

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 5 No. 6b

We are Westmount

June 7-8, 2011

## Defective valve cause of high water pressure

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The mystery of abnormally high water pressure in the southern half of Westmount has finally been solved.

The cause was found to be a defective valve that failed to reopen properly after repairs to Montreal's Decarie water main, Westmount Public Works officials said last

week. The main burst April 17.

This major valve remained "broken closed" and undetected, explained assistant director Andrew Duffield. The defect was only discovered recently by Montreal water officials during their investigation into the rise in water pressure.

Once the broken valve is replaced in about two weeks, the pressure is expected to return to the previous level, he said.

The work is not expected to cause any disruption in water service.

### INSIDE



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Westmount Art Scene BY H. BLACK p. 17

Comin' Up p. 18

## Make way for ducklings!



A mother duck and her ducklings found a safe resting spot in a Mount Pleasant garden after a treacherous Sherbrooke crossing earlier that morning. For story, see p. 7.

Photo: Dorothy Fraiberg

## Victoria village street festival set for June 10-12

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

There's something new at this year's Westmount street festival: the Sherbrooke/Victoria Merchant's Association, which is sponsoring the event, has given it a Facebook page for the first time.

Taking place on June 10, 11 and 12, there'll be plenty of music, including a strolling fiddler, jazz performers and a

seven-piece rock/R&B/reggae band.

And as in past years, the Scottish bagpiper will be hard to miss, as the skreel of the pipes announces his arrival well beforehand.

This will be the fifth year that Nancy Master of the Bilboquet ice cream parlor helps to organize the street fair. (She's in charge of promotion.)

"We're probably going to do a second street fair continued on p. 9

Art Walk back for Year 3, see p. 9

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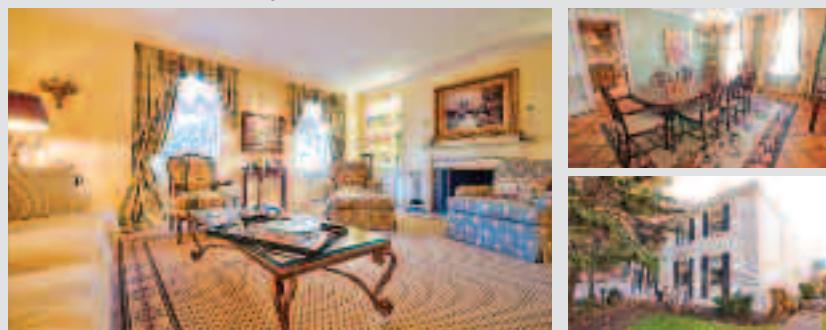
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Plan for \$12M development to be reviewed

## Demo hearing June 28 for Redfern condo project



A city notice announcing the application for demolition was posted May 31 in front of 215 Redfern by the Urban Planning department.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Details of a \$12-million condo development at 215 Redfern are expected to be revealed at a public demolition hearing June 28. This is the first step in the issuance of required permits. The session takes place at 7 pm at city hall.

The preliminary design and plan to convert the former Reader's Digest building into 63 luxury condos was recommended in principle by the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) May 17.

While the building itself is not to be de-

molished, its entire façade would be replaced and "carved" to include recessed balconies – an extensive makeover that requires a demolition permit.

The plan also calls for two storeys to be added to the central four-storey portion along with a rooftop recreational structure – all of which conforms to the maximum allowable height of six storeys and 75 feet, according to city documents.

No change in zoning from commercial to residential is required.

A notice of the application for demolition and the replacement plan was posted

## Skateboard chase!

Public safety officers chased four skateboarders down hilly streets Sunday, May 22 at 1:42 am, catching up with one, a resident of Toronto. He was given a \$137 ticket for skateboarding on a public street against Westmount's traffic by-law 726.

The man was described as "totally lost" with "no idea where he was." He was driven to where the others had last been seen scaling the railway fence at the West-

mount Athletic Grounds and heading into St. Henri.

The group had been spotted heading south of Bellevue and Aberdeen, but split up and fled in different directions after spotting the patrol vehicle. The Toronto man was finally stopped at Forden and Côte St. Antoine. A skateboard and one helmet were subsequently recovered and taken to Public Security.

by the city May 31 outside the building. This provides the public with an opportunity until June 13 to intervene officially in writing, according to city clerk Mario Gerbeau.

The design by Karl Fischer Architects shows a building of two to six storeys in setbacks. The additional roof structure contains an indoor pool and exercise room plus the possible inclusion of a mechanical room.

This is not to be confused with a penthouse that would typically contain a dwelling unit, according to Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

Located at the northeast corner of Redfern and St. Catherine, the site is directly behind and to the south of the large apartment complex at 4300 de Maisonneuve. It is also directly across Redfern from the Redfern Apartments and ..... a row of single family *continued on p. 7*

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## USE DOG CARD REVENUE TO STOP NEGLECT

While enjoying a cool drink with my own canine friend I observed this lovely animal sitting unattended for at least 30 minutes at the corner of Sherbrooke and Victoria.

I brought the dog water and eventually moved it to a shadier spot. The owner was unapologetic when she eventually returned. Ironically, this dog was wearing a Westmount tag.

My question to the city of Westmount is: are the revenues from dog licenses used to ensure that all dogs be protected from neglect and mistreatment, or is the purchase of the license yet another cash grab to add to city coffers?

CYNTHIA CAMPBELL, GROSVENOR AVE.



This dog was witnessed tied up outside in the sun with no water for at least 30 minutes.

Photo: Cynthia Campbell

## HONOURED TO BE RELATED TO SALLY AITKEN

There is a follow-up to your very nice profile on our sister-in-law, Sally Aitken: 25 years ago our daughter, Diana, planned to have her wedding reception in Victoria Hall. At the entrance, there is a plaque listing the names of Westmount veterans, including that of her father.

It was in deplorable condition and Sally, as a councillor, was responsible for having repairs made in time for the reception.

Sally is effective in everything she undertakes. Our whole family feels honoured to be related to her.

DICK AND SARAH STEVENSON,  
ST. CATHERINE ST.

## SAME COMPANY PREPARES ARENA AND TRAFFIC PLAN

The massive increase in traffic on Lansdowne has implications for the whole area. Patrick Martin's conflicting remarks about the traffic (that the arena would result in less traffic and then the increase would be minimal) are ridiculous.

In the past year, we have attended city council, met with the Traffic committee, communicated with Gary Ikeman, others and Mayor Trent.

Promises that the largely ignored, unenforced "no trucks" signage were ordered and would be replaced, but nothing has

been done to stem the fact that the traffic has increased dramatically.

Lansdowne, as we feared, has become a traffic artery. A study was not needed to address the historic concerns of residents on Lansdowne and the implications of current factors (hospital, arena, etc.)

Protecting Lansdowne would signal to residents that the city is serious about protecting the environment and residential areas.

Given the severe nature of the escalating traffic problem, we suggested a pilot project which would have stemmed the current increase, given voice in a democratic way to years of concern heightened by the proposed arena project.

The disturbing news that the same company is doing the traffic study and the arena project heightens our concern.

The traffic study is needed but should have been done before planning an arena with two hockey rinks. The city still has the ability to address traffic issues "in the meantime."

Laureen Sweeney has reported the issues fairly, which we appreciate. This is an attempt to further alert people to the serious traffic situation and hopefully create pressure for appropriate solutions.

GEORGINA SMITH, LANSDOWNE AVE.

## CLOSE WINTER BIKE PATH

About ten days ago, the city of Westmount posted on its web site its analysis of the de Maisonneuve bike path usage this past winter.

In short, both eastbound and westbound cyclists were counted during morning and/or afternoon rush hours on 12 different days in January and February. The results showed an average of 12 cyclists per day at the eastern limits of the city, and six cyclists per day at the western limit.

The city, with no rationale provided, simply presumed that the flows for the

rest of the day were the same as those at rush hour and multiplied the above figures by 9, to cover the hours between 8 am and 5 pm, concluding that there were 108 cyclists daily going through the eastern limits of the city and 54 passing through the western limits. Do the math.

It cost the city (according to its Ipsos poll), \$120,000 to keep the bike path open during the winter, and let's say this covered about 80 days from the beginning of January through the end of March, given there were several days each month this winter when our streets, let alone the bike path, provided difficult passage due to the heavy snowfall.

So, \$120,000/80 days = \$1,500/per day /150 one-way riders (at best) = \$10 per ride, for one day; a rider using the path twice a week, return, for this three-month period cost Westmount taxpayers \$400 for the season (\$20 x 2 days x 10 weeks).

Not only was the de Maisonneuve bike path unsafe during the winter (the bollards were removed), not only was it unenforced at all by the police, it was hardly used by cyclists themselves. And the cost was exorbitant, even by Westmount standards.

May council be informed by these results and close the bike path on de-Maisonneuve during the winter.

DON TADDEO, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

## Delivery update

We continue to use distribution methods other than Canada Post, given its actual and threatened strike situation. If you aren't getting a paper (or are getting too many), please contact me.

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## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

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LETTERS & COMMENTS:

We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Email any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.

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## In NDG &amp; Hampstead this week:

- STM rejects McQueen's Villa Maria Metro solution
- Hampstead preparing for U2 concert at Blue Bonnets

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## Caught red-faced and red-handed



Not an uncommon sight in Westmount gardens, local chipmunks benefit from the seed that falls from bird feeders. This one has his or her cheeks filled with sunflower seeds collected from an Arlington rock garden. Likely the animal was going to feed its young. When asked if the chipmunk gets spooked by the resident dog, the owner replied "Interestingly, our Wheaten terrier doesn't chase chipmunks, just squirrels!"

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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(Sat. 1:30 • Sun. 2:00)

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**Darquis Rivard**

fiddler (Sat. and Sun.)

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Rec Centre Q &amp; A

## Of cafés and campuses

Councillor Patrick Martin, the chair of the recreation centre committee, has invited Westmounters to write him with questions and comments about the project and plan.

You can contact him with further questions at pmartin@westmount.org. Your questions and his answers will appear in subsequent issues of the *Independent*, space permitting. Please indicate whether you want your name published or not. For reasons of space, Councillor Martin has paraphrased the questions.

**A café or a restaurant? With or with a terrace?**

*Regarding the café that will form part of the project, what kind of café will it be? Would it be appropriate to have a slightly more “elaborate” restaurant (without losing the flair of a café) serving breakfast and lunch, with perhaps an outdoor terrace? Would there be room for such an endeavour? As there are not too many places in Westmount with outdoor terraces, it would be nice to have one nearby.*

– Gael Gravenor, Blenheim Pl.

Council has not considered incorporating a commercial full-service restaurant into the program of the new recreation centre. The construction of such a facility would add cost to the project for kitchen equipment and ventilation, and it could be perceived to compete with tax-paying local restaurants. It might also be a disturbance for nearby residences.

However, it is indeed anticipated that there be an outdoor terrace or sitting area with a friendly atmosphere where residents can get together to chat and enjoy the expanded park green spaces. They could bring their own food or purchase items from the café. It should prove popular with members of Contactivity and local residents, children and adults partic-

ipating in recreation centre activities, and those who come to watch. – PM

**Why stick to the “campus idea”?**

*The 1999 architectural plans showed there was a lack of space for two rinks in the southwest corner. And yet the “campus idea” took hold: everything would be within walking distance from the park, the library, etc... And now, even in its underground status, the southwest park area will be overdeveloped by an oversized project...the campus idea precluded looking at other alternatives.*

– John Fretz, Lansdowne Ave.

“Within walking distance”, precisely! Even in 1999, some 12 years ago, Westmount already had in mind the principles of sustainability and active transportation (walking and bikes). Should a parent taking one child to the library and another to the rink, or one to the swimming pool and the other to indoor summer activities in the arena, need a car between the two destinations? The campus approach was the obvious and publicly accepted solution then, and has remained so since that time. A recreation centre should be, above all, central and in an easily reached cluster. The city of Westmount is not permitted to own property or buildings outside its own city limits; all possible alternative sites within Westmount were considered, and the SW park area was selected as best.

As for the supposed oversizing of the project, that is a misconception. The most important difference in size between the new rec centre and the old offices, teen centre, arena, pool and tennis courts is that the current small rink will be brought to the same dimensions as the larger existing community rink. This is an attractive improvement, offering increased efficiency and flexibility of use for our money.

And we must not overlook that even the simple rebuilding of the 60-year-old facilities would have entailed an important increase in size to deal with modern norms and government-imposed building codes. Making the two rinks the same size as the existing Westmount hockey rink represents only about 15 percent of the total new building footprint. If you are happy with the size and function of the current

### More Greene parking

Two new parking spaces will be added in front of 1255 Greene just south of de Maisonneuve, Public Works officials said last week. The city is also looking for others.

## Mayor charges petition ‘misleading’

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Mayor Peter Trent said June 3 that an internet petition to “Change the Westmount Arena Plan” is particularly misleading in failing to make mention of the \$20-million infrastructure grant to offset the \$37-million cost.

As a result, he said, it implies that taxpayers are on the hook for the entire amount.

Choosing not to comment on other as-

pects, he said he would be issuing an official council reaction to the petition during the June 6 city council meeting because he found it one-sided and misrepresenting the facts.

arena, then you will be equally (or more) pleased with the new recreation centre.

It is true that the 1999 plans showed that there was inadequate space for two full above-ground rinks in the southwest sector of the park. No amount of architectural design undertaken since then has been able to solve this problem with above-ground rinks, and in any case such an approach would have led to an enormous building in the park. But the current underground project solves the problem and in fact reduces the size of the existing above-ground structure by about 70 percent, leading to better vistas for neighbouring residences and expanded green park space for all. – PM

### Rocket

## 3,2,1 – lift-off

Two teenagers launched a small hobby rocket from Murray Park May 24 that landed on the roof of a house on Strathcona, Public Security officials said. The incident also brought firefighters to the scene to check out the home and retrieve the device.

The youths claimed to be testing the rocket attached to a parachute as part of a school science project. Launched from the Belmont section of the park, the airborne rocket took off across Côte St. Antoine Rd. and floated down on the house.

The youths, identified as 17-year-old NDG residents, rang the doorbell to tell the resident who called Public Security at 7:20 pm.

Officers called the fire department and then responded. They met with the youths, advised them of the dangers, and that fireworks and fire crackers were not allowed in the city under nuisance by-law 257, according to assistant director Greg McBain.

“It seemed they hadn’t taken the wind into account, either,” he said.

No charges were laid.

pects, he said he would be issuing an official council reaction to the petition during the June 6 city council meeting because he found it one-sided and misrepresenting the facts.

The mayor revealed his intention when asked by the *Independent* for his reaction to the petition as the number of signatures rose to some 465.

“I notice it fails to make any mention of the \$20-million grant,” he said.

“I find this very misleading because most people reading the petition would believe that the project would cost \$37 million of taxpayer dollars. If indeed this were as indicated, I would sign the petition, too, because I would never saddle taxpayers with such an amount.”

The city’s plan is to launch a \$5 million fundraising campaign and pass on the remaining \$12 million in taxes adding \$200 a year to the average tax bill.

Trent also said he had noticed that among the signatories were non-Westmounters and others listing themselves as “anonymous.”

He also said that a petition was “not a scientifically conducted poll such as the city undertook more than year ago because a petition gets only one-half of a point of view. Besides, it’s one year too late.”

The city’s survey tallied by the Ipsos polling firm, asked people to vote Yes or No to the area/pool proposal, which generated an 83-percent favourable response rate.

## Work planned for lower Greene

While merchants and shoppers on Greene Ave. will be spared street construction work this summer by the city, motorists can expect to encounter Bell work at the intersection of Greene and St. Catherine, said Public Works director Marianne Zalzal.

Providing advance notice of what lies ahead in city plans for Greene, she said Hydro Westmount would also be installing a new conduit and doing other underground work on Greene between St. Catherine and Selby.

Outstanding work to complete the refurbishment of Greene between de Maisonneuve and St. Catherine is now scheduled for summer 2013, after the building of the condo development at the site of Les 5 Saisons.

Demolition and construction work related to this project could be expected to cause some traffic disruption this summer, once permits are issued.

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# Redfern

continued from p. 3

dwellings.

In recommending the changes, PAC found the proposed development was “appropriate to the streetscape and will harmonize with the character of the area and is in scale with immediately adjacent buildings on St. Catherine and de Maisonneuve.”

Documents state the project would have a positive social impact on the neighbourhood due to the integration of a new residential multi-family building that “will bring new residents to the city and contribute to community life.”

Under the 2011 evaluation roll, the land is assessed at \$3.6 million and the building at \$8.5 million. The estimated cost of construction is reported to be \$12 million. The building is owned by 4053516 Canada Inc.

Built in 1962 and designed by architect Reuben Fischer (not a relative), the building underwent major alterations in the late 1990s, according to city documents. Underground garage space was added in 1989 for a total of 102 spaces, which the new design proposes to retain.

## Lord love a duck

# Feathered family takes a stroll across Sherbrooke

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

“Surreal.”

That’s the word Westmount dentist Dr. Milène Abadi used to describe what she saw around 9:15 am last Friday, June 3: more than a dozen little ducklings following single-file behind their mama across the intersection of Greene Ave. and Sherbrooke St.

“I am a city girl, but I’m also a country girl – we have a country home – so I do know about country life,” Abadi told the *Independent*. “It’s just funny to see something like that in the middle of the street.”

Abadi had been walking with her son to her car, which was parked on Sherbrooke near Greene, when they suddenly heard a woman exclaiming with great excitement.

“In front of her was a mother duck and 12 ducklings,” said Abadi. “We approached and saw the mother and her ducklings, which were very young and wandering. Then they decided to cross the street heading north, so we followed them. They found a little patch of grass by a house with a sprinkler, and they went to sit there.”

Out of concern for their safety, Abadi phoned Westmount Public Security, who arrived but were initially reluctant to deal with a situation involving non-domesticated animals whose behaviour can be unpredictable.

However, Abadi’s son, Albert, found a box, which they left with a blanket and some croissants near the ducks, who had taken refuge on the front lawn of a Mount Pleasant Ave. property. Since the ducks wouldn’t enter the box at first, the PSOs told Abadi she should leave and they would pass by later to see if the ducks had entered the box, and whether they might then be moved to a more secure place.

It seems that duck sightings are not unusual these days in Westmount, especially in the area of Sherbrooke and Greene. “I have a feeling that they’re making their way down from the bird sanctuary or Beaver Lake,” Abadi speculated, “or they’ve found some kind of a nest under somebody’s porch.”

David Sedgwick, director of Westmount Public Security, confirmed that his department has dealt with disoriented ducks before. “A few years ago they ended up in

somebody’s backyard on Redfern,” he said.

By the time the security officers located the ducks late on, they had wandered westward to Clarke Ave. and Sherbrooke St. “We managed to get the babies in a box, and we were able to capture and put the mother in the box as well,” said Sedgwick. “We took them all to Westmount Park where they’ve been released in the pond.”

For photo, see p. 1.

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# Retail Watch BY MARLENE EISNER

## What's in a name?

"[The name] 'Adjust' are my children Adam and Justin," said Lucy Shapiro, owner of Adjust Design, a gift, home décor and corporate business boutique that opened May 18. It is located at 4891 Sherbrooke St. at Prince Albert.

The store is 1,300 square feet of open space with strategically placed displays of merchandise for men and women. There



Owner Lucy Shapiro with some gifts for men and women.

are masculine-themed picture frames, zebra-striped chairs and pillows, serving trays and luggage.

Unique items include a hanging lamp made from antique tea cups and saucers, a table lamp with a base constructed from antique cameras, sports-themed bar accessories and for the tennis pro, an authentic wooden racquet with a mirror in the centre. Just in time for Father's Day, Adjust Design has a nice selection of gifts for dad.

"I have decorative accessories for gift giving and personal use, for every room in the house, except the bathroom," said Shapiro.

"Much of what I carry is definitely fashion forward. I have things that nobody else has."

## If you want it, try WANT Apothecary

Opened May 19 at 4960 Sherbrooke St. by twin brothers Byron and Dexter Peart, Mark Wiltzer and Jacqueline Gelber, the concept is personalized service meets haute mode for everyday living.

"We decided to build a concept around a 19th century apothecary and create a



WANT Apothecary's storefront

unique shopping experience," said Byron Peart.

The 1,100-square-foot street-level store is large and welcoming with European-made designer labels that offer a refined look for day and night. There is also an extensive line of beauty and body care products.

The four partners are North American distributors for several contemporary designer brand clothing lines.

"We've been doing this for 10 years and what we wanted to do was find an opportunity to show these brands in the best light of how they should be presented," says Peart.

With an eye on style, the goal is to be like "an old community store where the vendors know the customers by name."

## Country life at its best

Vie de Campagne moved the week of May 16 to 4883 Sherbrooke St. after 14 years on Victoria Ave. Nestled in the back quarters of Soumack Tapis, Chantal Boulé and husband Christian Bélanger will continue to provide home décor services, minus the furniture that was available in the former location.

"We already had three lines of area rugs and he [Soumack Tapis] has everything for floor coverings so together we've got everything for home décor," said Boulé.

"Everything" includes fabric, wall paper, bedding services, upholstering, custom-made headboards and a new line of paint called California paint, oddly enough, from Boston. The environmentally-friendly paint has zero ..... volatile organic com- *continued on p. 9*



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## Retail Watch

continued from p. 8



New location, same staff: Seated, from left, Kelly Ramer and Marie Powney. Standing, from left, owners Christian Bélanger and Chantal Boulé.

pounds (VOC) and is LEED approved.

“Being called country living, we’re aiming toward greener products,” she said.

Boulé is also excited about their newly opened location in a century-old home in Ayer’s Cliff in the Eastern Townships.

“It’s really big, 2,500 square feet,” said says, and a good complement to the Westmount store.

“In the city there’s less business in the summer because most people have country homes.”

### Fashion accessorizing

Artizan, a boutique filled with trendy fashion accessories for women, opened April 2 at 4928 Sherbrooke Street. Owner Robin Barré says the Westmount location fits her vision of what shopping is all about.

“I don’t like malls,” she says.

“The little shopping area in Westmount is similar to our first store location in the Pointe Claire Village. I love Westmount and I’ve always wanted to have a store here.”

Barré’s mission as a retailer is to offer women of all ages the latest trends in fashion accessories at affordable prices, “which makes us unique in Westmount. Plus, we give a free gift with every purchase.”

Keeping prices low on her wide selection of scarves, jewellery, belts, bags, shirts and shawls is possible because Barré has a wholesale business where she distributes her products to 2,000 independent retail outlets across Canada. In the last three years, Artizan boutiques have been opening in many major airports including Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Ottawa, New York and Indianapolis, becoming a recog-

## Westmount street fest

continued from p. 1



Two Victoria Ave. merchants, who will taking part in the Westmount street festival, from left: Simon Bitton of Foot Solutions and Wieny Li of D.D. Dog Grooming & Boutique.

some time in August,” she told the *Independent*. While smaller, it’ll still offer shoppers great deals on top merchandise.

“We’re all small, owner-managed businesses that are trying to show and draw out the diversity of our area and all the different things that we have to offer,” she added.

She noted that while you might find major chains at a shopping mall, the local Westmount merchants have their diversity, independence and unique products to offer.

For more on the Westmount street festival, visit [www.facebook.com/WestmountVictoriaVillage](http://www.facebook.com/WestmountVictoriaVillage).



Artizan from the outside.

nizable brand for travellers.

*The content in Retail Watch is researched and written by the Independent. Businesses that appear do not pay for or approve what is written.*

### Art Walk back for year 3

The Victoria Village Art Walk, an increasingly important part of the Westmount Street Festival, is back again this year.

Featuring as many as 75 artists working in a variety of media, the Art Walk “is growing every year,” said Pierre Le Gouriérec of Avenue des Arts on Victoria Ave., who has been organizing it for the past three years.

An integral part of the street festival, Art Walk transforms the Victoria village into an outdoor studio and gallery. Le Gouriérec said the goal is to raise awareness and appreciation of the visual arts.

While people are encouraged to buy the art of local artists, the artists themselves have the opportunity to exhibit their work and gain exposure.

Although artists will be stationed in various locations along the sidewalks of Victoria Ave. between Sherbrooke St. and de Maisonneuve Blvd., these streets will remain open to traffic. However, Somerville Ave. for a few hundred feet west of Victoria will be shut from 4 pm on Friday, June 10 until 6 pm on Sunday, June 12, so that the artists can have a venue that is completely traffic free.— MB

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## BUILDING PERMITS What's permitted

The following permits for exterior construction, alterations and renovation were approved at the April 20 meeting of city council.

**4299 Montrose:** at a Category I house, to build a new double garage at the rear attached to the existing garage which will be converted into service space as part of the house; to replace windows and doors;

**4721 The Boulevard:** to enlarge a basement window and create a new opening;

**325-327 Lansdowne:** at a Category I house, to build a one-storey addition in part of the side and rear yards; to modify roof and existing dormer to access a balcony exit; to provide a new French door, new doors for the existing deck at ground floor level as well as new stairs to access the addition;

**324 Victoria:** at a Category I building, to install a new sign for the Animal Hospital of Montreal;

**667 Belmont:** landscaping to include new stairs to the main entrance, repairs to a retaining wall, a new resurfacing of the driveway and new garden beds;

**577 Roslyn:** to replace all windows and some rear doors;

**4039 Tupper:** to repair balconies on the second, third and fourth floors and to modify one on the first floor;

**35 Church Hill:** landscaping at the rear, a new fence and gate, a new terrace at grade and new front stone steps;

**463 Mount Stephen:** to build a front portico;

**563 Côte St. Antoine:** at the Category I\* Hurtubise House, to repair the front porch and install a new railing to conform to detailing in historical photographs; make masonry repairs and install a heating/cooling system in the accessory building connected below grade to the house;

**4369 Montrose:** to replace the front door with a French door provided its detailing matches the existing one;

**641 Belmont:** to replace some windows;

**527 Victoria:** to replace a rear window;

**345 Lansdowne:** to replace two basement windows;

**1304 Greene:** at the Old Post Office, a Category I building, to make masonry and roof repairs to the façade respecting the original detailing and materials – an application by the owner for a subsidy under the Restoration Support Program;

**4351 Westmount:** to replace a front door and two rear windows;

**4115 Sherbrooke:** to replace a front en-

trance door;

**69 Bruce:** to replace the rear basement door and storm windows;

**1234 Greene:** to change a front window and a single door into a double entrance door;

Surrey Gardens vacant lot: to cut some trees to build a new house.

The following permits for exterior construction, alterations and renovation were approved at the May 3 meeting of city council.

**350 Selby:** to add two storeys to the existing four-storey building to transform it into a multi-family building; to modify the exterior envelope including replacing the veneer and all windows and doors;

**3712 The Boulevard:** to build a two-storey extension on the south and east sides while retaining most of the existing street façade; to modify the sloped roof to incorporate new dormers and two roof terraces;

**641 Argyle:** to provide a front entrance, landing and stairs on the street facade and to build a three-storey extension with a flat roof at the rear not exceeding the height of the existing building; to build a basement garage with three doors and slope the grade to accommodate the driveway;

**4928 Sherbrooke:** at a Category I building, to erect a sign for Artizan and an awning;

**729 Upper Lansdowne:** at a Category I house, to building an extension in the side and rear yards;

**4032 St. Catherine:** at a Category I building, to erect signs for Subaru Auto Centre and Subaru;

**1361 Greene:** to erect signs for Profusion Immobilier;

**64 Aberdeen:** to replace windows and create new openings at the rear; to build a balcony and stairs;

**373 Claremont:** to replace all windows;

**1236 Greene:** to erect signs for Brioche Dorée;

**361 Melville:** to replace some side windows;

**3 Anwoth:** to replace an entrance door and a garage door;

**4 Belvedere Rd.:** to modify location of the side door;

**95 Côte St. Antoine:** at Selwyn House School, a Category I building, to replace the side windows of the third floor of the Lucas Building;

**102 Columbia:** at a Category I house, to replace some side and rear windows;

**457 Elm:** at a Category I house, to replace the front windows and two doors.

## Adventures in sustainable living

# Try container planting

By MARCI BABINEAU

Though most of us are no longer dependent on personally growing what we eat, we realize the value of being somehow connected to the food we prepare.

Two ways to do this are buying produce that is grown locally and growing our own. In the city, we are challenged for both space and light, which makes container gardening a perfect solution.



Plants growing in containers. Photo: Marci Babineau

Many of us make our summer salute to this ancient agrarian practice by planting in pots tomatoes on the porch or basil on the window sill. Container gardening is just that. Here are some considerations for your endeavours this year.

### What can be grown in containers?

Renaissance Parisians built large containers to provide the court with citrus fruit. Everything from fruit trees, greens, peas, beans, sunflowers, corn, cucumbers and gourds can produce in containers. The main challenge is keeping them watered.

### Choosing your container

A simple planter can be constructed from untreated wood to fit your space, or you can obtain a self-watering planter or use whatever large pots you have around. The planter size must accommodate the roots of the plants you wish to grow. Most annual vegetables will need roughly a foot of depth to establish their roots over the growing season. Their roots will happily intermingle, conforming to the size of the pot. All containers must have drainage.

### Put some 'culture' in your agriculture

It is possible to grow vegetables in planting soil from the store. However, this soil has been sterilized at high temperatures to kill bacteria and thus does not

have anything truly living to offer the plants. Part of the food value a plant has to offer is obtained from the nutrient exchange made in the soil. Amending the soil with inert chemical components like nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium will produce plant matter, however, it is in the chemical exchange between roots, bacteria and other soil flora and fauna that the plants manifest and store nutrition. So be sure to add some *real* dirt complete with earthworms or introduce a shovel of mostly decomposed leaf mulch to get the "culture" started.

### Considering container companions

Select "pot-mates" based on their common requirements. Devoting a planter or two to salad greens enables you to replant as you eat. Most herbs grow well together and can handle less sun. Peas or cucumbers can be trellised together and replanted in July. Sun lovers like basil, tomatoes, peppers, strawberries, green beans and eggplant need a container that will get at least six hours of sun a day.

When a planter is first planted, make the plantings fairly dense. Their root systems will naturally space them and know that not all transplants will live through the experience.

### Direct seeding

Seeding directly into your containers indoors in April is a good way to avoid transplanting in May. Unless you use a fluorescent light, however, you may not get any tomatoes until August.

A mixture of individual plants and some seeding is my favourite as it is satisfying to see the young plants coming along and then the surprise of seeds sprouting later.

### Incredible, edible Westmount

Last year, Westmount planted a few planters with edible plants. This was so well received that there will be edible containers throughout Victoria village this year. This idea sprung from Todmorden, England ([www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk/blogs/more-news-from-westmount-montreal/?c=Growing](http://www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk/blogs/more-news-from-westmount-montreal/?c=Growing)). Westmount has joined their blog.

Marci Babineau is an urban farmer in Westmount. She teaches sustainable gardening practices at Victoria Hall. She will be giving a free talk on container gardening at the Atwater Library, June 9 at 12:30 pm.

*New carriage wheels remain in painting process*

# Cannon still a long way away from display

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It will likely be some time – if ever – before a new set of Westmount youngsters will be able to sit on the city's pair of 1810 brass cannon in Westmount Park as their parents and grandparents once did.

Even after lengthy specialty work to replicate authentic wooden gun carriages is complete, the future remains to be determined, said Public Works supervisor John Monteiro last week.

"We'll have to figure out where the cannon will be placed and how to secure them," he explained.

The cannon, which were first placed in the park in 1899, have historical value to the city and their exposure to the elements has forced them to undergo several facelifts over the years. One of the pair was temporarily "stolen" 30 years ago as a prank by university students.

The cannon were removed from the park some five years ago when the latest version of their wooden carriages began rotting. Small generic wagon wheels had been used during a \$15,000 makeover in 1994.



Authentic five-foot diameter wooden wheels on this 9-pounder gun carriage behind glass at Fort Henry, Kingston, are the model for the new wheels in Westmount.

Photo: John Monteiro

Two years ago, at the initiative of then councillor George Bowser, the city council commissioned wheelwright Karl Gayer in West Virginia to create, at a cost of US\$16,000, new five-foot diameter wheels



Smaller generic wagon wheels were used in the last renewal of the gun carriages when the cannon were returned to the park on August 8, 1994. They replaced earlier larger ones.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney

(see April 1, 2009, p. 3).

These new wheels were to replicate those that would have been used on the gun carriages for British 12-pounder cannon at the time.

The new wheels – two for each gun carriage and one spare – were received last June, Monteiro said.

They are now in the process of being painted

continued on p. 18

## Flying high in early hours

The driver of black Honda Civic accidentally drove the car right up on top of a pile of gravel in front of 24 Holton at 1:28 am May 28, according to Public Security officials. The gravel was in use for the street's reconstruction work but appeared not to have been marked with reflective barriers by the contractor. Public Works officials said the street was signed for use by local residents only and its entry was narrowed to one lane.

## Garbage collector cut on face

A garbage collector sustained a deep cut over the left eye from a large piece of metal outside 7 Sunnyside May 13, Public Security officials said. A patrolling officer was flagged down at 11:11 am and asked for assistance. The victim was driven to the Queen Elizabeth medical centre.



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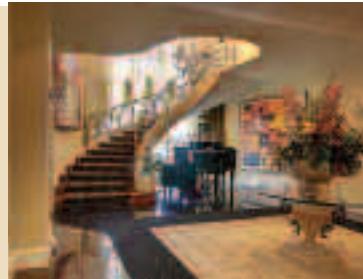
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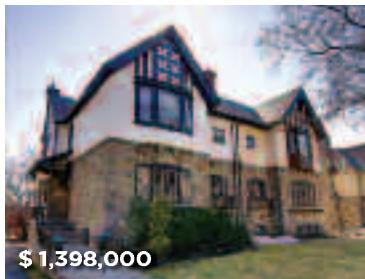
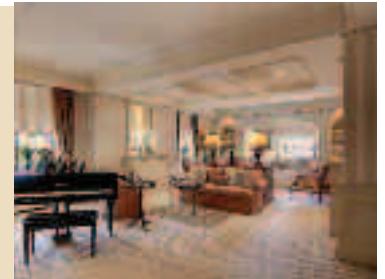
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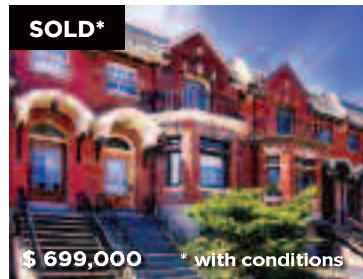
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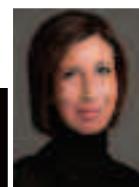
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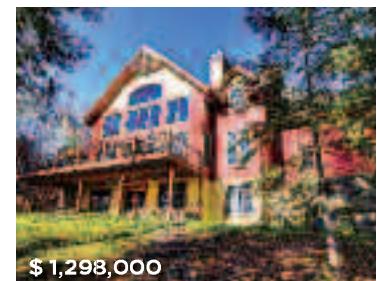
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# Hops creates ‘Pippa dress’

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

The “wedding of the year” may be over, but that fairy tale moment still lingers.

The dresses worn by the Middleton sisters – Catherine (Kate), who married Britain’s Prince William in a regal April 29 ceremony and Pippa, her sister who was her maid of honour – quickly became the inspiration for similar styles.

Fashion companies rushed to imitate the gowns. Within 48 hours, Westmounter Andrew Hops, vice president at Groupe J.S. International on Chabanel, had an interpretation of the “Pippa dress” made and hand-delivered to *Access Hollywood TV* in Los Angeles.

“We watched the wedding very early on Friday morning, and then sketched, designed and sewed our version through the weekend. Our first sample of the Duchess Gown was made in two days. And by Monday, we had the Pippa dress!”

The dress, made with Chantilly lace and satin, will sell for around \$220, and has already been ordered by major American retailers, such as Macy’s, Dillards and Nordstrom.

Shops across Canada are keen as well. The Pippa dress, with its feminine cap sleeves, will be created in ivory, red, navy, cobalt, blush and black.

The J.S. version of Kate Middleton’s wedding gown, the “Duchess Gown” will



Andrew Hops with his version of the “Pippa dress”

only be produced in white. It will sell for around \$698. But, according to Hops, “Pippa is the ‘it’ girl of the moment. We are seeing far more interest in that version already.”



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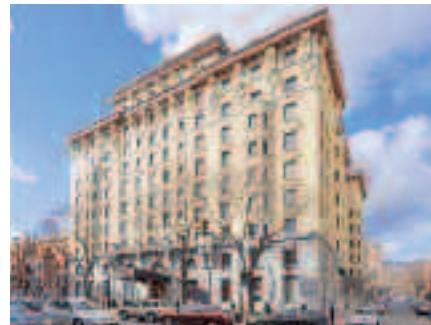
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## Westmount Art Scene

## Beaumont and Cerrado: On reflection

BY HEATHER BLACK

Sculptor Hanneke Beaumont, who is exhibiting at Galerie de Bellefeuille, and painter Cerrado at Galerie V Trimont, capture the complexity of the human condition. Through thoughtful and thought-provoking imagery, both artists invite interpretation.



Cerrado "The Invisible Guardians of the Realm of the Heart"

**Cerrado at Galerie V Trimont**

Cerrado's exquisitely painted scenes are half dream, half commentary. A student of Jung, he plays with the duality of emotions. In one rural scene, two black dogs bark furiously against a backdrop of a red termite nest, fields, a mountain and a vivid blue sky. Entitled "The Invisible Guardians of the Realm of the Heart," the artist simultaneously depicts danger and peace.

A large oil on wood panel, "The Four-fold," features a crucifix, a grey curtain with door knobs and a red envelope set against a forbidding sky broken by a jet trail. Almost Renaissance in rendition, the subject here is divinity, the interconnectivity of earth and sky. Foreign scripts suggest the universality of the life-death cycle.

In "The Crossing of the Ford," the artist draws and paints on pages from the Bible. Covered with thin washes of paint, the books of the Old Testament are clearly listed. In the foreground, figures form a solitary line leading to a mountain shape. Recalling Exodus, the effect is soft, surreal – like ancestral memories. A gloss finish beautifies, but staples and torn canvas suggest destruction and pain.

This Montreal artist's work is beautifully painted and intelligently crafted. A graduate of McGill's master's program in the "History and Theory of Architecture," Cerrado is one of the five artists on display at 4259 St Catherine Street from June 1 to 23.

**Beaumont at Galerie de Bellefeuille**

Belgian sculptor Beaumont's distinctive and elo- *continued on p. 26*



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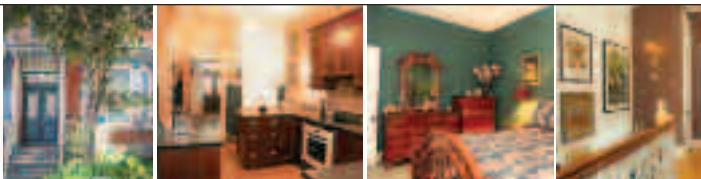
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# Cannon work ongoing

continued from p. 11

in typical grey by local restoration specialist Philippe Danton, who has worked on the Westmount cenotaph.

“That’s a long process because the paint has to be well absorbed,” Monteiro said.

The support portions of the carriages now have to be made, he said. The city has set aside \$60,000 for this work in the 2011 capital works budget.

In researching the type of wheels and gun carriages used for the cannon, Monteiro and Danton travelled to Fort Henry in Kingston where a sister pair of 9-pounder cannon behind glass have the carriage wheels intact. These were photographed and taken to wheelwright Gayer as a model.

Whether the Westmount cannon will ever be returned to the park is not known given the long restoration project and the cannon’s historical and economic value.

Interestingly, at the start of the project, Bowser told the *Independent* the council had decided to return the cannon to the park once the gun carriages were replaced.

## Living history

“It is my view that the cannon should be displayed outdoors as they were until recently because they are a living part of our history,” he explained.

“I’m very excited that we not only can begin the work on the cannon, but that we know what the end result will be. We’ll have them back in the park and secured.”

Made in England during the reign of

George III, the cannon are described as “12-pounder medium brass smooth-bore muzzle loaders that were continually in service with the British crown from 1750 to 1860.” Information on the cannon was obtained from Westmount in 1973 from the Royal Artillery Institution in Woolwich, England, where they had been cast by brothers J. and H. King.

This particular pair was reportedly used to fire a royal salute June 21, 1897 on Queen Victoria’s diamond jubilee and was placed in the park in 1899 by Westmount Lodge, Sons of England.

## Centenarian Silver celebrates



Centenarian Anna Lee Silver (née Tritt) was born May 10, 1911 in Montreal. She is now a resident of Manoir Westmount. Among other parties to celebrate her birthday, Silver enjoyed a tea party held for her at the seniors’ home on May 25. She received roses and a card signed by staff and residents. According to Simona Buth, the home’s leisure department supervisor, “Mrs. Silver enjoys afternoon tea and the various special parties we have throughout the year.” Photo: Ralph Thompson

Centre Greene summer day camp still has spaces in all age groups. Registration is on now. [www.centregreene.org](http://www.centregreene.org).

## Comin’ Up

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

Urban gardening teacher, Westmounter and *Independent* columnist **Marci Babineau** gives an illustrated presentation on “Edible landscape, eating local,” 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. Free admission, donations invited.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

• “**Stones and Beer Bike Tour**,” from 4 pm to about 8:30 pm. A bike trip that explores fossils and rocks, architecture and secret spots in Montreal’s building stones. Tour starts at the Redpath Museum, travels west to Westmount and ends in Griffintown. Cost: \$25 adult \$15 senior or student; \$10 child. Includes booklet, 5 microbrews (or juice), bread, fruit and cheese. Cyclists only. Reserve: 514.398.4094 or [science.outreach@mcgill.ca](mailto:science.outreach@mcgill.ca).

• **John Felvinci** on “Modern Anti-Semitism,” 1 pm; lunch served at 12 noon at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim – 425 Metcalfe Ave. entrance. Cost: \$5 for lunch and lecture. Reserve: 514.937.9471, ext. 139.

MONDAY, JUNE 13

• **ArtNow** speakers: painter Lorna Mulligan and animation artist Samantha Youssef, at the Westmount Public Library, 7 pm. Free.

• **Alison Wearing**, author of *Honeymoon in Purdah: An Iranian Journey*, speaks at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 7 pm. Cost: \$15. Reserve: 514.342.1234, ext. 7201.

• “**The voice of the cantor – from shtetl to stage**,” conducted by Stephen Glass at 7:30 pm at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim. Cost: \$20. Reserve: 514.937.9471, ext. 139.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

**Good Neighbourly Relations Committee** re: new hospital at Glen Yards meets from 7 pm to 8:30 pm at the Glen site. Special instructions are needed to access the site.

Info: [construction@muhc.mcgill.ca](mailto:construction@muhc.mcgill.ca), or visit [www.muhc.ca/construction](http://www.muhc.ca/construction).

• **Westmount Horticultural Society** presents speaker Rose Marie Smith on small city gardens, 7 pm to 9 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Free admission for WHS members; \$5 for guests. See story same page.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Author **Mary Soderstrom** leads the Atwater Library Book Club in a discussion of *The Lacuna* by Barbara Kingsolver, 7:30 pm at the Atwater Library.

## WHS features talk on creating a new garden

A firsthand account of creating a garden out of what amounted to a construction site will be presented at the June 14 meeting of the Westmount Horticultural Society. The event takes place at the Westmount Public Library starting at 7 pm.

Speaker and gardener Rose Marie Smith will relate her trials and tribulations related to the destruction of her garden through renovations to her home and the subsequent regrading of the property.

In her presentation, “A River Runs Through It,” Smith will explain how to work from a clean slate to create a water feature, install a pondless stream, lay paths and create a small private patio.

“Her process from design to execution to fruition will help us discover how splendid a small city garden can be,” said president Sally Cooke.

The event is open to friends of members and other interested persons at a cost of \$5. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

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Notice is hereby given that the 113th Annual Meeting of **NOVA Montreal** (formerly VON Montreal Inc.)

will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 310 Victoria Avenue, Suite 403, Westmount, Quebec.

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# Pressure

continued from p. 1

weeks ago in the portion of Westmount that receives its water from Montreal's "orange" distribution network.

This serves the territory south of an east-west diagonal of Clarke line formed by Sherbrooke to the east and Côte St. Antoine to the west (see story May 24, p. 1).

Duffield said he knows of at least three Westmount buildings where problems were encountered, including pressure release valves that were activated on hot water tanks.

The defective Decarie valve added about 10 pounds per square inch (psi) of water pressure to a previous increase of 15 psi that had resulted when Montreal's Closse pumping station was activated in November.

This produced a combined rise in pressure of some 25 psi over the "historical past," Duffield said. In some cases, this boosted pressure to 135 psi. The Canadian plumbing code recommends 80 psi.

While Duffield had been putting his own pressure on Montreal to resolve the problem, he said it was only when he met recently with Montreal's water officials on another matter that he learned they had tracked down the source of the additional increase. "Their efforts have borne fruit," he said. "Relief is in sight."

The initial increase in November resulting from the Closse pumping station is also expected to be resolved this September, Duffield said. That's when Montreal is expected to complete water network repair work on Pine Ave. and will no longer need to use the Closse stand-by station.



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# Former Westmount notary Toone now in parliament

By ISAAC OLSON

Philip Toone, formerly of Durso & Toone Notaries, is one of Quebec's 58 new members of parliament who were swept up in what has been dubbed the orange crush by some and the orange wave by others.

Now representing the Gaspésie-Îles de la Madeleine riding, Toone, who never lived in Westmount but worked in the city for at least three years, said he will be focused on protecting his riding's vast natural resources.

"Our number one issue out here is protecting the environment," said Toone in a phone interview.

"Drilling in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is a big concern. Very big. We really have to do our homework to make sure that, if we are going to start drilling for oil, we're going to do it in a safe, respectful way."

## Rural/maritime riding

Representing a very rural maritime community with a population of just under 100,000, Toone cited unemployment, fisheries and the seal hunt as some of the hot political topics in his riding but, after living in the region for a number of



Philip Toone

years, he said he is "up to the challenge."

Unlike many of his fellow NDP representatives who have been described as young and inexperienced, Toone, at 46, said he has been involved with politics all his life, and it was his second time running in the riding.

He said he has long volunteered for and eventually ran under the NDP banner because it is a party he believes in. Now, after beating the Bloc's Daniel Côté by 777 votes, he'll be spending a lot of time in the very city he grew up in – Ottawa.

"I don't think that, in the end, we expected there would be so much support for the NDP, but I'm certainly very happy with the way it turned out."

The former Rotary Club of Westmount member, who has lived in both the Gaspé and Montreal region on and off, is reported to be one of five openly gay MPs out of 308. Toone said he may also be the first MP to be elected while already in a same-sex marriage. (In 2007, Nova Scotia MP Scott Brison became the first federal politician to marry his same-sex partner while in office).

"There's actually a lot of similarities, oddly enough, between the Gaspé and Westmount," said Toone, noting he once had an apartment on the western side of Claremont in NDG and still visits the "beautiful" Westmount Park on occasion. "Obviously the language is different, but it's got that same sense of community and that's one of the things I loved about Westmount. People really band together, and they try to protect their heritage."

# A mother's wish list



## Parenthood Uncensored

SOPHIE TARNOWSKA

Summer is almost here – soggy as it may be – and with it, the days stretch out and our worlds expand, spreading from the confines of our homes into parks and onto sidewalks. The playgrounds shudder under the weight of kids swinging, running, bouncing, chasing the winter from their bones, way past the time when we would normally be putting them to bed.

For me, this is when parenting becomes fun again – no more snowsuits, no more soggy boots and frozen fingers. No more planning every outing like a commando operation, no more rushing. Enduring turns to enjoying.

Early summer means spontaneous picnics, ice-cream-before-dinner, bump-into-friends weather. In fact, my daughter and I have bumped into many friends recently – a lovely group of Roslyn mums who move in a chattering, blonde-haired pack and share Goldfish crackers at the drop of a hat. Last week we found ourselves hanging out at Murray Park, wishing we were holding mojitos as we watched our kids played nearby...and we created this if-we-were-in-charge-of-the-world wish list as mature adults often do.

## Wish list

Westmount soccer season is about teaching our kids the value of team work, but it's as much a social event for parents as an activity for our kids. Why can't we have an evening drink as we watch team Iceland score into its own net? Mojito pop-sicles, anyone? Vodka cranberry freezies? C'mon, we could even donate the money to a charity for endangered somethings.

While we're at it, couldn't some deli stop by with a cooler full of homemade-just-not-by-me dinner options? EatZ Encore could make a killing selling their shepherd's pies or eggplant aubergine to mojito-addled parents who, like me, can't start cooking a decent meal at 7:30 pm – unless by "decent" you mean pizza.

One last soccer-related idea: how about a trainer for parents while we watch our kids play soccer? The matches are an hour long, so I suggest a 30-minute boot camp session at one end of the pitch, where our children can still see us. Most of us get yelled at by our kids for not paying enough attention to their games anyway, "Mama! Why are you talking so much instead of watching me?" We may as well work on acquiring buns of steel while our little ones work on not running straight into each other.

Supermarket checkout aisles are notorious for trying to lure us into last minute purchases. For parents, it's like running the sugar gauntlet from hell – prying a Kinder egg from your wailing child's hands while a line-up of Smug Singles Sans Rug Rats looks on (with carts full of gourmet items we parents can no longer fit into our Kraft-dinner stuffed cupboards). This is why some of us make our own impulse purchases across the street at the SAQ. How about displaying shiny red apples and bright veggies, yes, *healthy* snacks in the checkout aisle? Well, it is a wish list.

Speaking of the SAQ, my daughter and I stopped in recently on our way to the toy store where she had planned to spend her hard-earned allowance of \$3 a week. She was so annoyed by the detour that as soon as we walked in, she shouted, "Mummy, I am NOT spending my allowance on your wine!" Good times. If you were there, please note that no, I do not dip into my child's allowance – except for the time when I did – because I had no tooth fairy money to leave under her pillow.

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# Mulroney co-hosts Table of Hope for second year



*Social Notes  
from Westmount  
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmounter Mila Mulroney co-chaired the annual Table of Hope for a second time May 9 with Quebec media celeb Julie Snyder.

Held at the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel, the evening attracted almost 1,000 people. The popular (and delicious!) event



Mila Mulroney (centre) surrounded by her children, their spouses and grandchildren.

featured 40 of Montreal's top restaurants, which volunteered staff, time and food for the cause.

Formerly called Taste of the Nation, Table of Hope proceeds, which amounted to \$125,000, were donated to Share the Warmth, a non-profit organization in Point St. Charles whose programs help provide children with food and school supplies, as well as offer tutoring and funds to deserving students.

Mulroney's family travelled from Toronto in celebration of her 16th year supporting this event.

**Ben Mulroney** (attending with his wife **Jessica Brownstein**) brought his *etalk* practised poise to the podium as emcee; **Mark Mulroney** (wearing stylish sky blue socks!) attended with his wife **Vanessa**, and **Caroline Mulroney Lapham** attended with her exceptionally well-behaved children, Lewis, Miranda, and twins Theodora and Pierce.



Mulroney pointed out to the applauding audience that "one is never too young to start to volunteer."

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**Tour de l'île riders needed caution on Claremont**



Riders in the Tour de l'île public cycling event made their way last Sunday (June 5) down the steepest incline in the bike rally – Claremont Ave. in Westmount. While most people navigating down the hill did so safely, police and Public Security reported a small number of accidents in which bicyclists fell or collided with other riders. As a precautionary measure, Urgences Santé stationed a crew at the corner of Claremont and Sherbrooke.  
Photo: Martin C. Barry

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## Piping in some Churchill fans



Black Watch Regiment piper Alec McGuckin pipes in International Churchill Society Canada's Montreal chapter president, Westmounter Bruce Kippen, Randolph Churchill (the great-grandson of Sir Winston Churchill) and the society's Canadian chair Randy Barber during the chapter's inaugural dinner gathering at the University Club May 13. Randolph Churchill was the guest speaker at the

packed event where he spoke about Sir Winston's early life. For more information on the local chapter, contact Bruce Kippen at 514-933-3575, and to learn more about the society, visit [www.winstonchurchillcanada.ca](http://www.winstonchurchillcanada.ca).

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

### Loose dog taken to SPCA

A black and white shitzhu was reported to have been taken to the SPCA May 30 by Public Security after the dog was found running loose at 8:47 am in the area of 577 Grosvenor Ave.

Calls were made without response to several numbers listed on two collar tags, but the dog bore no licence that would have provided additional information, officials said. The dog was taken to the animal shelter at 9:50 am in the hopes the owner would be calling there to find it.

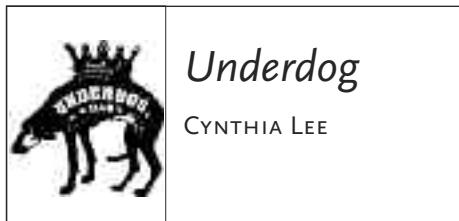
### Barking dog brings \$75 ticket

The owner of a dog on Murray Ave. was issued a \$75 ticket May 24 after a resident on Forden Ave. called Public Security at 6:50 pm to complain about barking. Officers reported hearing the small dog as soon as they neared the house. It was apparently trying to get inside sliding doors. The resident has been issued several warnings on previous occasions, according to Public Security officials.

### Painted line on Greene a mistake

Traces of a street line painted in error at Greene and Sherbrooke have been difficult to remove, according to Public Works officials. The line suggests that Greene is a two-way street. It was painted by contractors doing overnight line painting in Westmount more than a week ago.

## Sheena, queen of the jungle



Sheena was plucked away from her mum and siblings much too early for her own good. In fact, she was so little when she was spirited away that she didn't have the chance to properly develop her social skills.



Sheena

Through no fault of her own, this decision has left Sheena at a disadvantage. She is the type of dog who – without malice – mouths on people, dogs and things because she hasn't been taught proper behaviour.

Sheena is full of energy, which hasn't yet been channelled into displays of acceptable behaviour towards people and other canines.

The good news is there is not a mean bone in this gorgeous puppy – in fact she has a huge heart, filled with goodness.

She is also incredibly smart and has shown promise to be an excellent dog for the right people. The socialization she lacks can be corrected with the proper training and owners who are willing to invest the energy and love into this very worthwhile character.

Because Sheena is only a puppy, she is high energy and requires exercise such as long walks or off-leash runs on a daily basis. When she reaches her full maturity, Sheena will be around 50 lbs.

An active household is sought for her with older kids. Other dogs would be okay too – but they need to be confident enough to show her the ropes.

Are you in the market for the full package – smarts and looks? Sheena has them both in spades. For more information, email: [contact@underdogclub.org](mailto:contact@underdogclub.org).

*The Underdog Club is the first-ever volunteer marketing agency servicing rescue organizations to help find homes for hard-to-place dogs – the old, the ugly or the unpopular. Visit [www.underdogclub.org](http://www.underdogclub.org).*

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# Westmount vous informe...

## Westmount Page

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Vol. 5/11

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### HÔTEL DE VILLE

#### Horaire d'été en vigueur

Veillez noter que les bureaux administratifs de l'hôtel de ville, du Victoria Hall, d'Hydro Westmount, et des Services des travaux publics, des sports et loisirs et de la sécurité publique (y compris le bureau des permis de stationnement) seront ouverts du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h. Cet horaire est en vigueur du 6 juin jusqu'au 26 août. De plus, la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount sera fermée le dimanche du 12 juin au 4 septembre et la Galerie du Victoria Hall sera fermée le dimanche du 22 mai au 11 septembre.  
Info : 514 989-5200. 🌿



### ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

#### Exposition

La galerie du Victoria Hall présente *Chez soi !*, une exposition d'œuvres de jeunes en collaboration avec le Centre des arts visuels et le Concours littéraire McEntyre du 26 mai au 17 juin. Info : 514 989-5521.

#### Fête de la Saint-Jean 2011

Fêtez la Saint-Jean le 23 juin au parc Westmount avec un programme aussi varié qu'amusant. La compagnie Artiflette présente « La Famille Fanelli », un amalgame de cirque, musique et théâtre dans un univers rocambolesque pour un voyage à travers l'Italie et les générations. De plus, *Boréal Tordu*, un groupe de musiciens de souche franco-américaine provenant de l'état de Maine, présente un concert de musique acadienne et québécoise selon leur tradition 'Maineique.' Apportez-vous un pique-nique à partir de 17 h ou achetez une collation sur les lieux. La soirée se terminera par un grand feu de joie à 21 h ! En cas de pluie les activités se tiendront au Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest. Info : 514 989-5226. 🌿



### BIBLIOTHÈQUE

#### Cercle de lecture

Aucune liste de lecture imposée et aucune date limite, seulement des discussions au sujet des livres que vous avez lus ! Notre prochaine date de rencontre est le mardi 14 juin à 10 h 15. Info : 514 989-5386.

### DATES À RETENIR

#### Le 1<sup>er</sup> juillet à midi

Fête du Canada - BBQ et Splash Bash  
Piscine de Westmount

#### Le 4 juillet à 20 h

Séance du conseil  
Hôtel de ville



#### Conférences à 14 heures

Veillez-vous joindre à nous pour un après-midi en compagnie de Lora Baiocco, bibliothécaire – Services en ligne et archives. Elle donnera une conférence le mercredi 15 juin à 14 h sur les technologies les plus populaires qui changent le monde dans lequel nous vivons. Info : 514 989-5386.

#### Conférences Culturelles

Victor Breedon a passé un mois à voyager en autobus et en train à travers le nord de l'Inde, visitant des palais et des temples. Puis, il enfourcha un vélo et couvrit plus de 800 kilomètres dans le sud de l'Inde à travers des plantations de thé jusqu'au pays des éléphants et des tigres. Veuillez vous joindre à Victor qui racontera son voyage extraordinaire le mercredi 15 juin à 19 h. Info : 514 989-5386.

#### Les vendredis du cinéma

Avez-vous une passion pour le cinéma? Alors notre club de film est tout à fait pour vous ! Joignez-vous à nous le vendredi 17 juin à 19 h pour regarder un excellent film et ensuite en discuter. Âges 13+. Info : 514 989-5386.

#### Club de lecture vacances

Ohé! Moussaillon! Allez, pars avec nous à l'aventure, découvre des histoires de naufrages, de pirates, de voyages vers les îles lointaines, des récits de tempêtes, de vagues et de vent, des contes de sirènes et de monstres marins. 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 – il y aura des prix fantastiques à gagner.

#### Chief Topleaf: Comment vivaient les autochtones avec l'eau il y a 500 ans?

Venez entendre le chief Topleaf vous raconter des histoires et des faits amusants le jeudi 9 juin à 16 h. Activité pour toute la famille. (6 ans et plus)  
Info : 989-5229. 🌿



### CITY HALL

#### Summer hours in effect

Please note that Westmount's administrative offices in City Hall, Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount, Public Works, Recreation and Public Security (including the Parking Permits Office) 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. This schedule is in effect from June 6 to August 26, 2011. Westmount Public Library will be closed on Sundays from June 12 to September 4 inclusively. The Gallery at Victoria Hall will be closed on Sundays from May 22 to September 11 inclusively. 🌿



### COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### Exhibition

The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present *Home!*, a youth art exhibition in association with the Visual Arts Centre and the McEntyre Creative Writing Competition from May 26 until June 17, 2011. Info: 514 989-5521.

#### Fête de la Saint-Jean 2011

Celebrate Saint-Jean on June 23 in Westmount Park with *la compagnie Artiflette* presenting *La Famille Fanelli*, a circus musical comedy for all ages that will take you on an imaginary journey through time via Italy. Then *Boréal Tordu* presents a concert of traditional Acadian and Québécois music as passed down to them from their Franco-American parents from the state of Maine. Bring your picnic from 5 p.m., or purchase refreshments at the park. The traditional Saint-Jean bonfire will close the evening at 9 p.m. In case of rain, the activities will take place at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke Street West. Info: 514 989-5226. 🌿



### LIBRARY

#### Readers to Readers Book Club

Join our morning book club with a twist. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 14 at 10:15 a.m. to talk about great books recently read.  
Info: 514 989-5386.

### DATEBOOK

#### July 1<sup>st</sup> at noon

Canada Day BBQ & Splash Bash  
Westmount Pool

#### July 4 at 8 p.m.

Council Meeting  
City Hall



#### 2 O'Clock Series

Join Lora Baiocco, Online Services and Archives Librarian on Wednesday, June 15 at 2 p.m. for this presentation of the most popular technological trends that are revolutionizing the world we live in. Info: 514 989-5386.

#### Cultural Lecture Series

Victor Breedon spent one month in northern India travelling by bus and train visiting palaces and temples. He then hopped on a bicycle and travelled over 800 kilometres in southern India through tea plantations and into tiger and elephant country. Join Victor as he shares his amazing journey with us on Wednesday, June 15 at 7 p.m. Info 514 989-5386.

#### Friday Film Club

Do you have a passion for film? If so, our Film Club is for you! Join us on Friday, June 17 at 7:00 p.m. to view an outstanding film and then discuss it afterwards. Age 13+  
Info: 514 989-5386.

#### Summer Reading Club

Ahoy mateys! Come read about far away islands, rogue pirates, mysterious mermaids and sly sea serpents as we celebrate water this summer. 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 Reading Kit at the Children's Desk – you'll earn great prizes!

#### Chief Topleaf: How the Native People Lived with Water 500 Years Ago

Join storyteller Chief Topleaf on Thursday, June 9 at 4 p.m. for an afternoon of stories and fun facts for the whole family. (6 years +) Info : 989-5229. 🌿

# High winds topple trees, wreak havoc



Looking west, the scene on Westmount Ave. June 1 between 8:30 and 8:45 pm.

Photo: Ted Sancton

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

June came in with a huge roar to Westmount in the mid-afternoon June 1. Heavy winds toppled trees and ripped off branches that smashed cars, blocked streets and brought down electrical wires.

The city's Public Security dispatcher logged 36 locations throughout Westmount as reports of trees or limbs were

called in to the security force and Public Works. No injuries were reported.

Officers attended at the locations that appeared to present the most danger. At one home on Grosvenor north of Westmount Ave., residents were advised not to sleep in a bedroom near where a large limb seemed poised to break off.

Westmount Ave. was closed across from Murray Park around 7:50 pm when a



High winds on June 1 caused a large section of a maple tree to fall into the Hallowell St. community gardens around 8 pm. Robert Michel reports that Luis Lopez (shown above) made a narrow escape from a huge branch that came crashing down inches from where he was tying his tomato plants. He reportedly sensed danger just moments before and even anticipated how the branches might fall. To the relief of other gardeners, he emerged with only a scratch.

Photo: Robert Michel

huge tree fell across the street, demolishing a Honda Accord belonging to a resident of the state of Georgia. The car had been parked in front of 4387 Westmount.

Another fallen tree at the northwest corner of Mount Stephen and Sherbrooke completely blocked Mount Stephen

around 3:36 pm as it stretched from one sidewalk to the other, said Public Security assistant director Greg McBain.

Hydro wires also were pulled down in the lane behind 4045 Sherbrooke by parts of a large tree falling from 135 Clendene.

## Lovely cats looking for homes from Montreal Vet Hospital



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

There are two beautiful cats in boarding at the Montreal Veterinary Clinic on Victoria Ave., and you are most welcome to drop by to visit them and consider them for adoption.

Vagabond is an 18-month-old short-haired grey striped fellow. He's a young healthy cat with lots of affection to share, a sweet disposition and a playful view of life. Vagabond has had all his shots and has been neutered. He is ready for a new family, so please drop by to meet him.

Pretty Joyalle is a white short-haired kitten with a few artistic characteristics like her head and tail, which look like they've been painted and two post-modern-like multi-coloured accents on her back.

Her beautiful green eyes are a striking contrast to her calico-coloured markings. She is under a year of age and is quite healthy. Joyalle has had all her shots and has just been spayed. She is playful and affectionate, and shows her contentment



Joyalle

by purring when she is cuddled.

Joyalle would fit into a family routine very easily – as soon as possible would be the best!

Please feel free to drop by to visit or en-

quire about these cats at the Montreal Veterinary Hospital, located at 324 Victoria Ave. or contact Joan for more information at 514.489.8217 or animots@sympatico.ca.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



Vagabond

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## Recycled bikes from Westmount headed for developing countries



Supporters of a bicycle recycling group called Cyclonordsud, from left, Westmounter Georges Hébert, Étienne Lafortune and Glenn Rubenstein, hold up a few of the two-wheelers that were brought in by donors for a collection they held during Westmount's Family Day on May 28. A total of seven bikes was collected. The group, which is active in Quebec and Ontario, ships used bicycles to developing countries in many parts of the world.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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## Art scene in Westmount

continued from p. 17

quent figures are world renown. Sculpted in bronze or cast iron, her subjects evoke a human spirit that is both vulnerable and regenerative.

Crafted with rich patinas and androgynous in form, her subjects recall both classic heroes and contemporary models.

The large figure of "Bronze #81" is clothed in a tunic both modern and ancient. The subject's slumped shoulders and downward gaze suggest a myriad of emotions – reflection, doubt, shame or sadness. In these works, posture and pose relay personal drama.

In "Bronze #72," a figure squats with one hand raised. A simple and common pose, the context is interestingly ambiguous. In another, "Bronze #69," a figure emerges from wing-shaped stone. Con-

veying a personal metamorphosis, the artist suggests regeneration and self-determination.

Beautiful in grey, green and brown hues, these figures convey the duality of estrangement and hopeful autonomous action. Beaumont's timeless classics are on display June 4 to 15 at 1367 Greene Ave.

Beaumont's figures recall moments common to all our lives, while Cerrado's dissonant subjects evoke life's great themes. But both invite storytelling and reflection, and offer the viewer a memorable experience.

### Electronic Independents available

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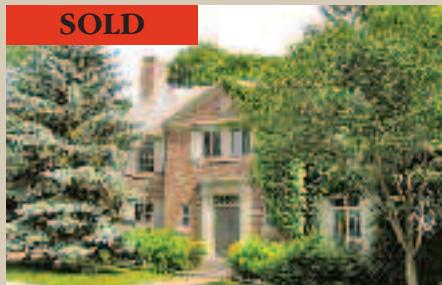
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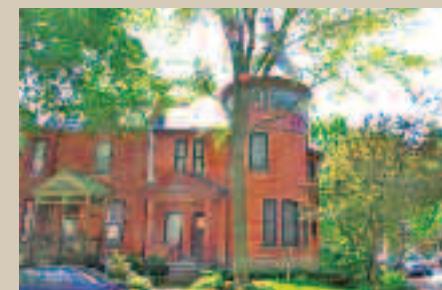
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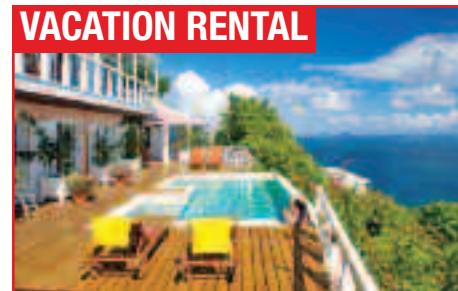
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