

Community mailboxes edge closer

No progress in fight to keep home delivery: Trent

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As the installation of community mailboxes edges ever closer to the island of Montreal, there has been “absolutely no progress” so far in the fight by Mayor Peter Trent and Montreal mayor Denis Coderre to keep them out of the urban area.

Trent told the *Independent* last week that it seemed to him the two mayors were the only two taking on Canada Post in the entire country.

Initial opposition from both the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Union of Quebec Municipalities seems to have given way to the myriad of small towns that dominate these groups and have been accustomed to the mail boxes

for years.

“Community boxes, introduced some three decades ago, are a relatively unpopular suburban solution that is most difficult to impose in an urban condition,” he said.

What Trent calls the “exurbs” – the off-island Montreal communities – are saying that they have put up with these community boxes for years, “so now it’s our turn,” he said. In doing so, “they are preaching ‘the inher- continued on p. 10

Sweeper erupts in flames



Video courtesy of the city of Westmount.

Flames erupt from the city’s street sweeper October 20 as it enters the Public Works yard at 11:02 am, as captured by a security camera. See story, p. 9.

The Study kicks off its 100th



Some 500 students and staff gathered outside The Study October 14 at 8:30 am to kick off the school’s 100th anniversary year. An excited group assembled on the school’s front lawn to form the number “100,” an event captured by a photographer atop a Skyjack. In 1915, Margaret Gascoigne opened a school for six students in the study of her home. In 1960, The Study moved to its present location on the Boulevard. In addition to its founder, eight women have led The Study, including the current head of school, Nancy Lewis Sweer, standing at the back in a red jacket.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Honey harvested from library hive

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The honey has been harvested from Westmount’s bee hive on the roof of the library. The bees have been fed for the winter and the hive is being insulated. Now, the first jars are to be sold for \$5 at the opening reception of the city’s fall flower show Wednesday, October 29 and then at the library.

It’s being called Bee- continued on p. 9

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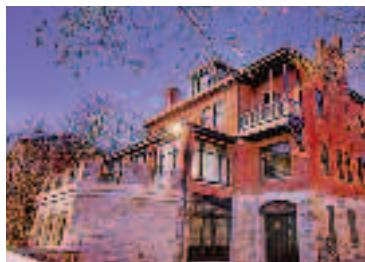
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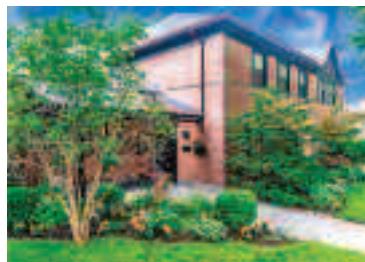
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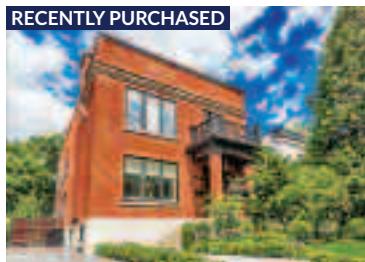
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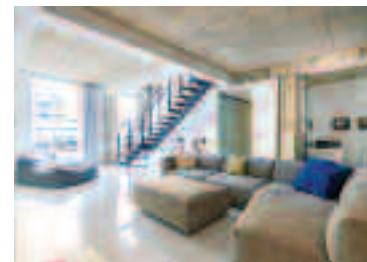
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Demo hearing for 26 Shorncliffe

No opposition voiced at hearing for added second storey

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A city demolition hearing October 22 to essentially remove the roof of a one-storey house at 26 Shorncliffe to add a second floor failed to attract any opponents. Neither of the two local residents who had submitted letters of concern giving them official “intervener” status showed up.

The absence of voiced opposition appeared to clear the way for what was expected to be a decision from the city

pose any questions. None were raised either by Peter Starr, president of the Westmount Municipal Association.

Removing 59 percent

The plan, which does not require outright demolition of the current house at the corner of Shorncliffe and Roxborough, calls for removing 59 percent of the façade. Most of this involves the roof, explained project architect Andrea Wolff of Architem.

The house sits on a very large lot close to the street and harmonizes with others but exemplifies “nothing particularly unusual,” she said. While the house is rated Category II of “significant” heritage value, neither its design nor the architect were notable, she said.

Wolff, who also sits on the PAC as a professional, later told the *Independent* she had recused herself from all the meetings that had reviewed her project.

The project has been estimated at

\$800,000. The house and property are valued on the 2012 tax roll at \$3.4 million.

The lone letter of opposition included in the city’s demolition file came from Narvey Goldman, a resident of Willow Ave. Goldman argued the house was “an excellent example of modern architecture and constructed of high quality material.” There was no need for it to “harmonize with any other property,” he stated. He also found its current size

of some 3,000 square feet *continued on p. 20*



Rendering shows how a second storey would appear on 26 Shorncliffe along with new treatment of the façade including cedar plank. Image courtesy of Architem

council’s Demolition committee in favour of the project.

While one letter opposed any changes to the existing house, the other asked the city to provide a parking plan for construction vehicles during the work.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who chairs the committee, specifically asked that a parking plan be provided after the subject of the letter was raised by committee member Councillor Theodora Samiotis. Both sit on the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), which had reviewed and recommended the project proceed.

Councillor Victor Drury, the third member of the demolition panel, did not

“We can’t lift it, but we can recreate it in its [current] shape,” she said. As a result, it was being kept intentionally low.

The second storey had been requested by the owner, Bryan Kaplan, to provide additional space (see story September 23, p. 6). Kaplan attended the hearing but did not speak.

Built in 1954, the house was designed by Stanley R. Shenkman in the spirit of “Frank Lloyd Wright prairie houses.” The PAC judged it not to be an outstanding example of the modern period. An extension by architect Max Roth was added in 1984, explained Julia Gersovitz, who chairs the PAC and who presented its position.

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Walkabout highlights concerns, opportunities

Greene merchant says city needs a business promoter

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount needs to hire a professional who can promote business in the two main commercial districts of Victoria village and Greene Ave. On the other hand, it should view current vacancies as an opportunity to attract new retail outlets.

The two views were expressed last week following a walkabout October 14 on Greene Ave. by two city councillors, representatives of Greene merchants and a nearby resident, who raised the issue of vacant stores and the “decline” of Greene at the council meeting October 6.

All agreed after the walkabout that a solution needs to be found to fix up the street where some building fronts need to be refurbished and where high rents and internet shopping are among factors leading to the vacancies.

“We know the issues very well,” said Councillor Theodora Samiotis, the city’s Urban Planning commissioner, who represented the city along with Councillor Nicole Forbes.

resented the city along with Councillor Nicole Forbes.

Samiotis told the *Independent* she sees the vacancies as “a challenge that could provide an opportunity for the street to get a better retail mix at ground level.”

She said she brought up certain needs with council members at their mid-month general committee meeting October 20 and has asked Urban Planning to look into delays in repairing damage to the facade of 1357 Greene, where granite panels fell May 11 (see story May 20, p. 8).

She also hoped changes to the street would result from the recent hiring of a coordinator by the merchants “with funding the city provided through the Centre local de développement (CLD) Les 3 Montagnes.”

But Glenn Neven, owner of Birkenstock Naturino shoes, who represented the Greene Avenue Merchants’ Association as its vice president on the walkabout, said this coordinator would be working mainly

on the group’s website and various events.

“What the city needs is to get a professional involved to promote business in both the commercial sectors,” he said. “The city needs a commercial plan, and it needs to ease off on the burden it places on businesses” due to the lack of parking, stringent parking enforcement and an emphasis on “ridding the city of cars” in place of bicycles.

He said he also feels the city may not fully understand the merchants’ problems since the city collects taxes directly from the building owners and therefore does not directly feel the economic pinch the merchants are in.

Gary Brodtkin, a resident of Sherbrooke, who initiated the idea of the walkabout, said his point is that “the retailers and landlords don’t know what to do to figure out what they want the street to become” (see October 14, p. 8). He too proposes the idea of a city-hired professional.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WRC NOT CAUSE OF RATS

This is further to Mavis Young's letter (October 21, p. 6): "Peanut 'bogeymen' may not be responsible for rats in lower Westmount."

Mavis Young can be credited with a remarkable consistency over the years in her steadfast opposition to the Westmount recreation centre (WRC). In spite of the very positive reaction of Westmounters to the WRC, Ms. Young appears to be casting about for some hitherto unknown flaw. Eureka! She has found it. Rats! Who knew? The excavation for the WRC, according to Ms Young, could easily have been the cause of the rat problem in south-west Westmount.

There is only one minor fault with Ms. Young's logic: the rat problem was well documented before construction of the WRC even started. In fact, a letter written to the city of Westmount by Dr. Stéphane Perron, a public health specialist, was entitled "Public Health Notice regarding the proliferation of rats caused by the behaviour of an individual."

This letter, dated April 26, 2010, expressed a "concern with a rat infestation problem. This problem is caused by an individual who regularly supplies significant

quantities of peanuts to squirrels. These peanuts also serve as food for a large colony of rats that live in the vicinity of Westmount Park and that proliferates thanks to this supply."

Rather than "fantasizing about peanut bogeymen," as Ms. Young would have it, the city is acting on real, not fanciful, causes of this serious problem.

PETER TRENT, MAYOR OF
THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT

WRC PARKING LOT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

Mr. Ritter raises a very important issue concerning the WRC parking lot in his October 21 letter to the editor (p. 6).

There is no doubt that many, if not all, of the spots in the WRC parking lot are too narrow to adequately allow users to park and exit their vehicle. The WRC is home to many different types of users and should have parking spots that permit the easy extraction of adults, children, hockey bags or anything else that is making its way into our beautiful facility.

I brought this very issue to the Transportation Advisory Committee earlier this month, and the administration is currently in the process of reviewing the pres-

ent configuration and will be proposing a more appropriate set-up allowing for our users to safely exit their vehicles with enough room to avoid potentially making contact with other parked vehicles.

PHILIP CUTLER, CITY COUNCILLOR AND
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

PRAISING SITE OF DOG RUN

The location for the new dog run chosen by Mayor Peter Trent should satisfy everyone.

It is far enough away from the old Lansdowne dog run so as not to cause any disturbance to the residents living in the large nearby condo buildings. Yet it is close enough to the old location to be very convenient to dog owners who were anxious to see that location renewed.

Of course not everyone will be completely satisfied. That would be far too much to expect!

Congratulations go out to Mayor Trent for his fortitude and leadership in getting Westmounters past this divisive issue.

DAVID ASCH, LANSDOWNE AVE.

GARNEAU SHOULDN'T BE SO SKEPTICAL OF UFOs

Regarding the article of September 2 relating Marc Garneau's skepticism of extraterrestrial visits ("Garneau skeptical of

'extraterrestrial' visits," p. 6), all astronauts were firmly briefed not to discuss or admit seeing UFO phenomena despite the tracking of most or all modules in orbit by alien spacecraft.

Our initial evidence of using atomic energy, nuclear fission certainly caused alien monitoring, as witnessed at rocket launchings at White Sands, New Mexico and elsewhere. Visits to Earth have been for centuries.

Since 1957, my research [has included] only a fraction of validated evidence as filed or written about extensively.

Please note the following, Marc Garneau:

1. MJ-12 – a US government body set up in 1947 by President Truman to further check out alien spacecraft crashes after the censored Roswell Incident of two crashes on July 2, 1947.
2. "Area 51" Groom Lake, Nevada: aliens meeting US scientists there.
3. From September 24 to October 18, 1954 – The landings of UFOs; 76 recorded between Bayonne and Vichy, France. The recorded sites of landings impressed into ground spanning 300 miles, seen by experts Aimé Michel and Paul Misraki.
4. July 4, 1952 – Squadrons of discoid-type UFOs passing over the state capitol, Washington, DC, witnessed by citizenry.

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A photograph of the Esso station on Sherbrooke and Grosvenor, left, shows the price of gas on April 25. The photo, right, taken October 17, shows a 14-percent decrease in price. Photos: Ralph Thompson

Must be bagged or kept on private land

Tickets being issued for leaves put on sidewalk, road in city crackdown

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The seasonal accumulation of falling leaves and their potential to block city drains has led public safety officers to mount a campaign cracking down on residents and contractors who rake or blow leaves onto the street or sidewalk rather than keeping them on private property or bagging them.

Under the city's nuisance by-law, leaves and other garden waste is prohibited from being placed on public property. As well, all bagged leaves must be placed in paper rather than plastic, which the city contractor will no longer pick up.

"We're also keeping a special watch on contractors who place earth and other material on the sidewalk and street because this also blocks the drains," said Public Security director Greg McBain.

The crackdown arose in part from a rainstorm October 8 that caused flooding at intersections on The Boulevard and Sherbrooke, he explained (see story Octo-

ber 21, p. 15). The special attention continues until November 15.

During the first few days of the campaign, officers had already issued at least 6 tickets for \$148. Starting October 14 one was given to a contractor blowing leaves onto the street outside 372 Kensington and even under cars parked on the other side. As well, he had no equipment to clean up.

"This is unacceptable," McBain said. "He was also given 14 days to obtain a valid contractor's permit. In this case, we also gave him three bags. This was an exceptional circumstance. We'd rather see the leaves cleaned up."

In another incident October 19, a pattroller witnessed a contractor blowing leaves onto the bike path outside 4394 de Maisonneuve. He was intercepted just as he was about to leave, ticketed and ordered to clean up.

The next day, a Public Security official driving along Redfern spotted a landscaper using a small mechanical shovel to move

mounds of earth off the property of a private dwelling onto the sidewalk and street across from the condo site at 215 Redfern.

"He was ordered to clean up immediately," McBain said, adding, "but there's always some residue that gets washed into the sewer." The landscaper was also issued a ticket and "obliged" to obtain a permit for his shovel, pick-up truck and trailer to occupy the street.

Wires pulled down across Olivier lane

Downed Bell wires across the lane behind 373 Olivier October 14 prevented cars from accessing the area, Public Security officials said. It was believed a truck must have hooked onto them, causing them to fall. Police and then public safety officers controlled traffic and pedestrians from 1:30 pm when the incident was reported until 5 pm when Bell showed up to re-strung the wires.

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Flower show opens to public Oct. 30

The city's annual Fall Chrysanthemum Show opens to the public Thursday, October 30 at the conservatory adjacent to Victoria Hall. It may be viewed weekdays from 10 am to 9 pm and weekends from 10 am to 5 pm.

This year, the display offers more variety of flowers than usual, according to city gardeners. Dahlias and gerbera inject brighter colour into the soft fall tones of the autumn 'mums.

"We've been prepared earlier than usual," explained head gardener Mélanie Banninger, who created the exhibit with colleagues Hélène Bazinet and Christine Dupuis under the guidance of Jayme Gerbrandt, the city's Horticulture and Arboriculture inspector. Most of the blooms are fully open this year.

The show is expected to remain open until the flowers fade. — LS

Bike removed

An abandoned bicycle was removed from Claremont across from Somerville October 17, Public Security officials said. A note had been left October 3 advising the owner to move it. The bike, which was impeding passage on the sidewalk, was taken to the station on Stanton St.



City gardeners preview the display October 24. From back to front are Mélanie Banninger, left, and Hélène Bazinet with Banninger's daughters, Érika, 10, and Noémie, 8.



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Bees, cont'd. from p. 1

blithèque honey, said Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who championed the hive's installation last spring for the city's Horticultural Advisory Committee.

A total of 160 jars were delivered to the city, "a remarkable" harvest for the first year, said beekeeper Declan Rankin-Jardin, who maintains the hive. Its population grew from 8,000 to some 50,000 by the peak of the season, though some die off naturally each year.

A hive tends not to produce as much honey in the first year, he explained "because the bees have to spend time moving in and setting up the infrastructure [honeycombs]" of their new home.

Their winter feeding is a glucose mix, and winterizing of the hive aims to maintain a temperature at just above freezing. Nevertheless, about 10 percent of hives fail to survive, he said.

Proceeds from the sale of the honey will go toward maintaining the hive next year along with proceeds from the city's perennial plant exchange, Lulham said.

City street sweeper burns

A street sweeper belonging to the city "went up in flames" October 20, Public Security officials said. As the vehicle started through the tunnel on Bethune to access the Public Works yard at 11 am, smoke was seen coming from the top of the cab.

As it entered the yard, surveillance camera footage showed the occupants jumping out and running. Public Works

personnel were kept well away from the fire because of the possible hazard it represented. Firefighters were called immediately but the sweeper was totally engulfed in flames.

It was not immediately reported how the fire started but the sweeper had picked up a lot of leaves.

See image from video, p. 1.

– LS



This was the city sweeper October 21, the day after fire swept through the vehicle leaving the cab entirely charred.

Photo courtesy of Patrick Martin

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Authorized by Fergus V. Keyes, Candidate

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authorized by: Angela Mancini and Ginette Sauvé Frankel – Printed by: westmount independent

GISM to turn down hospital ventilation until noise solution found

By ISAAC OLSON

According to Westmount's District 5 city councillor, Christina Smith, officials with the Groupe immobilier santé McGill (GISM) have agreed to temporarily turn off part of the super hospital's ventilation system in order to dampen the noise until a more permanent solution can be found.

"We finally seem to have come to an



The management group overseeing the incoming MUHC super hospital have agreed to reduce ventilation noise until a more permanent solution is found.

agreement that there is an issue that needs to be addressed," said Smith after the October 17 meeting between Westmount and GISM officials. GISM is the group responsible for developing and managing the incoming McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) medical complex located in southeastern NDG.

"The hospital ventilation has been running at full blast, but there are no patients in there. So they are going to scale it back as a temporary measure to reduce the noise for the neighbourhood while they find a long-term solution. We hope that's good news."

In the meantime, an October 27 public meeting has been scheduled to give residents a chance to discuss this issue with Westmount and GISM officials.

"The onus is on [GISM] to find a solution," said Smith. "I feel like we are moving forward."

PSOs intervene in fight between man and woman

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A fight between a man and a woman October 19 on Sherbrooke near Roslyn escalated until public safety officers intervened when the two turned the corner south on Lansdowne, Public Security officials said. The two offered different versions of the dispute.

They were first noticed on the Sunday at 8:11 am by a patroller who spotted the woman crying loudly outside the Esso service station.

The officer parked on the other side of the street and called for back-up as the incident appeared to intensify. She witnessed the woman hit the man as the two continued walking east and turned south on Lansdowne where she lost sight of them.

On Lansdowne, the woman was found lying on the ground. Officers intervened to find out what had happened. Both subjects were described as seeming intoxicated.

Given directions to Metro

The man was reported to have stated that after the woman had hit him again, he pushed her, causing her to fall. All he wanted to do was go home but the woman kept following him. He was given directions to the Vendôme Metro station.

When he left, the woman claimed he had stolen her identification papers, at which point police were called and public safety officers intercepted him as he walked west and agreed to wait for police. The man's pockets were searched and the woman's papers were not found in his possession, though police confiscated a knife.

The man, described as a 28-year-old resident of des Erables, was sent on his way again. The woman, a 24-year-old from the far north, was reported to have been taken away by police.

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According to Smith, dozens of Westmount residents have been complaining about the noises coming from the super-hospital site since November 2013. MUHC officials have said the noise is likely related to the facility's dozens of chimneys and customized cooling towers. Those cooling towers are reportedly some of the largest in Canada. The noise is often described as a rumble coupled with a high-pitched whine.

GISM's and Westmount's acoustic experts met on October 17 as planned, explained SNC Lavalin spokesperson Diane Rivard. GISM and MUHC executives also met with the mayor and city officials the same day.

"They discussed the different noise findings and related reports issued by both parties separately in the last weeks and months," she said. "Different mitigation measures to reduce the noise levels were also addressed. One of them was to temporarily reduce the ventilation system level of activity, especially during the night, until February 2015. In the meantime, the experts will evaluate other potential long-term mitigation measures."

Canada Post, cont'd. from p. 1

ent virtue' of the 'equal sharing of misery' – as [Sir Winston] Churchill would have put it."

Both Trent and Coderre have publicly stated they would never issue permits allowing Canada Post to install the boxes on

their territory.

On Montreal's North Shore, home delivery was being phased out last week to a reported 24,000 addresses. Among those hit were residents in Repentigny, Rosemere, Lorraine, Charlemagne and Bois de Filion.



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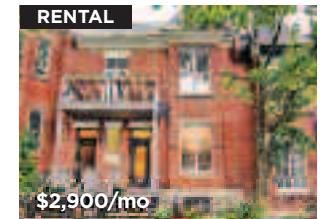
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Westmount Art Scene

Bates and Couturier: Evocative form

BY HEATHER BLACK

This month, recent work by Westmounter Catherine Young Bates and Dominic Couturier is featured, respectively, at the Gallery at Victoria Hall and at Gallery Han Art. Rich in colour or texture, abstracted forms tease and draw in the viewer.

Bates at Gallery at Victoria Hall

Bates' exhibition, "Them Apples etc.," features still lifes in ink drawings and vibrant oil paintings. The dominant subject, apples, are painted with fluid brush strokes, often outlined with dynamic lines, that recall the impressionists yet are contemporary in treatment.

In the colourful and lively "Them Apples: After Cezanne," a blue water pitcher is centred within a tabletop of red apples. For "Apple Cross," red, circular forms within a cross shape ground the vibrant, almost abstract composition. An enlarged

glass bowl in "Bowl of Apples" reflects a dish-laden table of plates and pitchers. With apples and objects outlined in oil stick, the effect is of scintillating light.

The artist again focuses on movement in "Sun Entering on Flowers." Strong diagonal lines in yellow and gold oil stick mimic warm rays of sun on a bouquet of pale peonies. For the ink drawing "Arctic Landscape," pears float in black Arctic waters against a landscape of white ice flows.

With strong colour harmony within a painterly style, "Them Apples, etc." is a lively foray into the still life genre of contemporary art. Bates' exhibition continues until November 8 at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke Street.

Couturier at Han Art Gallery

Couturier's exhibition of recent work, *A Magda Suite*, features mixed-media abstract and semi-abstract collages. A neutral palette and painted or textured paper shapes convey both antiquity and moder-

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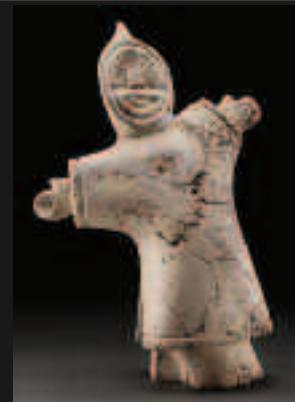
ATTRIB. TO AOUDLA PEE, *Spirit Creature*, early 1960s
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KAROO ASHEVAK, *Dancing Man*, 1970-71
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SHEOKJUK OQUTAQ, *Seated Mother and Child*, ca. 1960
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WALKER'S
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nity. The artist's graphic compositions evoke seascapes or houses and forge a new and more representative style.

In *La Martenique* horizontal lines suggest white caps and rolling seas. The pale almost monochromatic palette, tinged with pale jade, cyan, and ocher of hills, water and sand, enhances the sunlit composition. In *Solenidae* a juxtaposition of textures and almost cubist form within bands on vertical lines evokes a winter scene viewed behind a curtained window.

A house shape on a black and ocher bar dominates *If This Old House Could Talk*. Painterly drips and torn paper evokes ancient manuscripts and marbled textures. In the back-



Catherine Young Bates "Them Apples: After Cezanne"

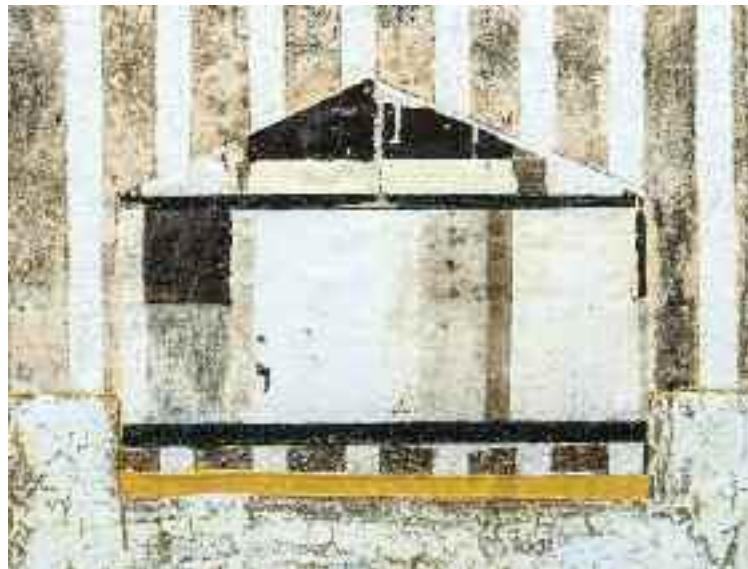
compositions dominate Couturier's new work. A major and interesting departure for the artist, the exhibition *A Magda Suite* reopens October 29 until November 9 at Han Art Gallery, 4209 St. Catherine Street.

Virtuosity of expression

Bates' and Couturier's solo shows illustrate the many forms of self-expression within contemporary art. Each exhibition also showcases the artist's adept use of visual language and versatility within their respective mediums. To quote artist Richard MacDonald: "If you have

virtuosity and facility, you can take and create something of significance."

Heather Black is a Westmount communication designer.
blackheajea@gmail.com



Dominic Couturier "If This Old House Could Talk"

ground, bold vertical paper bands accentuate the graphic quality of the composition, while the artist's judicious use of black creates interest and depth.

Sophisticated compositions, line and textures in graphic or semi-abstract style

Renaud short-listed in Forest of Learning awards

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount children's author Anne Renaud has been short-listed for the 2015 Silver Birch Award by the Ontario Library Association for her non-fiction book *The Extraordinary Life of Anna Swan*.

One of 10 finalists announced October 15, the book tells the story of how Anna Swan, who grew to almost 8 feet in height, rose above adversity to lead a life of love, happiness and great accomplishments (see July 9, 2013, p. 13).

The Silver Birch Award is offered annually by the association's Forest of Read-

ing program, which operates through schools and libraries. The Silver Birch category applies to grades 3 to 6.

Also nominated with Renaud's book are ones with topics ranging from the victory of Canadian soldiers at the battle of Vimy Ridge in World War I to bringing clean water to the developing world.

The Forest of Reading bills itself as Canada's largest recreational reading program. It offers eight age-related categories aimed at encouraging a love of reading. Some 250,000 readers are reported to participate annually from their school and/or public library.

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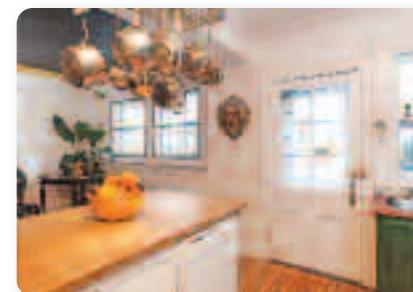
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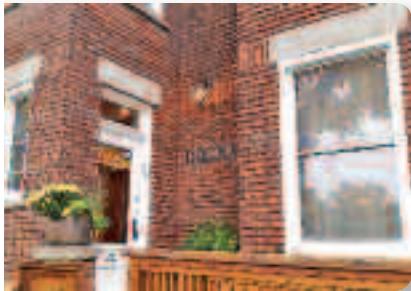
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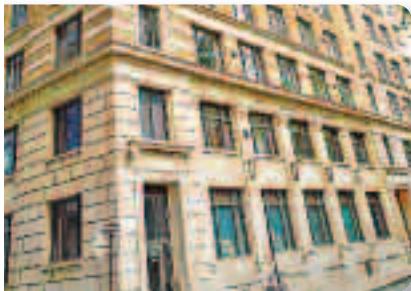
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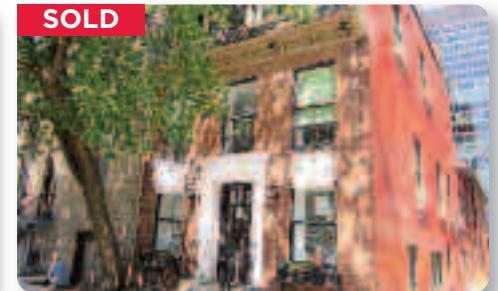
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Library previews Halloween



Six-year-old Westmounter Yusaku Fukamura throws a slipper based on the story “The Everlasting Slippers” from the book *The Thousand Nights and One Night*. “120 tickets were given to children in exchange for a decorated pumpkin,” said the head of the Children’s library, Wendy Wayling, of its October 25 Halloween event. “We’ve been doing this for 17 years, thanks to contributions from Donna Lach, assistant director of the Westmount Public Library and Community Events, the staff of the library, the many volunteers, students and other contributors.”

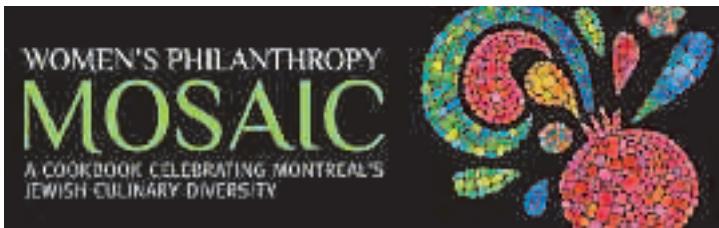
Photo: Ralph Thompson

Armstrong launches cookbook in English on Quebec cuisine



Julian Armstrong, the Gazette’s food editor and a Westmounter, was at *Appetite for Books* on Victoria Ave. October 25 to promote her latest book, *Made in Quebec: A Culinary Journey*. In his introduction of Armstrong, store owner Jonathan Cheung said there are relatively few books on Quebec cuisine written in English. While the book is based partly on her years as a Quebec-based food journalist, Armstrong also travelled to most of the major regions of the province to complete the book, which is published by Harper-Collins.

Photo: Martin C. Barry



Date and Walnut Crostini

The date is one of the world’s oldest cultivated fruits. Scholars believe that the term milk and honey, which has been used to describe the land of Israel, is, in fact, a reference to the juice of the date.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 baguette, sliced into ½ inch (1 cm) rounds
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) olive oil
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) kosher salt
- ½ cup (125 mL) toasted and coarsely chopped walnuts
- ½ cup (125 mL) pitted and coarsely chopped medjool dates (6 to 8)
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) honey
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) balsamic vinegar
- 6 oz (170 g) Brie cheese, rind trimmed and at room temperature

INSTRUCTIONS:

Preheat the oven 425°F (220°C) and position a rack in the center of the

oven. Place the baguette slices on a large baking sheet, brushing both sides with the olive oil. Sprinkle one side



lightly with the salt. Place in the oven and bake until the bread starts to brown and crisp, 4 to 5 minutes.

In a medium bowl, toss the walnuts, dates, honey, and vinegar.

While the bread is still warm, spread with the Brie and top with the date and nut mixture. Garnish with the chives

and serve immediately.

Yield: 8 servings

Best served with Grilled Peaches and Buffalo Mozzarella (page 66)

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Action on the rail lines



CP contractors, left, cut down trees at the end of Blenheim Place on October 21 to prepare for improvements to the rail corridor. At least one nearby resident objected to the cutting, but no permit is necessary for this kind of work, Westmount's Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier told the Independent, and the trees were on CP land. City of Westmount employees fixed the fence at the end of Lewis Ave. at some time between October 10 (when a resident complained in an email to city councillor Cynthia Lulham) and October 22, when this picture was taken. It is a CP fence, but the city of Westmount does do repair work on it when the need arises.

Photo: Independent



Mystery string



The Independent came across this piece of string or line on October 8 on Claremont between Somerville and Burton. It was still there on October 14. It is on the border of the eruv that exists in Westmount as described at its inception (see May 20, 2008, p. 1), but a Shaar Hashomayim representative was unable to confirm whether it was or was not part of it. The eruv, which joins public and private spaces in order to more easily comply with the Biblical prohibition against transporting items between them during holidays and the sabbath, is "often down," she said. The goal is to repair it prior to Jewish holidays and every Friday night throughout the year, and congregation members can phone in to find out if it is operational. The Chabad Educational Centre of Westmount is also involved in maintaining the eruv.

Photo: Westmount Independent

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Scaffolding collapses on St. Catherine St.

BY ROBERT J. GALBRAITH

A large metal scaffolding riser set up for workers to do exterior brick repairs on a St. Catherine St. building fell to the ground in a twisted mess, during gusting winds October 22 at mid-day.

A large blue tarp could be seen tied off over the top section and the collapsed structure lay in a pile in the vacant lot between Garderie K.I.D.S. Westmount and the building at 4467 St. Catherine, where brickwork was being done. That building

had a city of Westmount work permit posted on its front door.

A spokesperson for the daycare said that, “yesterday before it fell, the tarp was flapping around in the wind.” After it had fallen, the person commented that, “it was a little scary. We were lucky it fell the other way” and noted that the scaffolding was dismantled and picked up by the next morning.

Pierre Chartier, a building inspector for the city of Westmount, who visited the site the day the scaffolding came down, commented that the scaffolding was illegal because it was not adequately secured to the building where the work was being carried out. “This was a shaky installation, and I am glad no one was on it or near it at the time it fell,” he said. “The contractor has

to make sure they follow the safety procedures when installing scaffolding. By law, it has to be anchored to the structure, not just the outside bricks. This means the frame of the building underneath the bricks, so sometimes you have to remove some bricks to do this.” However, he said, “it didn’t even have a rope tying it off to part of the building structure. It wouldn’t have toppled if it was secured as it should have been, according to regulations. The tarp on the top looked like a kite.

“It’s not normal to see something like this. It’s pretty rare.”

The Régie du bâtiment Quebec was to become involved to determine what steps needed to be taken next with the contractor.



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The scene of a collapsed set of scaffolding outside a building on St. Catherine St. near Metcalfe St. October 22.



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Next step: internet payments, permits

New financial system ushers city into 'real time' management

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The launch in July of the city's new integrated and automated financial system catapulted Westmount into the 21st century and opens the door for new internet services for residents already offered by a number of other municipalities.

The new system provides the platform base for the city to go to the next step in providing software modules that would enable residents to pay bills online, apply for building permits and obtain real-time status of their progress, director general Duncan Campbell said last week.

"It's the backbone of how the city operates," he said of the new system.

Hidden from public view like a sewer system, the financial system operates day and night. "The management of money heavily depends on it. What we've had was not up to snuff."

As Finance director Annette Dupré puts it: "As a citizen, I wouldn't want to think my city was managed on a 1998 system that was discontinued, had no real-time information, had to be operated manually and was not integrated with the various city departments."

"When you don't have the information," she said, "you don't have the proper control. Now, with the click of a mouse, we can see exactly where we stand in real time."

The overall cost of the project by the

end of 2015 is expected to reach \$700,000, Dupré said. This includes the purchase of the UniCité system from Acceo Solutions as well as management and labour costs into next year in order to "capture all the system's benefits."

Under way in 2012

In May 2012, the city council made the project a priority, spearheaded by the Finance commissioner at the time, Tim Price, and current commissioner Victor Drury, Dupré said. "Neither could believe in this day and age the city was running on such an outmoded system."

A professional project manager was subsequently hired. Planning, programming and testing followed.

"We have been working closely with Beaconsfield, which implemented the system three years ago, and they recommended a learn-as-you-go approach." This means, for example, that Westmount, now in the throes of budget preparation, is learning the budget module. A special training that took place October 15.

The modules implemented so far now allow city departments to verify what funds they have available at a particular moment for the ordering of goods and services. This expedites approvals, purchases and invoicing, and tracks the entire process.

As part of the demerger with Montreal, Westmount was forced to acquire a new



Core members piloting the new financial system are from left: Andry Rafolisy, assistant Finance director, IT director Claude Vallières, Purchasing manager John Camia, Finance manager Yvonne Ho-Hong and Finance director Annette Dupré, seated.

taxation module but it was not compatible with Westmount's outdated Hexagon system and so had to be operated manually as a stand-alone function. It is now fully integrated.

The 1998 Hexagon system did not have the capability of permitting city officials to view the city-wide bottom line without sometimes day-long delays and the print-out of "pages and pages" of information, Dupré said.

"The new system is aligned with sustainability priorities because just printing paper cost over \$11,000 a year. Previously, everything had to be printed every time we wanted information. Most of this will now be saved with the automated UniCité."

Restaurant's 'grand opening' brings two complaints

Public Security was called twice for noise complaints stemming from the "grand opening" of the new Restaurant Léa at 4922 Sherbrooke October 15, department officials said. The first complaint at 10:29 pm concerned loud music, which was toned down. At 11 pm, a second complaint from a different person, involved loud talking on the sidewalk from smokers who were asked to go back inside. The event was to end at midnight.

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Tough talk focused on EMSB Ward 3 candidate Feldman

BY MICHAEL MOORE

School board elections season has brought with it some harsh criticisms and much of it has landed at the feet of Julien Feldman, a candidate for an electoral ward that includes Westmount.

Feldman has found himself as one of the main targets of Angela Mancini, the incumbent EMSB chairperson, who will compete against Anne Lagacé Dowson in the November 2 election. On October 20, Mancini released a statement accusing Feldman of “misconduct against parents” and “destructive behaviour towards the EMSB.”

Lagacé Dowson has tabbed Feldman as her commissioner candidate in the newly defined Ward 3, which includes Westmount High, Westmount Park and Roslyn, as the province trims the school board roster down from 23 to 10.

In her statement, Mancini also condemned Lagacé Dowson for teaming with Feldman, whom she says has been found guilty of six ethics violations by “three separate and independent ethics commissioners.”

“Mr. Feldman has repeatedly contravened the code of ethics. Penalties and

sanctions ran from reprimands to a one-month suspension – a first for any EMSB commissioner and the most levied against a single school board commissioner in the entire province of Quebec,” it reads.

Feldman has spent the last seven-year mandate as commissioner for what had been Ward 13, which incorporated the downtown, Park Extension and Plateau areas.

He denies being guilty of ethics violations, but admits to have been reprimanded “on a couple of occasions” and having “dozens” of complaints filed against him by “Mancini and her group” since he was elected in 2007.

Feldman and Mancini have become frequent verbal sparring partners at the school board’s often fractious monthly board meetings. He says using ethics complaints to censor legitimate criticism won’t help the EMSB deal with its floundering enrolment figures.

“We sit in public. We have debates. Things get heavy, and we have pretty straight-forward debates, but the idea that criticism can ever constitute a violation of ethics is completely ludicrous,” he said.

“The whole idea that she would take these types of actions and turn them

around on the people making the complaints is again an indication of the nature of the problem at the EMSB.”

Feldman will be running against Mancini-supported Ginette Sauvé-Frankel and independent Fergus Keyes.

Sauvé-Frankel, the commissioner for Westmount under the old electoral map, says she wasn’t consulted by Mancini prior to the release of the statement. However, the ethics commissioners presented the investigation’s findings in front of Sauvé-Frankel and the other members of council, she said.

“[[The convictions] aren’t claims. They are facts,” she said.

“The electors are going to vote based on the record of each candidate. I can’t comment on [Feldman’s] record, but his record is his record.”

Keyes criticized the incident between Mancini and Feldman, saying it “clearly demonstrates that the EMSB has been somewhat dysfunctional over the last seven years.

“To have teams involved who may be more loyal to their team dogma rather than to the best governance practices, I believe will only result in more of these accusations, and counter-accusations, in the

future,” wrote Keyes in an email to the *Independent*.

“The EMSB should be a management board rather than a political board, with the only concern being the oversight of all resources in an effort to provide the best possible education.”

Shorncliffe, cont’d. from p. 3

was “adequate in usable space.”

Goldman later told the *Independent* he had not attended the hearing due to the Ottawa shooting crisis that was still unfolding. While he is not an architect by profession, he said, he liked country-type modern architecture and saw no reason why this example should not be preserved in its existing form.

Martin Schwartz of Roxborough submitted a letter expressing concern over limited space on Shorncliffe for the parking of construction vehicles leading to an “overabundance” of them on Roxborough. This, he claimed, was “the last street cleaned in the winter.”

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Police Report

Thief steals TV from apartment as tenant watches

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

BY MICHAEL MOORE

A thief walked into an occupied St. Antoine St. apartment on October 17 and calmly conversed with the disabled tenant before making off with a television as the victim called police, according to a Station 12 report.

The 63-year-old victim was sitting in his living room watching television around 2:30 am when the suspect, described as a 5'9" French-speaking black man between the ages of 25 and 30, entered through the apartment's unlocked front door, said Constable Adalbert Pimentel.

"It's a bizarre case. Very few break-ins occur while there is somebody in the dwelling," he said. "The obvious lesson here is that residents should lock their doors, even if they are home."

The suspect noticed the man and allegedly asked him calmly whether he had any money in the apartment. Despite

being told no, the thief began to search the rooms for any valuables, eventually finding a "small amount" of money, said Pimentel.

When the victim threatened to call 911, the suspect grabbed the man's 32-inch television and left through the front door. The victim said he was never physically harmed or threatened.

Officers who arrived on scene were unable to apprehend the suspect, who wasn't known to the victim. However, fingerprints possibly belonging to the thief were found in the apartment and several items he touched were taken to Station 12 for analysis, according to Pimentel.

"Meet the police" evening

Westmount's Station 12 will be hosting its first citizens' meeting on Monday, November 3 from 9 to 11 am at Victoria Hall.

Residents will be able to raise questions and concerns to Commander Mathieu Bastien and other officers, which will then be used to help shape the station's 2015 action plan, according to Station 12.

Reservations can be made by calling Station 12 at 514.280.0312.

Water leaks onto Prince Albert

A water leak on Prince Albert at Côte St. Antoine was discovered October 17 at 8:44 pm, Public Security officials said. Public Works personnel were on the scene and found that residents still had water though the pressure was reduced. As a result it was decided to wait until morning to bring in water works crews.

Hoarding down at abandoned site

The resident of a house on Clarke across from St. Léon school was given 48 hours on October 16 to clear up a hazardous situation caused by an insecure construction fence at the back, Public Security officials said. The fence had been pushed down and some panels were not the required 6-foot height. The site, which included some excavation work, appeared to have been abandoned for a couple of weeks.

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Our Man in Ottawa

MARC GARNEAU, MP
FOR WESTMOUNT-
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Last week, things changed. Not only for those of us who work on Parliament Hill but for all Canadians. It was not the loss of innocence that some have suggested because in my opinion, we lost that innocence after events like the Polytechnique massacre, the killing at Dawson College, the Air India bombing, the attempted terrorism by the Toronto 18 and those plotting terror on Via Rail. No, we are not losing our innocence nor are we immune to acts of violence.

What happened last week shocked us all profoundly because I think we still want to believe that these kinds of events can't happen in Canada. Unfortunately they can and we, as elected members of parliament, must now respond. I was proud to sit with my colleagues last Thursday in the house of commons to show Canadians that we have resumed the business of the nation. Having said that, there

is an extremely important task before us – deciding what, if any, new measures might be necessary to increase our collective security. I hope wisdom will guide us to the most sensible response. As we approach that task, I would like to make five observations: We should be prudent and patient and not make quick decisions before we have all the information that the St. Jean sur Richelieu and Ottawa investigations will yield. We should not jump to conclusions prematurely.

We already have certain laws in place to counter terrorism, and it is legitimate to question why those laws, brought forward by the government in 2013, have not been invoked, for example in the case of the 80 Canadians being tracked by our security services because of suspected links to terrorist activities while they were out of the country. Are those laws toothless or simply not being applied?

Both CSIS and the RCMP have stated that they face challenges with respect to the amount of resources at their disposal. To paraphrase the head of the RCMP, if the RCMP were to put a 24-hour watch on each of the 93 people suspected of having links to terrorism, there would be nobody left to do the other RCMP work. The question therefore is: Are we providing enough resources to our security forces?

Central to the question of whether we enact new laws to provide more powers to our security services to ensure our safety is whether those additional laws and powers will erode our rights and freedoms as citizens. Canadians cherish their civil liberties, and this must remain uppermost in our minds as we consider new legislation.

And finally, if we bring in new powers to ensure greater security for Canadians, we should also create an oversight body to ensure that those additional powers will be exercised properly and that there is no risk of them being abused. Food for thought in the coming days.

RCMP lowers flag



Photos: Robert J. Galbraith

The Canadian flag at RCMP headquarters in Westmount was seen at half mast October 23, the day after the killing of Corporal Nathan Cirillo, who was shot as he guarded the National War Memorial in Ottawa. A squad car is seen parked across the drive leading to the RCMP's front door.

Mounties respond to St. Jean incident



RCMP superintendent Martine Lafontaine, centre, speaks to reporters at a news conference at its C division headquarters in Westmount October 21 about the hit-and-run of two Canadian soldiers in St. Jean sur Richelieu the day before. On her left is Sûreté du Québec officer and spokesperson Sylvain Guertin, and on her right, Montreal police spokesperson Bernard Lamothe.

BY ROBERT J. GALBRAITH

RCMP superintendent Martine Lafontaine spoke to a packed news conference October 21 about the driver of a car who ran over two Canadian soldiers in St. Jean sur Richelieu on October 20, killing one and seriously injuring the other.

The 25-year-old Quebec man, Martin Couture-Rouleau, was known to police and had been under suspicion by the Mounties for months, she said. The RCMP disclosed that it had talked to Cou-

ture-Rouleau on October 9, but there was no obvious indication that the man intended to commit a crime. "We could not arrest someone for having radical thoughts. It's not a crime in Canada," explained Lafontaine.

Couture-Rouleau was shot dead by police after he fled the scene where the two soldiers were run down in the parking lot of a strip mall. Two days later, the RCMP was also investigating the fatal shooting of another army officer at the National War Memorial in Ottawa.

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Shoebox Project for Shelters aims to help 1,500 homeless women



Katherine Velan, left, and Debbi Jardine talk about the Shoebox Project at the Starbucks on Greene Ave. October 16.

BY ISAAC OLSON

With an NDGer and Westmounter at the helm, the Shoebox Project for Shelters has gone national. Across the country, hundreds of volunteers with this non-profit, charitable initiative are working to stuff essential items such as toiletries, socks, hats, mittens and make-up into thousands of shoeboxes for donation to Canada's homeless women.

In 2013, some 9,100 boxes were delivered to shelters across 28 Canadian cities and now, with the bar set even higher, local organizers are encouraging Montreal residents across the island to donate personally decorated shoeboxes stuffed with much-needed items. The list of needed items is on the organization's website (Shoeboxproject.com), as well as places to drop off the donations before the November 29 deadline. Volunteers start delivering the boxes around December 10.

"We're looking for donations and hoping for 1,500 shoeboxes this year," said NDGer Katherine Velan, co-director of the Montreal chapter. Velan, whose grandparents founded La rue des Femmes women's shelter, said the Shoebox initiative was just a group of friends and family gathering in her dining room to fill some gift bags but, as the program quickly grew, organizers sought out big-name sponsors

and brought in an army of volunteers.

Debbi Jardine, a Westmounter, said each box, whose contents are valued at around \$50, contains necessities. It might include coupons, public transport passes and more, she said. The donated goods must be first be equally distributed, and the shoebox assembled and wrapped, explained Jardine, who described it as a long, intensive process.

"We delivered to 28 shelters in Montreal last year, and there are more on the list," added Velan. "Women are the fastest growing homeless population in Canada."

Both Jardine and Velan said it's a community-based operation that is thriving thanks to sponsors and volunteers. There are a lot of student volunteers from Westmount, NDG and surrounding schools, noted Velan. They also reach out to offices, said Velan, where office staff supply products and fill boxes as a team.

Saturday construction work stopped at 3 places

The pouring of concrete at a house on Renfrew October 18, a Saturday, was allowed to continue until the truck was empty but no later than 9:30 am, Public Security officials said. After that, tickets would be issued, the resident was told. A newcomer to Westmount, he was reported to be unaware that use of such heavy equipment is not allowed on a weekend. The work involved the installation of a heated basement floor.

The use of a mechanical shovel was also stopped the same day at 9:17 am on Upper Belmont. At another site, more work was stopped at 10:44 am as a truck was unloading material and parking heavy trucks on Sherbrooke for work at a house to the north on Prince Albert.

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2014.10.28 • Vol. 2/20

Publié par la Ville de Westmount • Published by the City of Westmount

infoWestmount

HÔTEL DE VILLE

Cérémonie du Jour du Souvenir

Le dimanche 9 novembre à 13 h au Cénotaphe de Westmount. Joignez-vous aux membres du conseil municipal pour commémorer les citoyens de Westmount décédés sur les champs de bataille.

Projet Turcot : séance publique d'information

Le mercredi 26 novembre à 19 h. Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest. Le public est invité à une séance publique au sujet de la reconstruction de l'échangeur Turcot. Un représentant du ministère des Transports du Québec expliquera les travaux à venir et les impacts sur Westmount.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Comité de la bibliothèque publique

Appel aux résidents : le conseil municipal cherche à combler deux postes vacants au sein du comité de la bibliothèque publique. Nommés pour trois ans, les candidats retenus devront offrir leur temps et leurs compétences de façon bénévole dans le but d'aider le comité à remplir son mandat, c'est-à-dire qu'elle maintienne sa liberté et son indépendance intellectuelles. Tout résident intéressé est prié de soumettre sa candidature au plus tard le vendredi 7 novembre à l'attention de madame Nicole Forbes, présidente du Comité de la bibliothèque publique, 4574, rue Sherbrooke O., H3Z 1G1. Info : 514-989-5429.

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Le mercredi 29 octobre à 10 h 15. Info : 514 989-5299.

Devinez qui remportera le prix Giller

Le jeudi 6 novembre à 19 h. Venez rencontrer Shelley Pomerance et le personnel de la Bibliothèque qui discuteront des six romans canadiens présélectionnés pour le prix Giller, le prix littéraire le plus prestigieux du Canada. RSVP: 514 989-5299.

Rencontre d'auteure : Susan Wener

Le mercredi 12 novembre à 19 h. Rencontrez l'auteure du livre *Resilience: A Story of Courage and Triumph in the Face of Recurrent Cancer*. Info: 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture en anglais

Le mardi 18 novembre à 19 h. *The Invention of Wings* de Sue Monk Kidd. Info: 514 989-5299.

Amis de la Bibliothèque : vente de livres

Les samedi 22 et dimanche 23 novembre de 10 h à 17 h au Victoria Hall. Profitez de l'occasion pour vous approvisionner en lectures pour l'hiver. Les profits serviront à acheter de nouveaux livres pour la bibliothèque. Info : 514 483-5604.

ÉVÈNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Exposition : Catherine Young Bates

Jusqu'au 8 novembre; Galerie du Victoria Hall. La galerie est fière de présenter les œuvres de Catherine Young Bates, RCA. Info : 514 989-5521.

Prochaine séance du conseil : le lundi 3 novembre

Alice au pays des horreurs

Le vendredi 31 octobre de 17 h à 20 h au pavillon du bowling à côté de l'hôtel de ville. Soirée géniale et terrifiante pour les jeunes de tous âges, présentée par l'équipe de la sécurité publique. Info : 514 932-5468.

Floralies d'automne

Du 30 octobre au 30 novembre au Conservatoire. Ne manquez pas l'exposition de chrysanthèmes et d'autres fleurs automnales. Info : 514 932-5213.

Concert : Babaloune

Le mercredi 5 novembre à 13 h ; Victoria Hall. Une fable écologique contée par une énorme et très sage baleine. Pour les jeunes de 4 à 10 ans. Gratuit. Info : 514 932-5226.

Salon des métiers d'art de Westmount

Les samedi et dimanche 8 et 9 novembre de 10 h à 17 h au Victoria Hall. Trouvez le cadeau parfait parmi une sélection impressionnante d'objets confectionnés à la main par des artisans du quartier. Entrée : denrées non périssables ou 2 \$ pour la collecte annuelle d'aliments du Service de la sécurité publique. Info : artisans.westmount@gmail.com.

Soiree Flamenco avec Michael Laucke

Le samedi 15 novembre à 19 h au Victoria Hall. Le guitariste de renom mondial Michael Laucke présente une soirée de musique espagnole et de danse flamenco classique. Billets : 20 \$ pré-vente (Victoria Hall, argent comptant) ou 25 \$ à l'entrée. Bar payant. Info : 514 939-5226.

Clinique CLSC de vaccination contre la grippe au Victoria Hall

Le mercredi 19 novembre de 9 h 30 à 20 h ; Victoria Hall. Le CLSC Métro offre la vaccination contre l'influenza aux personnes de 60 ans et plus ; aux enfants de 6 à 23 mois et aux personnes atteintes de maladies chroniques. assurez-vous d'apporter votre carte soleil et de porter des manches courtes. Info : 514 934-0354.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Changez l'horloge, changez les piles

Le dimanche 2 novembre. Les membres de l'équipe de la sécurité publique tiennent à vous rappeler de remplacer les piles de vos avertisseurs de fumée lors du retour à l'heure normale de l'Est, la nuit du samedi 1^{er} novembre au dimanche 2 novembre. Ce petit geste pourrait vous sauver la vie !

CITY HALL

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Sunday, November 9, 1 p.m.; Westmount Cenotaph. Join members of Westmount City Council to commemorate Westmount soldiers who fell in battle.

Turcot project: public information session

Wednesday, November 26 at 7 p.m. Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke Street West. The public is invited to an information session concerning the construction of the new Turcot Interchange. A representative of the *Ministère des transports du Québec* will be present to explain the upcoming work and its impact on Westmount.

LIBRARY

Public Library Committee

City Council is looking for two new Westmount citizen members for the Public Library Committee.



Appointed for a three-year term, successful candidates are expected to volunteer their time and expertise to help the Committee with its mandate to ensure that the Library complies with the terms of its Mission Statement and that it maintains its intellectual freedom and independence. If this challenge is of interest to you, please submit a written application by Friday, November 7, 2014 to the attention of Nicole Forbes, Chairperson, Public Library Committee, 4574 Sherbrooke St. W., H3Z 1G1. Info: 514-989-5429.

Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Wednesday, October 29, 10:15 a.m. Info: 514 989-5299.

Guess the Giller Soirée

Thursday, November 6 at 7 p.m. Join Shelley Pomerance and Library staff as they discuss the six Canadian novels on the Giller shortlist, Canada's most prestigious literary prize. RSVP: 514 989-5299.

Author event : Susan Wener

Wednesday, November 12 at 7 p.m. Meet the author of *Resilience: A Story of Courage and Triumph in the Face of Recurrent Cancer*. Info: 514 989-5299.

English Book Club

Tuesday, November 18 at 7 p.m. *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd. Info: 514 989-5299.

Friends of the Library Used Book sale

Saturday and Sunday, November 22nd and 23rd from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Stock up for your winter reading with great bargains on books. Proceeds from the sale go towards purchasing new books for the Library. Info : 514 483-5604.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Exhibition: Catherine Young Bates

Until November 8; Gallery at Victoria Hall. The Gallery is pleased to feature works by Catherine Young Bates, RCA. Info: 514 989-5521.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, November 3

Alice in Horrorland

Friday, October 31, 5 to 8 p.m. at the Lawn Bowling Clubhouse next to City Hall. A bone-chilling evening for kids of all ages, presented by the Public Safety team. Info : 514 939-5468.

Fall Flower Show

From October 30 to November 30 in the Conservatory. Don't miss this annual exhibition of chrysanthemums and other fall flowers. Info : 514 932-5213.

Concert: Babaloune

Wednesday, November 5 at 1 p.m. at Victoria Hall. An ecological fable narrated by a gigantic, very wise old whale. Ages 4 to 10. Free. Info: 514 939-5226.

Westmount Artisans' Festival

Saturday & Sunday, November 8 & 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Find the perfect gift; choose from a wide range of quality handcrafted items made by local artisans. Admission: non-perishable food items or \$2 for Public Security's annual holiday food drive. Info: artisans.westmount@gmail.com.

Soiree Flamenco with Michael Laucke

Saturday, November 15, 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall. World renowned guitarist Michael Laucke presents an evening of Spanish music and classic flamenco dancing. Tickets: \$20 (Victoria Hall, cash only), or \$25 at the door. Cash bar. Info : 514 939-5226.

CLSC Flu vaccination clinic at Victoria Hall

Wednesday, November 19, 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Victoria Hall. The CLSC Métro offers the influenza vaccine free to people 60 and over; to infants between 2 and 23 months of age and to those with a chronic illness. Remember to bring your medicare card and to wear short sleeves. Info: 514 934-0354.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Change the clock, change the batteries

Sunday, November 2. The Public Security team reminds everyone to take advantage of the return to Eastern Standard Time the night of Saturday, November 1st to Sunday, November 2nd to replace the batteries in all smoke detectors while adjusting the clocks. This small action could save your life!



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT

Cocktail kicks off Au Contraire



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmounters **Barbara** and **Phil Silverberg** welcomed guests October 8 to the out-of-the-way and fabulous eponymous art gallery owned by **Antoine Ertaskiran**. The fun occasion was the pre-launch of the annual Au Contraire Film Festival, (ACFF), celebrating its second year with the Museum of Fine Arts, where it ran from October 22 to 25.

The Silverbergs are the founders of the festival, working with festival director **Marcel Pinchevsky**. "It is a film festival on mental illness. We show films that challenge the myths and change perceptions about mental illness," described Phil Silverberg, who heads the Paradis Urbain, the charitable organization behind Donald

Berman UP House, as well as the ACFF.

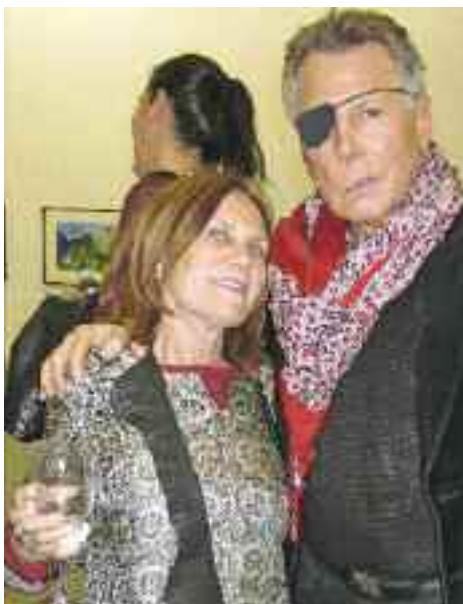
Lawyer **Stephen Hart** was co-organizer of the Ertaskiran eve. European-elegant in a black velvet blazer and a stylish Italian scarf he attended with **Darina Garouche**, and his children **Lindsay**, **Stephanie** and **Adam Hart**, as well as his brother **Robert**, a documentary filmmaker, there with his wife **Bobby Jo**.

Featured guest was **Philip Tetrault**, a nomadic homeless person who suffers from schizophrenia. A pal of Leonard Cohen, he is a pan flutist, artist and poet. A short film of Tetrault discussing his poetry with Cohen was shown, and his colourful art works were displayed for sale. Also present was Tetrault's daughter **Amanda Tetrault**, a photographer, who presented her book *My Life with Phil*.

Westmounter **Peter Howlett** loved his copy. Proceeds from the book sales and Tetrault's art went to support Paradis Urbain. Also present was Tetrault's brother, director *continued on p. 27*



From left: Philip Silverberg, Ron Brown and Marcel Pinchevsky.



Barbara Silverberg and Stephen Hart.



Pierre Tetrault, left, and Peter Howlett.



Galas & Special Events Center

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BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

Part 1 appeared in the October 21 issue.

NOVEMBER

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8

The 2014 Lights of Hope Gala benefit for MUHC, Division of Adult Endocrinology and Metabolism. Co-chairs doctors Natasha Garfield and Mark Sherman. Honourary co-chairs Gera and Mark Azar. Cocktail and Silent Auction 6:00 pm. Dinner and dancing 7:30 pm. Le Challenger, 2525 des Nations, Saint-Laurent. Tickets \$250. 514.433.0198. endogala@gmail.com.

A Night to Remember Gala. 3rd annual gala benefitting the Montreal Alzheimer Society. 7:00 pm. The Wave, 5524 St-Patrick Street, Suite 1100. Tickets David Gold 514.262.8470. davidthegold@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12

Colorectal Cancer Association of Canada's Live Art gala. Art performance by En Masse and comedy show with Sugar Sammy. VIP 6 pm. General admission 8:00 pm. Tickets Alli Carr 514.875.7745. Local 225. Allie@colorectal-cancer.ca

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 14

St. Mary's Ball – Visual Sea of Blown

Glass by Bridget Fetterly. 77th annual gala celebrating the hospital's 90th anniversary. Co-presidents Diane and Normand Hébert. 6:30 pm. Windsor Station. Tickets Nathalie Kamel 514.345.3511. Local 5196. Nathalie.kamel@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

Benefit for Ballet Jazz de Montréal (BJM). Cocktail 8:00 pm. Show 9:30 pm. Party 10:00 pm. Usine C, 1345 Lalonde. Tickets \$150. info@bjmdanse.ca

Hungarian St. Stephen's ball, An Evening in Budapest. 6:30 pm. Omni Hotel, 1050 Sherbrooke West. Cocktails, dinner and dancing. Tickets Karen Donnelly Zimanyi 514.481.8949. www.ststephensball.com

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15

Montreal Museum of Fine Arts Ball (MMFA). Éclats de rêves. Organized by the MMFA Volunteer Association. Co-chairs Luc Bachand, vice-chair/head of BMO Capital Markets, Québec; Claude Mongeau, president/CEO Groupe Copley. Ball presidents Alan Rossy and Roula Roussy. Cirque du Soleil-created décor. Tickets \$1,000. 514.842.7436

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 19

Ogilvy En Fête 2014. 5th annual event benefits Sainte-Justine UHC Foundation.

Indie's fall social calendar, with a

Soirée offers cocktails, fashion shows and gastronomy. Participating boutiques offer 15% discount. Co-chairs Isabelle Hudon, president, Sun Life Financial Quebec; Penny Mancuso, president Phi Groupe and Centre Phi and Andrew Torriani, president GM / Ritz-Carlton Montréal. Ogilvy, 1307 St-Catherine West. Tickets \$100. Chantal Soly 514.345.4710. Local 6329. Chantal.soly.hsj@ssss.gouv.qc.ca and at Ogilvy post office (5th floor) and online. www.Ogilvyenfete.org.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 21

22nd Annual Kids for Kids, to benefit Sarah's Fund of the Cedars Cancer Foundation. 7:00 pm. Théâtre St.James, 265 Saint-Jacques West. Tickets \$150-200. 514.934.1934. Local 71207. www.cedars.ca/events

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 22

Viennese Ball of the Austrian Society of Montreal, Celebrating 200 Years of the Viennese Waltz: 1814-2014, under the patronage of the Austrian Ambassador to Canada, Arno Riedel. Guest of honour Dr. Suzanne Fortier, principal/vice-chancellor, McGill University. Ball president Elizabeth Wirth. 7:00 pm. Marriott Château Champlain, 1 Place du Canada. Tickets \$250 and

\$150 for 30 and under. Anita Hold 514.369.2339. ahold@tonalco.ca. Elisabeth Tourigny 514.489.8769. mick-ykuhn@gmail.com.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23

Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) and Pink Lady Fund. 9th Women of Action Brunch. Keynote speaker Arlene Dickinson, Dragon's Den. Inspiring honourees Dr. Sima Goel, Maria Guzzo, Jennifer Heil. 11:30 am. Shaar Hashomayim, 450 Kensington, Westmount. Tickets 514.481.2723.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26

Cystic Fibrosis Quebec's Benefit Gala. 6:30 pm. Windsor Station. Tickets \$500. 514.877.6161. evenement@fibrosekystiquequebec.ca

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 28

St. Andrew's Charity Ball, raising funds for the Canadian Scottish Studies Chair at McGill University. Honouree Westmounter Richard Pound. Tickets \$250. www.standrews.qc.ca

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30

Montreal Bach Festival Gala. Featuring I Musici di Roma. Cocktail dinatoire with artists. Tickets \$250. 514.843.3414. info@festivalbachmontreal.com

KINDERGARTEN
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NOVEMBER 6
8:30 am presentation
9:30 am school tours

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preview to winter events

Shield of Athena Family Services' 20th Annual Art Auction, to benefit victims of violence. Honouring the 10th anniversary of Athena's House shelter. Le Windsor, 1170 Peel. Information Polly 514.274.8117

DECEMBER

TUESDAY DECEMBER 2

Cedars Cancer Foundation's Raffle and Abracadabra Auction. Cocktail dinatoire. Live and silent auctions. Tickets \$125. 514.934.1934. Local 71230. www.cedars.ca/events

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 3

Annual Toy Tea, 10 am. through 4 pm. Ogilvy's Tudor Hall, 1307 St. Catherine Street West, 5th floor. Free. Ticket price is a new, unwrapped, non-violent toy. Chair Claire Kruyt. Choirs from The Study, The Priory, Villa Ste. Marcelline, Selwyn House, St. George's Elementary, ECS and

LCC, among others will perform. Monies raised assist children living in women's shelters. 514.758.2772. www.toyteamontreal.org

JANUARY

SATURDAY JANUARY 31.

Black Theatre Workshop's Vision Celebration Gala. Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Award honouree Dany Lafferrière. Cocktails, dinner, dancing and keynote speakers including Quincy Armorer and Jacklin Web. Tickets \$125. Adele Benoit 514.932.1104. Local 221 and Erin Lindsay Local 223.

FEBRUARY

MONDAY FEBRUARY 3

Just for Kids Foundation's 9th Annual Dancing with the Stars, A Step in Time. Proceeds raise fund for medical equipment needed at the Montreal Children's Hospital. Chairs Arabella Decker, Norma D'Alesio. Tickets \$195. Includes valet parking, cocktail dinatoire and auction. Tickets 514.989.7673. reception@jfkfoundation.ca.



Antoine Ertaskiran



Amanda Tetrault

Social Notes, cont'd. from p. 25

Pierre Tetrault, who premiered his work-in-progress film *The Beggar's Description: Ten Years After at the Festival*. "It documents Phil's quest to find housing in Montreal," he explained.

At the evening's end, Phil Tetrault, a self-described "street gypsy and mountain boy," read some of his works and left the crowd with simple wise words. "Don't read the words. Read the poem."



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9:30 am to 11 am

Special Presentation:
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TREMBLANT AREA
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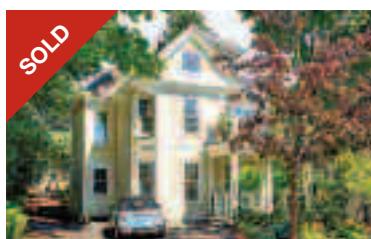
TREMBLANT AREA
\$325,000
Magnificent 70 acre lot with views MLS 10542808



NEW
MONT TREMBLANT \$399,000
655 Chemin de lac Dufour, Waterfront property on the shore of Lac Dufour, Lovely 3 bedroom with 78 feet on the lake, MLS 13721296



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WATERFRONT ON LAC XAVIER, Motorized lake, incredible view, MLS 17393323



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WESTMOUNT
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