

When is a curfew not a curfew?

Answer: When you're a law-abiding citizen, walking alone or with your dog through a Westmount park between the so-called curfew hours of midnight and 5 am.

And just as long as you don't decide to sit on a bench or otherwise linger, you should not expect to be fined for breaking the curfew, councillors Kathleen Duncan and Cynthia Lulham assured resident Nicholas Smith at the city council meeting June 7.

Reacting to a plan by council to hike various fines for park-related offences,

Smith asked during question period why law-abiding people should be fined for just using the park as a transportation route during curfew hours.

When the curfew was enacted, Duncan said, "It was clear that people walking dogs [for instance] would not be a problem."

In fact, the curfew was to be a tool for police and public safety officers to use to evict groups of noisy or imbibing young people as required, though it is sometimes applied universally, as per the following wording on the city's website: "all parks in Westmount will be closed to the public nightly from 12 am to 5 am."

City tables 2009 financial report**\$5-million surplus confirmed**

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After the first four months of 2010, Westmount is already forecasting a surplus of \$1 million, stemming largely from continued increases in the welcome tax and larger than expected net profits from Hydro Westmount.

This resulted from higher than expected revenue from the welcome tax based on the strong performance of the real estate market.

On the other hand, revenue from parking meters is expected to be lower than budgetted due to planned work on Greene Ave.

News of this year's expected surplus came as Finance commissioner Tim Price tabled financial updates as well as the city's audited financial report for the year ended December 31, 2009, confirming a \$5.2-million surplus.

Council subsequently approved the allocation of most of the surplus – some \$4.4 million – for use in a number of areas including contingencies for snow removal, pay-as-you-go for capital works, the arena project, the contestation of property evaluations and sustainable development. Most of this was foreseen and previously announced.

New audit committee

The council also agreed to establish an audit committee at the recommendation of the external auditors, Pratte, Bélanger chartered accountants. The committee consists of councillors Price and Victor

Drury with Mayor Peter Trent as a member ex-officio.

The 2009 surplus was generated on an \$80-million operating budget, half of which went to pay shared costs of island-wide agglomeration expenses.

For the current year, the city is on track to spend \$86.3 million as budgetted, 55 percent of which goes to the aggro (\$46.7 million) and the Montreal Metropolitan Community (\$9 million). The MMC includes the larger north- and south-shore region.

To April 30, 2010, Westmount had already collected \$1.7 million in welcome tax, fully \$1 million more than last year at this time. Compared with last year, it also spent almost \$600,000 less for snow removal and disposal

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council news

Trent: city needs a traffic master plan

Lansdowners alarmed by looming traffic increase

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Lansdowne residents sounded the alarm to city council June 7 over potential traffic woes they face from the MUHC superhospital, the Turcot project, the new arena complex and bicycle lanes down either side of the street.

Add in traffic to and from Home Depot, Manoir Westmount, the Contactivity Centre, two churches and two daycares, and it follows that the street will be a target for increased use, said Henry Olders, representing Lansdowne residents.

“We ask the city to take leadership to ensure that Lansdowne should not become a corridor for construction and commuter traffic,” he said presenting a letter with 87 signatures.

Olders called for “a clear definition” of the steps the city would take regarding traffic and when concrete changes would take effect.

Arena not the problem

While Mayor Peter Trent said the arena represented “only a small element,” he agreed that Turcot would have “a huge effect” on traffic. Westmount needs a master plan to deal with all the potential traffic problems and prevent it from “becoming a through-highway for people from NDG

going downtown.”

He emphasized that the latest arena plan calls for two accesses to parking lots – off Lansdowne and St. Catherine. The proposal from the previous council designated only Lansdowne. Interestingly, two members of that council, including its mayor, lived on Lansdowne near Olders.

As well, data from the city’s professional traffic study indicated that the new arena would add only 52 cars an hour during rush hour.

Judy Asch, a resident of 200 Lansdowne, reiterated Olders’ arena concerns saying she was “not thoroughly sold” on the traffic impact.

Nor was Councillor Gary Ikeman, a member of the arena committee. “Frankly, I agree with you,” he told Asch. While supporting the arena proposal, he said he was asking that another entrance be considered – perhaps one off de Maisonneuve.

Councillor Patrick Martin, a transportation engineer by profession who chairs the arena committee, explained that rather than adding to traffic woes, bike lanes, cars turning in and out of the arena, and construction vehicles should act as devices to slow and deter traffic.

His explanation was underlined by Councillor Cynthia Lulham who pointed out that parking and other obstructions

seek small restaurant status, no new ones will be permitted at other locations.

“There will be some happy people in the audience and at Gascogne,” said Councillor Cynthia Lulham in moving the adoption of the zoning change. “I’m happy it all worked out.” Modifications allow Pâtisserie de Gascogne to increase seating to 25 from 10 (see story May 11, p. 1).

The restaurant proposal had been submitted to public consultation April 26, and the draft by-law with minor changes met with no opposition in the referendum process, according to city clerk Mario Gerbeau.

Andrew Duffield named to new city position



were considered to be traffic-calming devices. Traffic was a major concern “everywhere” judging from concerns expressed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Patrick Barnard, a resident of Melville, asked if Westmount had considered doing a study of pollution in the southwest sector. Martin stated that with the introduction of more and more electric cars, “we’ll have cars that pollute less.”

After the meeting, city director general Duncan Campbell pointed out how the city was still trying to access traffic data for Westmount compiled by the Quebec Transportation ministry for the Turcot project (see story May 11, p. 3). This would be useful in tackling the traffic issue.

Andrew Duffield was congratulated by Mayor Peter Trent on his appointment June 7 to the newly created position of assistant director for Public Works. Duffield, who grew up in Westmount and graduated from Selwyn House and Concordia, began working with the city as a student. He has been serving as the city’s senior civil engineer. Calling him the “second Duffield engineer in 25 years” to be in the council chamber, Trent was referring to Andrew’s father, Peter, who served two terms on council for District 8 (starting 1983). Interestingly, much of it was as Public Works commissioner, in which he launched some of the programs and procedures Andrew now oversees.

Architect queries permit process

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The architect of two permit projects withdrawn from the council agenda at the last moment June 7 questioned the city’s permit process as being “inconsistent” and misleading. He also asked that an appeal process be instituted.

Bruce Anderson, who has worked on hundreds of homes in Westmount and served on the city’s architectural advisory committee, asked Mayor Peter Trent why residents were not informed when their projects were coming up for discussion by council.

“I think this is an oversight,” he explained. “I’m talking about a courtesy.”

He also wanted to know why, when he accidentally discovered the items through the city website, they were listed as “approval of.”

“I was delighted,” he said, only to arrive

at the meeting to find the council was being asked to approve “refusal” of both.

“I agree,” Trent replied. “It’s a very awkward way of running a city.” By trying to open up the permit process and discuss certain projects in public, he said, council was “hoist with our own petard.”

In the future, he suggested, meetings of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) might be held in public.

The items pulled from the agenda concerned permit requests for garages at the front of properties at 21 Edgehill, whose owner, Roderick Thorpe spoke at the meeting, and 3249 Cedar. Thorpe asked council what the follow-up would be.

He noted that the PAC had advised against his plan, though many of his neighbours had similar garages lining the sidewalk. Both plans were to be further discussed.

Thawing the restaurant freeze

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council voted unanimously June 7 to lift a freeze on new restaurants in Victoria Village as long as they qualify as “small neighbourhood” establishments. As well, the total number of all restaurants and retail food outlets with seating – large and small – must not exceed 25.

At current count, this would allow for a potential of four new small restaurants – those having a floor area less than 140 square meters.

While existing food outlets with seating will have acquired rights and may apply to

More council news, see p. 3

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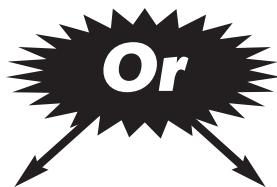
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Batshaw bikes in Route sans fin



From left: Michael Udy, executive director of the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation; Daina Girard, organizer of the foundation's participation in the Route sans fin fundraising event for youths in difficulty, May 28 to June 5; Margaret Douek, executive director of Batshaw Youth and Family Centres; Sam Barile, clinical activity specialist and volunteer; and Jaynee Golden, volunteer.

Photo: Batshaw Youth and Family Centres.

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Agglo: rare agreement

continued from p. 1

Independent shortly after the meeting.

A 12.6 percent rise in this year's agglo budget led to hefty tax hikes, especially for the suburbs. Some, like Westmount, had to pay out half their budgets or more in shared costs for island-wide services controlled by Montreal.

Given the strong support from the Finance commission, Trent expected the guidelines – a new budget procedure for Montreal – would be adopted at its city council meeting Monday night.

"It's historic – extremely rare in Montreal that all parties agree," he pointed out.

Trent said he had been building consensus over a few weeks. But he could not recall another time when suburban recommendations of this significance had led to agreement by Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay and the two opposition parties headed by Louise Harel (Vision Montréal) and Richard Bergeron (Projet Montréal).

Westmount's mayor, who is ASM president, has been working two days a week on the Finance commission that was opened up to the public this year by Trem-

blay as part of earlier-than-usual budget preparation. Both initiatives came from suburban recommendations.

St. Louis, who retired from Westmount two years ago, now acts as the ASM's executive director working from an office at city hall.

Trent's main effort on the Finance commission has been driven by the need to adopt budget guidelines and protocol to prevent a repeat of the 2010 agglo budget increases.

"By providing a leeway of 1 percent over inflation, we're giving administrators wiggle room to bring the budget in line with cost of living increases in five years," Trent said.

This could represent an increase of some 3 percent next year over the 2010 combined Montreal/agglo budget of \$4.36 billion, he pointed out. The agglo portion was \$2 billion.

For 2011, he noted, taxes will be based on the new property valuation roll coming out in September. Taxpayers whose valuations are above average will be harder hit by tax increases than others.

5 Saisons: needs rezoning

continued from p. 1

height of up to 35 feet, generally equivalent to only three storeys.

City council moved quickly after the announcement to introduce new zoning legislation at a special noon meeting an hour later. Public consultation will take place Monday, June 28 at 7 pm at city hall.

The developer required the additional height of up to 72 feet to compensate for being unable to build on the terrasse land and the loss of a storey through the supermarket's need for some 17 feet (almost two storeys).

"It's a trade-off," Trent said.

Along with the city's requirements to preserve the supermarket and terrasse, the developer has agreed to provide inside public parking in addition to parking for condo residents. This is because the new building is planned to extend into the current exterior parking area.

Fall start possible

With only a few architectural details to work out, and assuming the zoning change is not opposed through referendum, Trent said the city may be able to

issue demolition and building permits in time for the start of construction in late fall.

Highlights of the agreement include a 20-year lease for 5 Saisons with four five-year renewal options to occupy some 10,000 square feet of ground-floor space.

The lease of the terrasse land to the city for \$1 a year lays out the shared responsibilities and use of the property, Trent said. The creation of a village square will be included in the city's \$2-million refurbishment of Greene Ave. starting this summer.

5 Saisons will provide food service to the square, and the traditional sale of Christmas trees will also be allowed.

Following an outcry of customers, the supermarket was given a six-month reprieve to remain in operation after its lease expired last December while a long-term arrangement could be worked out (see story Dec. 1, 2009, p. 1).

A resident of Aberdeen, Attias said construction was expected to take 15 months.

Metro vice president Martin Allaire said it was not yet known when the store would shut down for the construction period.

The project's architect is Brian Burrows.

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Economy's relative health due to Liberal measures

As parliament gets ready for the summer recess, I would like to bring you up to date on what I have been doing in both the riding and in Ottawa.

At the riding level, I have dealt with many issues including immigration visas, support for the gun registry, the need to provide medications to Third World coun-



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tries, more funding for our universities and research hospitals, public transit and the importance of our cultural institutions.

In Ottawa, I have focused on the issue of foreign ownership in our telecommunications sector and more recently, a new copyright bill.

Foreign ownership in telecommunications

The government believes that greater foreign ownership of our telecommunication companies (e.g. Bell, Rogers and Telus) will stimulate greater competition and benefit the consumer. The issue is far from straightforward since those same companies are no longer traditional telephone companies. They can also be cable television and internet service providers, and even broadcasters. Many have expressed concern that increased foreign ownership could jeopardize our cultural sovereignty.

Copyright bill

More recently, the government tabled a long awaited copyright bill in an effort to achieve the right balance between financially compensating those who create original works (music, film, novels, photography, and so on) and those who consume these works. This bill will be hotly debated in the coming months.

As Canada's economy rebounds after a difficult recession, most of us are cautiously breathing a sigh of relief and asking ourselves why we have fared relatively well. The simple answer is that we entered the recession in better health than most other countries.

While the current government is claiming the credit, I'm proud to say that it was the previous Liberal government's decision not to go along with the changes proposed by the banking sector that ensured that our banks remained healthy, a key factor in our recovery.

It was also the Liberal government that began the process of eliminating deficits in the mid-90s that led to better fiscal health, as well as large surpluses – surpluses which the current government eliminated over three years through record spending and tax reduction measures.

It's worth remembering that when

Canada entered the recession in the fall of 2008, the Conservative government initially predicted a surplus. Later, it conceded that a recession was coming and that the resulting deficit would reach about \$50 billion.

As the economy recovers amidst lingering concern in both Europe and the United States, the Conservative government will be closing off the stimulus tap next March to start the process of balancing the budget by 2015: no more surpluses or stimulus measures. This is when its first true test of fiscal competence will actually begin.

In closing, if I don't see you out and about in Westmount, let me wish you an enjoyable and relaxing summer.

WHS teacher gets a clean cut for cancer



Westmount High teacher Mike Phelan (right) and Grade 10 student Dimitrios Koulogeorgiou (left) received a close head shave and, in doing so, raised over \$550 for the Canadian Cancer Society. Besides his head, Phelan also chopped his infamous sideburns that he has worn since his own high school days. Although most students supported the shaving by helping to raise funds, a small group briefly organized a counter fundraiser to keep their teacher's sideburns in place.

Photo: English Montreal School Board



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Me and my wives



Parenthood Uncensored

SOPHIE TARNOWSKA

My family is so scattered across the globe that I get jetlagged just thinking about them. All that distance was a good thing before I became a parent, not least because it gave me the excuse to travel. Now it's a big fat disadvantage, because I'm a single parent, and we all know that even the most annoying mother-in-law, the most frustrating parent and the bossiest aunt all magically turn into fairy babysitters once we become parents.

In fact, becoming a parent changes many other things too. Just ask my friend who used to ride motorcycles as a single man and is now the (semi) proud owner of a minivan, "because it's so much more convenient for the kids."

My mother is the exception to the "fairy babysitter" rule. She lives relatively nearby, in Vermont, and visits my daughter and me regularly. By "visits," I mean that she stays at my place in order to run errands.

And by "errands," I mean that she attends multiple dance classes, so she will babysit – as long as there's no hip-hop/ballet/jazz class happening within a 300-km radius.

When I'm really stuck, my (ex) in-laws are amazingly helpful and drive down from Ottawa just for the pleasure of seeing my daughter and helping me out. But there's nobody nearby who I can call at the last minute, and therefore I spend the equivalent of a small country's GDP on babysitting.

My brother and his family live here, but they're as lovely as they are busy, so I try not to ask them for help too often. They're one of those lucky couples who have access to doting grandparents and therefore do not pay for babysitting or feel guilty when they go out because the last thing they saw before they left the house was their child's face glued to the front window in a Chuckie-like grimace, screaming "Don't leeeeeeeeeeave!" (I admit that I probably go out more often than my married friends do, simply because the outside world still holds the answers to my many questions about my future, but I also know that my daughter will make a fantastic actress one day.)

Yet I can't complain *continued on p. 26*

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Police beat

Senior cut during Winchester purse-snatching

BY DAVID GOLDBERG

Station 12 police aren't completely sure how a 75-year-old Westmount woman was cut when a bike-riding suspect snatched her purse on Winchester.

The woman told police she was out at 11:10 pm on May 24 walking her dog when she saw a man on a bike circling around her. The suspect got off his bike, left it on the ground and came up to ask her for the time.

"The victim gave him the time, then turned away and began walking when she heard the suspect scream something," said Constable Adalbert Pimentel. "She wasn't sure what he said, but when she turned back to him, he grabbed her purse."

The purse was slung across the woman's shoulder, on the opposite side from where the purse was hanging. The victim tried to fight for it, but it was gone in moments.

"The suspect had to use a violent jerking movement to get the purse off, and the strap was cut in the process. The suspect ran off, got back on his bike and headed

towards Claremont," said Pimentel. "The woman called for help, but there was no one around. She noticed she was bleeding from her left arm."

Police say the victim suffered a deep three-and-a-half inch cut on her arm. They say it's possible the suspect used a sharp item to slice the purse strap to make it easier to get it off her shoulder. The woman did not receive medical attention on the scene, going home instead after speaking with police.

The purse contained a camera and dog food, but no cash.

The suspect is described as a white male, 21, 5'7" and 135 lbs. He had dark hair and brown eyes, and wore a blue t-shirt, light beige shorts and a white bandana.

Pimentel said the victim in this case did some things well, and some things not as well.

"She managed to get a good description of the suspect, which is very important, and she wasn't carrying many valuable items in her purse, which is a good thing. If you're just walking your dog, you don't need to bring expensive items in your

purse or a lot of money," he said.

"When you're walking, if you get the feeling that someone is watching you or you don't feel safe, trust your instincts and either call 911 on your cell phone or go somewhere where there are people. And always try to walk in well-lit areas."

How you carry a purse makes a difference

Pimentel added how women carry their purses can make the difference on whether or not they become victims.

"We have studies that show you're much less likely to be a victim of purse-snatchers if you carry the purse on the shoulder that is on the same side as the purse. And you should always keep your hand on the purse, because it shows suspects that you are aware of the purse at all times. Also, never resist if someone tries to steal your purse. You never know if they are armed or under the influence. Your safety is much more important than material possessions."

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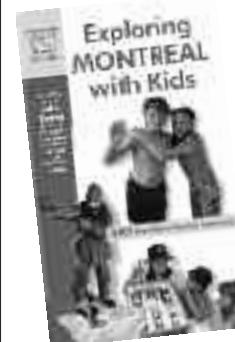
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Westmounters enjoy Milos celebration with MSO



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Milos, the renowned restaurant on Park Ave., celebrated its 30 years with a fabulous Montreal Symphony Orchestra (MSO) evening that attracted many Westmounters. Held at the end of April at Ogilvy's, the elegant emporium on St. Catherine St., the "Soirée Composée" started with a cocktail featuring Milos' famed entrées, including spanakopita and tuna sushi.

The vodka bar was jammed to say the least! Glam gal guests wore lots of black, including Og's elegant event planning director Carolina Gallo La Flèche, Val Wiseman (with Westmounter Aaron Rand), Anna Bachour (on her way to Las Vegas) and Jennifer Roman, who organized the event working with Valérie Frost of the The Montreal Children's Foundation and Zohra Essetaria of the St. Justine Hospital Foundation.

Foundation president **Anièle LeCoq** was noted amidst the ladies and gentlemen. Guests included **Jeannie and Nelson Saunders** (tanned from their annual winter sojourn in Mexico), **Carlos Ferreira**, (who just opened a new nosherei) **Belle and Ernie Grivakis**, and former Quebec fi-



Costas Spiliadis and Stratton Stevens

nance minister **Monique Jérôme-Forget**.

After nibbling, the crowd moved on to watch a splendid fashion show organized by Ogilvy VP **Steeve Lapierre**. Guests then moved to another floor to line up for more Milos marvels at the packed buffet. Throughout the evening, members of the MSO performed, creating a classically chic soirée. The event helped raise funds for the music therapy programs at St. Justine and the Montreal Children's hospitals.

The successful event was co-chaired by Pierre Boivin and Nikki Yanofsky.



Monique Jérôme-Forget and Westmounter Carmen Robinson



George Spiliadis and his wife Elisa Cuccioletta



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Westmounters Carmel Mintzberg and Linda Smith

Elegant eve at St. Ambroise Terrace



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The early evening light on June 8 was beautiful, grazing the grass and guests with a lovely luminosity. It was a perfect moment to be by the Lachine canal, where the St. Ambroise Terrace, part of McAuslan Brewery, hosted a fundraiser for Desta, an outreach program for young adults in the black community.

Arriving guests were pleased to find lots of easy parking on the grounds surrounding the brewery, which was founded by Westmounter Peter McAuslan with his wife, brewmaster Ellen Bounsall. Started as a small microbrewery in 1989, McAus-

lan has grown to a multi-million dollar business. It not only brews and distributes award-winning beers (which many of us know and love!), but is also a generous supporter of cultural communities.

Guests enjoyed his fabulous beers and his new draft cider. Among the elegant ladies and gentlemen were Westmounters Gail and Peter Johnson, Joan Ivory, Gail and Stephen Jarislowsky, former Westmount mayor Karin Marks, Bev and Tim Carsley, Meredith Webster, Claire and Stewart Webster, Molly Fripp, Micki Morton, and Sandi and Richard Bolton.

Noted enjoying the great music (SAMUSIC) were Quebec celebs Herby Moreau, Luck Mervil and Angelo Cadet, as well as Betty and Terry Teryazos, Anne and George McLaren, Judith Webster, Judy and Bob Cowling and Denise and Bill Kovalchuk.

The Caribbean-inspired event grossed \$53,000.



John Aylen, with Westmounters Peter McAuslan and Morrie Cohen.



Westmounters Gail and Stephen Jarislowsky



Anne McLaren, with Westmounter Peter Johnston and Westmount mayor Peter Trent.



Henry Cooper and Westmounter Bunny Berke



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'Judge' Boeckh presides over McEntyre writing competition



Judge Janet Boeckh (centre front) presided over her final McEntyre Creative Writing Competition awards presentation with help from spouse Dominik Dlouhy (front left) and family members, from back left, Myles and Alexa Dlouhy; Kim Drummond; and Sophie, Ian and Andrew Boeckh. She has been head judge for five years and enjoyed it, but felt the competition would benefit from some new blood.

Photo: Joan Graham

Summer reading program underway



From left: Louis Boissonneault (volunteer) as Leonardo da Vinci, Jessica Kelly-Rheaume (clerk at the children's desk) as Mona Lisa and Caroline Proctor (clerk at the adult desk) as Frida Kahlo.

Photo: Westmount Public Library

The Westmount Public Library's Art of Reading club runs from May 29 to August 27 with a closing party planned for September 11 at Victoria Hall. The club aims to encourage children to read over the summer through fun and competitive games. The more participants read, the more clues they will receive in games that are ongoing throughout the summer. The games are called: "Match the Masterpiece" and "The Case of the Stolen Paintings." Children win prizes for participating and, for registering with the program, they get an art portfolio that includes a logbook, poster, book lists on the art and the games. For more information, contact the children's desk at 514.989.5229.

Facing facial differences from above

In an effort to fundraise while generating awareness about the more than 50 kinds of facial differences ranging from port wine stains to craniofacial conditions, Westmounter Danièle Laroche is again participating in the Leap of Faith sky diving event on July 10.

Last year, Laroche raised \$1,800 for AboutFace. Now with a Montreal chapter, the event will be held at the Club de Parachutisme Nouvel Air in Farnham. This year, the organization has eight teams jumping in nine locations with combined targets of \$120,000. Laroche has started a team called the Jolly Jumpers with

a fundraising target of \$10,000 and an eventual goal of opening a bilingual summer camp.

For more information, visit www.leap-of-faith.ca or call Laroche at 514.502.6205.



Westmounter Danièle Laroche (right, in parachuting gear) and her niece Shelby Harper (left) after last year's event.

Photo courtesy by D. Laroche



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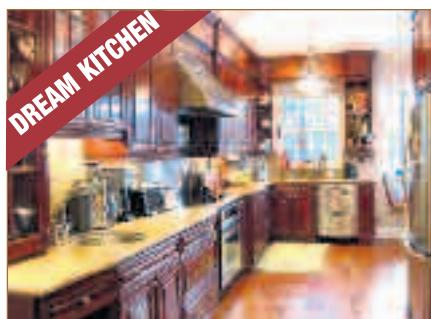
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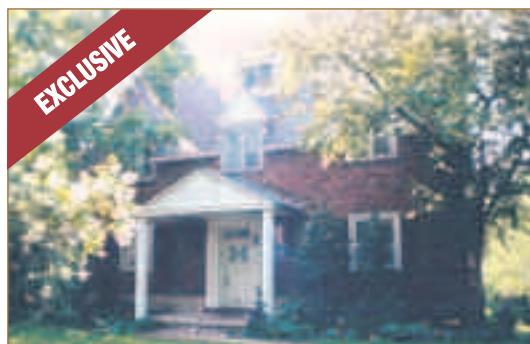
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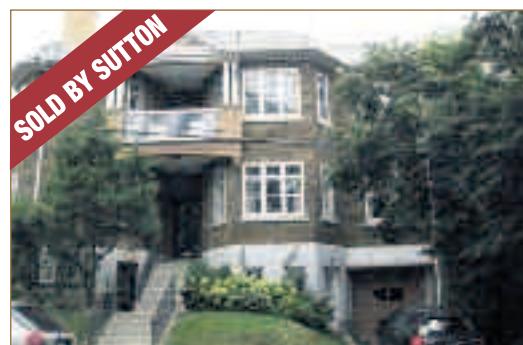
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TOP MARKS FOR THE STUDY: *All 31* of its 2010 graduates accepted into the post-secondary institutions (listed below) of their first choice.

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Tatiana Cantarovich

Cristina Catania

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Nadine Chalati

Kirsten Crandall

Anna Dai

Victoria Di Genova

Dominique Ferland

Sarah Fortin

Kristina Fryml

Eva Halabian

Amelia Hirst

Stephanie-Marie Iacuesa

Anastasia Johnson

Catherine Lépine

Brooke Levy

Natasha Marvento

Jessica McKnight

Taylor Nayman

Anne Simone Nichols

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The Study

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Lower Canada College (GRADE 12) 1

John Abbott College 1

Trinity College School (ONTARIO) 1

Santa Catalina School (CALIFORNIA) 1

TRENDSSETTER

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

GABRIEL FRASER

Westmount is full of style. But not only the adults look great. I have noticed Gabriel Fraser's style for months. When not clothed in full gear and playing street hockey with true grit and determination, he is often in a Superman cape, or his favourite: a Spiderman t-shirt. His style is special. He turned 9 in May.

I chatted with Gabriel recently, and luckily caught him in his "hero" dress. He wore the costume of Link, the protagonist in the video game "The Legend of Zelda," which just happens to have sold over 57 million copies, so Gabriel knows what's hot!



Gabriel Fraser

STYLE

Hi Gabriel – what are you wearing today?

This is the costume of Link, the bad one. The good Link wears a green shirt, but I only had black. My dad made me this cool hat. [He turns for the camera so as to show its shape.]

What are the boots you are wearing?

These boots are "iron boots" from the video game. They can walk up metal walls, usually the ones that are blue and shiny. They can also go through a maze on a ceiling.

That's cool.

LIVING

You seem to love this game. Is it your favourite?

No, it used to be my favourite. Now I

like "Indiana Jones 2: The Adventure Continues." I play it with my cousins from Toronto. I also love the Indiana Jones movies. I have seen them all – one, two, three and four. They are the best.

What are some of your favourite things?

My best friend is Daniel. We have been together since pre-kindergarten and are now in the same grade. My favourite meal is Kraft dinner. Oh, and the spaghetti at my dad's (Gabriel's father, Aaron Fraser, owns the Claremont in Westmount). At school, my favourite thing to do is to play outside with Daniel. My favourite game is playing street hockey.

What do you like to wear?

I have to wear a uniform at school: navy pants and a white shirt. I don't like the white shirt, so I wear the navy one.

What would you wear if you could wear anything you wanted?

My Spiderman t-shirt. If it wears out, I will buy another one.

What is your really, really favourite food?

Well [pause].... marshmallows, chocolate and Skittles – all the colours! (Gabriel goes on to explain that Skittles come in four different colours and packages – purple, blue, red and green – but he would put them all together.)

And your favourite drink?

Coke! I am only allowed it as a special treat.

And your favourite colour?

Um. Red!

I know you go to Vermont and to Toronto.

What would be your favourite place to live if you could live anywhere?

I would like to live closer to my best friend Daniel, who lives outside of Westmount.

What else would you like to add?

I loved the Olympic hockey game! I saw the final goal, and then we went for pizza.

MUHC to establish lymphedema support centre

Le Prohon finds personal link in new direction for breast cancer group

BY ERIN STROPES

The Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation (QBCF) recently announced a \$1.5-million donation to the McGill University Health Centre. The contribution will establish a support centre for cancer patients suffering from lymphedema, a potentially debilitating condition that affects as many as 25 percent of breast cancer patients.

Westmounter Nathalie Le Prohon, who has chaired the QBCF board of directors



Nathalie Le Prohon at the Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation, where she has been a board member since 2007.

since September 2009, told the *Independent* that the donation marks a new direction for the foundation, which has previously focused its fundraising efforts on cancer research initiatives.

The QBCF Lymphedema Support Centre will focus on educating breast cancer patients about the prevention and early detection of lymphedema, a painful swelling of the limbs that can occur when lymph nodes are damaged during cancer treatments.

A survivor of breast cancer herself, Le Prohon has every reason to be enthusiastic about the project. An early diagnosis allowed her to keep her own lymphedema under control, but she knows that many others have not been so fortunate.

Le Prohon, who holds an MBA from Concordia University's John Molson School of Business and was serving as president of Nokia Canada in Toronto before her diagnosis, returned to Montreal with her husband and children after winning her battle with cancer. The family chose Westmount because "we wanted to

be close to downtown, and send the children to quality, bilingual schools."

After decades working for large corporations, Le Prohon wanted to give back, applying her experience in organizations that help the community. This led her to her current positions on the boards of QBCF and the Vanguard Development Fund.

Asked whether there's an end in sight for the battle with breast cancer, Le Prohon was enthusiastic about the progress that has been made over the last two decades.

"Because of the attention breast cancer has gotten, and the donations that have funded research, women are getting diagnosed sooner, and the survival rates are much better. But the 13 percent who still die are 13 percent too many."

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In Conversation with Ann McCall: The RCA celebrates

BY HEATHER BLACK

Acting president of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts (RCA), Westmounter Ann McCall was recently involved with the its annual conference held in Quebec City, May 20 to 23. A talented printmaker, she paused from her busy schedule to chat about the academy on its 130th birthday.

Canada's arts society

Founded in 1880, the RCA's mandate is to recognize Canadian artists and to promote the visual arts. While names like Tom Thomson or Frederick Varley are followed by the familiar "R-C-A," these initials are also attached to many contemporary artists including McCall.

Once the domain of painters, sculptors and architects, McCall explained that the RCA now recognizes those working in "one of over 20 visual arts disciplines." Current members – now over 700 – include filmmakers, costume designers and photographers.

And how are RCA members selected? McCall explained that every year about 20 new members are chosen. Individuals are first nominated and supported by five current members, and then are juried. The process takes over a year and a half, before induction by the governor general at the annual conference.

Annual conference

As the RCA's goal is to promote visual arts across Canada, the conference location changes each year. This year it took place at Quebec City's Château Frontenac. McCall explained that this event was particularly special as Michaëlle Jean inducted filmmaker Jean-Daniel Lafond, her husband, into the RCA.

And how does the RCA pursue its various activities? McCall explained that the RCA Scholarship Fund assists young artists with the costs of post-graduate study. And the RCA Trust Fund provides funds for public galleries to purchase and exhibit works of living Canadian artists.

But the annual conference is also billed as a "city-wide festival of art, design and craft." As the RCA sponsors exhibits, members currently display self-portraits at



Ann McCall

nearby Baie St. Paul. McCall recalled, with delight, a jewelry maker's unique work of metal and material.

Printmaker

But McCall's medium is printmaking: "There is something about the process – the sketches, preparing plates, the proofing process" that she loves. Drawing on nature, many of her motifs are trees, decorative stalks and leaves. Once drawn to greens, rust and yellow, her recent work is a more subdued, yet elegant pearl grey.

Printed as collagraphs, the surface, rich in patina, exudes a warm earthiness. McCall also uses interesting and irregular shapes to set her work apart. Not surprisingly, the Westmount artist has an international reputation.

McCall enrolls in many international competitions. She explained that as prints, unlike paintings, go by mail, "It is so easy to send off a tube." McCall currently exhibits in Montreal, Paris and Australia – an international presence is required for RCA painters.

New life

Over the course of 130 years, the RCA has fulfilled an important role in fostering Canada's visual arts. In 2010, it is still relevant, and that is due, in no small part, to active and talented members like Ann McCall.

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Vol. 4/12

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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Bureaux administratifs – Horaire d'été

Du 7 juin au 3 septembre, les bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront ouverts du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h. Entre le 13 juin et le 5 septembre, la bibliothèque sera fermée le dimanche. Info : 514 989-5200. ♡



ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Fête de la Saint-Jean le 23 juin mettant en vedette GENTICORUM

Assistez aux célébrations de la Saint-Jean le 23 juin au parc Westmount pour entendre la musique de Genticorum, parmi les meilleurs groupes québécois de musique traditionnelle. Apportez un pique-nique ou achetez une collation sur les lieux à partir de 17 h. Soyez des nôtres pour une soirée de jeux et de musique. La soirée se terminera par un grand feu de joie à 21 h! Info : 514 989-5226.

Art Westmount 2010 : Appel de soumissions

La Ville de Westmount invite ses artistes à participer à la 3^e édition d'Art Westmount. Cette année, l'événement célébrera à la fois l'art et l'architecture locaux en exposant les œuvres des artistes dans des édifices municipaux d'importance historique, dotés d'une architecture remarquable. Cet événement aura lieu les samedi et dimanche 2 et 3 octobre de 10 h à 17 h. Les formulaires de participation sont disponibles au Victoria Hall et au www.westmount.org. Date limite d'inscription : le 30 juin 2010. Info : 514 989-5521. ♡



BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Club d'échecs et de Scrabble

Aimez-vous jouer aux échecs et au Scrabble? La prochaine rencontre du club aura lieu le vendredi 25 juin à 14 h. Nous sommes toujours à la recherche de nouveaux joueurs. Info : 514 989-5386.

Invitation spéciale

Joignez-vous à nous le mardi 22 juin à 19 h pour une soirée soulignant le prix aménagement 2010 décerné au jardin du conte de la bibliothèque dans le cadre du concours Les Arts et la Ville 2010. Vous devez préalablement vous inscrire au comptoir des prêts ou composer le 514 989-5386

DATES À RETENIR

Le 22 juin à 19 h

Soirée du conte.
La bibliothèque publique de Westmount

Le 23 juin à partir de 17 h

Fête de la Saint-Jean
Parc Westmount

Le 30 juin et le 1^{er} juillet

Fête du Canada
Parc Westmount et piscine de Westmount

Club de lecture vacances – Livre-toi à l'art de lire!

Le thème de cette année est Livre-toi à l'art de lire! Tout au long de l'été, la Section des enfants de la Bibliothèque proposera une série d'activités conçues pour inciter les enfants à la lecture. Demandez votre trousse au comptoir des enfants – des prix fantastiques à gagner. Info: 514 989-5229. ♡



SPORTS ET LOISIRS

Activités de la fête du Canada

Familles, amis et voisins! Soyez de la partie pour une nuit de camping dans le parc Westmount le 30 juin. Pour réserver votre site, composez le 514 989-5393 d'ici le 25 juin. Participez également aux activités du 1^{er} juillet : petit-déjeuner de crêpes à 2 \$ à compter de 8 h, dîner BBQ à midi sur le chemin Academy et le *Splash Bash* annuel à la piscine à compter de 14 h. Info : 514 989-5353. ♡



TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Guide Parcs et espaces verts de Westmount

Découvrez le paysage de Westmount à l'aide du guide *Parcs et espaces verts de Westmount, visites guidées*. Divisé en trois sections distinctes selon les secteurs topographiques de la ville, le guide comporte des plans de visite à pied de chaque secteur. Vous pouvez vous procurer ce livret au coût de 5 \$ dans les édifices municipaux suivants : l'hôtel de ville, la bibliothèque, le Victoria Hall ainsi qu'au bureau du Services des travaux publics situé au 1, rue Bethune. Info : 514 989-5268. ♡



CITY HALL

Administrative offices – Summer hours

From June 7 until September 3, all administrative offices of the City will be open Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Between June 13 and September 5, the Westmount Library will be closed Sundays. Info: 514 989-5200. ♡



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fête de la Saint-Jean on June 23 with GENTICORUM

Join the Saint-Jean celebration on June 23 in Westmount Park and hear the music of Genticorum, one of Québec's most exciting traditional music groups. Bring a picnic or purchase refreshments at the park from 5 p.m. Of course, there will be games and music, culminating in the ever-popular bonfire at 9 p.m. Info: 514 989-5226.

Art Westmount 2010: Call for Artists

Westmount artists are invited to participate in the 3rd edition of Art Westmount. This year's event will celebrate both our art and architecture simultaneously by exhibiting the artists' work in municipal buildings of singular architecture and historical significance. The event will be held Saturday October 2 and Sunday, October 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Participation forms are available at Victoria Hall and at www.westmount.org. Deadline to register: June 30, 2010. Info: 514 989-5521. ♡



LIBRARY

Chess and Scrabble Club

Do you enjoy playing chess and Scrabble? Our games club will meet on Friday, June 25 at 2 p.m. Drop by for a friendly game as we look forward to meeting new players. Info: 514 989-5386.

Special Event

Join us on Tuesday, June 22 at 7 p.m. for a special evening to celebrate the Library's story garden being awarded the *Prix Aménagement 2010* from *Les Arts et la Ville*. Please register for this event at the main circulation desk or by calling 514 989-5386.

DATEBOOK

June 22 at 7 p.m.

The Art of Reading.
The Westmount Public Library

June 23 starting at 5 p.m.

Fête de la Saint-Jean
Westmount Park

June 30 and July 1st

Canada Day Celebrations
Westmount Park and Westmount Pool

Summer Reading Club – The Art of Reading

This year's theme is all about the arts! Throughout the summer months, the Library's Children's Department will host a number of events designed to inspire kids to read. Ask for your Summer Club Kit at the Children's Desk this summer – you'll earn great prizes! Info: 514 989-5229. ♡



SPORTS & RECREATION

Canada Day Festivities!

Join families, friends and neighbours on the night of June 30 when Westmount Park becomes a campground. Reserve your tent site by phoning 514 989-5393 by June 25. On July 1, enjoy the Toonie Pancake Breakfast from 8 a.m. in the Park, the BBQ lunch at noon on Academy Road, and the annual Splash Bash from 2 p.m. at the pool. Info: 514 989-5353. ♡



PUBLIC WORKS

Westmount Parks and Green Spaces booklet

Discover Westmount's exceptional landscape with the help of the *Westmount Parks and Green Spaces, a guided tour* booklet. Divided into distinct sections for each of the City's topographical areas, this guide includes detailed walking maps, and descriptive information. The booklet can be purchased for \$5 at City Hall, the Library, Victoria Hall and the Public Works office at 1 Bethune Street. Info: 514 989-5268. ♡

BUILDING PERMITS What's permitted

The following permits for exterior construction, alterations and renovation were approved at the city council meeting June 7.

21 Gordon Crescent: alterations to the Category 1 house plus a two-storey addition at the rear and a garage in the front yard accessible from the side with a rooftop terrace.

485 Roslyn: to replace windows and doors and enlarge front door opening and to add side windows;

29 Bellevue: to create new openings on front façade and balconies on first and second floors; also to modify openings for three back doors and create two new windows at the back of the garage; to install a new rear balcony railing and

stairs to the garden;

4855 Sherbrooke: to modify ground floor front and side façades to enlarge window openings and renovate the cornice at the former SAQ location, future site of Hogg's;

499 Elm: to create two new garage door openings at the rear of Category 1 house;

544 Grosvenor: to rearrange the front yard with new flower beds, change parking and walkway paving and remake steps and stair railing;

654 Grosvenor: to build a rear extension under the second floor sunroom;

250 Clarke: to replace balcony railings;

629 Murray Hill: front landscaping to include new planting areas and pathway;

557 Grosvenor: to replace one side window;

305 Elm: to replace front and side windows and one at the rear of category 1 building;

21 Holton: to enlarge an existing window and door opening, replace a second storey door at rear, some side windows and install an A/C unit at the side;

3123-3127 St. Antoine: to replace windows, front and back doors, garage doors facing the street and make three new garage openings at the back;

528 Mount Pleasant: to replace rear doors;

3746 The Boulevard: to replace a side door;

455 Mount Stephen: to replace seven front windows;

4922 Sherbrooke: to erect a sign for "Bou-

tique incognito";

4866 St. Catherine: to erect a new back fence;

554 Victoria: to replace most of the windows and doors and to restore rear basement entrance;

65 St. Sulpice: to restore front and side bay windows and the roof over the front door of category 1 house;

4309 Montrose: front landscaping to include resurfacing the driveway with pavers, using stone for the front steps and walkway, and rebuild the retaining walls on both sides of the driveway; relocate basement entrance to be accessible from driveway;

1 Thornhill: to replace two basement windows;

.....
continued on p. 23



ETTY B.

Nothing says summer like gazpacho. This fresh vegetable cold soup can be made one or two days in advance to allow flavours to develop – but it is still delicious eaten as soon as it's chilled.

Follow with grilled chicken and rice pilaf and, for dessert, blueberry pie.

Gazpacho

In food processor:

Add and chop fine a handful of fresh basil leaves

2 cloves of garlic

Add ½ vidalia or other sweet onion and chop fine

Empty into a bowl

Into the processor, add

1 large red pepper

(or 1 medium red and 1 medium green pepper)

Chop coarsely and add to bowl.

Chop coarsely 3 medium cucumbers (English, Israeli or kirbys). Add to bowl.

Chop:

½ roasted pepper or sweet pimento
Add to bowl.

Peel and seed 6 medium tomatoes, purée in processor and add to bowl.

Add:

19 oz. can of tomato juice

¼ cup lemon juice

3 tablespoons olive oil

1 teaspoon of dried oregano

kosher salt

pepper

Tabasco (optional)

Combine, taste for seasonings and chill well.

Serve in cups or bowls accompanied by croutons or crackers.

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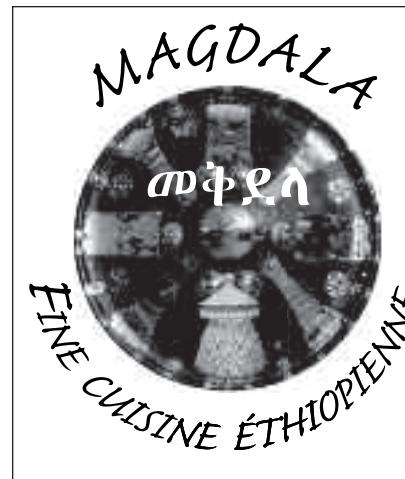
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I'm late as usual, my dear design friends, in writing to you. Your Greta von Schmedlapp recently hid her ample self in Aurel's carpet bag and was unpacked (too many hours later) in a 'burb of London, England. Aurel and his "coterie" emerged from the notorious jet lag a day later to enjoy visits with old friends.

We had a lovely family time catching up, then we visited several stately homes. What a delight!

We had an amazing visit to the Tate Modern, a once abandoned factory that has been re-purposed into one of the most immense museum spaces in today's world. To us, not the most endearing. If you have recently been living under a proverbial rock, you may not have heard of this new museum devoted to modern and contemporary art. We spent five hours there – with a superb luncheon at the top floor. (Please do reserve dears, and order the most quintessential fish and chips ever!)

Frame carefully

Since I promised I would return to the subject of framing, here we go. I have mentioned several of my obsessions regarding the framing of art. First, visit several framers before deciding. Ask each questions as to how they decide on the proper framing. You will learn a great deal during the process. Price is not the only consideration. Discuss the quality required.

If it is a poster for the children's playroom, you do not need archival acid-free matting – a simple brightly coloured metal frame is often best. Secondly, do notice the current work in the studio. That will tell you about the aesthetic level. Aurel and I have our debates when we see some of the French Impressionists framed with real gilt, classical "Beaux Arts" custom-sized extravaganzas, complete with corner and centre curlicues.

We know that they are worth a great deal, but frames of the period when the painting was made seem more suitable, rather than something from an earlier era, therefore, please my dears, have the visual shapes and movement complement the frame style.

Finally, beware those framers who will size up the owner's fashion and jewelry

before submitting a price. These are often the same "stylists" who will have elaborate mattes and layers of frame! We do want to say "what a lovely painting" and not "what a gorgeous frame"!

In the context of framing, I must mention an old friend of Aurel's – Christopher Claxton Stevens. He is an expert on 18th century English furniture, and a member of the worshipful order of cabinetmakers. Chris has devised a variation of a simple modern "floating" frame that has a ½ to ¾ inch recessed space between the canvas and the frame.

Usually this is a plain square shape with a black painted recess. He uses a deep shade of the most important colour in the painting to enhance the colours. Often he will find a deep brown, taupe or aubergine that works very well. Please remember my dears, one needn't fly to London to see good examples of framing; we have loads of examples right here in our little cosmopolitan village.

Enough of these serious edicts... I must rest now, and will need a restorative martini (or two) before dinner. Do drop us a note, or email to keep us up to date with your design interests. Next time, I will tell you about our Italian visit – martinis move over...the Venetian negroni is beginning to encroach on your territory.

As always, you can reach us at our email: aurelien@coloursbyaurelien.

Hugs, your fiend in design, Greta.

More permits

.....
continued from p. 22

- 198 Côte St. Antoine:** to replace a rear balcony door;
- 476 Strathcona:** to replace two basement windows;
- 441 Lansdowne:** to erect a fence along north and east sides of back yard;
- 637 Lansdowne:** to replace sunroom windows;
- 599 Roslyn:** to replace most windows and doors;
- 640 Lansdowne:** landscaping in back yard to include new steps to deck, new wood railings and a stone patio;
- 46 Surrey Gardens:** to build a dog enclosure in the back yard;
- 612 Victoria:** to replace steps and railings by wood and repair porch roof;
- 22 Chesterfield:** to replace rear balcony door and install new balcony balustrades;
- 4225 Dorchester:** to replace two garage doors and two service doors at RCMP building.



FÊTE DE LA SAINT-JEAN 2010 WESTMOUNT

Le mercredi 23 juin

17 h

Activités et rafraîchissements pour tous au parc Westmount.

18 h 30

Un concert de sons de l'Amérique du Nord et des cultures folkloriques européennes mettant en vedette **Genticorum**.

20 h

Gâteau de la St-Jean

21 h

Feu de joie

En cas de pluie, l'événement aura lieu à l'Aréna de Westmount au 4675, rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest.

Wednesday, June 23

5 pm

Activities and refreshments for everyone in Westmount Park.

6:30 pm

Concert with **Genticorum**. Traditional and folk music from Europe and North America.

8 pm

St-Jean cake

9 pm

Bonfire

Rain location: Westmount Arena, 4675 St. Catherine Street West.



Genticorum



Westmount

Division des événements communautaires
Community Events Division

Info : 514 989-5226
www.westmount.org

Gervais awarded Ordre du Québec



Richard Gervais

Westmounter Richard Gervais, honorary consul for the Republic of Mauritius in Canada and CEO of GGA Communications, was recently awarded the Ordre du Québec, with the rank of “knight,” for his exceptional contribution to arts and culture.

In early June, recipients were announced by Westmount resident Jean Charest, premier of Quebec. Gervais has sat on numerous boards of directors, including the Council for Business and Arts in Canada, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, *Vie des arts* magazine and the Canadiana Fund in Ottawa. He was president of the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde and The Ballets-Jazz Dance company. He was also a governor of the de Lanaudière music festival and of the Théâtre du Bois de Coulonges. Over the years, Gervais has been an active donor and supporter of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and The McCord Museum.

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

“Uncovering Peru, Land of the Inca” with Fred Hore, 7 pm, in the Westmount Public Library’s Westmount Room. Register: at the circulation desk or call 514.989.5299.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

An art benefit for schools in Haiti, 12 pm to 8 pm in the lobby of 1 Westmount Square. Reception: 5 to 7 pm; auction: 7 to 8 pm.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

- Rabbi David Woolfson, ritual director of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim discusses “What lies beyond?” at 12 pm for lunch, 12:45 for lecture. Cost: \$5 for both. Reserve: 514.937.9471.

- **Louis Sachar**, author of young adult novel, *Holes*, reads at the Atwater Library, 2 pm. Info: Mike Spry 514.848.2424, ext. 4632 or mike@sumlitsem.org.

MONDAY, JUNE 21

The Atwater Library and Computer Centre offers a course on **computer security**: protecting the computer from viruses and backing up data. 1 to 3 pm. Cost: \$25. Register: Nisa Malli at 514.935.7344.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

St. Matthias’ Church’s centennial celebration, open to the public. Lower hall, 7 pm for wine and cheese. Following the reception, a brief service will be held at 8:45 pm. Info: 514.933.4295.

MONDAY, JUNE 28

Centre Greene still has space for children ages 5 to 14 in **summer day camp** program. The centre offers weekly sessions from June 28 to August 20. Info: www.centregreene.org, or call 514.931.6202.

Jim Griffin ‘roasted’ for 25 years with Rotary



The Rotary Club of Westmount roasted and honoured Jim Griffin of James Griffin & Son for his 25 years with Rotary. The fellowship dinner took place at Bitoque restaurant in St. Henri, June 8. From left: Patrick Griffin, Mike Hunter, Natasha Morris, Sue Hunter, Jim Griffin, Karen Griffin and Thomas Griffin.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Artist Hopkins and SMAM gang gear up for music fundraiser through art



Westmounters Tom Hopkins, Rocio Lozano, François L'Heureux and SMAM's furry mascot Harry prepare for The Monteverdi Martini Mashed Potatoes event on Wednesday, June 16 at the Foundation Guido Molinari (3290 St. Catherine St. E.), 5:30 to 7:30 pm. The event includes food, music and a live art auction of several of Montreal's well-known artists. Funds raised will go to SMAM (Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal), an early music vocal ensemble that wants to create an outreach program to bring the music of artistic director Christopher Jackson to those who have limited access to live music. Tickets are \$150. For information, call 514.861.2626.

Photo: Victoria Stusiak

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27-29 Churchill, stunning large duplex with over 2,200 sq. ft. per fl. Designed by W.S. Wright in 1925. 3+1 bedrooms per floor; 2 baths, 2 large decks; original moldings, double garage+1 pkg., double occupancy. Opportunities such as this do not happen everyday! **Asking \$1,495,000**

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Another column for Melon



9 Lives

LYZANNE

I received an email from Gerdy's Rescue & Adoptions advising me that sweet Melon was going for an adoption interview with a family who seemed to show much interest in him. Things were going very well at the introductory visit with his new family until the family dog decided to go after him.

Melon was quite perplexed by this, and though a home with dogs is not out of the question, it was decided that this particular environment would not be ideal for him. So, back to the foster home he went.

We're still searching for his forever family.

Truly, Melon is a wonderful cat, a real survivor. This young male orange tabby domestic shorthair is very affectionate and loving. As you may remember from the last time we featured him, his back leg had to be amputated after he was hit by a car and wound up as a stray. He is now in perfect health, getting around on his three legs very well. He can even run when he feels like it! Melon has been sterilized, vaccinated, and vetted – a healthy young Morris-type cat that is more than ready for a



Melon

new adoptive family.

If you would like to find out more about Melon, please contact Gerdy at Gerdy's Rescue and Adoptions on her cell phone at 514.203.9180 or email her at atinfo@gerdysrescue.org.

Many thanks for helping us find a loving home for him as soon as possible.

Your neighbour, Lyzanne



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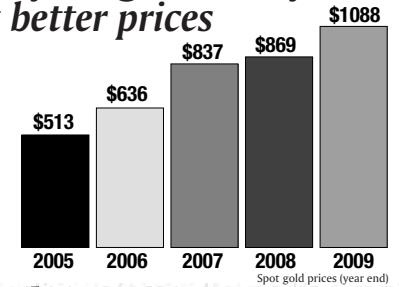
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Always looking for the right person to share you life with? tired of weekends and evenings alone on the couch? Misty River Introductions is Quebec's traditional matchmaker and can help you find the love of your life. (514) 879-0573 www.mistyriverintros.com.

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Delmar's donation sponsors a play



From left: Michael Cohen, Delmar's senior VP Michael Wagen, president and Westmount resident Paul Cutler and founder Harrison Cutler.

Delmar International, one of Canada's largest privately-held freight forwarders, recently hosted its annual black-tie evening at the Segal Centre for the Arts. Delmar committed \$250,000 in direct funding as part of a five-year contract

where they sponsor a play each year.

Included in this agreement was Café Delmar, the naming of a small bar in the lobby. This is year three of the arrangement.



Two New Documentary Films by Louise Abbott

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Parenting made fun

continued from p. 11

because I have family of another kind: a network of friends who lend a hand without being asked, and who I can also ask for help without feeling ashamed to. They're parents, and they're just as busy (if not busier) as I am. And yet one invited us out with her family on my first Mother's Day alone in Montreal to ensure that I wouldn't firebomb the Hallmark section of Westmount Stationery out of grief; another had us over for dinner once a week for over a year when I needed it most; another let us live with her and her kids for *five weeks* while I renovated my condo to

make it look less like the set of *Silence of the Lambs* and more like a home.

And she still talks to me. Yet another friend not only babysat my daughter when I couldn't get a sitter, but forgave me when I ended up so star struck upon meeting Christopher Hitchens that I stayed out two hours later than planned and had to ring her doorbell at midnight to gather my child, thereby waking up her two kids.

Let's face it: they're my wives. We rely on each other for help. So thank you for the many kindnesses bestowed on my daughter and me, from all of you who juggle work, kids, husbands, pets, carpoos and friendship: you make parenting fun.

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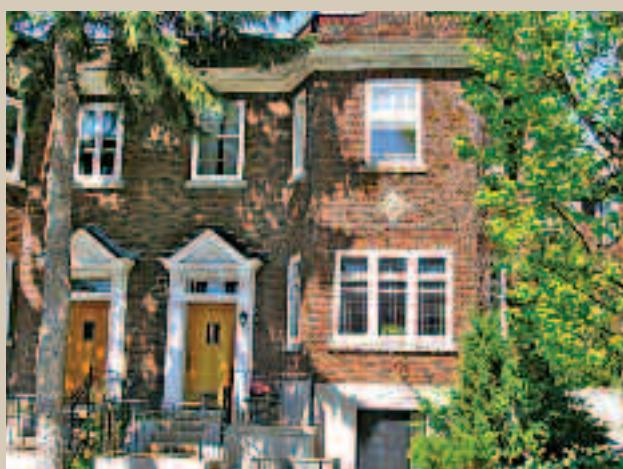
WESTMOUNT Château Westmount Square \$749,000

This large one bedroom condo located on the 12th floor has beautiful views of the mountain and St. Catherine. Hardwood floors, renovated kitchen, and large LR/DR area make this a great buy in a great location. Indoor parking, exercise room, pool, squash court and restaurant on the premises are just a few of the added features. Don't miss it!!!



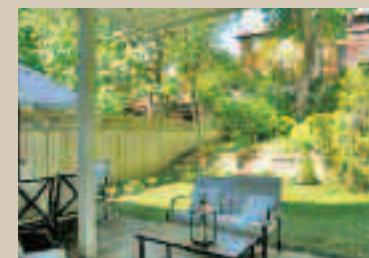
WESTMOUNT 414 Wood Ave. \$1,725,000

This former Coach House is a real charmer. Exquisitely designed and executed renovations, this one bedroom detached property can be easily converted back to two bedrooms. Beautiful wood floors throughout, new period designed windows, heated floors in baths, all new cabinets and appliances. Exceptional alternative to condo living. Facing Jardin Queen Elizabeth.



WESTMOUNT 7 Thornhill \$1,325,000

Here is a lovely 4 bedroom semi-detached home on a quiet street in Westmount. Beautiful leaded windows, hardwood floors, finished basement. This mid-level home is a great opportunity for a young family that needs room to grow and play. Garage and beautiful garden.



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VICTORIA | WESTMOUNT

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RECENTLY PURCHASED



PINE AVE. | DOWNTOWN

Unique enchanting oasis in downtown montreal in a small & quiet bldg w/phenomenal panoramic southern views! \$995,000



FORT DE LA MONTAGNE | MTL

Views! Views! 1,750 sq.ft. of living space in this sun-filled 3 bdrm condo w/South views, open concept plan, 2 balconies and 2 garage spaces. \$989,000

RECENTLY PURCHASED



CIRCLE RD. | WSMT ADJ.

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RECENTLY REDUCED



PINE | DOWNTOWN

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ST. AMBROISE | ATWATER MKT

2,700 sq. ft., 3-storey corner townhouse, steps from Atwater Market, Lachine Canal and SGEC Park! \$674,000

RECENTLY PURCHASED



BURTON | WESTMOUNT

INTRODUCING! Wonderful lower duplex apt. w/1+1 bdrms, open concept plan, fp, a/c, lovely garden, finished basment (could be sep. apt) and tons of charm! \$468,000



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