

Pool excavation to start this week, Martin says after tour

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Excavation for the new pool hopefully is to start this week, said Councillor Patrick Martin April 4 after a visit to the Westmount recreation centre site. Monday or Tuesday were the dates he was given and confirmed to the *Independent* the next day by site health and safety officer, Eric Robert.

The news came only two days after pool users expressed concerns at the city council meeting April 2 over a lack of response from contractor Pomerleau Inc. to enquiries about pool opening dates.

Pool user Catherine Bond reminded council that it was a month since she had

written to president Pierre Pomerleau.

"I'm disappointed because I never received a response, and all I can think is he isn't ready to give me a response because he doesn't have an answer for me ... not the answer I want to hear that everything's on time."

Mayor Peter Trent said the city was looking at its legal rights in this regard. He was also considering the possibility of personally contacting Pomerleau, a Westmount resident, to follow up on why there had been no reply.

"I don't know what else I can tell you," he told questioners. "We want to get this done on time," but the city wants to make sure *continued on p. 23*

Gone with the wind



Photo courtesy of CTV News

High winds topple this tree on Melbourne near the corner of Melville April 1. See story, p. 10.

Don't miss it: City of Westmount blood donor clinic, Wed., April 10. See p. 28.

Long road ahead for any bike path on Côte road

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Cyclists hoping for a new Westmount bike path this summer along Côte St. Antoine Rd. found out April 2 they instead face a long and possibly bumpy road ahead.

While the first steps were taken at the city council meeting toward commissioning a study on bike paths by approving an evaluation system for the selection of professionals to do the work, it is only the start of a lengthy process and "public approval," Mayor Peter Trent stated.

"We've asked over and over for council to provide a Côte St. Antoine bike path,"

said Marilyn Gillies of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association (WWCA), urging the city to build one by June 1.

"It cannot be built by June 1," Trent stated emphatically.

Many decisions had to be made first, including a design to be submitted to the public. "What would it look like?" Trent said. "The people will have a say. So if citizens don't like the changes, they will vote it down."

While the city's master traffic plan tabled a month ago recommends the Côte road as one of several possible new bike paths, city *continued on p. 11*

City won't replace RF hydro meters with non-RF versions, after all. See p. 7.

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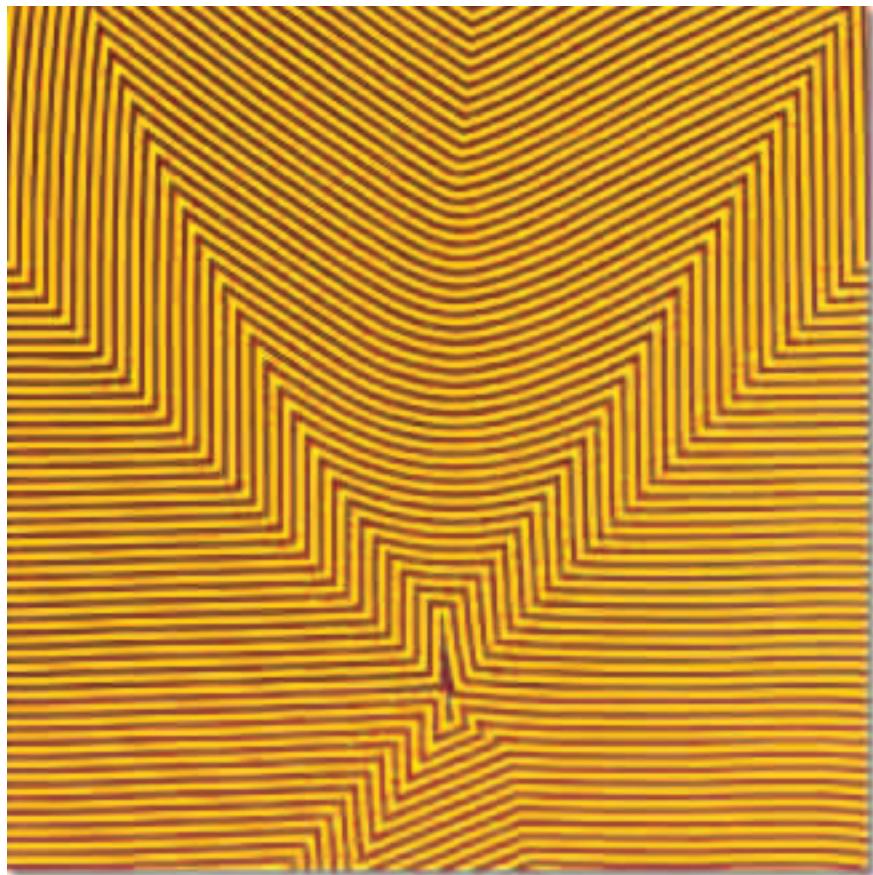


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Westmount Art Scene

Slonem and Adam – the art of creative patterns

BY HEATHER BLACK

Hunt Slonem’s birds, butterflies and rabbits come to life at Galerie de Bellefeuille. And, at Galerie V. Trimont, paintings by Baharaddin Adam reflect African and Arab motifs. With colourful and repeated forms, pattern dominates these two Westmount exhibits.

Slonem at Galerie de Bellefeuille

This New Yorker’s large canvases of birds and butterflies are always fresh and magical. His distinctive, thick brushstrokes create patterns of colour and shape. In “Dufresne,” parrots vibrate in ribbed yellow, green and blue against a red background. Set on horizontal lines in an asymmetric design, the birds radiate energy and vitality.

In another image of parrots “Blue-pearls,” large, colourful orbs are placed throughout the composition. The ribbed, painted texture adds a mirage effect and contributes to the pattern. And with Easter just past, Slonem’s rabbits, deserve men-

tion. “Rose,” painted exuberantly as a grey outline on pink, projects spontaneity and fun.

Butterflies are also a subject for Slonem’s designing eye. Often painted in yellow, red and blue, “Untitled Ascension” is almost monochromatic. With white butterflies outlined in dark blue rhythmically placed within a pale blue background, an atmosphere of peaceful bliss prevails.

A master of pattern, Slonem creates art that is both decorative and memorable. This exhibit runs April 6 to 16 at 1367 Greene Ave.

Adam at Galerie V. Trimont

A new Montrealer, Baharaddin Adam creates work that reflects the patterns of his Sudanese homeland. In the series “Al Nushoug” (journey home), vibrant African or Arabic motifs combine with modern icons to create a blend of old and new.

In this series, Adam uses pattern to identify his African roots within a Muslim culture. In one composition, a Bagara tribesman *continued on p. 25*



Hunt Slonem “Dufresne”

NEWS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEETING, APRIL 2

City adopts Hydro-Quebec's rate increase

Hurtubise appointed to head Hydro Westmount

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council April 2 appointed a former manager from the private sector to head Hydro Westmount.

He is Benoît Hurtubise, an electrical engineer with an MBA degree specializing in project management, who has spent 25 years with Schneider Electric Canada and, latterly, Emerson Electric (formerly Nortel).

Westmount's electrical utility has been without a director since the contract with

the previous head, Pierre Dubé, was not renewed at the end of December. In the in-



Benoît Hurtubise at his appointment by council April 2.

terim, the role has been filled by city director general Duncan Campbell.

Welcoming Hurtubise to the city, Councillor Victor Drury said a selection committee chose him unanimously out of six

candidates interviewed. There were a total of 18 people who applied. Hurtubise had also been evaluated by an outside consultant.

"I'm looking forward *continued on p. 28*

More council news,
p. 5, 8, 11

City gets one comment, so far, on master traffic plan

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

An e-mail account set up by the city a month ago for residents to comment on the master traffic plan had generated only one comment, Mayor Peter Trent reported at the city council meeting April 2. The number remained unchanged the next day, city director general Duncan Campbell confirmed.

The lone commentator revealed his identity during question period. It is Jon Breslaw.

Other than in news coverage (see March 12, p. 3), the only other mention of the time allotted for residents' comments appeared on the city website. City director

general Duncan Campbell said last week that the information would now be added to the city's infoWestmount advertisement.

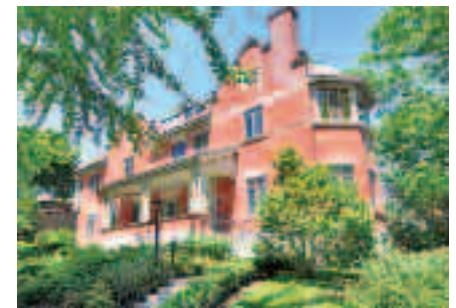
Councillor Theodora Samiotis reminded those in attendance at the meeting that residents had until the end of the month to provide feedback on the draft plan tabled for citizen review March 4 (see March 12, p. 1). The plan was for council to study the comments and adopt a final version.

People may access the e-mail account from the city's website or mail their comments to city hall. The plan may also be consulted on the website and at Westmount Public Library.

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Council writes off \$48,100 in bad debts

City council April 2 wrote off \$48,100 in “non-recoverable” Hydro Westmount bills in 2008. They would be accounted for as operating expenses for 2012, said Councillor Tim Price, Finance commissioner.

While the bad debts went without comment at the meeting, Price later said that “typically they’re a function of people moving and businesses going defunct.” In the latest list, four amounts were greater than \$2,000, “which took me aback,” he said.

The latest write-offs (for 2008) of \$42,600 before tax compare with those of \$40,200 for 2007.

“While it would be better to collect them, the amounts are not that significant,” Price explains. Noting that write-offs have been creeping up, Price points out that “most businesses have this problem, and it is not out of control at Hydro Westmount. But you wonder how we could police it better.” – LS

Pear tree, partridge not included

A hardy pear tree will be offered for the first time this year in the city’s free tree distribution program for spring planting within Westmount. Residents have from April 8 to 30 to apply for one of three species. Other choices are the ironwood or Canadian serviceberry.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham announced the program at the city council meeting April 2 stating the fruit tree would be a plum but later told the *Independent* it was to be a pear. Most likely, the variety will be a Flemish beauty. Since this variety of pear is in scarce supply, an equally hardy, disease resistant, self-pollinating pear may be substituted if required.

Applications may be made online through the city website or on forms available at city hall and Westmount Public Library. – LS

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– In parliament on her last day as British prime minister (November 22, 1990)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ANYONE ELSE SEEN A BALD EAGLE AROUND THESE PARTS?

On March 13, I was sitting on my balcony hoping to see Canada geese, which I did – three flocks.

All of a sudden, I saw a very black bird flying very high. I picked up my binoculars and there it was: a marvellous bald eagle.

It kept on circling overhead, and I was delighted to observe it for so long.

I am wondering if anyone has ever seen one around Westmount.

MICHELINE FONTAINE, HILLSIDE AVE.

EXAMINING POOL SCHEDULE

An alarm has rung amongst Westmount swimmers as to the date of birth of our new swimming pool.

It is my understanding that work on the pool has yet to begin and blame belongs with Pomerleau, according to the councillor responsible for the project, Patrick Martin.

Pomerleau contract documents [dated February 2, 2012] for the arena project contained a preliminary construction schedule. According to the schedule, the pool was to be delivered on May 31, 2013. However, a series of key dates were missed last year for the fulfillment of that requirement. These include:

- The decontamination and excavation of

the swimming pool area by 2012-07-18;

- The piling works by 2012-08-29 *;
- The embankments and exterior works of the swimming area by 2012-11-02.

Who approved of these schedule changes? Surely Councillor Martin, Mayor Peter Trent and the city's project coordinator Mike Deegan must have known and given their approvals?

Instead of feigning shock and indignation, Mr. Martin was in a position last summer or even before, to inform the Dolphins swim club and other swimmers of the probable loss of another swim season.

DAVID LUDMER, GROSVENOR AVE.

* Ed.'s note: At the council meeting of April 2, Councillor Martin said that there was no piling work left to be done.

OPEN LETTER TO MAYOR TRENT AND CITY COUNCIL

We appreciate efforts made by the city of Westmount to mitigate problems created by the condo construction at 215 Redfern. However, despite these efforts, we residents still experience, on a daily basis:

- being woken between 5:15 and 7 am by workers arriving at the site and preparing for their day – often noisily – even if they are not officially “working;”
- heavy trucks that frequently drive onto the sidewalk, where we

and our children walk; *continued on p. 21*

Dolphins ready to dive in



Some Dolphins swim team members, coaches and parents showed up March 30 to take part in a mock ground-breaking at the arena/pool project site. In an e-mail to the Independent, parent Nancy Nelson explained “We are so eager to swim in the new pool that we brought along some shovels to get going on the ground-breaking. We also dug up a “no swimming” sign for a bit of irony ... The Dolphins are looking forward to their 20th season this year. Started in 1994 by Barbara Houghton and Claire Chant, I think I am the longest-standing parent still involved (this will be my 16th year). Coaches Skyler Wittman and Hannah Trineer-Roberts [pictured above], have been with the team since they were 6 or so, and Margarita Jones was practically born on the pool deck and swam her first races last year at the age of 6.”

Photo courtesy of Nancy Nelson

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Loch Ness emerging from arena?



Looking north from St. Catherine St. March 31, a pile of blackened snow on the site of the new arena/pool complex creates an eerie shape in contrast to the sharp lines of the main tower of Westmount Park United Church in the background.

Photo courtesy of Sam Beitel

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City won't be exchanging RF meters after all

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

New information has come to light in the last week regarding the replacing of radiofrequency (RF) meters being installed by Hydro Westmount.

It now appears that the city will not on request replace these with older non-RF versions at a cost of \$46 as reported last week, according to Councillor Patrick Martin, commissioner of Utilities and Public Works (see April 2, p. 1).

While Martin had said that the city has a good stock of the older non-RF meters on hand, it turns out that these are ones that were removed from service because they had reached their life span under government regulations.

"I spoke too soon," he said. "I understand in fact that there is no provision for us to replace meters and to charge for it under the *continued on p. 26*

Pavilion going up



The entrance pavilion to the Westmount recreation centre, shown April 5, seemed to rise quickly at the end of last week. The secondary exit is to be built this week to the north.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney

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City will rely on province to judge public works bidders' compliancy

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Despite information emerging from the Charbonneau commission, Westmount will depend on Revenue Quebec and provincial monitors to assess whether a contract bidder is compliant with regulations.

Councillor Patrick Martin told the city council meeting April 2 that Westmount cannot act as a judge or the police and does not have the resources to be able to investigate contractor compliance. A company, like a person, is innocent until proven guilty.

The issue was raised by John Fretz of Lansdowne Ave., who asked how Westmount was going to be able to determine if a contractor was operating above board.

Martin, who sits on the Montreal/agglo contracts review committee, said that the provincial government would be passing new legislation to monitor contractors with the intention that in the future "any company wishing to do business with a municipality or the province does so as a

privilege and not a right."

Currently, he explained, to prevent companies from bidding you'd have to prove "beyond a shadow of a doubt" that they were not in compliance, "and even then they could still sue you" as, he said, some were already doing.

Under the new legislation, a company would have to obtain a permit to bid from the provincial government's oversight body, the AMF (l'Autorité des marchés financiers).

This would start with those bidding on contracts of \$40 million or more and eventually working down to those of about \$1 million. Because Westmount generally deals in smaller contracts, "that is not going to happen anytime soon for us." The only way in which Westmount would be affected was if a large company bidding on a major contract elsewhere was deemed not acceptable.

City director general Duncan Campbell added that Westmount currently checks a Revenue Quebec register to ensure it is not dealing with a "blacklisted" company.

Teen section christened



Westmount teens, from left, Cecilia Mueller-Judson, Maxim Bunimovich, Charlotte Durnford-Dionne and Frederick Plante were at the official launch of the "Ados Teens" section of the Westmount Public Library, April 12. The centre has four new touch screen computers, study tables and bright décor. A committee of eight teens has been formed and will meet once a month to provide feedback and ideas for events.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

Youths caught on roof of Royal Bank

Three Westmount youths were among six caught March 31 after Public Security received a call at 5 pm for a group on the roof of the Royal Bank building at Sherbrooke and Victoria.

Officers ordered the six to come down, which they did using the fire escape. They were described as co-operative and their knapsacks were searched to ensure they did not contain markers that could be used for graffiti. Police were called and the group identified.

Public safety officers checked out the roof, no damage was reported and the youths, aged about 17, were released. Three were reported as living on Roslyn, Strathcona and Clarke. The others came from Côte St. Luc, NDG and Bellmore, NY.

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Offline freecycling on Sherbrooke



Photo: Ralph Thompson

Spotted on Sherbrooke St. outside an apartment building April 2, a pair of shoes on the sidewalk lie ready for the taking. A second arrow indicates there may have been a second pair for give-away.

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Sudden winds wreak havoc, uproot large tree on Melbourne

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

It was no April fool's joke: Wind that erupted suddenly in the late afternoon April 1 sent garbage cans flying around the street, knocked over a fence, wrapped a tarpaulin around traffic lights and uprooted a large city tree on Melbourne Ave., Public Security officials said.

The tree was torn right out of the ground just before 5 pm at the northeast corner of Melville across from Westmount Park. It crashed down across Melbourne so far that its branches touched the house on the south side and took out a smaller city tree as it fell.

No serious damage or injury was reported, said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain, who saw the tree when it was down.

Recent work to replace a leaking water service nearby was not found to have damaged the roots or affected the stability of the tree, Public Works director Marianne Zalzal said. "It was just coincidental. The roots showed rot from disease and shearing on their own."

A resident called Public Security to re-

port the incident and public safety officers cordoned off the area. The city's tree gang was called out to clear the road, which was reported accomplished by 8 pm. The pruners then proceeded to cut down a large broken branch at 768 Upper Belmont whose fall had been broken by other branches.

Public Security and Public Works crews were kept busy by many calls of items blown around the streets starting with an alarm ringing at ECS school at 4:47 pm, though it was not immediately known whether or not it had been set off by the wind. No other cause was evident.

"It all happened really fast," McBain said of the many incidents. Among them, a tarpaulin was reported at 5:13 pm to have ripped off the roof of the condo building at the worksite at 215 Redfern. The tarp landed on the security fence at the northeast corner of St. Catherine and wrapped around the traffic lights.

At 5:26 pm, a fence blew onto the street in front of 9 Weredale Park and at 5:44 pm the broken branch on Upper Belmont was reported.

See photo, p. 1.



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Côte bike path, cont'd. from p. 1

council has yet to evaluate residents' comments on the master plan due by the end of April and then present its own recommendations, Trent explained.

Proceeding in parallel will be a separate study of bike paths and the preparation of what form a Côte road route might take (see March 12, p. 3). And all that would precede some sort of consultation process

safety barrier for a bike path "ruin the street?"

WWCA president Dan Lambert said he couldn't resist asking how the automobile had affected the long-term nature of the street. (The Côte road used to have two-way traffic and was widened in the 1930s until it was made one-way more than 50 years ago and narrowed in the 1980s.)



Marilynn Gillies again asks council April 2 for a Côte St. Antoine bike path..

yet to be determined.

"We want to move ahead," said Councillor Theodora Samiotis, "but with approval."

"Who would vote?" asked Maureen Kiely of The Boulevard. Council had yet to discuss a process for public approval, Trent answered. "We have to find out what other cities do." While typically Westmount has polled residents of a street where traffic changes are contemplated, Côte St. Antoine "is more than just a local issue," Kiely contended.

Jon Breslaw, a resident of Grosvenor, said a bike path would be incompatible with the road's history and aesthetics. "It is the oldest way in Westmount... a dirt path along the mountainside." And wouldn't a

Heard at council

"Ignorance is bliss."

– Mayor Peter Trent, referring to his recent e-mail-free vacation.

"It doesn't need a plum friend. It will pollinate on its own."

– Councillor Cynthia Lulham on the mating habits of the first fruit tree to be distributed as part of the city's annual spring giveaway.

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Council approves asphalt for use by city's own crews

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount residents won't be asked to vote on whether or not the city should fill its potholes like people in "a neighbouring municipality not far from here," Councillor Patrick Martin said to general laughter at the April 2 meeting of city council.

He was commenting on the purchase of asphalt that council was being asked to approve when he referred to the issue ongoing in Montreal, which is reportedly running out of asphalt for filling potholes by April 15.

"We will not be holding a public consultation on the purchase of asphalt," Martin said. "This council will not be asking citizens' permission for that."

Council unanimously approved the purchase of the year's supply of asphalt from DJL Inc. at a total cost of some \$59,419 including applicable taxes.

According to Public Works director Marianne Zalzal, this is asphalt that city crews may pick up hot from the plant not only for potholes but whenever it is required "for a little repair here and there."

This includes patching sidewalks or small areas where water leaks may have been repaired or just to fix a section of a laneway, for example, she explained. "It's a blanket purchase order so that when we know we have some work to do, we can go and pick it up hot from the plant," she explained.

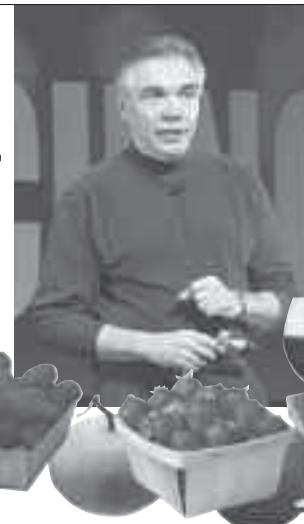
The quotation from DJL Inc. to supply the city with "an annual supply of approximately 670 tonnes of various asphalt mixes for pick-up as required" was the lowest of three. Martin later explained that unlike Montreal, Westmount's supply requirement for asphalt was very small and it was advantageous for the city to pick it up from a nearby plant.

No mention was made of DJL in relation to its name coming up at the Charbonneau commission. The *Gazette* reported on March 12 "The commission examined two witnesses on Tuesday who said their employer, Construction DJL Inc., asked them to front contributions to former mayor Gérald Tremblay's Union Montreal party in the mid-2000s."

See separate story, p. 8.



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Akiva first in WESBL champs



Akiva School's Blue Devils girls' basketball team placed first in the Wolves Elementary School Basketball League (WESBL) championships held during the week of March 18. They beat JPPS elementary school in the finals with a score of 37-20. Cindy Warren, the school's director of communications said "We are also very proud to add that this was the third year in a row that our girls' team has won in this league." WESBL is an independent Jewish elementary school league that includes seven Jewish day schools that compete in boys' and girls' divisions.

Photo courtesy of Akiva

Courtship in Murray Park



The merlins (otherwise known as pigeon hawks) are back. These two were spotted mating in Murray Park, early on April 4, atop one of the old maple trees just above Côte St. Antoine Rd. The pigeon population in the area around the park has been noticeably reduced in the past few years since the merlins took up residence. They have most likely just returned from their winter migration to the east coast.

Photo: Ralph Thompson



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4732 the Boulevard: once St. Omer's farm



History by the house

ANDY DODGE, CRA

The large detached house at the corner of Grosvenor Ave. and The Boulevard sat on a stretch of land once called St. Omer's farm, designated as Lots 218 and 219, which stretched from the lower reaches of

what is now Westmount all the way to the top and into the then-town of Côte des Neiges – just to the east of the vast Hurlbut-DeCarie holdings on the west end of the current city.

William Edmund Phillips, sometimes known as "Schooner" Phillips, reportedly brought "the first cargo of groceries to Montreal, thereafter being engaged in the shipping business," according to the *Gazette's* report of his widow's death in 1928. He was also quite a landowner, including owning these two strips of land as

well as the corner of McGill and des Recollets streets in downtown Montreal, where he had his shipping business, and a large house (now demolished) at the corner of Dorchester Blvd. and Bishop St. He died in 1876, but the two strips of land – 218 below Côte St. Antoine and 219 above – only became interesting to developers following the establishment of the Town of Côte St. Antoine (which later became Westmount) in 1880.

Charles Phillips, son of William, died in 1872, leaving his wife and no children. The rest of the family felt it was important to keep the various properties in the family. Ann Bain, Charles' wife, was forced to sue for her rightful share and the entire matter went to superior court and finally

through the Quebec legislative assembly, which finally reported an *entente* had been reached in 1886, and drew up an order-in-council to recognize it. The will was re-registered in 1889 and a careful description of all the Phillips' property established.

The Westmount Land Company, led by David and William Yuile and George Grier, apparently worked with the family to draw up subdivision plans for the property over the next several years but never took over the property until May of 1899. For undisclosed reasons James Baillie, a real estate agent, paid the Phillips family \$42,860.68 for all of their property, then immediately sold it to Westmount Land Company for exactly the same amount.

In the second deed *continued on p. 27*

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4732 The Boulevard, photographed April 5.

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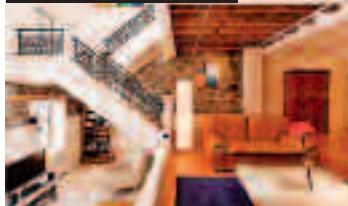
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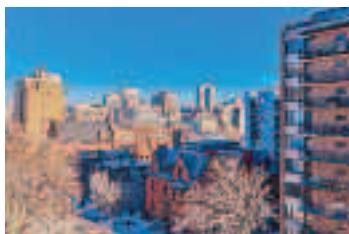
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Man and dog taken safely home

A Public Security patroller went to the assistance of an elderly man holding on to a lamppost March 30 at Lansdowne and Westmount at 11:15 am.

Officials said he had been walking a dog when his knee gave way preventing him from walking further.

Two passers-by walked the dog home nearby while officers transported the man to his house.



4 intercepted after motorcycle pushed over

As a public safety officer was patrolling down Victoria Ave. March 30 just before midnight, he heard a loud crash and discovered a red motorcycle had been pushed over on its side in the street on Sherbrooke in front of the Hogg store, Public Security officials said.

Four young men were seen running west on Sherbrooke and one was followed south on Roslyn while police were called.

The four regrouped and were intercepted by police and public safety officers at Sherbrooke and Vendôme. They were allowed to go on their way after identification since they refused to admit involvement and there were no actual witnesses. They were identified as aged in their early 20s and living in NDG, Ottawa, Point St. Charles and Ville St. Laurent.

When the owner of the vehicle, which bore Nova Scotia licence plates, could not be located, police had it towed away at 1:50 am because it was lying on its side in the street with some possible damage. The owner later called Public Security looking for his motorcycle.

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Devine speaks to St. George's middle school on animal welfare



Photo courtesy of St. George's

St. George's alumna ('97) and director of animal advocacy at the CSPCA, Alanna Devine, left, stands with St. George's head of school James Officer at a March 27 presentation she made to grade 8 and 9 students and parents about animal welfare. In an email to the Independent, Devine wrote "I was honoured to be asked to speak at this series and to share my experience and work with the students of St. George's. The school taught me to be an individual and to always question the status quo and speak out for what I believe in – which is exactly what I do in my job and everyday life. It was heartening to see the students asking questions about animal welfare and animal issues (both companion animals and production animals) and contemplating what they can do in their own lives to make a difference."

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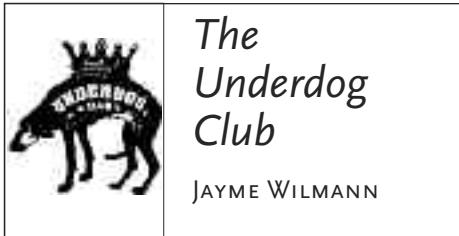


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Sad but sweet is Shawna



*The
Underdog
Club*

JAYME WILMANN

Shawna is an exceptional dog who makes us believe we need to add a category to the three main characteristics of the dogs we write to you about. The sad category.

This pretty, sweet, and physically healthy 4-year-old shepherd mix seems to have only one challenge: she is utterly, completely and exquisitely sad.

Shawna's journey has been a lonely one. Though she is a social and eager-to-please dog – so ripe for adoption – so far she has been looked over and forgotten. The folks at Frontier Animal Society believe she has experienced only solitude, heartache and abandonment.

This black beauty was discovered over a year ago wandering along the highway, her muzzle bristling with porcupine quills. Despite this wretched experience, until recently, Shawna has been an ex-

tremely happy and playful dog who loved to play fetch and run for hours (or until she had sufficiently tired out her human!).

Lately, though, she has appeared to give up hope that she might find her forever home and has become lethargic and unresponsive, even shunning her favourite game. Dogs have rich emotional lives and can suffer from many of the same psychological symptoms that humans do. Yet Shawna's depression can surely be reversed if she is able to find loving home.

Black dogs often get passed over at shelters, but Shawna is a remarkable canine that definitely deserves a second look. Unlike many rescue dogs that require a lot of time and effort just to learn the basics, Shawna is the kind of dog that can fit right into a home with little adjustment (like we said, she is not "old, ugly or unpopular," the main underdog characteristics of dogs we normally write about).

Polite and attentive, she is fabulous on-leash and a pleasure to walk. Shawna aims to please with her sweet personality.

The perfect owner to cure Shawna's blues would be an active family with a back yard or a place to take her to play fetch, and *continued on p. 30*



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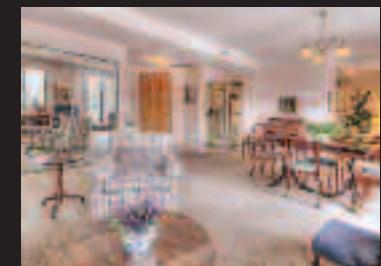
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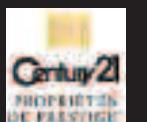
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2013.04.10 • Vol. 1/07
Publié par la Ville de Westmount • Published by the City of Westmount

HÔTEL DE VILLE

Plan directeur de la circulation : commentaires
La Ville invite le public à soumettre leurs commentaires à propos du **Plan directeur de la circulation et du transport actif de Westmount**. Consultez les documents au www.westmount.org ou à l'hôtel de ville. Envoyez vos commentaires au 4333, rue Sherbrooke O. H3Z 1E2 ou à plandirecteur@westmount.org.

Conférence ville en santé : Villes résilientes
Le jeudi 25 avril à 19 h à la bibliothèque. Conférencières : Marci Babineau et Maureen Lafrenière. Info : 514 369-2014.

CENTRE DES LOISIRS DE WESTMOUNT

Campagne de financement du CLW
Participez aux supers événements de la campagne de financement pour le CLW. Que vous soyez amateurs de hockey, de natation, de tennis ou de partys, il y a des activités pour tous. Consultez le wrc2013campaign.com pour en connaître plus et pour vous inscrire.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Horaire d'entretien des rues en vigueur
Un nouvel horaire d'entretien des rues est en vigueur **du 1^{er} avril au 30 novembre**. Assurez-vous de bien vérifier la signalisation de stationnement afin d'éviter une contravention. Info : 514 989-5222.

Bois Summit : période migratoire des oiseaux
Les propriétaires promenant leurs chiens au Bois Summit doivent les tenir en laisse en tout temps **entre le 16 avril et le 15 juin**. Les officiers de la Sécurité publique émettront des contraventions aux personnes qui ne respectent pas le règlement.

Sécurité publique de Westmount sur Twitter !
Recevez des avis sur la sécurité, le déneigement, les urgences, or signalez des graffitis. Inscrivez-vous au [@Secur_Westmount](https://twitter.com/Secur_Westmount).

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Collecte des résidus domestiques dangereux
Le samedi 4 mai de 9 h à 17 h. Stationnement de la bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5390.

Distribution d'arbres 2013

Les résidents peuvent obtenir un arbre sans frais parmi les suivants : 'Poirier 'Flemish Beauty', amélanchier du Canada et ostryer de Virginie. N.B., les quantités sont limitées. Procurez-vous le bon de commande à l'hôtel de Ville, à la bibliothèque ou au www.westmount.org. La date limite pour faire une demande est **30 avril**. Info : 514 989-5213.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Vente de livres des amis de la bibliothèque
Les samedi et dimanche 13 et 14 avril de 10 h à 17 h au Victoria Hall. Info: 514 483-5604.

Prochaine séance du conseil : le lundi 6 mai

Théâtre pour enfants: *The Trial of Goldilocks*
Le dimanche 14 avril à 14 h, au Victoria Hall. Pour les jeunes de 3 à 10 ans. Info : 514 989-5229.

Club de lecture anglaise
Le mardi 16 avril à 19 h. Joignez-vous au club pour discuter du livre *The Sisters Brothers* de l'auteur Patrick deWitt. Info: 514 989-5299.

Conférence : *The Art of the Tabla Solo*
Le mercredi 17 avril à 19 h. Shawn Mativetsky nous présentera la riche histoire du gharana de tabla de Bénarès et son répertoire dans le but d'aider les auditeurs à mieux apprécier l'art du tabla solo. Info : 514 989-5299.

Événement : *Poetry and Pastry*
Le dimanche 21 avril à 14 h. Célébrez le mois national de la poésie en savourant des pâtisseries tout en écoutant des poètes locaux. Info : 514 989-5386.

Réception des clubs de lecture à l'occasion de la Journée mondiale du livre
Le mercredi 24 avril à 18 h. Rencontrez d'autres bibliophiles, échangez des idées et des listes de livres et découvrez de nouvelles ressources lors de cette réception vin et fromages. SVP réservez avant le 20 avril au 514 989-5386.



Monique Polak: *Igniting the Writer Fire*
Le jeudi 25 avril à 10 h 30. Présenté en collaboration avec le Festival des enfants TD-Metropolis Bleu. Info : 514 989-5229.

Pique-nique de nounours
Le dimanche 28 avril de 14 h à 15 h 30. Des contes, des gâteries et notre invité spécial, l'ours Corduroy ! Pour les jeunes de 3 ans et plus. Info : 514 989-5229.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Collecte de sang de la Ville de Westmount
Le mercredi 10 avril de 14 h à 20 h au Victoria Hall. Donnez la vie le 10 avril. Info : 514 989-5226.

Galerie : exposition
Jusqu'au 13 avril 2013. Œuvres de Paola Ridolfi. Info : 514 989-5521 ou victoriahall@westmount.org.

Galerie : appel de dossiers
Rappel aux artistes : la date limite pour soumettre votre candidature pour la galerie du Victoria Hall est **le 15 avril 2013**. Info : www.westmount.org, victoriahall@westmount.org ou 514 989-5521.

Concert: La musique des grands poètes
Le dimanche 21 avril à 14 h. La série de *Concerts du dimanche dans la Galerie* commence le 21 avril avec la *chorale Séraphim*. Billets : 12 \$ / 10 \$ en pré-vente. Rafrâichissements servis. Info : 514 989-5226.

CITY HALL

Traffic Master Plan: comments
The City invites comments on its proposed **Westmount Traffic and Active Transportation Master Plan**. Consult the documents at www.westmount.org and at City Hall. Send your comments to 4333 Sherbrooke St. W., H3Z 1E2 or to trafficplan@westmount.org.

Healthy City Speaker Series: Resilient Cities
Thursday, April 25 at 7 p.m. at the Library. With Marci Babineau and Maureen Lafrenière. Info: 514 369-2014.

WESTMOUNT RECREATION CENTRE

WRC Fundraising Campaign
Take part in fantastic fundraising events for the WRC Campaign! Whether you love hockey, swimming, tennis or parties, we have something for you! Find out more and register by visiting wrc2013campaign.com.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Street maintenance in effect
The street cleaning schedule is in effect **April 1st to November 30th**. Please verify the parking signage to avoid receiving a ticket. Info: 514 989-5222.



Summit Woods: bird migratory period
Dog owners using Summit Woods must keep dogs on leash at all times **between April 16th and June 15th**. Public Security officers will patrol and may issue fines to those contravening the by-law.

Westmount Public Security now on Twitter!

Receive notices concerning safety, snow removal, follow emergencies or report graffiti. Sign up at [@Secur_Westmount](https://twitter.com/Secur_Westmount).

PUBLIC WORKS

Household Hazardous Waste May 4th
Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the parking lot of the Library. Info: 514 989-5390.

2013 Tree Distribution

Residents may obtain a tree free of charge from the following selection: "Flemish Beauty" Pear, Downy Serviceberry and Ironwood. Please note quantities are limited. Obtain an order form at City Hall, the Library or www.westmount.org. The deadline to apply is **Tuesday, April 30th**. Info: 514 989-5213.

LIBRARY

Friends of the Library Book Sale
Saturday and Sunday, April 13 and 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Info: 514 483-5604.

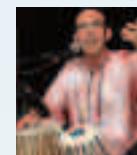
Theatre for kids: *The Trial of Goldilocks*
Sunday, April 14 at 2 p.m. at Victoria Hall. For ages 3 to 10. Info: 514 989-5229.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, May 6

English Book Club

Tuesday, April 16 at 7 p.m. Join the Club to discuss *The Sisters Brothers* by Patrick deWitt. Info: 514 989-5299.

Lecture: *The Art of the Tabla Solo*
Wednesday, April 17 at 7 p.m. Shawn Mativetsky will discuss and demonstrate the context, structure and performance practice of a North Indian classical tabla solo in the hope of helping listeners to better understand and appreciate this art form. Info: 514 989-5299.



Poetry and Pastry

Sunday, April 21 at 2 p.m. Celebrate National Poetry Month by sampling sweets and savouries and listening to local poets. Info: 514 989-5386.

World Book Day Reception for Book Clubs
Wednesday, April 24 at 6 p.m. Meet fellow book lovers, exchange ideas and reading lists and discover new resources at this wine and cheese reception. RSVP before April 20 at 514 989-5386.

Monique Polak: *Igniting the Writer Fire*
Thursday, April 25 at 10:30 a.m. Presented in partnership with the TD-Blue Metropolis Children's Festival. Info: 514 989-5229.

Teddy Bear Picnic

Sunday, April 28 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Stories and refreshments and a guest appearance by Corduroy the Bear! Ages 3+. Info: 514 989-5229.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

City of Westmount Blood Donor Clinic
Wednesday, April 10, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Give the gift of life on April 10. Info: 514 989-5226.

Gallery: exhibition
Until April 13, 2013. Works by Paola Ridolfi. Info: 514 989-5521 or victoriahall@westmount.org.

Gallery: Call for projects
Reminder to artists: the deadline for applications for the Gallery at Victoria Hall is **April 15, 2013**. Info: www.westmount.org, victoriahall@westmount.org or 514 989-5521.

Concert: Music of the Great Poets
Sunday, April 21 at 2 p.m. The Sunday Concert Series in the Gallery begins April 21st with the **Seraphim Choir**. Tickets \$12 \$, advance \$10. Refreshments served. Info: 514 989-5226.



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT

Sheinart's closing after 93 years in business

By RALPH THOMPSON

Sheinart's is closing its doors after 92 years in the clothing business for women.

Bernard Sheinart's grandparents purchased the turn-of-the-century, red brick Tudor-style building in 1919. They established the main retail area in the building as a ready-to-wear ladies clothing store.

The business, located in the landmark building on the corner of St. Antoine and Atwater, was passed on to Sheinart's par-

about 40 years ago," he said. "I'd been involved in clothing manufacturing before that although I started my working life in data communications with Bell Canada."

In 1995, he completely restored the exterior of the building, followed by renovations to the interior. He was given the 2006 Montreal Architectural Heritage Emeritus Award for the "care ... put into the restoration of the brick and stone masonry,

ion outlet, special occasion clothing and coats, offering one of the largest selections of ladies' coats in Montreal."

He said he has chosen to close his long established family business for personal reasons, just to move on in life. Through a real estate agent, Sheinart is renting the store space, comprising almost 5,000



A photograph of the building taken in the early '50s.



The landmark building of Sheinart's on the corner of St. Antoine St. and Atwater Ave.

ents. Three small retail stores opening onto St. Antoine (see photo above) were taken over by Sheinart's father in 1961 to make one large retail outlet on the ground floor. "I took over the store from my father

which adds value to the entire ensemble."

Said Sheinart "The essence of this store over the past few decades has been a fash-

square feet, the basement and a 10-car parking area. The upstairs apartments are occupied by tenants, who will not be affected by the ground-floor changes.

Letters, cont'd. from p. 6

- vehicles stopped in no-parking zones, disrupting traffic;
- trucks unloading on the street, with iron, wood or concrete being loaded onto cranes, just inches away from our children and ourselves and carried over our heads;
- the absence of flagmen responsible for pedestrians;
- loud noises and vibrations throughout the day, making life inside our homes difficult and unpleasant;
- vehicles travelling down Redfern the wrong way;
- the inability to park in front of our homes;
- frequent disregard of the traffic lights at St. Catherine and Redfern;
- dust and debris throughout the neighbourhood, including inside our homes.

For putting up with these hazards and inconveniences, we residents receive nothing except the promise of future increases in our municipal taxes. The developer, who shares none of these problems, has

an opportunity to make tens of millions of dollars in profits. The city must take action to ensure that problems from construction sites are better managed, and that residents do not receive the bulk of these hazards and inconveniences without compensation. If current laws make it impossible for the city to better regulate these sites, then as a primarily residential community, we expect the city to work to change them.

JUNJI ATSUMI, CLAUDIA BESSO,
CANDICE CARTIER, GRANT CURRIE,
RICHARD DUMONT, VRINDA NARAIN,
BETTY SCOTT, KALEEM SIDDIQI,
TIMOTHY SLONOSKY, REDFERN AVE.

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office@westmountindependent.com.



For 40 years, Bernard Sheinart owned and operated his family's namesake women's designer and brand name fashion store started by his grandparents in 1919. In a post-interview e-mail to the Independent, he said he wanted "to thank all his customers for their loyal patronage."



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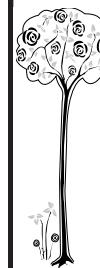
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A view into the inside of



*Councillor's Photo
of the Month*

PATRICK MARTIN

In the photo below, technician Jules Jolteus from Inspecsol (quality control) and engineer Pierre Bilodeau from Genivar (project management) are seen discussing the excavation of the pools area on April 4, while standing in what will be the pool changing rooms.

Note that the basic structure is completed, ex- *continued on p. 23*



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the pools area

Councillor's photo column, cont'd. from p. 23

cept for the inner walls and the windows onto the pool area to the left.

The air conditioning ducts are being in-

Pool opening, cont'd. from p. 1

the quality of the work is not compromised through cutting corners.

While the contracted date for delivery of the pool is May 31, swimmers and the city, as well as the *Independent*, have been trying to obtain confirmation from the contractor in the wake of rumoured delays (see March 12, p. 1).

Caroline Palmer of Westmount Ave. told the council meeting that the pool is one of the reasons Westmounters know how to enjoy summer.

"I believe it's achievable," said Councillor Patrick Martin referring to the May 31 date. Contractors typically build provision for unexpected delays into their plans, "so normally they have some play."

Workers have usually left the arena/pool site by 4 pm, he pointed out, but they could work until 8 pm if more time were needed to meet the schedule. That would cost the contractor more, he added, so there has to be a balance.

Meanwhile, the city's Sports and Recreation director Mike Deegan, as project coordinator, is in touch "almost daily" with the Pomerleau representatives and Genivar project manager at the site, Martin said. And other than the pool date, Trent said, "we have a very good relationship with Pomerleau."

Volunteer Robert McCulloch, of Greene, asked what would happen to the pool party fundraiser planned for August 24 if the pool were not ready. "We're not changing the date," replied Councillor Nicole Forbes. "If something happens, we will hold it somewhere else."

stalled and are visible at the top of the photo. It was also noted during the visit that all the drainage pipes for showers, sinks and water closets were already in place.

Directly below the pool changing rooms, the contractor is completing the membrane prior to pouring the concrete floor for the pool filtration room. The drainage pipes are already in place, and the thinner electrical conduits can also be noted. Work is progressing very rapidly.



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Holiday fines, warning issued at work sites

A ticket for \$267 was issued to workers at 1250 Greene for delivering marble to the condo worksite on Good Friday, March 29, a legal holiday, Public Security officials said. A nearby resident had called to complain about the work at 5:36 am. Officers met with the driver, who was continuing to unload seven palettes of the marble that had been transported from Ontario.

The same morning, workers cutting the sidewalk after gas-line work across from 418 Claremont were let off with a verbal warning, however, when they agreed to return to finish the work after the holiday.



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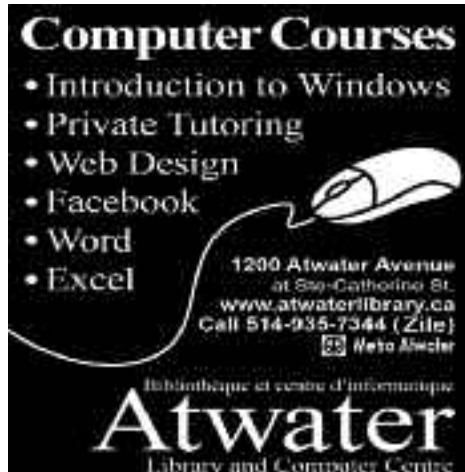
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ON THE SHELVES

Among recent reading and audio-visual material at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

Magazines

“Growing up Emanuel” by Ezekiel Emanuel in *Vanity Fair*, March 2013, p. 358. In an adaptation of his memoir, the noted bioethicist – and eldest of the three Emanuel brothers – recalls the rough-and-tumble years that bonded him to Rahm, now mayor of Chicago, and Ari, a Hollywood super-agent. Photographs by Annie Liebovitz.

“La femme de la semaine: Emmanuelle Riva” par Alain Riou dans *Le Nouvel Observateur*, February 21-27, p. 18.

“Age before beauty” by Kim Izzo in *Zoomer*, April 2013, p. 40. Kindly old ladies or ferocious unpleasant crones, women characters older than a certain age (and the actresses who play them) are back in the spotlight, thanks to *Downton Abbey*.

E-books

The Golden Calf by Helene Tursten – In this fifth instalment in the critically acclaimed Irene Huss series, three men are found brutally executed in one of Gote-

borg's most fashionable neighbourhoods. All three men were involved in an online poker company, but that's all they appear to have in common. The complex investigation immerses Detective Inspector Irene Huss and her colleagues into a world of expensive cars, fancy homes and impressive castles in the air.

Mossad: The Greatest Missions of the Israeli Secret Service by Michael Bar-Zohar – Drawn from intensive research and exclusive interviews with Israeli leaders and Mossad agents, this gripping history of the best – and most enigmatic – intelligence service in the world brings to life the operatives who risked everything in the face of unimaginable danger.

Adult English – Coming of age stories

How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia by Hamid, Mohsin – From the internationally bestselling author of *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, this is the boldly imagined tale of a poor boy's quest for wealth and love. The astonishing and riveting tale of a man's journey from impoverished rural boy to corporate tycoon, it steals its shape from the business self-help books devoured by ambitious youths all over “rising Asia.”

The Lion Seeker by Kenneth Bonert – Isaac Helger, the son of Jewish immigrants from Lithuania living in pre-war South Africa, faces dark family secrets and impossible choices in a world defined by inequalities and brutal racism.

Adult French – Women who made history

Ainsi soit Olympe de Gouges by Benoîte Groult – Olympe de Gouges was an influential playwright and activist in 18th century France. Her feminist and abolitionist writings included a “Declaration of the Rights” of women. Her criticisms of the excesses of the French Revolution led to her arrest and execution.

Une femme aimée by Andreï Makine –

In this work of fiction, a Russian filmmaker is fascinated by Catherine the Great and studies all aspects of her extraordinary life. He finds out that she had really been loved by a man, once.

DVDs

Beasts of the Southern Wild – Hushpuppy is a 6-year-old living in an isolated bayou community. When her father Wink becomes ill, she sets off for the outside world in an attempt to help him. The journey to save her father is delayed by a “busted” universe that reverses weather patterns and brings about long-extinct animals. Can Hushpuppy save the day?

Rebelle – War Witch – This is a brutal yet poetic snapshot of life. The film tells the story of Komona, a young girl who is kidnapped from her village by a group of rebel fighters. Forced to gun down members of her family and enemy soldiers, Komona takes solace in fellow soldier Magicien, a young albino with whom she escapes and starts a new life.

Books for children to celebrate Earth Hour

Le recyclage by Peter Cook and Laura Suzuki – This book provides answers to some questions kids may have about recycling: why we do it, what happens to the recycling once it leaves our houses and what else we can do to protect our environment.

Life in the Ocean: The Story of Oceanographer Sylvia Earle by Claire Nivola – This book tells the story of renowned marine biologist Sylvia Earle and her extensive research on oceans for the last 40 years. This beautiful picture book biography is sure to inspire some young environmentalists!

Reference

Palmarès des carrières 2013.

Bank employees, residents raise a stink about the stink

When the odour of fumes from the paving of the interior garage at 1250 Greene proved too much for employees of the National Bank in the new condo development, the city gave permission for the sealing process to be done at night, according to Public Security reports March

27. But then came the complaints of “toxic fumes” from residents of de Maisonneuve and Olivier. A “strong smell” from the boilers heating asphalt was confirmed by officers, but the substance was described as non-toxic. The work was to continue the next week between 5 pm and 11 pm.



Art scene, cont'd. from p. 2

is surrounded by traditional and patterned objects. The red background conveys both a warrior society and the jubilation of their homeward trek to Darfur and Kordofan.

Arabic symbols dominate a composition of women in traditional Muslim dress. Painted on a turquoise background,



Baharaddin Adam, series Al Nushoug

the repeating dress shape creates an asymmetric pattern and compositional unity.

Another complex composition features three women in flowing white garments while one man shadows another. A narrative unfolds as semi-abstract shapes suggest a hotel awning, overhead traffic lights and computer screens. Dramatic in white, pale green and dark red set against a cobalt

background, the mood is apprehensive.

Unique in subject and style, the exhibit runs from April 11 to 21 at 4259 St Catherine St.

The repetition of form and colour together with the rhythm of spontaneous brushstrokes bring these paintings to life. And whether the pattern is of butterflies or veiled women, the viewer is encouraged to look again, to consider the familiar in Hunt's vibrant paintings or the unfamiliar in Adam's African imagery.

Sign of the times

City of Westmount employee Daphné Daoust replaces the street signs at the corner of St. Catherine and Blenheim Pl. April 4 as part of a project to replace all of the city's street corner signs. "It will take a couple of years to replace all 2,000 street signs," said job foreman Dominic Iorio. "This is only the second corner we have done, so we're just getting started on this project. The old signs are being put aside, and we may donate them or auction them off to the public." Will the new sign retain a different spelling of "Blenheim"?

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

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Station 12 Reports

Rising temperatures, more illegal graffiti: Police

BY ISAAC OLSON

The following news stories are based on information from police reports provided by a Station 12 constable in an interview with the reporter.

Station 12's Constable Caroline Gauthier said, as of April 4, there were 13 different illegal graffiti incidents reported in Westmount in as many days, and now police are reminding residents to remain vigilant as warmer weather draws out taggers.

There were four businesses tagged on Sherbrooke St. and three residences on Olivier Ave., said Gauthier.

Most recently, she said two buildings on Victoria Ave. and one on Greene Ave. were vandalized sometime in the night between March 26 and 27. Police are keeping track of the tags, noting the design, colour and other features.

The problem of illegal graffiti continues to be an issue throughout Montreal, said Gauthier, and, in recent years, Westmount has also been targeted.

It's important, she said, that people call Public Security and report graffiti. If residents see the crime being committed or people acting suspiciously around buildings, she encourages witnesses to notify police immediately so arrests can be made.

Cleaning the graffiti immediately is a key method of fighting back, said Gauthier, because these taggers want their work to be seen. If a building is cleaned immediately each time it is tagged, the vandals will look for somewhere else to

vandalize, somewhere that allows their spraypainting to remain on display.

Spring clean-up of graffiti to start, PSU says

More than 100 incidents of graffiti that could not be cleaned up in the winter cold were documented recently by public safety officers in a city-wide blitz of locations to be given to the city's graffiti cleaners, Public Security officials said.

While a number of locations had already been cleaned during the winter, others could not be treated depending on the material involved.

The graffiti inventory included marker pen and spray painting on city poles, stop signs, meters, mail boxes and buildings.



Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount



AVIS D'ADOPTION RÈGLEMENT 1443

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné à tous ceux qui peuvent être concernés que le règlement 1443 intitulé « **RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER DE NOUVEAU LE RÈGLEMENT 742 PRÉVOYANT L'ÉTABLISSEMENT DE TARIFS ET CERTAINES CONDITIONS APPLICABLES À L'APPROVISIONNEMENT D'ÉLECTRICITÉ** » a été adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount, lors d'une séance ordinaire tenue à l'hôtel de ville le 2 avril 2013.

Ce règlement a pour objet d'autoriser la hausse des tarifs d'électricité afin de refléter les nouveaux tarifs autorisés par la Régie de l'Énergie, à compter du 1^{er} avril 2013.

Ce règlement entre en vigueur conformément à la loi.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter le règlement sur le site web de la ville : www.westmount.org et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffier situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30.

DONNÉ à Westmount ce 9 avril 2013.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION BY-LAW 1443

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to all who may be concerned that By-law 1443 entitled "**BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND BY-LAW 742 TO ESTABLISH RATES AND CERTAIN CONDITIONS FOR THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY**" was adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount at a regular sitting held at City Hall on April 2, 2013.

The object of this by-law is to authorize the increase of the electricity tariffs to reflect the new rates authorized by the Régie de l'Énergie, effective April 1, 2013.

This by-law comes into force according to law.

Any interested person may consult the said by-law on the City's website: www.westmount.org and obtain copies thereof at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount this April 9, 2013.

Nancy Gagnon
Greffière adjointe de la ville / Assistant City Clerk

Workers allowed an early start

Workers at 215 Redfern were given the city's blessing to start preparing the work-site at 6 am March 27 for the pouring of concrete at 7 am, public safety officers said. Despite a complaint from a neighbour at 6:10 am, it was found that workers had been permitted to set up a pump truck for the operation. A Redfern resident, however, said he and his family were awakened by the noise at 5:45 a.m., according to a March 28 e-mail in which the *Independent* was copied. He attached a document from the condo's project manager, which said "the execution of this project will last a full day and will go into the evening."

RF meters, cont'd. from p. 7

Régie de l'énergie." This is the provincial energy board.

Meanwhile, the city had already received three requests for a non-RF meter, city director general Duncan Campbell told the *Independent* April 4. Hydro Westmount will not be offering residents this option, he said, "unless council tells us to."

Providing the option of a non-RF meter was one of several recommendations made last September by the Westmount Healthy City Project (HCP), according to Tom Thompson who chairs its Community Life committee.

The position taken by the HCP is that long-term data is not yet known on the cumulative effects of RF from cell phones and numerous other wireless sources and that in the absence of this, options should be available and people should be better informed about the meters.

RF has been recognized world-wide as a potential health risk and some people have exhibited allergy symptoms to the

emissions.

The RF meter that Westmount has been phasing in since 2008 is a digital model known as a second generation meter currently available in both RF and non-RF versions (see May 1, 2012, p. 12).

While not as "smart" as the "next generation" meter being rolled out by Hydro-Quebec, the RF version pulsates RF emissions every 30 seconds though not at the same strength as the fully smart meter.

Campbell explained that for municipalities on the smart (meter) grid – which Westmount isn't – the energy board has allowed hydro distributors to charge a one time meter cost of \$137 and an additional monthly fee of \$17 for anyone opting out of the smart meter program.

Hydro-Quebec notices sent to West Island residents last week do not refer to the controversial new meters as "smart" meters but as "next" generation meters. They also offer an initial opt-out fee of \$98 rather than \$137 for customers who wish to opt for a "non-communicating meter that requires manual reading."

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House history, cont'd. from p. 14

there is mention of the planned extension of The Boulevard and Westmount Ave., but no mention of the effect this would have on the neatly-drawn lots.

As it turns out, the old St. Omer's farm became Grosvenor and Roslyn avenues all the way from Western Ave. (now de Maisonneuve Blvd.) to the northern Westmount border and into Côte des Neiges. The trouble was that The Boulevard sliced through the farm at something of an angle, thus the rectangular lots 218-69, -70 and -71 were chopped up at the intersection of Grosvenor and The Boulevard.

Odd lot

Most of Lot 218-71 and a tiny corner of Lot 218-70 were finally purchased by William Creed, a contractor, for 40 cents per square foot (for a total \$1,750) in December 1911. There is little doubt that Creed had already planned the house he was going to build on the badly misshapen lot, with only 22.4 feet on one side and just over 64 feet on the other. By the following February the house was built, and he sold it off to John Fraser Bryce, "gentleman," for \$17,000. The house measures about 16 feet on its east end and more than 30 feet on the west end, taking full advantage of the land and offering an excellent view of the city and river.

Lovell's Directory in 1912 lists John F. Bryce of Bryce and Murphy, customs brokers, as a resident of 4716 The Boulevard, and this address remains until 1915 when it changes to 246 The Boulevard. The address is listed that way until 1930 when it changes to 4732 The Boulevard, by which time the owner is said to be connected with John F. Bryce and Co., customs brokers.

The same year he donated the house to Christine and Muriel Bryce, and by 1932, Christine Bryce is listed as the occupant. In April, 1941, Christine and the estate of Muriel Bryce (including John F. Bryce) sold the house to the United Theological College, which had assumed the loan to the family for "\$1 and other good and valuable considerations."

Less than a year later, it was sold to Nettie Silverman, wife of lawyer Ralph Bercovitch, for only \$8,500. The couple lived there with their family. Bercovitch died in about 1965 and his wife sold the house in 1970 to Ilona Shilov, the wife of another lawyer, Peter Davidson, for \$35,000.

The value of Westmount properties grew through the 1970s, at least until the pull-back after the Montreal Olympics and the election of the Parti Québécois in November 1976. The couple had divorced in 1974 and Shilov eventually moved to

Toronto, unable to sell the house and so turned it over to Royal Trust in January 1978 for \$72,250.

Just over a month later, Royal Trust sold it to Tatyana Danilov, divorced wife of Joseph Reeve, with the help of her Ottawa-based brother, Alexander Danilov, for \$63,000. A year later Alexander sold his share of the property to their mother, Olga Lazarovitch, and a year after that mother and daughter sold the property to Eufrosina Jilescu, wife of Ioan Marcu.

NHL links

Buying the house for \$147,500, the Marcus lived there for six years before selling to Kenneth Sawyer and his wife for \$259,800. Sawyer was then the chief financial officer for the National Hockey League; in 1991 he moved to New York City and eventually became the chief executive officer of the Pittsburgh Penguins.

The Westmount market had climbed through the second half of the 1980s and was pulling back somewhat when Sawyer sold the house to Paul Belliveau and José Letourneau in 1991 for \$405,000, just over a 50-percent increase over five years. Belliveau and Letourneau owned it for 12 years and saw another 50-percent-plus increase when they sold to Hung Bui-Quang, a Montreal engineer, for \$650,000.

Bui-Quang opened up the third floor, among other improvements, during his tenure that lasted four and a half years, then sold to Emmanuel Olivier and Marie Garcia, who carried out extensive renovations before selling to Jordan Geller in 2011 for \$1,650,000, almost 100 times the house's original purchase price.

**History of 4732
The Boulevard**

Date	Buyer	Price \$
15 Dec, 1911	William Creed	40¢/foot
12 Feb, 1912	John Bryce	\$17,000
2 Apr, 1941	United Theological College	\$1
15 Jan, 1942	Nettie Silverman	\$8,500
28 Aug, 1970	Ilona Shilov	\$35,000
11 Jan, 1978	Royal Trust Co.	\$72,250
20 Feb, 1978	Alexander Danilov & Tatyana Danilov	\$63,000
26 Feb, 1980	Eufrosina Jilescu	\$147,500
30 Jun, 1986	Kenneth Sawyer & Shirley Snider	\$259,800
20 Dec, 1991	Paul Belliveau & José Letourneau	\$405,000
25 Sep, 2003	Hung Bui-Quang	\$650,000
28 Mar, 2008	Emmanuel Olivier & Marie-Josée Jorda Garcia	\$1,000,000
7 Jul, 2011	Jordan Geller	\$1,650,000

Gleneagles to sell off 25 rental condos, ROI 'guaranteed'

By MICHAEL MOORE

The owner of the high-end Gleneagles residential complex on Côte des Neiges Rd., just east of Westmount, has put 25 rental condos up for sale, targeting potential investors wanting to tap into the real estate market.

"The stock market has been a game of Russian roulette, so for people who are more risk-averse, this is an amazing opportunity to park some money into a building that has everything," said real estate broker Albert Sayegh, who is overseeing the sale of the condos.

Built in 1929

Built in 1929 on the southern edge of Mount Royal Park, the building was designated a historic site by the Quebec government in 2002, which Sayegh believes adds to the credibility of the investment opportunity.

"The Gleneagles is a timeless beauty that will not change. We can't touch the outside [due to the building's historic status]. We can't paint it mauve," he joked.

To entice investors breaking into the real estate market, Sayegh argues that the in-building benefits provided to the Gleneagles high-end clientèle eliminate the headaches involved with independently renting out and supervising a duplex or other building.

"The Gleneagles has the revenue already, a demographic profile that promises very few or no trouble in the future, and building services to look after anything and everything," he said.

The 25 condos represent the final allotment of units to be sold in the Gleneagles, with the building's 57 other condos already off the market.

The units currently up for sale, ranging in prices from \$500,000 to \$2 million, are all currently rented and generating between \$3,000 and \$5,000 of revenue per month, according to Sayegh.

The current owner of the 25 condos, who asked to remain anonymous throughout the sale process and who did not wish to be identified for the interview, is guaranteeing a return on investment of 8 percent annually for a five-year term on the unit, a figure that includes the rental revenue generated plus value appreciation on the property.

The unit owners will pay a monthly condo fee of between 70 and 75 cents per square foot.

According to Sayegh, because the Gleneagles condos are classified as undivided, the current tenants of the units will retain the right to stay in their apartments, even if they are sold to a third party. The new buyers will not be able to terminate a lease and evict the tenants with the intention of moving into the condo themselves.



The Gleneagles photographed March 28.

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

- Batslaw Youth and Family Centres is hosting an open house to **recruit foster families** in the auditorium of 6 Weredale Park, 11 am to 7 pm. Info: 514.989.1885, ext 1017.
- City of Westmount's **blood donor clinic**, 2 to 8 pm at Victoria Hall. Info: Community Events 514.989.5226.
- **"New Spring Colours!"** with Aurélien Guillory, 2 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Free. Info: 514.989.5299.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

Traveller and photographer Victor Bredon gives a talk on **walking in England and Scotland** with a 22-minute video of walking the Thames Path from source to sea, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater. Free.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Centre Greene used book sale to benefit its campers' fund, 10 am to 7 pm at 1090 Greene Ave. Also, Saturday, April 13, 9 am to 2 pm. Book donations are accepted. Info: 514.931.6202 or www.centre-greene.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

- **Friends of Westmount Library's used book sale** at Victoria Hall, 10 am to 5 pm. Also Sunday, April 14. Books in excellent condition may be dropped off at the Westmount Public Library. Info: cemoneill@yahoo.com.
- **The Krishnamurti Information Centre of**



University Women's Club of Montreal

Nutrition for Elite Athletes (and You!) Guest speaker: Tiffany Moey, certified athletic therapist and registered dietician, who is currently developing a sports nutrition program for McGill varsity athletes. 6:00 pm, April 17, Atwater Club, 3505 Atwater. Cost: \$30.76; non-members \$40. Newcomers welcome. To reserve, call **514-932-3922**. www.uwcm.com

WRITING CLINIC: HOW TO WRITE GREAT DIALOGUE

Great dialogue brings life to fiction, but how is it written? Join author Catherine McKenzie for a workshop on crafting tight, narrative-propelling dialogue. Participants are welcomed (but not required) to submit up to five pages for possible discussion.

Saturday, April 27 2-3:30 PM
GOETHE INSTITUTE
 1626 St. Lawrence Blvd., #100 – \$25
 To reserve:
catherinemckenzieauthor@gmail.com

WRITING CLINIC: HOW TO FIND YOUR VOICE

Finding your voice is essential for an author, but how do you do it? How do you avoid sounding like others who write in the same genre? Join author Catherine McKenzie for a workshop that explores several examples of unique voices. Participants are welcomed (but not required) to submit up to five pages for discussion.

Saturday, April 27 4-5:30 PM
GOETHE INSTITUTE
 1626 St. Lawrence Blvd., #100 – \$25
 To reserve:
catherinemckenzieauthor@gmail.com

Montreal presents a video "Second Question and Answer Meeting," 2 to 4 pm at the Atwater Library, second floor. Cost: \$5. Info: 514.937.8869 or visit krishnamurti-montreal.org.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Teen Tour Theatre's junior tour group presents **"The Trial of Goldilocks,"** 2 pm in the Lodge Room of Victoria Hall. Register: Children's library circulation desk or call 514.989.5229.

MONDAY, APRIL 15

Westmount Municipal Association meeting, 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Open to all.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

"Grief and loss for the patient and the family," presented by Marc Hamel and Christopher MacKinnon, 6 pm to 8 pm at Temple Emanu-El Beth Shalom. Free. Info: **The Council on Palliative Care** fmpa202@aol.com.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

- "The Art of Tabla Solo in the Benares (Varanasi)" with musician Shawn Mativetsky, 7 p at the Westmount Public Library. Register at the circulation desk or call 514.989.5299.
- Michael Tritt reviews ***The Sense of an Ending*** by Julian Barnes, 9:30 am for coffee and pastry, 10 a, for review at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom. Cost: \$8.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

"Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom, first synagogue in Westmount," presented by **Victor Goldbloom**, 7 pm to 9 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Part of the Westmount Historical Association lecture series. Admission free for members; non-members \$5 at door. Info: 514. 989.5510.

Cyclelogically speaking

Gearing up for spring

By ROB CALLARD

While most drivers begin the spring task of removing snow tires, we cyclists begin to contemplate the season just around the corner. The anticipation of riding again after months of indoor spinning and gym training is high and there is excitement in getting our bikes back on the road.

In addition to giving your bike a proper tune-up, there are many things to look forward to this cycling season.

Regardless of cycling ability, one should be thinking or have already thought about proper bike maintenance. Like our cars, our bikes should be well prepared for the road. A tune-up consisting of a parts check, greasing of the chain and derailleur, brake adjustments and tire replacement is a good start to a safe and enjoyable cycling season. Also recommended is a verification of the wear on your chain. This will undoubtedly avert a chain break later in season. If you are unable to do these adjustments on your own, any local bike shop will provide these services.

Using Bixi

In Westmount, the Bixi stations will continue to offer transport to those using the network, and people can use the bike path along de Maisonneuve – a major artery linking east and west. A short ride down Lansdowne to the bottom offers access to the wonderful Lachine canal bike path network.

The Tour de l'île will return in June, and there are many charity rides being planned that are open to riders of all abilities. One of the most popular, the Enbridge Ride to Conquer Cancer (conquercancer.ca) kicks off in July with a two-day ride to Quebec City. Many cyclists from Westmount have already committed to raise money for this ride.

Following traffic rules

There has also been much discussion about cyclists and their inability to obey traffic rules. The law stipulates that cyclists must obey all traffic signals, but the unfortunate fact is that cyclists often take the

law into their own hands. As a cyclist, one of the most important aspects of riding in the city is to share the road with drivers, and in return it asks cars to give three-foot clearance when passing a bike. By doing so, the level of safety increases dramatically while sharing the road with cars.

New to the sport of cycling?

For those new to the sport of cycling, there are numerous bike clubs around the city, offering rides of all abilities. Randonnée Aventure is a great club dedicated to cycling and outdoor activity (randonnee.ca), and one of the largest clubs in Canada. Beaconsfield Cycling Club (clubcycliste.com) brings together cyclists from all over the island for rides several times a week. Right here at home, the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association is an advocacy group with a website full of pertinent information (<http://amcw-wwca.org/>).

Of course, there are many more clubs, and a quick internet search will turn up an astounding number of them dedicated to the sport.

Finally, to make the best of your season, be sure to stay hydrated while riding, carb up before a big ride, eat along the way, and feed those muscles at the end with a nice protein drink, nuts or some yogurt.

Have a great season, and above all, be safe on the road.

Rob Callard is an avid cyclist and owner of Chez Nick on Greene Ave.

Hydro head, cont'd. from p. 3

to joining the team very shortly," Hurtubise told the council meeting. He was to start April 8 on a five-year contract.

Given the challenges provided by the city's aging utility equipment, Hurtubise has his work cut out for him, said Councillor Patrick Martin, commissioner of Utilities and Public Works. "We look forward to working with him."

Council also adopted a 2.4-percent increase in electricity rates effective April 1, as a result of a similar increase by Hydro-Quebec. The Westmount utility is one of a handful of independent utilities in the province that buys electricity from Hydro-Quebec at bulk rates to redistribute to the community through their own electrical network.

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Lefebvre guest at Le Canal première



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

condo project had a surprise. Known as **Nicolas Sarkozy's** right-hand man **Frédéric Lefebvre** not only attended the private reception but took the microphone and commented that the project was “*exceptionnel*.”

Attending with his wife **Valérie**, a graphologist, the Parisian pair was ushered in from the freezing night by a bevy of black-clad beauties, wearing fur-lined boots.

VIP guests at the launch of Le Canal



Josh Silver and Mylène Gibeau.

Guests were awed by the innovative 3-D presentation, which gave aerial, side and indoor views with just a simple touch of the screen. Le Canal is a condo project being built on the banks of the Lachine canal. Guests learned that during excavation, amidst bits of centuries of memories, a six-foot wide propeller was discovered that is



Eric Aouizerats, Frédéric and Valérie Lefebvre.

to be donated to the city of Montreal.

Westmounters **Gary Brodtkin** in a crisp European-style (“it’s Eton”) shirt, and **Larry Lusko** and **Bunny Berke** in a floor-length mink fur coat (“the better to stay warm”), joined stylist **Claude Abitbol**, from Westmount’s Mod’s Hair and **Roger Vassallo**, with paisley tie and quilted vest.

Others included restaurateur **Patrick Meausette**, very cool in a striped suit; **Steve Antoniou** in Hugo Boss; **Evana Varin**, glamorous in amazing mid-thigh leather boots and a short plaid jacket; **Josh Silver** in a Ralph Lauren-style plaid shirt; **Mylène Gibeau**; **John Saint Louis**, president Saint Louis Communications; **Patrick Varin** and **Jean Bouchard** of Les Développements du Canal Inc., the project developer; project architect **Antoine Chaloub** (Atelier Chaloub & Beaulieu); artists **Daniel Barbeau** and **Paul-Émile Rioux**; **Marcel Smith**; **Christiane Fortin**, and **Karl Mèche**; **Daisy Giagkos**, **Fabio Broccoli** and **Billy Alfonso**.

The elegant Prosecco-fuelled evening was typically Montreal; black was basic; many wore leather and most stayed to watch the night fall over Montreal’s historic waterway.



Patrick Varin and Jean Bouchard.



Claude Abitbol



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Email: info@groupecopley.com

Underdog Shawna, cont'd. from p. 19

no cats. While Shawna is very people-focused and somewhat dismissive of other dogs, she could live with another dog if the fit is right.

If you are interested in learning more about Shawna, please contact Frontier An-

imal Society at 819.876.7747 or frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com.

The Underdog Club provides select rescues and shelters with positive PR for their hard-to-place, abandoned dogs.



Shawna

Getting ready for Alzheimer

fundraiser



The organizing committee for Vintage Recall II met April 2 to plan the May 2 preview and May 5 fundraising events to benefit the Alzheimer Groupe Inc. From left, top row: Lindy Omassis, Claire Webster and Linda Israel (executive director of the Alzheimer Groupe); bottom row: Keli Kott, Dorothy Reitman and Nathalie Andrade. For more information, visit www.agiteam.org.

Photo: Veronica Redgrave

Westmount Dental Care
 Dr. Douglas E. Hamilton
 Dr. Peter Woolhouse Dr. Charlotte Pagé

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Agence immobilière
www.suttonquebec.com

NEW ON THE MARKET



WESTMOUNT ADJ. 3066 Trafalgar \$3,675,000
Remarkable 5 bdr residence, double garage,
3 verandas, inground salted pool, amazing city views!
MLS 9632083

NEW ON THE MARKET



WESTMOUNT 559 Argyle
Very bright 4 bedroom detached home, extensive
renovations, landscaped garden, ready to move in!



WESTMOUNT 21 Thornhill \$1,585,000
Sophisticated semi on quiet street, 4 BDR, large
peaceful garden, very bright, ready to move in!
MLS 8765402

OPEN HOUSE, SUN 2-4 pm



WESTMOUNT 303 Grosvenor \$1,035,000
Beautiful, renovated 3+1 BDR attached, garden and
finished basement. Good value in a fabulous location!
MLS 10329472

NEW CONDO PROJECT



WSTADJ. 1950 Sherbrooke W. \$1,800,000
GRAMERCY Residences: A first in MtL – 100% raw!
Penthouse #2B, mountain views, 2850 sq.ft.
MLS 10231720

NEW ON THE MARKET



WESTMOUNT 636 Lansdowne \$1,250,000
Classic, very spacious 6 bedroom semi-detached,
family owned since 1943. MLS 10591120

DUPLEX



WESTMOUNT 361-63 Grosvenor \$1,245,000
Bright 2 bedroom duplex – Lower available to rent
\$2,300/mth MLS 9334461



WESTMOUNT 4549 Sherbrooke W. \$1,198,000
Century old home in a class by itself, 4 BDR,
exceptional woodwork, high ceilings, across from park.
MLS 8653037



WESTMOUNT Price Upon Request
Paradise Found



WESTMOUNT Upper Clarke
Showcase Home



WESTMOUNT ADJ. 5201 Brillon
Home Sweet Home



VILLEMARIE 2954 Hill Park Circle \$859,000
Spacious 5 BDR semi, steps to Beaver Lake, wood
floors, finished basement, parking + garage.
MLS 10405728

Marie Sicotte

Real Estate Broker – Groupe Sutton Centre-Ouest, inc.

514.953.9808

mariesicotte@videotron.ca



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Jeannie Moosz

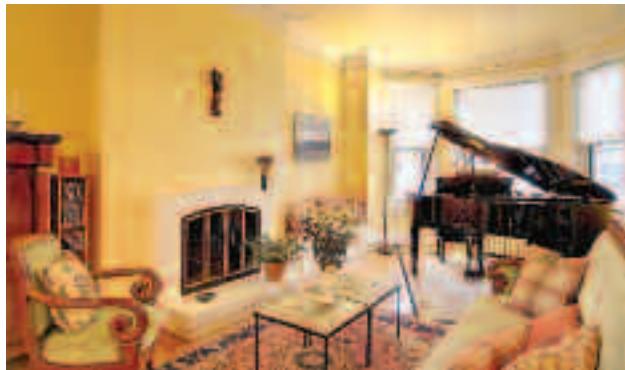
Real Estate Broker – Groupe Sutton Centre-Ouest, inc.

514.299.3307

jeanniemoosz@gmail.com



WESTMOUNT \$1,150,000 Wonderful family home near the park, library and the "Y". Many original details: high ceilings with intricate moldings, pocket doors, woodwork, fireplace. Large country style eat-in kitchen with beautiful butler's pantry and mudroom for convenient access to the garden & 2 car parking. 4 bedrooms+den. High and dry basement. Bi-energy heating system.



JUST LISTED

WESTMOUNT \$1,495,000 Sunny and spacious cottage with many upgrades. Cross hall plan. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, upstairs den, basement entrance with mudroom, garage and large deck. Steps to Marcellines and park!

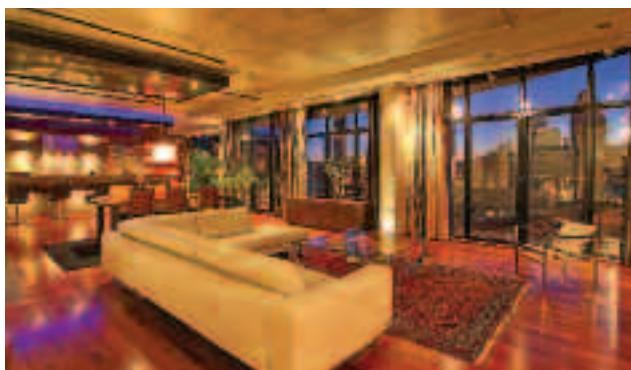
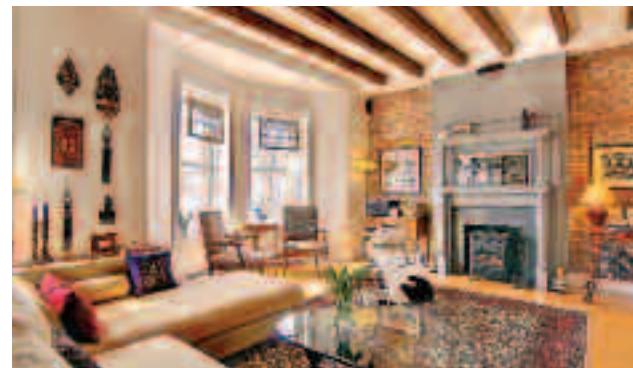


NDG \$849,000 Spacious, renovated s/d duplex with bachelor, prime location on Oxford. Currently fully rented w/possibility of lower occupancy. Separate heat. Decks. Garage. Yearly revenue \$43,980.

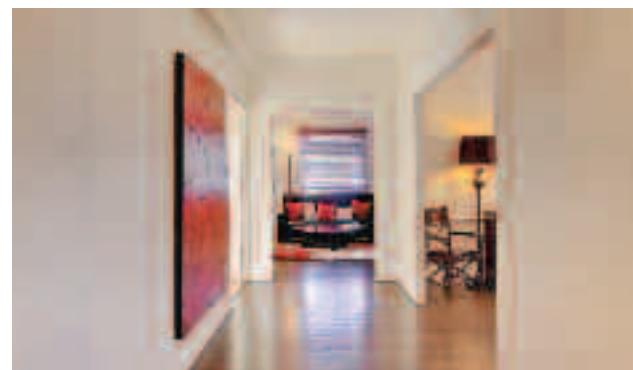


JUST LISTED

WESTMOUNT \$659,000 Sought-after top floor corner apartment at Villa Grosvenor. Open concept living areas with 10' plus ceiling height, exposed brick, wood beams and fireplace are loft-like in style; rare to find in Westmount. 2 closed bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, A/C, garage. A spacious and bright apartment in a convenient Victoria Village location.



OLD MONTREAL \$2,200,000 One of the most beautiful condos in Montreal, this luxurious PH offers city and waterfront views, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, 2 garages. Kitchen with gas stove and top appliances. Quality of workmanship are evident throughout. 3500 sq.ft. Ideal location facing the waterfront yet walking distance to fine restaurants and shops.



DOWNTOWN \$599,000 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom coop that feels like a house. It is the ideal downsize alternative. Impeccably maintained. Elegant building with doorman.

Tania Kalecheff

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