# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 7 No. 5e

We are Westmount

May 28, 2013

# Leja ceremony remembers a Westmount hero

'Effectively gave his life' in mailbox bombing

### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A city commemorative ceremony for the late Sgt.-Maj. Water Leja took place May 17 at Westmount and Roslyn avenues so "a hero who effectively gave his life would not be forgotten," Mayor Peter Trent told those assembled.

It was the 50th anniversary of the day the Westmount military engineer was so critically injured in removing a terrorist bomb from a nearby mailbox at Lansdowne that he spent most of the time at the St. Anne's Veterans' Hospital until his death in 1992 at age 71.

It brought together people who had not

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Urban farming BY M. BABINEAU p. 23

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Letters p. 8

Magdalini B.A., B.C.L., LL.B

even been born 50 years ago with those who still harbour vivid memories of the day the bombs placed by the FLQ (the Front de Libération du Québec) in 11 mailboxes in Westmount either exploded, were defused or detonated.

"It was the day that changed our perceptions of the world," said Rosalind Davis, one of those at the ceremony. "Nothing like this had ever happened in Westmount."

A child at the time, Davis was living on Upper Lansdowne near Sunnyside, where one of five initial mailbox bombs went off between 3 am and 3:20 am before six more were found. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Leja's son, Ted, wear- continued on p. 18

## Street tourney champs



Men 15's Over finalists The Seeing Ferrets (yellow shirts) and Hockey Without Borders (blue shirts) battled it out late in the day May 25 during the street hockey tournament fundraiser for the new Westmount recreation centre May 25 during Westmount Family Day. Under heavy overcast skies and steady rainfall, Hockey Without Borders won the day in an exciting, closely fought, fast-moving game. For more Family Day photos, see p. 12. Photo: Ralph Thompson

# Fed, sheltered in large pond enclosure

# **Public Security rescues duck** family from traffic, sewer

### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

It was a week of ups and downs in the life of a mother duck with 11 ducklings and, at least three officers from Public Security, who tried to protect them from a series of mishaps.

For three days, the officers guided them away from traffic, managed to rescue eight of the young from the sewer, built an enclosure around a backyard pond assisted by residents and brought them duck food from the SPCA.

Efforts were made to find a wildlife service to take them, but in the end, the family - pictured initially on p. 1 of the Independent May 21 - will stay where it is, said Greg McBain, assistant Public Security director, late last week.

"On the advice of an SPCA wildlife specialist and Environment Canada, the ducklings are continued on p. 22







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**RECENTLY LISTED!** 

## Sherbrooke, Dorchester, Greene affected Major work starts to redo Greene, then water mains

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Residents got a heads-up at the May 6 city council meeting of what lies ahead for many this summer as tenders for three major Public Works projects were approved. All are in high-traffic locations.

One starts this week with the reconstruction of sidewalks and roadway on Greene from the intersection of de Maisonneuve to St. Catherine.

The other two are expected to begin later next month: replacement of the water main on Sherbrooke from Lansdowne to Strathcona. and rehabilitation of the water main on Dorchester from Greene to Hallowell.

In all cases, notices are sent to residents and building occupants, according to Public Works director Marianne Zalzal.

For the Greene project, which includes a small portion of de Maisonneuve to the west, the lowest of seven tenders was accepted. This came from Super Excavation for \$724,548 including taxes.

While merchants were advised the work would start last week, preparatory work to pinpoint infrastructure means the shovel probably won't hit the ground until this week, Zalzal said.

The project will lead off with the replacement of catchbasins and sidewalks on the west side south from de Maisonneuve to the crosswalk in front of Westmount Square and around the corner on de Maisonneuve in front of what will be the town continued on p. 10

## 7 trees falling on Greene



Pieces of the cut tree trunk and stump remain on the ground at the intersection of Greene and de Maisonneuve the afternoon of May 22. Photo: Martin C. Barry

### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The first of seven trees to be cut down in the reconstruction of Greene fell to the saw May 21 when their removal was authorized by the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), according to Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

The decision, she said, was based on a presentation by Jayme Gerbrandt, city inspector for horticulture and arboriculture. "We were told the trees were weak because they had not been planted well, were not growing and would suffer if transplanted."

During construction the roots would

be damaged as well, she said. "They are to be replaced as part of the project using the proper planting cell."

The trees are located between the intersection of de Maisonneuve and the crosswalk on Greene at Westmount Square where the street is being redone.

While the city does not issue permits to remove its own trees, the PAC does require replacement and adequate replanting, Poirier said.

"Now we have the opportunity to plant the new trees properly so the roots will be able to absorb sufficient water," said Councillor Cynthia Lulham.

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ATWATER/CANAL: 90 Vinet #B111; approx 1,700 s.f., 2 flrs, 2 lrg bdrms, 2 garages, 12' ceilings, F/P, brick walls, lrg deck. Asking \$3,400/month



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## Station 12 Reports Witness watches cyclist steal from parked car

#### 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.

A witness watched a cyclist break into and steal valuables from a car parked on The Boulevard near Belvedere Rd., according to Station 12 constable Caroline Gauthier.

On May 21 at about 3:30 pm, a cyclist headed down The Boulevard pulled up next to a 2010 Chevrolet Traverse, said Gauthier. Described as a white man with a backpack, the suspect smashed the window, reached into the car and took off with the brand-name handbag that had been left on the passenger side of the car, she explained.

A witness notified police, said Gauthier, but officers were unable to locate the suspect. Inside the purse was an iPhone, a wallet, cash and more.

This serves as an example of how thieves are opportunistic and will strike at

any time, even if somebody is watching, explained Gauthier. Leaving anything within view is an open invitation to thieves who will smash windows in broad daylight to take jackets, bags, spare change, cellphones, etc. These thieves work very fast, she said, and, even if you are leaving your car unattended for a moment, either take your valuables with you or lock them in the trunk out of view.

### Office wanderer waylaid

It was about 3:30 pm on May 17 when a man entered an office building on Sherbrooke St. near Elm Ave., said Gauthier. He was spotted wandering the halls.

Perhaps, she said, he was looking for an open office door for easy thieving. The building is rented by several different businesses. A female worker in the building, who knew everybody who worked there, did not recognize the man, said Gauthier.

The witness approached the man, said Gauthier, and asked him what he was doing there. The man said he worked for a ventilation company, Gauthier said, but the woman persisted with more questions, which caused the suspect to stammer. After three questions, the suspect fled the scene

He ran out of the building and the

## Graffiti pair caught, one arrested

### By Laureen Sweeney

A description of two young men in the process of painting graffiti on a wall at Sherbrooke and Grosvenor May 18 at 2:40 am led public safety officers to track them down at the request of police, according to assistant Public Security director Greg McBain.

He said reports were unclear as to how the information had come from police or why assistance had been asked of Public Security.

Once the suspects were found at Claremont and Sherbrooke, he said, officers were able to flag down a police car from Station 11 in NDG, whose officers intercepted them. Four cans of freshly used spray paint were found in a bag belonging to one. A 19-year-old Montreal man was arrested on a warrant for breach of conditions in respect to a previous case. He is to be charged either criminally for graffiti or ticketed after investigation by police, McBain said.

woman watched as he got into a dark blue

sedan that resembled a Cadillac. Gauthier

said the suspect is described as around 30

years old, 6' tall and about 170 pounds.

The fine for graffiti under Westmount's municipal by-law 257 is \$500 plus an administrative fee of \$137.

The city will take measures against him to recover the cost of removing the graffiti from the wall of 392 Grosvenor, just south of Sherbrooke, McBain said. Its painted area was 9 by 14 feet.

The second suspect was not detained and is not to be ticketed or charged in the incident.

McBain said a follow-up on the removal of graffiti after the winter from some 100 signs, *continued on p.* 19





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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### St. Matthias' Church and Miss Vicky's: setting the record straight...

Several articles have been published regarding St. Matthias' Church and Miss Vicky's Nursery School. Unfortunately, these articles have only emphasized the concerns of a few neighbours. St. Matthias wants to set the record straight.

Twenty years ago, church leaders identified a need for outreach into the community. We then encountered Ms. Vicky Naday, an educator specializing in early childhood education, who provided a professionally managed pre-school program that matched our vision. It was hoped that this would serve as a conduit into our church. This strategy worked. Some parents and children now attend. Others help with our Meals on Wheels program, rummage sales and Christmas fair. These activities enabled us to give \$10,600 to charities last year. A cooperative spirit helps everyone win!

Contrary to what has been reported, the operation of the nursery is not illegal. The church has the right to operate a preschool– providing that safety measures and insurance regulations are in place. "Miss Vicky's Nursery" holds a valid occupation certificate issued by the city of Westmount.

It was reported that one neighbour be-

lieves that St. Matthias should operate the pre-school itself. We fail to see the point of this or how this would solve the alleged "safety" issue on Church Hill.

St. Matthias is involved in the day-today operation of the pre-school. A committee ensures compliance with the church's mission statement, that the school is run safely and in compliance with the law, and that concerns of our neighbours are addressed. In response to traffic issues, we dictated that an employee be hired to oversee the dropping off and picking up of children. We also dictated staggered drop-off and pick-up times. We supported the city when no turns onto Church Hill from Côte St. Antoine were mandated weekday mornings.

We remind everyone that our traffic problems are only partially caused by St. Matthias' Church and its programs. Selwyn House, the Shaar Hashomayim, the lawn bowling club, and the police and fire departments along with city hall itself are all nearby.

If Westmount leaders determine that a new zoning category is needed, then we support that – unambiguously! In this process we intend to defend our rights – vigorously.

Reverend Kenneth Near, Rector Jane Needles Bradley, Rector's warden Stephen Hinton, People's warden Vicky Naday, Miss Vicky's Nursery

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### EXPERIENCING TERROR 50 years ago on May 17

We were jolted awake by a blast, the likes of which we had never heard. We found ourselves in each other's arms in the hall. What was that? What happened?

My father looked out my window to see if the cross had fallen off the oratory. Had our furnace blown up? We heard voices in the street, and we joined our neighbours also out in their pyjamas.

At breakfast, we learned that a bomb had gone off in the mailbox at the end of our street, 100 meters away. On my birthday! Who could have done this? What was going on?

On my way to Villa St. Marcelline, I walked by the site of blast, a huge burnt hole in a mature maple tree.

Later that day, my younger brother was sent home from playing in Devon Park. There were reports of a bomb in the park, not far from our school, full of kids. My dad came and took me out of school.

I remember walking along Upper Lansdowne, looking into the park and seeing two dump trucks with their dumpsters open, encircling the mailbox at the top of the stairs. Brave Sergeant-Major Walter Leja disarmed the bomb and went on to the next one.

These were anxious times. Our fear was of the unknown. This had never happened here before.

Who was this group in our midst who introduced us to terrorism? It was the loss of my unquestioned innocence.

Rosalind Davis, Lorraine Ave.

Editor's note: For story on a ceremony recognizing Sergeant-Major Walter Leja, see p. 1. – KM

### OPEN LETTER TO CITY, RE: LIMITING NUMBER OF DOGS ALLOWED IN PARKS

Regarding the proposed by-law limiting the number of dogs allowed in Westmount dog parks and on the summit at any given time to a maximum of three per walker. As Westmount dog walkers, we are local business owners who take pride in the quality of our service and our reputation within the community. It is not clear to us what has provoked the proposal of a three-dog limit, nor what the objective of tabling this by-law is.

We would like to initiate a discussion between those who use and manage the dog parks in order to resolve any issues, as opposed to implementing an arbitrary bylaw that will impede the ability of dogwalkers to run their companies in a tenable manner.

Is there is a concern that we cannot control or clean up after more than three dogs? As professionals with many years of experience working with dogs, our presence keeps the parks and summit safer and cleaner for everyone. We are very careful to pick up after the pets in our charge, and it is usually us who clean up what is left behind by remiss dog owners.

As far as safety is concerned, we are 100 percent responsible for the well-being of the dogs within our care at all times, and as such we tend to monitor the behaviour of *all* the dogs in the park in order to prevent any problems from arising.

A dog-walker's group of well-behaved dogs has much less of a negative impact than one unruly or aggressive dog accompanied by its owner.

We understand that dog-walkers may not live up to the high standards of care that we have mentioned above at all times. Instead of dealing out a blanket punishment that hinders the viability of *all* dogwalkers' businesses, we believe that most issues can be resolved with a clear and open dialogue between all relevant parties.

JAYME WILMANN, STÉPHANIE O'BREADY AND JANICE HODGSON, MONTREAL

### PROPOSED DOG RUN WOULD RUIN OASIS

I've read several letters and articles about the decision to put the [Lansdowne] dog run in the middle of Westmount Park. I agree with those against it.

It seems to me that the purpose of the park was to enjoy peace and tranquility among the beautiful trees, grass and gardens in the park. It is a lovely oasis in the middle of the city.

But we don't have that any more. We have a bike path through the south end of the park; more and more cyclists are riding on the walking paths of the park and aren't stopped by anyone.

We've put up with the cutting down of fabulous old trees in the park so the new recreation centre can be constructed. We've lost the pool for two summers and tolerated untold noise.

And now we are to have a dog run in the centre of the park?

Whatever happened to the original idea of the park? Does anyone in city hall ever listen to its citizens?

## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

### We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

Publisher & Editor-in-chief: David Price Editor: Kristin McNeill Chief reporter: Laureen Sweeney

Letters & Comments:

We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. E-mail any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.

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Owned and published by: Sherbrooke-Valois Inc., 310 Victoria Ave., #105, Westmount, QC H3Z 2M9 Fax: 514.935.9241

### Letters, cont'd. from p. 8

who knows, maybe city hall will change its mind on this unattractive option.

Pat McCormack, de Maisonneuve Blvd.

### INVEST \$ INTO SENIORS' EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

I'm a little confused after reading the May 21 edition of the *Independent*. Director general Duncan Campbell tells us, referring to the WAG renovations, that the work there is not a priority for the city and if they had the \$600,000 they would think it "better spent on sewers and other infrastructure" ("\$600K upgrade of WAG to come from Selwyn House," May 21, p. 1).

On p. 4 ("Dog run closure comes suddenly, tied to pool work," May 21), director general Campbell tells us that the budget for the proposed dog run in Westmount Park will be \$100,000.

So then am I correct in understanding that the city does not have the funds for the WAG renovation, and if it did it would spend them on sewers or other infrastructure, but it does have the funds for a playground for dogs?

Seems a bit odd, doesn't it?

I think a much better use for that area of the park and the \$100,000 would be to install outdoor exercise equipment for seniors. These types of installations are common in parks in Europe and the Far East. I think the sight of exercising oldies so near to the children's play area and the playing field would be good for all concerned.

RICHARD AYLETT, CLAREMONT AVE.

### An open letter to Mayor Peter Trent

I am writing about the dog run, which is scheduled to be placed in the heart of Westmount Park. The location is not "little used," as described by Councillor Cynthia Lullham. Shaded by mature oaks, it is frequented by residents of a retirement home during their walks, members of the Westmount Public Library to read, mothers with children, health-conscious residents practicing tai-chi in the calm and peace near clear waters flowing into a waterfall past a green island.

Dog runs in Westmount are covered by gravel and dust, which, in the hot, rainy summer months will become embedded with dog waste. The stench is strong. In the long run, it will intensify and become a health hazard. On dry, hot days, winds will blow the dried waste-embedded dust into the lungs of pet owners. Park strollers out for a breath of fresh air may not be aware of the danger. There will be barking at all hours from playing dogs. Not infrequently, there will be dog attacks and fights. Big dogs will jump over the fence unless it is six feet high. Many dog owners often forget to shut the gate. The metal fence and containers for dog waste will be an eyesore in the park. The present state of the dog runs at the Westmount Athletic Grounds and Lansdowne Ave. are examples that show what the proposed run will soon become.

I trust you will understand and sympathize with my point of view, which is shared by many dog owners and a large number of Westmount residents.

Please do your best not to allow this green oasis in Westmount Park to become a dog playground.

The Lansdowne run is little used and although reduced in size should remain in its present location. It will not be missed. I never bring my dog to the runs after an attack by another dog. Many owners do not use the runs because of the gravel surface and risk of attacks.

Stephen Chin, Sherbrooke St.

# BICYCLE HIGHWAY

Spring is here, and Westmount Park will come to life with the cheer and laughter of children.

This year's soccer enrolment is over 1,100 children. They will play between 5 and 7 pm, and on Saturdays.

As I have been observing in the past years, some cyclists riding through the park do not stop at the stop signs nor slow down.

As a resident of Westmount, I expect the city to take actions for the safety of our children. If the public safety department does not want or cannot fulfill its obligation, the police should be advised to give tickets to all cyclists not wearing helmets (a city by-law, by the way) or stopping at stop signs. \*

My tax dollars are for my living in comfortable surroundings, not supporting the bicycle highway.

KIRK POLYMENAKOS, CLAREMONT AVE. \* Editor's note: Only police, not the Public Security Unit, have the legal ability to ticket cyclists for going through stop signs. Bikes are considered a moving vehicle and moving vehicle violations are part of the provincial highway code, which is enforced by police. Regarding the bike helmet by-law, Westmount's director general Duncan Campbell explained that while "wearing a helmet is the common sense thing to do," the by-law is ultra vires and is not enforced by Public Security.

Regarding the helmet law, Station 12 constable Annie Grondin explains that while a Westmount municipal rule obliges cyclists riding in or through Westmount to wear a helmet, notwithstanding the question of safety, there is no obligation in the highway safety code to wear a bike helmet. "This rule is difficult to apply," she said, and police stick to the provincial rules and do not generally give out tickets for not wearing a helmet. -KM

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# City to evaluate alert system in wake of boil-water advisory

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The two-day boil-water advisory last week drove home the reason why Westmount residents and businesses should sign up to receive the city's emergency email "blasts," said to city director general Duncan Campbell. This can be done on the city website.

In wake of the experience, he said, he also plans to evaluate how effective the agglomeration's "reverse 911" alert system was in regards to notifying Westmounters.



As well, he would be looking into the possibility of using the "code red" alert system, recently introduced in Beaconsfield, he said.

Informing residents and businesses quickly at the start of the water advisory May 22 was the main challenge that city officials faced, Campbell explained.

The city used its website, Twitter and email alerts, phoned schools and daycares, seniors' residences and Contactivity. Personnel made door-to-door visits to businesses and restaurants in the commercial districts and made deliveries and postings of notices at apartment buildings where possible, he said.

## Reactions

Bottled water flew off the shelves at the Metro store at Sherbrooke and Victoria, reminiscent of the ice storm in 1998. Franchise owner Graham Fletcher estimates he sold a month's worth in a four-hour period.

"It was amazing, insane, a full moon and the end of the world," he said May 23, the next day. Did he have enough supply? "Nobody could have. I'm just getting water now."

And just like in the "great ice storm," there were acts of thoughtfulness.

Nurse Barbara Lee at Manoir Westmount said the seniors' residence received a large unsolicited delivery of bottled water from the Dominique Voyer pharmacy at the Pharmaprix store in Alexis Nihon. "They just sent them over," she said. In all: 20 cases, each holding a dozen 500 ml. bottles.

"We went out and bought more but it allowed us to put a bottle in each person's mailbox yesterday and today," she said May 23, the second day of the advisory. The staff also boiled water for meals for the 125 residents.



By award winning European artist Oleg Dergachov, whose artworks are represented in numerous art museums and public art collections of 26 countries

He also offers workshops of cartooning, drawing and 3D modeling for kids and teens!!!

"Once people were getting home around 5:30 pm, we went up and down the residential streets with the loudspeaker," Campbell added. "I think most people had already heard about it."

Westmount was part of the boil-water advisory along with all areas of the island of Montreal south of the Metropolitan expressway and from LaSalle east to Pointe aux Trembles that receive water treated by the Atwater filtration plant operated by Montreal as an agglomeration facility.

"What impressed me was the efficiency of going door-to-door to reach people along with e-mail alerts," said Councillor Patrick Martin, commissioner of Utilities and Public Works. "It's one of the benefits of being a small community."

There was really no health risk because of the speed with which the problem was caught, Martin added, but the action was "a precautionary measure."

The initial alert had been sounded by the city of Montreal at about 9:30 am when sediment was discovered in what was reported as a low water level at the Atwater filtration plant, the cause of which is now under investigation.

It's this facility that treats the water before pumping it up to reservoirs on the mountain that in turn supply Westmount and other areas through gravity feed.

Five of these reservoirs supply Westmount though the city has owned, managed and maintained its own water distribution network since the demergers in 2006.

These are the Mountain, Summit, Côte des Neiges, Vincent d'Indy and McTavish

### Greene Ave., cont'd. from p. 3

square outside Les 5 Saisons and the new condo building.

This will be followed by similar work on the east side of Greene along with the raised intersection and asphalt refinishing, though the order of some of this has yet to be determined, Zalzal said. Completion of the project is slated for July 19.

This year's work to continue replacing the water main on Sherbrooke by section involves the portion from Lansdowne to Strathcona expected to start after June 25 and the closure of schools for the summer. The six-inch pipe dating from 1891 is to be replaced by an eight-inch one.

The work includes replacement of lead water services from the main to property lines. In keeping with the city's policy, property owners will be given the opportunity to piggyback onto the city project by redoing the remainder of their line by hiring their own contractor, which reduces reservoirs.

"This is why, when the alert was given to us at 9:30 am, the chances were minimal that our water was affected until about 1 pm because we were still getting clean water from the reservoirs," Campbell pointed out.

At 10:15 am, Public Security personnel began phoning the boil-water advisory to 15 schools, 9 daycares, four seniors' residences and Contactivity, Public Security director David Sedgwick said.

Personnel then canvassed commercial sectors with Public Works employees, followed up with written notices and then patrolled the residential areas with loudspeakers.

While some 1.3 million residents were affected in the Montreal area, there was no shortage of water, Campbell pointed out. It had to be boiled, which was an inconvenience, but not considered to require an emergency distribution of bottled water.

While the source of the problem at the Atwater plant had yet to be determined, Martin said it wasn't simply Montreal's. "In a sense, we all own the Atwater plant because it's an agglomeration facility."

### One resident left in dark

A woman living in a Westmount apartment building called in the Radio Noon CBC radio show on May 23 to say the residents of her building were not alerted and wondered whether other large apartment buildings had been notified.

some excavation costs.

A temporary water line is to be laid for the six to eight weeks of the work.

Seven tenders were also received for this project. The lowest bid was accepted from Excava-Tech for \$308,517, a cost to be fully paid by the federal gas tax subsidy. The project will last some six to eight weeks, starting with the installation of a temporary water line.

The water main rehabilitation on Dorchester includes the lining of 223 meters of pipe, replacement of 16 lead water services and one fire hydrant at the price of \$352,762 from Canbec Construction. It was lowest of three bidders.

This work, beginning in June, will also last six to eight weeks and be undertaken mainly on the south side of Dorchester – the eastbound lane – where the pipe is situated though it provides water supply on both sides.



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# 'One of the best-spirited family days:' Deegan Family Day: rain but not a 'wash-out'

#### By LAUREEN SWEENEY

It drizzled, rained off and on and even poured down a few times, but this year's Westmount Family Day was not a washout as some may have thought.

There were soggy socks from the kids who played on the inflatable games, which require the removal of shoes and boots. There was little waiting time at some attractions but long line-ups at others. The only thing cancelled was the morning races, said Sports and Recreation director Mike Deegan.

'Considering the weather, it was one of the best-spirited family days I've seen," he said. "Those who came had a really good time."

All 25 teams totalling 150 players who had registered for the street hockey tournament turned up and played their games, said sports coordinator Bruce Stacey, who was in charge of setting up the tournaments boards the night before with a group of volunteers, along with Public Works personnel.

"The tournament went so well," he said, "that we've had requests for it to become an annual event." It was introduced this year as a fundraiser for the Westmount recreation centre.

Westmount Park's leaking lagoon was filled for the day. A long-time favourite activity at family day is the army's aerial runway across the water that comes with a long line-up. This year, some participants could even take more than one trip across. The terrain was so slippery, however, one soldier running the pulley down the bank went right into the lagoon, to the great amusement of one 6-year-old.

At a new jumping feature, however, the line-up at 12 noon was so long that one anxious father was told the waiting time would be one hour.

continued on p. 13

Photos by Ralph Thompson



Fearless 5-year-old

Vera Gaty jumps

trampoline.



The NRG Boys won the top fundraising team grand prize of the street hockey tournament. Their prize was a Bell Centre Loge for 12 people. The Allstars won the tournament lottery fundraising team prize, which included VIP family invitations to the new Westmount recreation centre opening ceremony. Tournament winners included the Cobras (boys 14 and under), VSM Archangels (girls and women), the Ice Holes (family and friends) and Hockey Without Borders (men's 15 and over). See photo, p. 1.



### Family Day, cont'd. from p. 12



Craftsman Ocatavio Salcedo, right, demonstrates the process to glaze a wooden window to Westmounter Gerry Hionis, left, using a modern form of putty. Onlookers Hai Xue and his son Jaibao moved from Beijing to live in Westmount two months ago.

# Rotary preps for auction, sale



At their storage depot in St. Henri on May 25, a group of Westmount Rotarians spent a few hours sorting some of the many items they have collected over the months. They were preparing for their big annual evening fundraising auction on Friday, May 31 and garage sale Saturday, June 1 at the RMR Armoury on St. Catherine St. From left, Sandy Highet, Andy Durso, Anne McArel, Haagen Kierulf, Nicola Elkins, John Halas, Jim and Diana Bouchard.

## Worried resident wakened by TV

Public safety officers were called to a house on Roslyn south of Sherbrooke at 3:52 am May 18 when a resident was suddenly awakened by a TV turning on in the basement and feared an intruder was inside. Public Security officials said she was told that patrollers would be immediately

dispatched but would await police before entering. At 4:03 am, officers from both forces searched the house, found all in order, and removed a timer from on top of the TV that was described as having been "mysteriously set."



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## **Classic Keaton silent screened at Westmount Park United**

# Water balloons tossed into street

Three boys throwing balloons filled with water and shaving cream into the street May 17 were warned not to, Public Security officials said.

Found near Clarke and The Boulevard at 4:26 pm, they were told to clean up, which they had already started to do. The boys were aged between 14 to 16.



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#### Famed Canadian film animator and director Gerald Potterton, left, jokes around with Hallowell Ave. resident Philippe Spurrell of the Film Society just before a screening with live piano accompaniment of the Buster Keaton silent classic The General at Westmount Park United Church May 25. Potterton, a former Westmounter who now lives in the Eastern Townships, directed The Railrodder, a 1965 National Film Board short in which Keaton played his last silent film role. According to Spurrell, proceeds from the wellattended presentation will help the church upgrade its organ.

Photo: Martin C. Barry



# New socks for old sewers



A worker walks along The Boulevard and Clarke Ave., where work is being completed on a section of Westmount's underground sewer system May 24. According to Public Works water and sewer engineer, Christian Sipos, the steam is used to cure a sock-like felt liner that is installed over and covering the bricks, giving the line a new structural capacity and an added 50 years of life. The work has been going on for more that ten years and is done block by block so as to reduce traffic problems, according to Sipos. It takes approximately a day to treat a block of sewer line. Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

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# Locks cut off for cancer research



Villa Maria students Constance Biron in grade 11, left, and Westmounter Hanna Johnston in grade 9 had their hair shaved off May 14 to raise funds for the Cedars Cancer Institute. They raised \$15,000 for research on breast cancer. It was one of several activities organized by the high school in order to support research on the cancer. Photo courtesy of Villa Maria

## Bunny rescued, club started



Lexington Vickery, middle, rejoices May 21 in finally capturing a stray rabbit, as Public Security Sgt. Stephen Payne arranges it in a cardboard box in preparation for transport to the SPCA. The animal was found in the bushes outside the Westmount Public Library by a young man who was working there. According to Vickery's mother, Amy Creighton, who teaches fitness classes at Victoria Hall, "my daughter was so excited about all this that she has started a "Bunny Rescue" club to help catch stray rabbits."



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# Leja remembered at outdoor ceremony May 17



Mayor Peter Trent lays the city wreath at the memorial tree and commemorative plaque to Sgt.-Maj. Walter Leja, accompanied by Major Daniel Dolan of 34 Combat Engineer Regiment on May 17. Inset: Leja's son, Ted, at the ceremony.

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### Leja, cont'd. from p. 1

ing his father's medals that included Canada's George Medal for acts of great bravery, recalled the impact that day had on his family. He was 16 at the time.

In a long emotional recollection, he related how his father had been mistakenly transported by ambulance to St. Mary's Hospital rather than Queen Mary Veterans' Hospital, leading to false reports he had been taken to the morgue.

The younger Leja told how his education and family had been supported for many years through a fund reaching donations of \$220,000 in today's dollars set up by the Westmount Municipal Association and the city.

Excerpts read from many letters of appreciation to the family included one from grade 1 Roslyn students.

Also paying tribute to "Rocky" Leja, was

Robert Côté, the retired Montreal police bomb squad head during the FLQ crisis in 1971. He was serving his first day on the squad when it was unavailable to assist in Westmount, causing the city to turn to the army's bomb disposal personnel.

The call brought out Leja from 3 Field Engineers on Hillside along with his lieutenant, Douglas Simpson. And among those paying tribute 50 years later were a guard of 15 members of the regiment now renamed 34 Combat Engineers, whose major, Daniel Dolan, accompanied Trent in the wreath laying.

In a first-hand account of accompanying Leja to the mail box at Lansdowne and Westmount, then city manager Norman Dawe wrote: "At no time did Sgt.-Maj. Leja express any concern for himself but by his manner and in his comments, which were most matter of fact, it was apparent in his mind there was no question about his duty."

## Where the bombs were

On May 17, 1963, all 90 mail boxes in Westmount were checked by the then Westmount Police Force, which uncovered six in Westmount and some suspicious packages (such as ham sandwiches) in addition to the five that had already exploded.

The following location and times of bombs exploded or detonated comes from a "Special Report on the Bombings of Friday, May 17" written by A.E. Jones, Lieutenant Detective, Criminal Investigative Division of the Westmount Police Force, dated May 29, 1963.

## Bombs that exploded between 3 and 3:20 am:

Sherbrooke at Vignal Côte St. Antoine at Metcalfe Westmount Ave. at NDG Ave. Sunnyside at Upper Lansdowne St. Catherine at Lewis

### Bombs found by Westmount police:

- St. Catherine at Hallowell: removed by Leja at about 10:15 am, detonated by city, 6:03 pm
- Sherbrooke at Claremont: dismantled by Leja, 10:30 am
- Westmount at Lansdowne: exploded while being checked by Leja, 10:53 am
- Dorchester at Gladstone: detonated by city at 6:45 pm
- The Boulevard at Lansdowne: detonated by city at 7:40 pm
- Upper Belmont at Devon: detonated by city at 8:47 pm
- The Boulevard at Trafalgar (Montreal): removed by Montreal police, 10:50 am.



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# Comin' Up

### Thursday, May 30

• Nora Hague, cataloguer/photographic archivist with the Notman Photographic Archives of the McCord Museum, gives an illustrated talk about 19th century Montreal photographer **William Notman**, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. Free.

• Mountainside United Church's **teen music group** to host "Mountainside's Scoop on Music," 7 pm at the church, 687 Roslyn Ave. Ice cream, baked goods, tea and coffee. Tickets: \$10 adults; \$5 children under 12; \$20 families. Info: 514.486.1165.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 2

• Arlington Ave. yard sale, 10 am to 1 pm. Street is blocked off for the some 15 households scheduled to participate.

• "Pour que la vie continue" fundraising event with ragtime pianist Mimi Blais and other musicians in memory of the late **Remi Arsenault** at Liquid Lounge Bar, 5028 Sherbrooke St., just west of Claremont, 5 to 8 pm. Voluntary contribution. Proceeds to be donated to Maison Victor Gadbois.

### Monday, June 3

City council meeting, 8 pm at city hall.

### Graffiti, cont'd. from p. 5

poles and other locations discovered was proceeding along with new locations that are sent to the cleaner as found. So far, the city has been billed for clean-up at 37 of the locations, some of which involve several of the original signs on the list ("Spring clean-up of graffiti to start, PSU says," April 9, p. 26).

### Friday, June 7

"Parent and tot educational seminar on oral health," by Dr. Melissa Villafranca, 9 to 10 am, Saturday June 8, 10:30 to 11:30 am at 4880 Sherbrooke St. Reserve: 514.484.3586. Free and open to all.

## Tennis tournament sign-up closes June 3

The mixed-doubles tennis tournament taking place June 7 to 9 as a fundraiser for the Westmount recreation centre was the brain-child of longtime Westmount resident Antony Kovic, for whom tennis has been a family affair.

"I was trying to think out of the box of a way to raise funds and bring people together in a really inclusive environment," he told the *Independent* last week.

Kovic proposed the idea to the main fundraising committee and then put together his committee comprising Mai Nguyen, Milica Vachon, Carole Papich and Zurirma Ling.

A resident of Forden Ave., Kovic said it will take place at Murray Park with the closing party to be held outside the comfort station.

With the registration deadline approaching June 3, Kovic said he's expecting more than 30 doubles teams. "The tournament is designed to appeal to players of all skill levels, from teens to seniors," he said. "It's a smaller initiative, but we hope to have a lot of fun."

Competitors can pair up with a partner, family member, friend or child – over 14 unless tennis trained. Registration is online at www.wrc2013campaign.com at \$75 per person.

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## BUILDING PERMITS 😭 What's permitted

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the May 6 city council meeting.

437 Argyle: to cut a tree;

3298 Cedar: to build a two-storey extension in west-side yard;

488 Lansdowne: to build a rear deck; 4698 Westmount: to landscape the front yard including a new terrace;

756 Lexington: at a Category I house, landscaping to include reconstruction of balconies, a swimming pool, new retaining walls, hedge and fence;

82 Somerville: to replace some storm windows;

5016-5018 Sherbrooke: at a Category I building, to install a sign for Dormezvous;

3227-3233 St. Antoine: to rebuild front steps and walkway;

491 Mount Pleasant: to build a onestorev addition:

118 Upper Bellevue: to build a rear ground-floor addition that will extend to the two lower floors;

723 Upper Roslyn: to replace some doors;

624 Murray Hill: landscaping to include a new deck, and conversion of a basement door into a window:

28 Edgehill: at a Category I house, to re-



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place windows and some doors;

4337 Westmount: to enclose the ground floor beneath a second-storey sunroom;

101 Côte St. Antoine: to erect a sign for "Selwyn House - Macaulay Building;"

**3488 Holton:** to replace some windows and doors:

564 Victoria: to restore front entry porch;

4255-4257 St. Catherine: to replace some windows;

449 Clarke: to block two rear windows; 428 Wood: at a Category I house, to erect a fence in the back yard;

**123-125 Irvine:** to landscape in the back yard including a fence, rebuilding the basement entry and resurfacing the parking area;

15 Park Place: at Westmount Park School, a Category I building, to proceed with partial repair of masonry;

615 Carleton: landscaping in rear yard including roofs of two garages;

730 Upper Lansdowne: to replace some windows and doors and enlarge the kitchen window and convert into a door;

361 Kensington: landscaping to include pavers for the driveway and walkway at the side, to erect a new fence and add planters;

47 Windsor: at a Category I house, to transform a rear window and single window into a French door;

5 de Casson: to replace all windows;

**437 Argyle:** to replace some windows; 4675 St. Catherine: for the Westmount recreation centre, to approve building materials shown onsite December 4;

3767 The Boulevard: to build an underground garage and new exterior stairs over the required 25-foot building line.

\*\*\*\*

The following permits were approved at the May 21 city council meeting.

3803 The Boulevard: at a Category I

house, to redo some landscaping including new front stairs, planting beds, greenery, a fence and retaining walls;

367 Metcalfe: to replace windows and a back door;

1233 Greene: alterations at the front to include new windows, door and stone veneer.

647 Grosvenor: landscaping in back to include a swimming pool, fence and gate;

40 Oakland: to build a detached accessory garage at the rear;

126 Clandeboye: to replace some basement windows;

252 Metcalfe: at a Category I house, to build a one-storey extension, modify some window openings and create new ones at the rear; build and extend rear decks at the ground and second-storey levels, and replace all windows;

38 Holton: to install a heat pump on the garage roof;

132 Arlington: to add a railing to the front stairs:

**414 Wood:** to replace the front door;

449 Clarke: to replace one window and enlarge a rear door;

61 Chesterfield: at a Category I house, to enlarge and add openings at the rear, repair brick, make a back patio, and replace all windows and add window wells;

3757 The Boulevard: rear landscaping to include a new swimming pool, patio, planting beds, retaining wall, fence and garden;

437 Argyle: to demolish a front balcony and install a Juliette railing in front of the door:

493 Argyle: to build a back fence;

6 Hudson: landscaping to include a new grassed area and cedar hedge;

**415 Argyle:** to restore the front porch according to original plans;

**520** Argyle: to build a new back porch; 463 Strathcona: to enlarge a window and add a window opening at the rear.



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# Much has happened, much to do



### Our Man in Ottawa MARC GARNEAU, MP FOR WESTMOUNT-VILLE MARIE

Much has happened in parliament and to my own party since I last wrote on these pages. Most significantly, the Liberal Party of Canada has a new leader, Justin Trudeau, who took over on April 14 after a very convincing win and a promise to do politics differently. Since that date, the Conservative government wasted no time to generate an attack ad that fell flat after the Liberal Party put out its own ad telling Canadians that they deserve better. Now the talk is of flyers, called "Ten Percenters," being mailed out by the Conservatives in early June. These will be paid for by the taxpayer and mailed to ridings across the country for the sole purpose of once again trying to attack the Liberal leader. Ten Percenters are intended to inform Canadians about what the different parties are doing to represent them. They are not intended as attack ads at taxpayer expense. The government is also using our tax dollars to continue a seemingly unending wave of television advertisements for its "Economic Action Plan", budgeting another \$20 million in its most recent estimates. My colleagues and I have been making a simple point in the house of commons in recent weeks: instead of spending our tax dollars on self-promoting

ads, the government should instead be investing more money in the Canada Summer Jobs program. This is an excellent government program that helps organizations hire students in the summer months. With a youth unemployment rate at 14.5 percent, the program is needed now more than ever. Instead the Conservative government has decreased the program by over 50 percent since they came to power in 2006. On the positive side, in our own riding of Westmount-Ville Marie, about 250 students will secure jobs this summer.

Unfortunately, we received applications for an additional 350 jobs that cannot be accommodated. By contrast, every single Economic Action Plan ad airing on Hockey Night in Canada costs taxpayers the equivalent of about 32 student summer jobs. Regrettably, the government believes it's more important to promote itself than to spend the money on summer jobs for young people who would benefit from the work experience while providing a useful service in our community.

In closing, the coming weeks will be extremely busy with rumours of parliament being prorogued later this summer

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and a new throne speech in the fall. If this is the case, the government will wish to pass some of its remaining legislation before parliament rises in late June. Much to do in the coming month.

## Roofers ticketed \$1,250 for 'exceptional danger'

Roofers were issued a ticket for \$1,250 May 18 for blocking two eastbound traffic lanes on Sherbrooke between Melville and Metcalfe, Public Security officials said. The positioning of a dump truck and a lift created a hazardous situation forcing traffic, pedestrians and cyclists into oncoming traffic. While the workers had permission for roof work that day, they had not obtained a permit to use the public street. The ticket was issued due to the "excep-

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tional danger."

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### Ducklings, cont'd. from p. 1

better off where they are until they fly away," he explained. "They're protected and we have the cooperation of the residents.

At this time of year, it's not uncommon for Public Security to find ducklings in Westmount, he said, in relating the latest



anımal consultant TTouch - certified practitioner basic first aid incidents. "We've sometimes taken them to the pond in Westmount Park." But this year it's leaking (see story May 14, p. 23).

#### Found at Rosemount pond

The story began to unfold May 18 when Sgt. Robert Forbes and public safety officer Patrice Dion responded to a call regarding a mother duck and 11 ducklings at a private pond on Rosemount Ave. at 12:33 pm. The SPCA was contacted but did not attend, McBain said.

The next morning at 10 am came another regarding the ducks walking around Greene, Sherbrooke and Rosemount. The same officers guided the family across the intersection of Greene and Sherbrooke.

When the mother became very agitated, efforts to capture them were abandoned and the family was guided back to the Rosemount pond.

Then, misfortune befell the family the next morning, May 20, when a call was received at 7:27 am about a group of ducks that had fallen into a sewer near 433 Mount Pleasant. Once again, Forbes and Dion responded to find the mother "making a great deal of noise" beside the sewer grate through which the tiny ducklings had apparently fallen.

They removed the grate and, assisted by PSO Amelie Arel, they used a net with a pole as well as a shovel to lift out seven of the ducklings.

From another sewer opening, they heard chirping sounds believed to come from the others. Using a duck call from a mobile app, they managed to lure one more duckling to the spot where they could pull it out.

Unfortunately, the missing three were believed to have traveled too far along the sewer to be found, McBain said.

All returned to Rosemount Ave., where officers with help of the residents built a large temporary enclosure around the pond using chicken wire and bamboo stakes to keep the surviving ducklings from wandering.

And last week, after the decision to keep them in place, McBain said officers would keep an eye on the family and provide support for the residents.

# PSOs drive woman to Queen E.

Public safety officers drove a 58-year-old NDG woman to the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex May 14 after she fell at Claremont and Côte St. Antoine but refused Urgences Santé assistance, Public Security officials said. Officers stayed with her to ensure she checked in. She was reported to have hit her forehead in the fall at 11 am and suffered scratches to the right arm and knee.

# Happy to be stopped from working

A construction worker on Somerville was told at 11:54 am he was not permitted to work on May 20, Victoria Day, a legal holiday, Public Security officials said. The man was reported as "co-operative," saying he was happy to have the rest of the day off.

### Ville de Westmount

City of Westmount

### AVIS DE DEMANDE DE DÉMOLITION À TOUTES LES PERSONNES INTÉRESSÉES :

**AVIS PUBLIC** est par la présente donné que la Ville de Westmount a reçu une demande du propriétaire du bâtiment situé au <u>175, avenue Metcalfe</u> pour un permis de démolition dudit bâtiment.

Tous les documents pertinents concernant cette demande de permis de démolition, incluant les plans, peuvent être consultés au bureau de la directrice du Service de l'aménagement urbain situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount durant les heures d'ouverture, soit de de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30 (horaire régulier jusqu'au 31 mai 2013) et, à compter du 3 juin 2013, du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h durant l'horaire d'été.

Toute personne qui veut s'opposer à la démolition doit, dans les dix (10) jours de la publication de l'avis public ou, à défaut, dans les dix (10) jours qui suivent l'affichage de l'avis sur l'immeuble concerné, faire connaître <u>par écrit</u> son opposition motivée à la greffière de la ville à l'adresse suivante :

Bureau du greffe 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1E2

Toutes les personnes qui auront déposé, auprès du greffe, une opposition motivée ou des commentaires par écrit en ce qui concerne la démolition projetée à l'intérieur de ce délai, seront avisées de la date, de l'heure et du lieu de la séance publique du comité de démolition pendant laquelle la demande de permis de démolition et le « programme préliminaire » pour la réutilisation du sol à être dégagé seront examinés. Ces personnes (ou leurs représentants dûment autorisés par écrit) pourront être entendues par le comité de démolition au cours de la séance publique.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 28<sup>e</sup> jour du mois de mai 2013.

### NOTICE OF DEMOLITION APPLICATION TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that the City of Westmount has received an application from the owner of the building located at <u>175 Metcalfe Avenue</u> for a demolition permit of the said building.

All relevant documents concerning this demolition application, including plans, may be consulted at the office of the Director of Urban Planning located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, during regular hours, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and as of June 3, 2013, Monday to Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. during summer hours.

A person wishing to oppose the demolition must do so by writing to the City Clerk, giving the reasons for objecting, within 10 days of publication of the public notice or, failing such notice, within 10 days following the posting of the notice on the immovable concerned, to the following address:

Office of the City Clerk 4333 Sherbrooke Street West Westmount, Quebec H3Z 1E2

All persons who have filed in writing objections and comments, within the said delay, shall be notified of the date, the time and the place of the public hearing of the Demolition Committee during which the application for authorization and the proposed "preliminary program" for the reutilization of the vacated land will be considered. These persons (or their representatives duly authorized in writing) may be heard by the Demolition Committee at the said public sitting.

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this 28th day of May 2013.

Viviana Iturriaga Espinoza Greffière de la ville/City Clerk

shirt sleeves.

tives, the WHS has agreed to help enlarge

our vision of local growing through devel-

oping an urban agriculture initiative for

Westmount to consider. That's the way of

change – regular people rolling up their

Marci Babineau is a long-time organic

Good growing Westmount!

# Envisioning 'Edible Westmount'



## Adventures in Urban Farming

Marci Babineau

Building a community vision of a desired future can be as simple as planning a garden bed. It is a powerful practice of looking ahead to see the life you would like to be living, and building that life forward from where you stand.

Many communities around the world are undertaking local food initiatives as we understand that our food and clothing are being shipped around the world before reaching us and are developed in ways that do not match our values for health and welfare. These initiatives often rise up from community leadership, but recently Côte St. Luc's Mayor Anthony Housefather supported an "urban agriculture initiative" for that borough that sets a precedent for leadership in the development of urban agriculture in Montreal.

As Westmount steps closer to an edible future, here are several places to find this growing vision this early summer.

### Victoria village's edible planters

There will be 44 edible planters lining Sherbrooke between Claremont and Grosvenor, and on Victoria between Sherbrooke and St. Catherine for the fourth year in a row. They are alternated with the traditional ornamental variety, so every other one is edible.

Each year the soil is replaced, the plants are watered regularly and the planters are high enough that even the most ambitious dog would not find them a suitable toilet. These planters are meant to remind us of the abundance and ease of growing food near to us, and to offer us bits of herb and greens for our dinners on a "take some, leave some" basis.

In the past, when we take the fall harvest in October for the NDG Food Depot, we observe that many planters have been carefully tended. This year, there will be a sandwich board describing the plants and a QR code that invokes a phone app directing it to the city of Westmount website for more information.

### Branching out into fruit trees – free pear trees to residents

This year, the city began to offer fruit trees, starting with the Flemish beauty, as

one of its three free trees for residents. This tree is the highest yielding, semi-selfpollinating cultivar available, producing 20 percent of its full potential without another pollinator for small city gardens. There has been a great response. The Westmount Horticultural Society (WHS) has already scheduled a pruning seminar for its April 2014 evening talk.

### Plant exchange

For this year's annual plant exchange, the committee invited Action Communiterre to sell its seedlings again and also invited our three local Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) groups to sell their produce.

Throughout Montreal are rumblings of building mini orchards, while school yards like NDG's St. Monica and Royal Vale are erupting in vegetable patches. As a response to the inspi-



ration of these initia- Planters contain fresh-looking green plants along Victoria Ave., May 27.



## FOR THE 2012 FISCAL YEAR

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that, in accordance with section 105.1 of the *Cities and Towns Act* (chapter C-19), the financial report and the external auditor's report of the City of Westmount for the 2012 fiscal year will be filed by the Treasurer at the regular sitting of Council to be held on Monday, June 3, 2013 at 8:00 p.m., at City Hall, located at 4333 Sherbrooke West, Westmount.

GIVEN at Westmount, on May 28, 2013.

Viviana Iturriaga Espinoza Greffière de la ville / City Clerk Private Support of the second second

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# Chiller is in



Councillor's Photo Patrick Martin This photo shows the arrival of the "Eco-Chill system." This large piece of equipment was carefully carried to the basement of the arena on May 24. It serves to make ice by removing the heat, which is recycled to heat the building and the swimming pools.



Photo courtesy of the city of Westmount

# Two complaints launched of 'aggressive' dogs at Murray run

Public safety officers were called twice to the dog run at Murray Park May 18 for dogs acting aggressively, according to Public Security reports.

The first complaint came for a "dog attack" at 11:22 am but was later deemed unfounded. The complainant alleged a husky was attacking a bouvier but when officers spoke to several dog owners on arrival, they stated the dog simply played aggressively with others and the owner, a Montreal resident, was advised to take better control of his dog. The complainant was not found. The Montreal dog did not have a Westmount licence required for using the dog run but no action was taken against the owner. He was to be warned to obtain a Westmount license.

Another incident at 4:57 pm brought both police and public safety officers to the dog run for a German shepherd "acting aggressively." The dog was not found to have hurt anyone but the complainant stated she did not appreciate it jumping up and trying to play with her ball. The owner, who lives in Westmount, was advised to get a licence. -LS



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# Annual Daffodil Ball has Great Gatsby theme



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond Veronica Redgrave

The annual Daffodil Ball held this year on April 14 did not disappoint. The theme was the *Great Gatsby*.

A fabulous yellow vintage Rolls Royce and the massive gates of the famed Gatsby mansion on Long Island welcomed guests at the Windsor Station venue. Many, who arrived for the minimum \$2,800 ticket price event, were dressed in the style of the 1920s.

Floral designer **Yves Chénier** entwined 50,000 daffodils everywhere possible.

Event co-chairs were Westmounter Javier San Juan, L'Oréal Canada president (attending with his wife, committee member Connie San Juan Albores); Domenic Pilla, Shoppers Drug Mart/Pharmaprix CEO (with his wife Louise De Serres); and Michael Sabia, Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec president and CEO. Westmounters noted amidst the splendour included **Calin Rovinescu** with his wife **Elaine**; **Dominique Bertrand** and **Jacques Maurice**, **Michèle Dionne** and **Jean Charest**, **Linda** and **Ian Greenberg**, and **France Desharnais**, board chair of the Canadian Cancer Society, Quebec Division.

Also noted were Michèle Plourde and Eric Richer La Flêche, Monique Jérôme-Forget and Brian Levitt, Lise Watier and Serge Rocheleau, Paul and Marie-Michelle Pathy, Guy Crevier and Anick Beaubien, François Côté and Monique Légaré, Isabelle Marcoux and François Olivier, Nathalie and Georges Schwartz, Meryl and Sheldon Elman, and Galen Weston, executive chair of Loblaw, who came in from Toronto.

Event planner Alison Silcoff wore a lovely beaded gown by Eavis & Brown, and emcee Julie du Page (there with husband Andrew Lapierre) wore a white, body-outlining peek-a-boo gown by Hervé Léger.

Diamonds and beautiful bling glittered everywhere. Media celebs noted included Herby Moreau, Sophie Durocher, Virginie Coosa and Mitsou Gélinas.

Sponsors included Pharmaprix and



Michèle Dionne and Jean Charest.

RBC, which contributed \$100,000 each, and \$50,000 each from the McCall MacBain Foundation (for a three-year commitment), Apotex, CAE, Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, L'Oréal Canada, Sanofi and Sun Life Financial.

The evening raised \$2,062,000, slated for the Canadian Cancer Society.



Javier San Juan and Connie San Juan Albores. Photos courtesy of the Daffodil Ball



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BROSSARD 8145 St-Laurent, PH 400 \$599,000 Impressive 2 level Penthouse with 1,000 sq.ft. terrace! Recently renovated, 2 bedrooms, 3 parking spaces. MLS 9013192



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