

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 8 No. 8a

We are Westmount

August 5, 2014

Residents petition council

City aims to have more family friendly hours at WRC pool

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Users of the Westmount pool returning from vacation may be surprised to discover that the kids' "Splash Pad" is now operating 10 hours a day starting at 9 am, which was made possible by the hiring of an additional lifeguard.

As well, kids and families may now stay and swim during the during the Saturday adult swim from 12 noon to 1 pm.

The cordoned-off Splash Pad area, for use by children under 6 accompanied by a parent, was closed previously weekday mornings when the lifeguards were occupied with swimming lessons. Children

were also asked to leave during the noon adult swim time.

The modified hours were announced at the start of the council meeting July 7 by Councillor Rosalind Davis, commissioner of Sports and Recreation, followed by additional requests from questioner Angela Lehrer of Victoria Ave.

Lehrer stated she had a petition signed by 110 Westmounters asking that the Splash Pad remain open at all times. She explained the difficulty for parents with young children having to leave while older ones were using the big pool.

She also proposed several solutions for roping continued on p. 8

Worlds-bound Westmount swimmers



From left, four members of the Westmount Y's swim team who are competing in Montreal this week in the 2014 FINA World Masters Championships: Linda Eden, Lisa Osterland, Katherine Hope and Sylvia Reiter. See story, p. 11.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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Half-naked teens ticketed for midnight swim at pool

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Three teens were caught swimming "half naked" in the city pool at 12:25 am July 23 after being spotted by a nearby resident, Public Security officials said. When officers responded, they reported finding beer cans and personal belongings strewn on the pool deck while the trio were still in the water.

They were ordered out and told they would receive tickets for \$119 by mail. Attempts were made to contact parents of the three but none were reached. Two of the swimmers lived in NDG, a boy aged 16

and a girl, 16. The other was a 15-year-old girl from Pierrefonds.

"It's very dangerous for people to be swimming unattended late at night – and drinking beer," said Public Security Greg McBain. The group was later picked up on camera surveillance of the pool area, he added.

This was the second time this summer that swimmers were known to have scaled the pool fence to sneak a splash when the pool was closed. Two others were caught June 12 at 6:10 am. One escaped but the other issued a ticket for \$638, the cost for an adult (see story June 17, p. 20).

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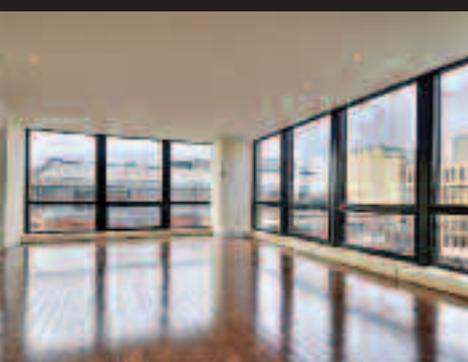


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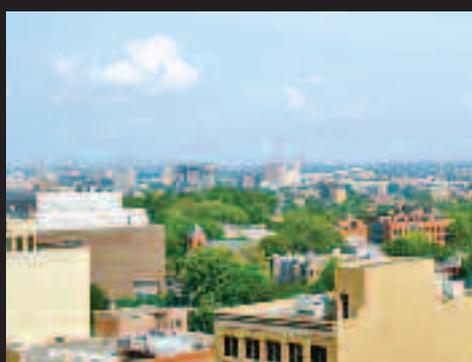


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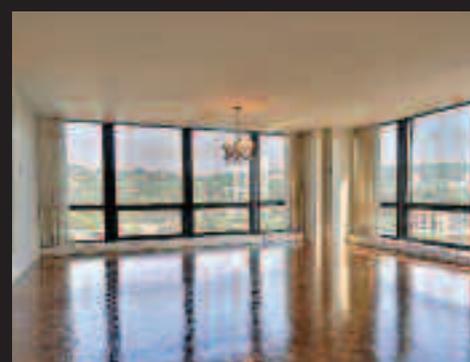
WESTMOUNT SQUARE



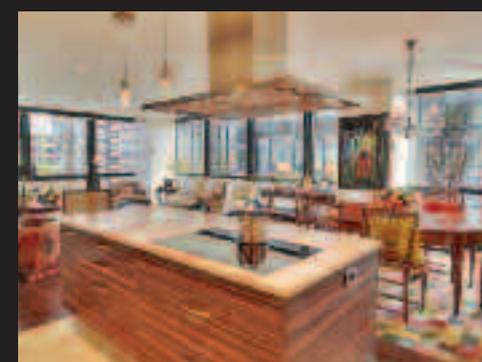
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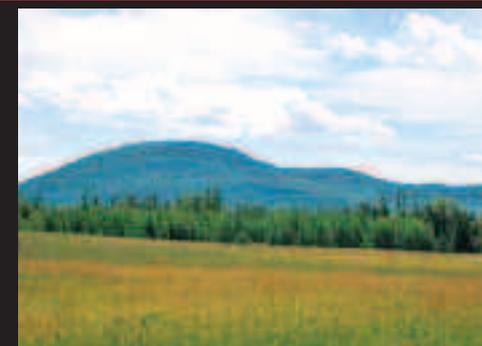
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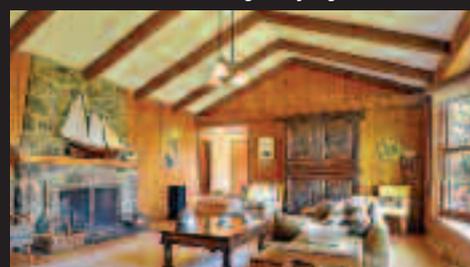
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Work starts Aug. 11, bike path likely to stay open during construction

Plan revealed for dead-end at Westmount Park Church

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Work is expected to start August 11 to reconfigure the short stretch of de Maisonneuve just east of Lansdowne to provide vehicle access and a turnaround area for Westmount Park Church, city officials said last week.

The roadway leading to the entrance of the park was narrowed and turned into a dead-end by construction of the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) and is one of the last remaining areas to be completed.

“We’ll try to keep the bike path open during the work though there may be a small detour,” said city director general Duncan Campbell. The contractor has also been asked to work around Saturday weddings at the church.

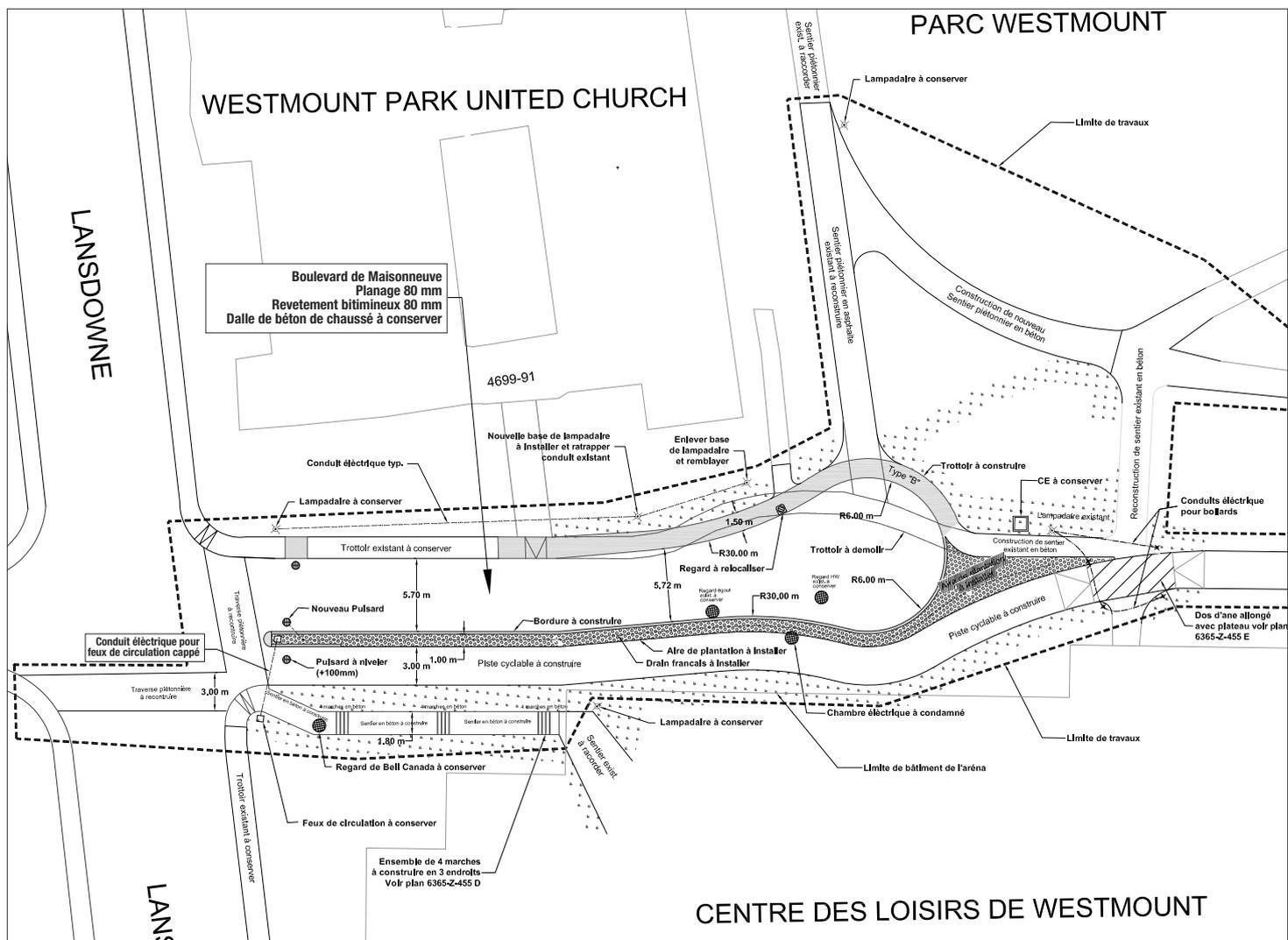
The work, which city council awarded July 7 to TGA Construction at a cost of some \$241,000, calls for retaining the north sidewalk, relocating it around a cul-de-sac turnaround and separating the roadway from the bike path by a green space.

The bike path will occupy some of the space now used by the south sidewalk, which is to be eliminated and replaced further south by a pathway and steps that rise to the elevation of the WRC.

Church is hopeful

“Without seeing a copy of the plan, there’s every indication we can be hopeful that this is going to be a workable solution,” said church treasurer Joan Hagerman. It had been described to her during a walk-around with Public Works personnel.

The church and the Contactivity seniors’ centre had expressed concerns since before the building of the WRC over vehicular access to the de Maisonneuve door



de Maisonneuve construction plan looking north toward Westmount Park Church.

Drawing courtesy of the city of Westmount.

and safety issues posed by cars, taxis and limousines trying to turn around and manoeuvre in the congested area.

“The roadway is meant to be able to have someone go into the area, make a three-point turn and come back, even if there are parked cars,” said Public Works

director Marianne Zalzal. “It’s like a wide driveway.”

She drew a parallel to some narrow streets in Westmount and some of the dead-end ones at the train tracks.

The city’s Administrative Traffic Committee will recommend possible parking

arrangements, she said.

Asked about the plan for the road at the July 7 council meeting, Duncan Campbell said “The question remains, will it be available to everyone one or be a (limited access) road?”

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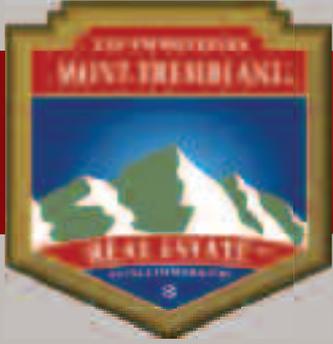
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WESTMOUNTERS ARE READING THE INDEPENDENT

Keep it up, I do enjoy it! It is easy to read, nice feel to the paper, and fun and informative articles. It keeps Westmount connected. I loved the cartoon of June 10, p. 6. It was topical, in good humour. Let's have one every week! Please. Good luck. Keep up the good work!

BEVERLEY HUTCHISON, KITCHENER AVE.

We wouldn't miss an issue of this fine little paper with all the news about Westmount and its citizens – keep on finding all news items about our community. We love it.

JOAN AND GEOFF GRAHAM, OLIVIER AVE.

Yes, please keep up with the paper. I am the old generation who still likes to read a paper on PAPER.

ALFRED EDEL, VICTORIA AVE.

As an American planning to eventually settle in the area, I look forward to receiving the *Westmount Independent* every week. The publication's articles, photographs and letters reflect very closely the community that I have come to love. I often clip articles and pictures to collage or to share with my extended family so that they can see what life is like here – people who care about rescuing animals, supporting green space and cycling trails, exchanging plants, offering fabulous used book sales – a community that is aware of how blessed it is – full of individuals who share their wealth and support so many important causes! And yes, David Price, I do support the businesses advertised in the *Westmount Independent*. Thanks to you and the staff for providing this newspaper!

DIANE WOOD, MELVILLE AVE.

As a professional journalist who has worked at *The Gazette*, CTV Montreal and Global over the last 15 years, I would like to applaud the *Independent* for becoming the true voice of Westmount news. The *Independent* reflects what I, as a journalism student back in the mid-90s, was taught about good community journalism: it is a paper focused solely on local stories that are of interest to Westmount residents. From covering the retail scene and real estate market to the Westmount crime beat, the *Independent* serves its community well. It's been a great few years, and I look forward to continue reading the *Independent* for years to come.

AMANDA JELOWICKI, ARLINGTON AVE.

I very much enjoy the *Westmount Independent* and look forward to its arrival every week. It's full of useful information about the community and what's happening at city council. It also does a good job of tackling some of the issues that are always there – dog run, bike path – by pre-

senting all points of view. I also read *Comin' Up*, which keeps me abreast of activities about town. So thank you for all the good work, and please keep it up.

PAT McCORMACK, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

Just a short note to let you know how much I enjoy reading the *Westmount Independent* every week.

I do not live in Westmount but work here and every Wednesday I pick up the *Independent* to read on my morning break.

Thanks so much for all the interesting stories and the other pertinent information that is published in this local newspaper.

NANCY FAREWELL

Just a short note to tell you how much I love the *Independent*.

I don't know how I would keep up with what's going on in Westmount without your paper.

Such an improvement from what we used to get a few years ago.

Thank you.

PAUL ECHENBERG, SYDENHAM AVE.

The *Westmount Independent* is my source for local news. The paper is information packed, and quite pleasant to read. Thanks!

GIBRAN HAKIM, SELBY AVE.

I have been reading the *Westmount Independent* since its very first issue (I think it was 4 or 8 pages then).

Since its inception, I have advertised my art work, submitted photos of local wildlife and written a passionate letter to the editor.

With each entry, I received positive feedback. I appreciate it being free to the locals – or to anyone who wishes to grab a copy here or there.

Furthermore, the headlines of some of your smaller articles are downright hilarious.

LISA L. OSTERLAND, MELBOURNE AVE.

Congratulations on another wonderful year of the *Westmount Independent*. I look forward to reading it each week, from cover to cover. It gives us a bird's eye view into our wonderful community and keeps us posted as to what is happening. Keep up the good work.

SUE KHAN, MONTROSE AVE.

Just a brief note to say how much my wife and I look forward to seeing the *Independent* each week. You cover the news well and make each story interesting. Keep up the good work!

DUNCAN SHADDICK, CLARKE AVE.

I look forward to the *Westmount Independent* each week. It is the only source of comprehensive coverage of local events. The paper arrives in my mailbox anywhere

from Wednesday to Friday and sometimes when I don't want to wait, I pick up a copy at one of the local stores.

Keep up the good work!

BARBARA MOORE, LANSDOWNE AVE.

The *Westmount Independent* serves a unique niche in that it provides information about the local community that is not available elsewhere on radio, TV, in daily newspapers, or in flyer delivery to the homes.

You have an excellent newspaper that covers the issues facing of our community and we enjoy keeping informed by reading it cover to cover. Of course, it also is a source for finding local businesses that provide services that we need from time to time.

Thank you for seeing the need a few years ago and filling the news gap so well.

JAN & STEVE WEIR, PARKMAN PLACE

I am more than happy to add my voice to those of others who appreciate the *Westmount Independent*. I regularly read the entire issue, from goings-on at Westmount city hall to real estate reports, past and upcoming events, letters to the editor and yes, the ads, which can be very helpful. It's a great community service and I hope it continues to flourish.

ROSEMARY HADDAD, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

Like what you're doing? What would we do without you!

A. SPROULE, CÔTE ST. ANTOINE RD.

For the record, you perform very necessary and effective work with the *Independent* – mostly unbiased and without fear or favour. God knows what the unresponsive public would do without it – with no one to read their urgent begging for one more dog run to add to the other half-dozen in the city, or whatever else is essential to them in a week.

You deserve to get some response from some of them.

D. O. NEWNHAM, METCALFE AVE.

Do you have a minute to help your local newspaper? I HAVE!

With reference to the above, I wish to inform you that I am one of those people.

A recent article quoted Mr. Jean-Pierre Picard, president of the Westmount Municipal Association, and I will use the quotation in an upcoming speech to be given at the Royal Montreal Curling Club on the topic of "The Art of Public Speaking."

The quote was: "Whatever you do in business or in a field of your choice, to be able to write and communicate properly will distinguish you from the rest of the pack."

It is articles and quotes of this nature

that you have published that makes me appreciate the *Independent*.

EMILE LATOUR, CLARKE AVE.

Keep up the good work. I enjoy reading about what takes place in and around Westmount.

ELLEN BOUDREAUX

Just a quick note to say I love the *Independent*. I moved to Westmount last year and I love how much more information I have about my neighborhood now.

PETER KOSSITS, CLAREMONT AVE.

In response to your request, this is to confirm that I not only read the *Independent* with great interest each week, but I appreciate the ads as well as a reminder of all the wonderful goods and services available within walking distance in this great city. Thank you.

ANDREA FIELDMAN, ARTLINGTON AVE.

It's been a long time since anyone has asked me to write them a letter. Often I was away or busy, so no letter.

In your case, I am not away or busy, so it is a pleasure to write.

With reference to the *Westmount Independent*, you have done an excellent job of making the paper of interest to all Westmounters and even those who once lived in Westmount – like me. Your coverage of what's going on in the city by your excellent writers, particularly Lauren Sweeney, helps your many readers keep fully informed on our *great city*.

Congratulations on a job well done.

BRIAN O'N. GALLERY, WEST BOLTON

Thank you, Westmounters

I want to thank everyone who wrote in with the positive comments published above – and those who wrote in with constructive criticism, too. We are always happy to try to improve.

There is a virtuous circle in our business: having readers makes the advertising valuable, which makes for more advertising, which makes for more pages for news coverage, which makes for more and happier readers. These letters will help us stoke that circle, and maintain and grow the paper in the months and years to come.

Thanks again to our letter writers, readers, advertisers, sources and suppliers.

DAVID PRICE, PUBLISHER

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

PS It's not too late to write in and add your voice to those above. Our email is indie@westmountindependent.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POOL STILL IN ADJUSTMENT PERIOD

As with any new facility, there is an adjustment period. The Sports and Recreation department is learning how people use the new Westmount recreation centre pool and where they like to sit.

With this information, it will follow through with the plan for a permanent shade structure.

For this summer, six shade umbrellas are spread around the pool area, offering a break from the sun.

Next year, users will benefit from the shade pavilion and the additional shade provided by the trees that have been planted around the WRC.

The most important issue at our pool is safety, and with the increased hours that the Splash Pad is open, additional lifeguards have been hired. Responding to parents' requests, a dedicated lifeguard chair has been better positioned to monitor the youngsters enjoying this fun area.

Our new pool is a popular spot for all members of our community. It is a fine balancing act accommodating all the different groups using the pool and the Sports and Recreation department strives to ensure all users have an enjoyable experience.

ROSALIND DAVIS
COMMISSIONER, SPORTS
AND RECREATION, AND
COUNCILLOR FOR DISTRICT 4

5 SEASONS SHOULD GO REUSABLE

I was walking on de Maisonneuve and noticed a lot of garbage on the strip of lawn across the street from 5 Seasons.

Napkins, plastic utensils and paper cups could be observed, probably blown from the terrasse. I love the 5 Seasons terrace, but it does produce a lot of garbage as everything is put in disposable containers.

Providing reusable plates and cutlery may present a challenge, but it would be worth the effort. I hope that the city and 5 Seasons can come up with a solution, as garbage all over the street is unacceptable, not to mention, it's an incredible amount of unnecessary waste.

JENNIFER JONES, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.



Photo courtesy of J. Jones

DEFENDING THE DOLPHINS

On behalf of the Westmount Dolphins, I offer apologies to Mr. Billette for his unfortunate experience at the Canada Day BBQ ("Dolphins fail to deliver," July 8, p. 5). The Dolphins' participation in the event is voluntary, at the request of the city. We are experienced in running this event and have previously had great success. As far as I know the Scouts have never been involved with it.

The BBQ was fired up by 11 am to be ready for noon, but patrons arrived early and never let up. We had 500 hot dogs to sell so were surprised they sold out early: last year we had leftovers with the same number. The city provided us two barbecues last year but this year one, albeit larger but not sufficient to our purpose.

Mr. Billette lamented that pickles were gone when he dressed his burger. We purchased two restaurant-sized jars, the exact quantity as last year when we had pickles to spare. We apologize not being able to anticipate so many pickle-lovers.

This BBQ is not a money-maker but rather a service to the community. We generally break even. The bake sale is where we raise funds for the team but, due to the extreme heat, baked goods were meagre and so we did not raise as much money as we had hoped.

Our volunteers worked hard on a hot day with only a few getting in to the capacity pool for a refreshing dip, and fewer tasting a slice of the cake that Mr. Billette praised.

We appreciate that he felt our efforts were not up to par. We do not however appreciate that he should insult individuals who volunteered their time on their day off.

HELEN CAMPBELL, GRENVILLE AVE.

THANKS TO PUBLIC SECURITY

Westmounters are lucky to have such a high-quality Public Security department. A couple of weeks ago, in a letter to the editor, a cyclist thanked Public Security for its assistance after he had fallen. Here is another example of good work.

Recently, Montreal installed a sign at the corner of Sherbrooke St. and Roslyn to inform drivers about the car lane closures in NDG. Unfortunately, the sign was installed too low and overlapped the sidewalk, so that pedestrians risked hitting their heads on the corner of the sign. I called Public Security on a Friday evening and here is how they responded:

- The dispatcher immediately patched me through to one of the duty officers,
- That officer immediately went to the site and attached a ribbon warning pedestri-

ans to take care,

- Public Security then called Montreal Public Works, asking that the problem be fixed promptly,
- The dispatcher then called me back to report on the actions taken,
- That evening, Montreal came and fixed the problem by raising the sign.

Congratulations and thanks to Public Security on an excellent job – textbook execution!

DANIEL LAMBERT – PRESIDENT,
WESTMOUNT WALKING AND
CYCLING ASSOCIATION

WESTMOUNT PARK'S 'FOSSIL TREE'

I wonder how many of us, myself included, have walked past this tree near the children's playground for many years, hardly giving it any notice.



Photo courtesy of M. Walsh.

What recently caught my attention was the cinnamon colour of the tree's bark; far different than any other in the park.

With a photograph of the tree in hand, and a bit of research, I discovered that this species is described, by the Cambridge University Botanic Gardens, as follows:

"One of the most exciting discoveries in the plant world during the last century was undoubtedly that of the deciduous conifer, the dawn redwood, *metasequoia glyptostroboides*."

Thought to be extinct for over 5 million years, it was rediscovered, in the 1940s, in the remote village of Mo-tao-chi in China's Szechuan province.

The World Conservation Union lists the species as "critically endangered" due to habitat loss.

Just think – Westmount has one of these right in its own "back yard"!

MICHAEL WALSH, MELVILLE AVE.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

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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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ANOTHER CONCEPT FOR PRINCE ALBERT SQUARE

Reference was made to my comments presented at the Prince Albert square meeting (July 8, p. 1), and I feel it necessary to reiterate them.

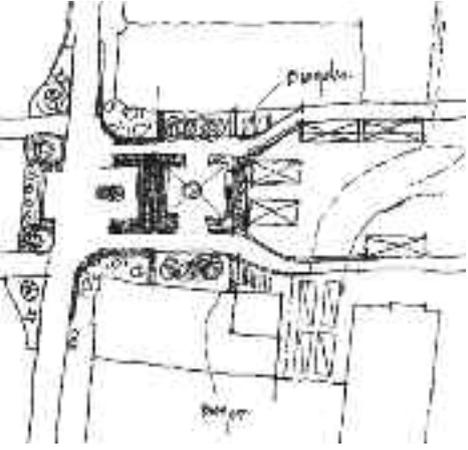
The current design feels more like a thorough-fare rather than a square, yet – as Public Works engineer Elisa Gaetano is quoted – “The concept is to make a little outdoor room that residents can step into.”

A planting screen needs be established at both ends of the square to minimize the impact of the traffic from Sherbrooke St. and to soften the view south to the parking and street.

The Planning Advisory Committee recommended that the square contain more U-seating and the design should reflect that.

The fact that the entire current design is not symmetrical to the Prince Albert axis is uncomfortable.

The undefined “rebuilt area” of what can best be called a street extension (but on a slope) is ill-conceived and unnecessary. Valuable parking has been eliminated for a zone that can only be controlled by continuous surveillance, which is not the



manner in which to establish a design. Enforcement should be but a reminder, not a solution. For special events like the Victoria village street festival such parking can temporarily be reserved for other uses.

The amount of seating needs be increased, and two zones should be created: a zone off of the Sherbrooke St. sidewalk for those who like to watch and be seen, and a more remote and quiet zone for others.

The areas to be rented for “Occupation de la domaine Publique” should be delimited by fixed limits of a rail...to eliminate the very inconvenient encroachment of such terraces onto the circulation areas.

Bicycles should be given more space and limited to the south end of the square. This is the natural path up from the bicycle path from de Maisonneuve.

I am enclosing an alternative sketch to

demonstrate my thoughts and intend to submit it also to the city and all councillors for their consideration. I have already discussed these ideas with residents in the neighbourhood.

KEN LONDON, PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

THINK, THEN BUILD ON PRINCE ALBERT SQUARE

With their proposal for Prince Albert square, the city of Westmount and its council are pursuing a course of action that is harming the property values of those Victoria village residents who park on the street, the majority. According to a real estate agent I spoke with, the market for village properties without parking has entirely stalled as prospective buyers back off, apprehensive over the negative impact of the new MUHC super-hospital.

The current design for the square eliminates six valuable parking spots. Whatever mitigation efforts (to date unknown) the city has in mind to counter the MUHC problem, they will likely fall way short of success as the demand for parking will overwhelm supply. On top of that, at the recent town hall meeting, two well-known Westmount architects criticized the proposed design while highlighting its ineffectiveness in meeting the objectives set for the square. In my view, the destruction of six parking spots simply transfers valuable productive city property to two adjoining restaurants for their use, effectively subsidizing them while lowering our village house values. Furthermore, the city has provided no municipal plan for the village nor any parking or traffic management plan.

All this is casually brushed aside. Westmount's new motto appears to be “Build now, think later.” Does this sound like a well-run city? This whole third-rate project should be scrapped and re-done, as was the initial design for our recreation centre, greatly contributing to its final success.

Westmount residents deserve and expect much more from their city and its council.

DENIS BIRO, BURTON AVE.

LOWER WESTMOUNT NEEDS A DOG RUN

The city of Westmount mandated Hodgins and Associates to find a solution, Marc Fauteux says the park is saturated and Cynthia Lulham remains silent. Will we eventually see a poll with some options to consider?

More than two years have passed since the Lansdowne dog run was closed and a promised replacement was never provided.

Our children, wives, parents and friends need somewhere pleasant to meet where their beloved dogs can play.

Please don't consider banishing owners and dogs to a remote location as it won't be used. Residents will simply continue to find a shady spot in Westmount Park.

The dog run behind Westmount High School, a gravel pit bordering noisy train tracks and highways, makes dogs and their owners turn away.

A fenced central location with lighting, benches and shade is all that's needed. It doesn't even have to be in the park!

As a proud Westmount resident, I am still hopeful our mayor can provide a suitable place for frustrated lower Westmount residents soon.

RICK ANEMAET, ST. CATHERINE ST.

COUNCIL IGNORING PLIGHT OF LOWER WESTMOUNT DOG OWNERS

On May 13, 2013, the city of Westmount site informed us that construction of a new dog run would begin “soon.” Almost 15 months later, nothing has been done.

I understand that some people are against having a dog run in the centre of Westmount Park, but what about the Shakespeare in the Park site? Or how about allowing us a few hours in the mornings and evenings to let our dogs run and play in a designated area?

Why is our council continuing to jerk us around? What exactly is the hold-up? Previously well-socialized dogs are becoming much less so.

Large areas of the park are dedicated to a soccer field, tennis courts and a children's playground (all of which are used for less than half of the year), yet dog owners, the most regular and frequent users of the park (who else is in the park in 30-below weather?), are still without a space to let their dogs run.

Our council needs to grow a pair and do what is necessary really “soon.”

JOANNE GIBBS, ST. CATHERINE ST.

PLEASE LEASH THE DOGS

The sand box in Prince Albert Park is

not a toilet for dogs. Neither is the lawn where our kids run and play.

Despite the signs and all the places to walk dogs in Westmount, some intense dog lovers still manage to bring these dogs for a run without a leash on regular basis.

You would think that people understand the logic behind keeping dogs on leashes with your kids around as well as picking up after their dogs...but some haven't quite understood this basic principle.

We sure hope the city will keep enforcing the by-law in this regard and that dog owners who read this and see themselves in this message will change their behaviour.

Dogs are great...even men's best friend ... but they should run and play where they belong.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS EMMANUEL,
WINDSOR AVE.

OPEN LETTER TO MAYOR TRENT: NIX THE SLAT FENCE

Four years ago, I wrote you about the menace and potential dangers of the wood-slat fence held together by wire and numerous angular metal posts. You replied that an *ad hoc* committee was soon to meet to discuss the matter. I heard nothing more from you afterwards.

Two weeks ago, I wrote again, this time mentioning an accident that occurred when my dog ran into a loose tangle of wires from the fence, causing me to fall.

I suggested a shoulder-high permanent fence comprising a green hedge on both sides of a secure barrier. And summer would be the best time to plant the hedge. You stated that an organization would study the matter and results would be available after summer; adding that I should not exercise my dog on the bike path.

The wood-slat fence is rarely in functional order. Children of the adjacent elementary and nursery schools lean and rock on it, causing the slats to break and metal posts to slant or fall across the bike path. *continued on p. 8*

Pool, cont'd. from p. 1

off lanes for adults who swim laps and do not appreciate children jumping in the pool at the same time, an issue that also existed for more than 40 years at the city's old pool.

"This is a very difficult issue," Davis explained. She said she had consulted pool regulations in Montreal West and Town of Mount Royal and found they also had dedicated adult swims.

"We want the pool open to young families," added Mayor Peter Trent. "That's why we built it."

Davis told the *Independent* last week that the city had put up a large notice outlining the new Splash Pad hours but she hadn't noticed a big increase in users. "Maybe people have been out of town."

Trying to accommodate everyone's wishes is "a tough balancing act," she said. "This year is a learning curve for the new pool. We're trying to adapt and improve."



Angela Lehrer asks city council July 7 for more children's time.

Lansdowne-Roslyn block targeted for this year**Sherbrooke water-main work to last through August**

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Work was expected to start in earnest this week to replace the water main on Sherbrooke between Lansdowne and Roslyn, city officials said last week. It is scheduled to last until the week of August 25, weather permitting.

The project will require closure of one side of the main artery as had been the practice during similar work along Sherbrooke for the past five summers as the

city replaces in stages the old six-inch diameter main with one of eight inches.

"This year, we're doing only one block of 100 linear meters," said Public Works director Marianne Zalzal. "It's not a big job, but it is a high-profile one."

Notices dated July 28 were to have been sent to residents of the one block stating they will remain connected to the water supply system throughout the work. Many other users of the main artery will be affected, however, as two-way traffic shares

the side of the street that remains open.

The tender was awarded at the May 5 city council meeting to Canbec Construction as part of a package that included water main work on Hallowell and Bruce at a total cost of \$525,490. This was the lowest of three bids. The highest was \$595,000.

The Sherbrooke portion will account for just over \$100,000 of the amount, Zalzal said.

Letters, cont'd. from p. 7

Heavy winds and rain also do the same job. And, you and some readers of the *Independent* will be amazed how many varieties of bicycles and riders there are.

Accidents can happen. And accidents do happen. I sincerely trust that you will order a safe, permanent fence erected along the bike path at Melville, rounding off at the gazebo before a serious accident or a death happens. It does need not to be of the same quality as your predecessor's million-dollar fence protecting the grass for just a few summer soccer games. Surely your honour should not wait any longer to put up a permanent fence for the protection of the children of the nursery and elementary and the considerable variety of characters riding new-fangled vehicles. Please do not wait a day longer to rid the bike path of the constant menace of the unsightly wood-slat fence.

STEPHEN CHIN, SHERBROOKE ST.

Pit bulls, 'aggressive' Doberman found off-leash

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two dog owners were issued \$76 tickets recently for allowing two pit bulls and a Doberman to run off leash, Public Security officials said.

A patroller spotted the Doberman walking alone on the sidewalk July 23 at 3:48 pm outside a house on Grosvenor. When the officer got out of the patrol car, the dog began growling and baring its teeth "aggressively," so the officer returned to the vehicle and called for back-up.

When they later rang the doorbell, a resident accompanied by the Doberman reportedly acknowledged a gate had been left open. The importance of keeping the dog confined or leashed was underlined by the presence of young children nearby, said Public Security director Greg McBain.

In another incident July 27, two pit bulls were seen running on the green space at Westmount/NDG/Claremont avenues across from Marianopolis College at 11:02 am. The owner, a resident of Brossard, was told to leash the dogs and was also ticketed.

The triangular island is listed in the city's dog brochure as being an unfenced run where dogs may be allowed off-leash between 6 pm and 9 am only.

Noisy party guests break bottles on Hudson

A group of some 40 to 50 intoxicated young people were found breaking bottles as they left a house party on Hudson Ave. July 26, Public Security officials said.

Some were also sitting on the ground at neighbouring properties. Given the large numbers, officers called police to assist in dispersing the group.

The host's father was informed of the incident while his daughter and a few remaining guests helped clean up.

Man flees from WAG encounter, leaves woman behind

Public safety officers answered a call for a couple acting indecently at the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) just after midnight July 23, officials said.

When a flashlight was shone on the partially-clad couple in a wooded area, both ran in different directions, leaving their clothing behind.

The man made good his escape but the woman complied with a request to come out of woods and dress.

She claimed she was very embarrassed. The 18-year-old resident of NDG, was told to expect a \$76 ticket for breaking the park's midnight curfew.

The couple had been seen by a nearby resident who called Public Security at 12:07 am.

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City adds building inspector in wake of ceiling collapse



Police cordon off entry to the Courval store July 4 shortly after renovations in a vacant occupancy above caused the ceiling to collapse.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city has hired an additional temporary building inspector starting August 4, Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier told the *Independent* last week. The measure comes as the city beefs up its building inspection services.

The department has been shorthanded due to vacancies and one of the building inspectors has been filling in as chief of the Board of Inspections, taking him off the road for much of the time, she explained.

The new hiring follows the collapse of a ceiling over the Lingerie Courval store at 4861 Sherbrooke near Victoria July 4. The work had been under way for only two days and had not yet been visited, she said. “It turns out they were doing structural work that was more than the approved plan.”

“Going forward, we’re being a little more vigilant” in the case of interior renovations, said city director general Duncan Campbell at the council meeting July 7.

Replying to a question on the incident by Maureen Kiely of The Boulevard, he

said that two permits had been issued for the work upstairs, above Courval. It was this work that had caused the collapse in the older building.

Other recent building incidents include a façade falling off a building front on Greene (see May 20, p. 8), a chimney narrowly missing passers-by (see June 3, p. 7) and bricks falling from the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (see June 3, p. 30).



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PSOs intervene in altercation with bus driver

A man who was kicked off a city bus at St. Catherine and Metcalfe July 27 during an altercation with the driver was followed by public safety officers until he left Westmount, Public Security officials said.

A patroller had initially spotted the man around 5 pm as he was harassing passers-by at a bus stop near Greene and enquired if the man had a problem. After cussing at the officer, the man boarded a westbound bus, which the officer began following. Suddenly the driver stopped and activated the bus's 911 emergency flashers. The officer called for back-up as well as for

police and went to help the driver, a woman, who was trying to kick the man off the bus for bothering other passengers.

After much arm waving, continued screaming and an attempt by the man to lunge toward the driver while disembarking, officers managed to get between them.

The man was watched as he finally began walking north and then west along de Maisonneuve. When he finally left Westmount without further ado, public safety officers cancelled the call to police, who had not yet attended.

'Lost' man found, taken to tai chi

A Westmount woman appealed to a public safety officer July 26 in King George (Murray) Park for help in locating her husband who suffers from dementia, Public Security officials said. She stated she could not find the man, who is in his late 80s, at his morning tai chi session.

Officers searched the park to no avail as well as Prince Albert Park where the program sometimes takes place. They finally located him in the backyard of his house and drove him to his wife - and the tai chi class. Information on the city's "Security in Aging" program was later delivered to his home.

Intoxicated Scot just visiting

A man described as "extremely intoxicated" was found lying in the lane behind 4250 Sherbrooke near Olivier July 24 just after 5 pm, Public Security officials said. He was wearing a bright orange T-shirt, neon yellow socks and blue shoes. Police were called and took him into custody after unsuccessful attempts to track down where he was staying. He stated he was visiting from Scotland.

Team Ian raises \$ in July, ready for August ride



Guy Melhuish, Chantal Farinha and John Van Toch.

Photos courtesy of John Van Toch / Team Ian.

Team Ian held its first Spinathon on July 26, which was hosted by the Royal Bank at Sherbrooke and Victoria. It raised \$1,453, "in spite of the fact that Westmount was virtually deserted," said organizer John Van Toch. "Note to self: if we do this again, avoid the construction holiday!"

Team Ian raises money for student internships in cancer informatics in honour of the late Ian Van Toch, John's son. Its main fundraising event is an annual ride from Kingston to Hudson, which takes place this year on August 15-17.



Carly Molinaro, Andrea Van Toch and Stephanie Rafie.



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\$50 fine now imposed for walking on the bike path 1896 parks by-law revamped

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Under a major updating of the city's 1896 parks by-law adopted July 7, it is now an offence to walk or run on the bike path in Westmount Park, to take an animal into a comfort station or a playground and to use a playing field without a permit.

And don't even think of using a glass container or a golf club in a park – or lingering past the midnight curfew in the Greene public square or the proposed one on Prince Albert.

All of the above are subject to a basic first-time fine of at least \$50 plus costs. Consuming alcohol can generate an initial fine of at least \$100 while the fine for posting a sign, banner or political placard without city permission is \$200 and using the swimming pool or the wading pool in King George (Murray) Park outside permitted hours is "at least \$500."

"This something we've needed for a long time," said Public Security director Greg McBain. "It focuses on more recent types of incidents. When we intervene and ask someone to obey a sign, we need a by-

law to back it up."

A long list of city parks, playing fields and tennis courts is also included, as are rules for the use of swimming pools and tennis courts.

On the other hand, several archaic clauses have been removed such as those against "driving" quadrupeds or hackney coaches in the parks.

Also scrapped is the ban on the use of playgrounds by non-Westmount residents.

The by-law also clarifies a number of definitions, including a specific mention of skateboards and longboards among the wheeled items that are not allowed to be used on park paths.

Most of the other basic provisions remain in place such as those prohibiting setting off fire crackers, lighting fires, riding on pathways, injuring animals, birds, trees or plants, or damaging park buildings and equipment, or feeding wildlife.

A full version of the amended By-law 69 may be viewed on the city website at www.westmount.org.

"Now we're anxious to update the nuisance and morals by-laws," McBain said.

56 swimmers attending from Westmount

Locals compete at World Masters

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A few of the swimmers from Westmount who are participating in the 15th FINA World Masters Championships in Montreal this week are coping with a case of first-time jitters.

While Sylvia Reiter and Katherine Hope have competed for years on the Westmount YMCA's masters swim team, it has usually been at much lower levels.

The 2014 Masters Championships, which are taking place until August 10 at the aquatic complex in Montreal's Jean Drapeau Park, is a world class event and also the highest level either swimmer has ever reached.

In all, 56 participants from Westmount are taking part. They are competing in a range of swim-related activities, including synchronized swimming, diving and water polo.

Reiter, while admitting during an interview that "the pressure is from yourself, it's not from your team mates," said the experience of participating in a world class swim meet can also "make you a bit nervous."

Hope, who like Reiter has been on the Y swim team for nearly two decades, said she's taking part "because it's a once in a

lifetime experience," although she acknowledged she's also feeling the pressure.

"What the hell am I doing? That's really how I feel," she said, while laughing and adding that her aspiration is to simply finish her event.

Of all the swimmers aged 25 to 80 from the Westmount Y who are on the World Masters Championships team, only one, it would seem, has competed at the world level before.

"Many of us on the team – myself included – have swam in local, provincial and national level meets, but this is a first at the Worlds for almost all of us," said Lisa Osterland who has competed at the Y for the past 11 years.

Osterland and other members of the team praised their swim coach, Sonia Wiechec, with whom they underwent intense training for more than a year leading up to the championships.

"I have had many, many coaches over the years, but coach Sonia Wiechec stands out for me," said Osterland, noting that Wiechec has a "matter-of-fact, no-nonsense approach to her coaching" and also has a great deal of knowledge and experience. "She is a gem and we are beyond lucky to have her," she added.

Public Security, police raise money for Y



From left, at the cheque ceremony at the Y on July 15, Cristina Romero, the new director of the Westmount YMCA, Stephan Laperrière of Police Station 12, Sabrina Tremblay of Westmount Public Security and Vanessa Valente, director of community initiatives at Westmount YMCA. Photo courtesy of the Westmount Y.

Public Security officers and police officers from Station 12 participated in December 19 and April 17 hockey fundraisers benefiting the Westmount YMCA Strong Kids Campaign.

\$270 was raised and "will go to help

special needs children integrate into the programs at the Y as well as offer financial assistance to children from disadvantaged families," according to a Y press release.

The cheque was presented July 15 at the Y.



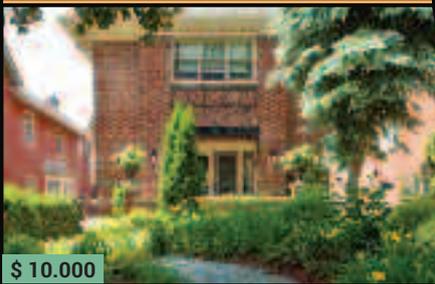
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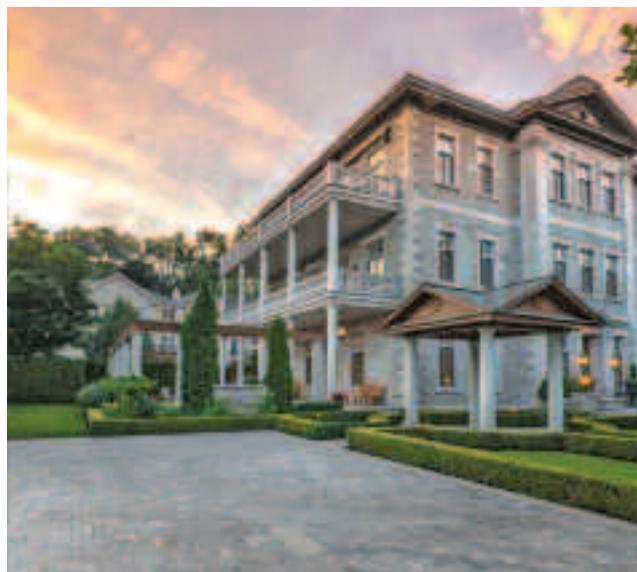
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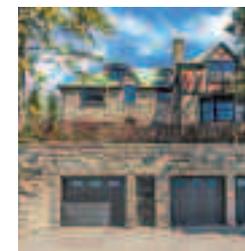
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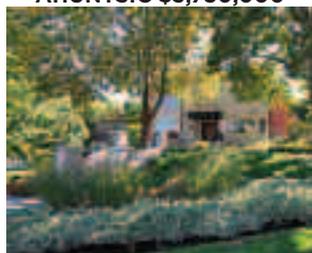
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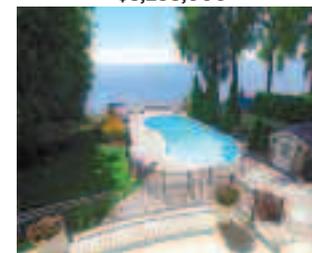
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Wheels-to-curb crackdown starts Aug. 11

Tickets for \$53 will be issued to any parked car found without the wheels turned to the curb starting August 11, Public Security officials said. The crackdown results from four incidents in June and July of unattended cars rolling or “inching” down hills.

Two of these occurred on Mountain Ave., one at Mount Pleasant and Cedar

and another on Belmont, where a van rolled down onto property on Belmont Crescent, all starting June 10.

“We handed out 246 warning tickets on hills such as Mountain, Church Hill and Victoria in just over one week, July 9 to 18,” said Public Security director Greg McBain.

This number points out the need to

start issuing tickets with fines for the offence, he explained. “It’s a very important safety issue.”

Many of the city’s hills have been signed with pictograms illustrating the correct way in which to turn wheels against the curb when parking, he pointed out.

Woman fears for life after prisoner released

A woman approached public safety officers at the parking lot of the Westmount recreation centre July 27 to say she was afraid for her life after a man was recently released from prison, Public Security officials said. The woman stated he blamed her for his imprisonment after a rape attack and had broken a restraining order. She was driven to local police Station 12.

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More April property transfers



Mood of the Market

ANDY DODGE, CRA

Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in late April 2014, gleaned from non-city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 15.

Summer slowdowns have caused a delay in the tabbing of springtime real estate registrations, and the *Independent* has now come upon more sales registered in April that were not included in the list presented last month (July 1, p. 17).

The added sales brings to seven the number of single-family homes sold in April, with an average price of more than \$1.8 million but an average mark-down of some four percent. The volume is the lowest for an April since 2005, and helps boost the total volume for the first four months this year to only 28, which is the slowest start of a year since 2009, when the world was staring at a financial collapse. The sales registered in April represent negotiations mainly arranged in the first three

months 2014, when buyers were worrying about the then upcoming provincial election.

For the entire month, the highest single-family price was \$2,913,769 for 482 Roslyn Ave., closely followed by 26 Shorncliffe Ave. at \$2,800,000. Both were substantially below their municipal evaluations. The first was in serious need of renovation and the second was involved in a bankruptcy. Those two helped bring the average price below the average municipal evaluation – that was also the case for February – but the two sales, coupled with 3269 Cedar Ave., which sold on April 1, proved there is some kind of market now for houses over \$2 million. Still, 482 Roslyn was the highest price this year and the highest price in Westmount since November.

On the low side was 485 Grosvenor Ave., at \$855,000, the only sale under \$1 million. It is one of only six houses to have been registered this year for prices under \$1,000,000.

Last month, we published the sale of a condominium at 1250 Greene Ave. for \$4,582,210; two more condominium sales were registered in April, including one apartment at 11 Hillside Ave., which actually went for less than its recently-assigned

2014 valuation. The other was one of the triplex-type condos built in 2001 on St. Catherine St. just opposite the new recreation centre.

Another important sale was one of the two land lots south of the large Marjorie

Bronfman home at 475 Roslyn Ave., all of which were put on the market early in February last year. The land comprises 631.7 square metres which, at a \$1-million sale price, represents \$1,583 per square metre or \$147 per square foot.

Causes more residents to register Fine-tuning of CodeRED follows boil-water advisory

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

While the underlying cause behind the “precautionary” boil-water advisory in southeast Westmount July 9-12 remained undetermined last week, city officials said the incident served as a good learning experience for the city’s first use of the CodeRED notification system.

A few technical glitches were flushed out and are now being resolved, explained city director general Duncan Campbell.

“Now that the bugs are out of the system, we’ll hold a city-wide test of the system later this month.”

The CodeRED information service automatically alerts residents to a localized or city-wide emergency situation using publicly listed landline phones. The same messages are also relayed to people who have chosen to register their unpublished or mobile numbers and internet coordinates with CodeRED.

Following the recent incident, Campbell said, some 48 more people have registered these devices bringing the total number of Westmount listings to 7,230 by July 29.

“What’s interesting,” he said, “is that feedback from residents indicated they seemed to prefer receiving the CodeRED message over the traditional notices we delivered.”

The boil-water advisory affected homes and apartments from the south side of Dorchester down to the train tracks be-

tween Weredale Park and Hallowell.

Some problems were encountered tracing (geo-coding) the geographic area to be informed on an electronic map tied in to a latitudinal/longitudinal system, Campbell said.

“We missed a few addresses, including Weredale Park, and added the apartment building at 250 Clarke, which was not affected.”

The challenge lay in part in how the city outlined the impacted area on a Google-type map, which the city discovered presented a few anomalies itself. “We’re now working with Hydro Westmount to define their sectors so each one can be geo-coded.”

The one-minute boil-water advisory stemmed from a regular water test conducted by the city through an independent lab showing a positive result for E.coli and coliform, Campbell said. “We don’t know why.”

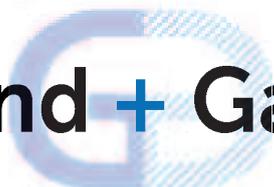
Among several scenarios he suggested were a possibly contaminated test tube or simply lower water flow through the mains on the dead-end streets.

The advisory was lifted after tests on two subsequent days.

The CodeRED system is used by many municipalities in North America including several on the West Island.

Registration of unlisted numbers or mobile and internet devices may be done through the city’s website at www.westmount.org.

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Protesting pension bill proposals

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount parking inspectors were attracting more attention than usual August 1 as they walked down the commercial strip on Victoria Ave. dressed in camo pants and jeans as part of an island-wide union protest against Quebec's Bill 3 regarding municipal pension plans.

The protest attire is similar to that which began with Montreal police and firefighters.

Members of the Public Security Unit used to run their own association before they were forced to join Montreal's white-collar union during the megacity mergers. All union groups have now joined forces to fight Bill 3 provisions aimed at making equal the share of pension fund contributions and costs between employees and municipalities (see story July 1, p. 1).

"It's putting some employees in a difficult position," city director general Duncan Campbell said last week. While protest stickers have been placed on some Westmount Public Works trucks, "we've been tolerating it for the time being."

He said he would be discussing this point, defacing public property, with city council members before the August 4 meeting.



Parking inspectors Pierre Thibault, left, and Richard Lamer on Victoria, August 1.

Comin' Up

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

Victoria Village August Side Walk Sale. Also August 23 and 24.

Tumbling Tots. Centre Greene. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 am to 11 am. Indoor/park playground for parents and children under 5 years. \$3.50/morning drop-in. Coffee and cookies provided.

Contactivity Centre walking group for 60+. Mondays and Thursdays, 10 to 11:30 am. Meet at the Greene Ave. entrance to Westmount Square. Free. Info: 514.932.2326, karen.evoy@gmail.com

Please send your events in the above format by Friday at 2 pm to cu@westmountindependent.com.

Batshaw Children Needing Homes

Camp-loving Felix needs two-parent home

A long-term foster home is being sought for the integration of Felix, a 10-year-old Caucasian boy who enjoys playing with cars, Lego and computer games but also likes fantasy play.

When he goes to the park, Felix loves the water sprinklers and riding on his scooter, rather than engaging in sports activities. Felix plays well by himself, but also loves playing with other children. He shares his toys well. He is sensitive to the feelings of other children, and will offer a hug or a toy to a child who appears upset.

While he may sometimes have a fit of anger and be hostile to another child, Felix will always apologize after having time to reflect.

Felix is presently living in a group home where he has been receiving help for his emotional and behavioural problems. He has a mild intellectual deficiency and has also had unpredictable behaviours, sometimes behaving aggressively with staff or running away from them.

School work has proved challenging for Felix and he has tried to avoid doing his homework by throwing a tantrum. Felix responds to caregivers using a friendly tone of voice and engaging with him when giving directives.

He is always in good spirits in the summer because he loves camp and has no homework to challenge him.

Felix has a history of loss and has no contact with his parents. He is in need of a long-term, two-parent foster family, able to provide a stable home and an understanding of Felix's difficulties in managing

his emotional and behavioural challenges.

For more information about Felix, please call Batshaw Youth and Family Centres at 514.932.7161, local 1139.

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739 Upper Roslyn: One of the last to be sold on the street



History by the house

ANDY DODGE, CRA

The stretch of land running north and south along what are now Grosvenor and Roslyn avenues, originally purchased by Charles Phillips in the 1850s and then languishing in court for 10 years after his death while Victoria and Lansdowne avenues – on either side of the strip of farmland – were being developed, was broken up and subdivided by the Westmount Land Company in the late 1800s.

Roslyn Ave. originated in 1898, but reached only from Western Ave. (now de Maisonneuve Blvd.) to Côte St. Antoine Rd. until 1907, when it was extended to “the Mountain” (according to Lovell’s Directory), which would mean what is now The Boulevard.

Meanwhile, 49 lots were sold by the Westmount Land Company to Thomas R. Ridgeway, including the land reaching above The Boulevard and over the mountain into Côte des Neiges.

In 1916, Sunnyside Ave. was stretched across the mountain from Upper Bellevue Avenue and Roslyn stretched above The Boulevard, along with what were titled Upper Lansdowne and Upper Belmont avenues, though this section of Roslyn Ave. did not adopt the name “Upper” until the early 1960s.

In 1919, the corner of the two streets sold to Clarence Thomson while the land just behind it, Lot 213, was transferred to John (or James) Ernest Weeks, with the stipulation that only “first class detached or semi-detached dwellings” could be constructed on it. And while David Farrell began construction of 103 and 105 Sunnyside in 1925 (*Independent*, November 2013, p. xx), the plots of land behind it, along the street that by then led down the hill to Queen Mary Rd., languished in Weeks’ hands until 1929.

He then sold the 50-foot lot to Mary Margaret Dunne for almost twice what he had paid for it 10 years earlier, some \$6,937.50 in July 1929. With the stock market crash in October of that year, it appears she was unable to accomplish her objectives.

Construction begins

She sold to Ernest Lawrence Marshall, a Montreal West resident, for \$5,500. He immediately turned the land over to John B. Fellowes for construction of two semi-

detached houses, 739 and 741 Roslyn Avenue.

The first owner of 739 Upper Roslyn was Francis R. Sylvestre, an industrialist, who paid \$16,000 for the brand new stone and stucco house in October 1933. By this time, the entire street was almost fully developed, and it appears from Lovell’s Directory that these two houses (739 and 741) were the last to be sold off.

Sylvestre moved to New York City in 1936 and started leasing the house, finally turning it over to “Upper Roslyn Realty Corp.” in February of 1937 for \$12,000. The corporation continued to rent it out through World War II until finally, in 1951, Aurea Perron, widow of Francis Sylvestre, bought the house back for the same \$12,000. It is noteworthy that Marguerite Perron, acting as secretary of Upper Roslyn Realty, signed for the rental company. She then served as attorney for Aurea Perron when the widow, still living in New York, sold the house to Major-General Ralph Holley Keebler in February 1953, for \$30,000.

Upper Roslyn born

Keebler, who by then was president of Northern Electric Company and an executive officer of Bell Canada, lived there through the 1950s and then sold to William John Leney (Len) Freeman, a section manager for Bell, in 1960. The price of \$40,000 grew to \$46,000 a year later when he sold to Kenneth E. Clare, a mining executive. This is the first time, in 1961, that we find a reference to Upper Roslyn Ave.

Laurence G. Pathy, C.M., J.D., president of Fednav, Inc., one of the world’s largest shipowning and chartering companies, bought the house in September 1964, for \$49,000 and lived there for five years. He has since received numerous honours and awards for his contributions to the Canadian transportation infrastructure as well as various charities.

The next buyers, Gillian and Joseph Yanow, paid only \$45,000 in 1969 and stayed there for seven years before selling to Arthur Sanft, described as an advocate and executive, in December 1976 for an undisclosed price.

He owned the house only until June 1979, when he was granted a divorce and sold the house to Judith Brown, the wife of Bernard Shapiro, described as an account executive with Sun Light, though we can find no reference to that corporation. (Former McGill principal Bernard Shapiro’s late wife is Phyllis Shapiro, so this appears to be a different man.)



Names reappear

Besides the buy-back of the house by Sylvestre’s widow, other names have been repeated in the ownership history of this house. Richard Glickman and his wife, Joy Yanow, bought the house in 1989, but there appears to be no connection to Joseph Yanow. In 1998, Gina Patricia Lennox, wife of Richard Shapiro, bought the house for \$445,000, but there does not appear to be any direct link to Bernard Shapiro.

The realtors’ listing in 1981, when the home was purchased by Dr. Nicolas Costopoulos, describes the house as containing “leaded windows, oak floors with inlay, interesting architecture with Art Deco influence.” It was extensively renovated by the Shapiros in 2002 before they sold to Marie Josée Bonneville for \$735,000 – more than they were asking.

She then sold to Dr. Sebastian Demyttenaere and Audrey Lovett in November 2009, for \$1,055,000. He is a surgeon at St. Mary’s Hospital.

HISTORY OF 739 UPPER ROSLYN AVENUE (since construction)

Date	Buyer	Price
2 Oct. 1933	Francis R. Sylvestre, industrialist	16,000
22 Feb. 1937	Upper Roslyn Realty Corporation (Rene Lippe, president)	12,000
2 Mar. 1951	Aurea Perron, widow of Francis Sylvestre	12,000
27 Feb. 1953	Ralph Holley Keebler, executive officer, Bell Telephone	30,000
5 Apr. 1960	William John Leney Freeman, section manager	40,000

4 Aug. 1961	Kenneth Ernest Clare, assistant treasurer	46,000
1 Sep. 1964	Laurence G. Pathy	49,000
18 Jun. 1969	Gillian Elisabeth Adams, wife of Joseph Yanow, salesman	45,000
17 Dec. 1976	Arthur Sanft, advocate and executive	1
26 Jun. 1979	Judith Brown, wife of Bernard Shapiro	105,000
30 Jun. 1981	Dr. Nicolas Conostas Costopoulos, M.D.	240,000
14 Aug. 1989	Richard Glickman and Joy Yanow	380,000
22 Aug. 1995	Abdelkazizi Chrigui & Naima El Majidi, both from Morocco	425,000
10 Jul. 1998	Gina Patricia Lennox, wife of Richard Shapiro	445,000
16 Aug. 2002	Marie Josée Bonneville	735,000
20 Nov. 2009	Sebastian Demyttenaere & Audrey Lovett	1,055,000

28 cyclists fail to obey stop sign

A total of 28 cyclists on the bike path were intercepted in an hour and a half July 29 when they failed to obey the Melville stop sign at Westmount Park, Public Security officials said. Six had been wearing earphones. All were warned and given safety code pamphlets. The blitz was conducted between 1:22 and 2:45 pm by PSOs Sabrina Tremblay and Zachary Sobkowiak and parks cadets Troy Griggs and Jennifer Mowat.

Find city 'spectacular, impressive'

Judges learn about Westmount, meet community volunteers



Communities in Bloom judges Richard Daignault, left, of Ottawa, and Evelyn Alemanni of Escondido, California, meet Healthy City Project representative Tom Thompson, right, at the reception July 21. With them is RCMP Pipe Major Philippe LeBlanc, a critical care physician at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two Communities in Bloom judges crossing Canada to assess competing municipalities topped off a visit to Westmount July 21 at a city reception that brought them together with representatives of volunteer community groups.

And the two spent some two hours with citizens in the pavilion of the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) after spending the day learning about an array of city services, initiatives and environmental projects before visiting selected highlights.

During introductions, they described the city as "impressive" and said they had very quickly noticed "a great sense of pride" that people had in the community.

"We are privileged to be in your spectacular town," said Evelyn Alemanni of Escondido, California, a writer and award-winning gardener who has judged 109 towns in nine countries as an international judge for the Communities in Bloom program.

"When I go back to America in Blooms, I'll be saying: 'Look what they're doing in Canada!'" she added.

Richard Daignault, a landscape architect from Ottawa who is a senior project manager with the National Capital Commission, told the assembled volunteers that they had "a beautiful town." He later told the *Independent* that he planned to re-

turn next summer and spend time in Westmount Park.

One of the big attractions for Alemanni unfolded during the reception when the RCMP pipe band performed outside the WRC pavilion on top of the arena. This volunteer group had been invited to play at the event representing the RCMP Quebec headquarters located on Dorchester at Greene.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham who has spearheaded Westmount's participation over the years in the national and international competitions of Communities in Bloom, introduced the judges and welcomed the representatives of more than a dozen groups.

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Local 'royal' turns 120



From left, RBC Dominion Securities representatives François Roy and Claude Roy, Royal Bank branch manager David Cristofaro and RBC Dominion Securities representative John Archer. The barbeque raised \$750 for the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation.

Photo courtesy of J. Archer / RBC.

The Royal Bank in Westmount Square recently celebrated its 120th anniversary of continuous operations in Westmount by

holding a sidewalk barbeque on July 25 with all proceeds going to the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation.

Ambulance flagged down for suicidal man

An Urgences Santé ambulance was flagged down July 25 to help in an emergency in front of 4010 Tupper by public safety officers, Public Security officials said.

A private security guard had requested assistance for a man described as suicidal at 12:34 pm.

The man, aged about 75, agreed to be transported to the Douglas Hospital.

No other details were reported.

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Blind Oka needs a quiet home



Dear, sweet Oka is looking for a compassionate placement. After years of neglect, this old and blind boy is looking for a quiet home full of love where he can live out his days.

Make no mistake, though, this affectionate ten-year-old, 46-pound Lab mix has lots of spirit and life left in him and would be a wonderful companion for the right person or family!

Despite being left outside *all the time* by his previous owner, Oka still adores humans and will happily soak up any attention you have to give him. Oka navigates very well even though he is blind. He has one eye that went blind long ago from cataracts, and he is scheduled to have his other bulging eye removed later this month.

However, Oka believes he is a dog like any other, and does not let his disability stop him from sniffing all the wonderful smells around him, enjoying walks and delighting in meals and treats.

Oka is an amazing, happy dog who does not feel sorry for himself and does not want anyone to feel sorry for him either. He just wants a family that will love



and accept him the way he is, and who can offer him a relaxed and peaceful environment.

Oka loves cats and dogs so a home with either calm companion would be a great fit for him, but not children under the age of 12, so that he does not get frightened by loud noises or have to deal with obstacles like toys within the home.

If you are interested in adopting Oka, please contact Gerdy's Rescue at info@gerdysrescue.org.

Checkers needs someone to play with



Checkers is an exquisite black long-haired domestic cat, with nature's whimsical white touches on his neck and face to make him unique. His sparkling gold eyes are such a contrast against his dark fur, you will agree that he is quite stunning.

Time flies for this young fellow, who was found abandoned. Checkers is now three years old and in the care of a foster family for Gerdy's Rescue.

He is very loving and thoroughly appreciates his home life because he had the bad luck of being left outdoors in the cold as a kitten. He was lucky to be left near a home where kindness was the rule of the house: as a first step, he was made comfortable and fed outside by Gerdy's aunt, then brought in and given all the attention he needed to grow strong and healthy.

Checkers is now up to date with his inoculations and neutered. He doesn't mind being the king cat of the house, yet he gets along with other cats as well so this option is also possible for a potential adoption.

If you would like more information on him, please contact Gerdy on her cellular at 514.203.9180 or email her at info@gerdysrescue.org. You can also refer to



their website for more information on the rescue's activities and adoptions at www.gerdysrescue.org.

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Police Report

No incidents at pro-Gaza rallies at Westmount Square: Police

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

Despite skyrocketing tension in the Middle East, a pair of pro-Palestinian marches that snaked through Westmount on July 25 and 28 proceeded without incident, according to Station 12 constable Stephan Laperrière.

"Everything was complied with. Everything was peaceful. When the lights were red along St. Catherine, they heeded the lights," he said.

As part of two demonstrations, protesters marched towards the Israeli consulate in Westmount Square to decry the Israeli military action into the Gaza Strip.

Laperrière credits organizers for ensuring that both demonstrations stayed peaceful and ordered.

"They had gotten in touch with [police] and informed us about what would be happening, so we more or less had a warning," he said. "They were also advising us throughout. They have nothing to hide, especially in that type of peaceful demonstration where they want the support from the public."

The demonstrations drew estimated crowds of 700 on June 25 and 1,000 three days later, with foul weather resulting in lower than expected attendance.

Laperrière couldn't specify the size of the police force tasked with overseeing the events, simply stating that there were enough officers in the area "to make sure that the demonstration went peacefully and there was no damage."

As with other large rallies, police also embraced modern technology to ensure the highly emotional cause didn't threaten

the order of the demonstration, said Laperrière. Officers continuously monitored social media sites like Facebook and Twitter both in the lead-up to the rallies to gauge the mood of the demonstrators and during the events themselves to prepare for any radical shifts in the crowd's intentions.

"It gives us a good indicator of what's happening, although in his case everything pretty much went as the organizers had planned," said Laperrière.

Police were also on the lookout online for any possible counter-protests, which often spark issues. According to Laperrière, "We look on the web to see if there are any counter-movements forming, which in this case would have been pro-Israeli. In these two cases, there weren't any, which helped everything go smoothly," he explained.

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INGREDIENTS:

1/3 cup (75 mL) dark soy sauce
3 tbsp (45 mL) brown sugar
4 garlic cloves, crushed
2 lbs (1kg) London broil (1½ inches/
4 cm thick)

INSTRUCTIONS:

In a small bowl, combine the soy sauce, sugar, and garlic. Mix well. Place the steak in a resealable plastic bag and pour the soy sauce mixture. Refrigerate for 6 to 24 hours, turning occasionally.

Garnish

2 green onions, thinly sliced
3 tbsp (45 mL) toasted sesame seeds

Preheat grill on high.

Remove the steak from the bag, reserving the marinade, and grill for 4 minutes per side for rare, 6 minutes for medium. Remove from the grill and let rest for 5 minutes. Slice the meat thinly



against the grain.

Cook the remaining marinade until boiling and pour over the steak. Garnish with the green onions and sesame seeds and serve.

Yield: 8 servings

Best served with Smashed Potato Cakes (page 170)

To purchase a copy of Mosaic, or to find a retailer that carries the book, please go to www.mosaiccookbook.com.

Murdoch scores scholarship

Westmounter Maxime Murdoch, 17, has been awarded a “major” lacrosse scholarship to IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida, which is well known as a launching pad for athletes, including Russell Wilson, quarterback of current Super Bowl champs, the Seattle Seahawks. The Collège Notre Dame graduate was second in scoring in Quebec’s U21 lacrosse league.

“Max is the second Westmounter to be accepted at this fine sports academy in the past two seasons; the other being [lacrosse player] Taylor Boyd,” wrote Mike Deegan, director of Westmount Sports and Recreation, to the *Independent*.

“We are extremely proud of all the athletes from Westmount who make their start in our programmes, including Max. [His father] Tim Murdoch was the driving force behind Westmount lacrosse, but he is so humble he will never admit to that. Truth be told he walked into our office years ago with an idea for a new programme and he literally built it from the ground up.”

Franklin’s *Frewyn Fables* bestseller in UK

Westmount author Michelle Franklin’s new novella, *A Holiday United*, was published on July 22 in an anthology called *Recollection of Shared Days*, a collection of stories from the authors at Paper Crane Books.

In May of this year, her first children’s book, *Frewyn Fables: The House Guest*, became a best-seller on Amazon UK, ranking in the top 100 of children’s books for two weeks. The book is only available as a digital download, but is expected to be available in paperback in the autumn.

Also in May, *Khantara*, her romantic fantasy novel, was nominated for a RONE award for best romance from a small or independent press.

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*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The ever-popular, always sold out, Under the Tuscan Sun fundraising evening was held at the trendy space called WAVE along the Lachine canal. The cocktail evening, the 11th annual event for the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex (QEHC), featured a special silent auction.

Co-chairs were Westmounters **Rob Fagnoli** and **Richard Yufe**. The volunteer organizing committee included **Bob Anderson**, **Salma Belhaffaf**, **Sandy Cochrane**, **Susan Cryans**, **Nauzie Dibai**, **Luba Kolomycky**, **Brian Marcil**, **Joanne Mastro**, **Antonietta Pietroniro**, **JoAnne Rudy** and **Gerry Shadeed**.

Fusion catering served up classic Italian cuisine - *benissimo!* Berretta Wines and the SAQ sponsored an excellent selection of Italian wines.

MC was the effervescent **Donna Saker** of The Beat. Guests included Westmounters the Tony Shoes family of **Tony** and his wife **Kathie**, **Tina**, **Sandra** and **Tamara Fagnoli**; **Joan Ivory**, **Leslie Macdonald** and **Eric Klinkhoff**, **Gerry Shadeed** and **Bente Christensen**, **Jyl Gordon**, **Sue** and **Jawaid Khan**, **Jaqueline Yufe**, and former Westmounters **Richard McConomy** and **Pierrette Sevigny** and her brother **Albert Sevigny**, as well as **Roann Bratz** and **Ronald Stein**, **Thelma** and **Gary Shapiro**, **Gino Ventura**, **Helen Reece** and **Rob Brodrick**, **John** and **Nadia Roumeliotis** with brother **Stephen**; **Giuseppe Danisi**, **Michael Boxer**, **Gerry Girard**, **Jean Guy DuMoulin**, **William Gagnon**, **Ann Peacock**, **Jean Marc Leblanc** and **Marnie Levy**.

QEHC staff attending were executive director and CEO **Irene Tschernomor**, along with foundation director **Sarah Malka** and **Talia Noya**. The event raised over \$100,000 for the non-profit organization, which will go towards the acquisition

Another sunny 'visit' to Tuscany for QEHC



From left, back row: **Ronald Stein**, **Roann Bratz** and **Jaqueline Yufe**; front row: **Thelma** and **Gary Shapiro** and **Richard Yufe**.



Rob Fagnoli and **Richard Yufe**.

of a digital fluoroscopy machine and the QEHC Diabetes Education Program.

Already in the planning is the 2015 event, with co-chairs **Nauzie Dibai** and **Marnie Levy**.



Westmounters **Marnie Levy** and **Nauzie Dibai**



Nauzie Dibai, **Donna Saker**, **Jyl Gordon**, **Bente Christensen**

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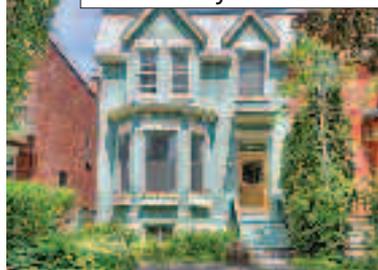
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627 Clarke Avenue \$3,395,000
Beautiful contemporary home with open concept, panoramic views on a beautiful street.
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3066 Trafalgar \$2,975,000
Exquisite relaxed Georgian style, fabulous city views, expansive verandas, great outdoor space, salt water pool in a private country setting. MLS 10545075



WESTMOUNT

103 Sunnyside \$1,595,000
Where luxury and attention to details knows no boundaries! 3+1 semi with garage and lovely garden MLS 18961389



WESTMOUNT ADJ

3024 De Breslay \$1,590,000
Magnificent renovated semi in the priest farm with large kitchen +den, lovely garden, garage and tons of charm. MLS 9273744



WESTMOUNT

490 Argyle \$1,195,000
Charming 5 Bdr semi offering views from third floor den with beautiful garden and garage.
MLS 24526789



DOWNTOWN

23 Redpath Place \$1,185,000
Spectacular fully renovated bright 3+1 townhouse located in the heart of the Golden Square mile.
MLS 20033668



DOWNTOWN

3445 Drummond apt 506 \$525,000
Beautiful 2 Bdr/2 Bth renovated with state of the heart materials, large balcony with views.
MLS 12837793



NUN'S ISLAND

Verrières V 19th floor \$675,000
Magnificent large 2+Den with astonishing views of river, salt water pools, tennis, 24 hour security.
MLS 22935690



NUN'S ISLAND

Verrières V Garden level \$469,000
Experience a lifestyle in a country setting in this 2 bedroom condo with very large terrace.
MLS 17472767



TREMBLANT

Pinoteau Village \$319,000
Great 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom condo with private beach on Lac Tremblant Tennis court, bike path included!! MLS 15218636



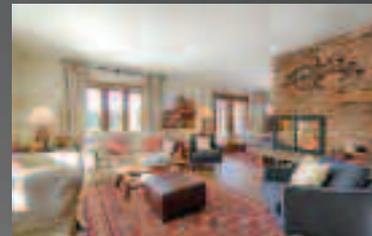
TREMBLANT AREA

\$395,000
Waterfront lots on beautiful, clear Lac Xavier (approx. 1.2 acres each) 20 min. from Tremblant with road access. MLS 17494440



TREMBLANT AREA

121 Dicaire \$245,000
Fabulous investment opportunity with this charming 3 Bdr residence located in the heart of Tremblant Village with lake access. MLS 13212057



TREMBLANT AREA

\$429,000
In charming village of Arundel, renovated farmhouse on 22 acres w/glorious barn!!
MLS 10839069



TREMBLANT AREA

\$495,000
Magnificent 135 acre lot with beautiful sandy beaches of Rouge River. MLS 11954458



WESTMOUNT

333 ELM \$1,549,000
Beauty on Elm!!



WESTMOUNT

3225 Cedar Ave. \$1,350,000
Detached split with lovely garden.



TMR

1240 Kenilworth \$2,850,000
For the most distinguished buyer!! Impressive 5 bedroom stone residence on very private lot with pool. MLS 12059333



TMR

431 Grenfell \$1,065,000
Great lifestyle house with open concept, exquisitely renovated!!



TMR

1190 Kenilworth \$2,395,000
Magnificent contemporary residence on 12,000 SF lot with pool in prime TMR location. MLS 23906134



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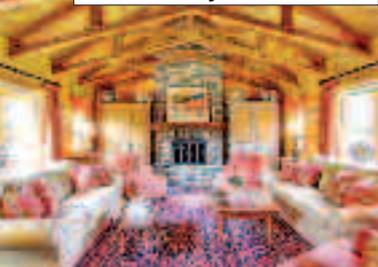
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ANOTHER JUST LISTED!



West Bolton, ET, 271 Spicer Rd.
Idyllic 39 acre estate. Ponds, swimming pool, tennis court, main house + guest cottage. No finer combination of comfort, privacy, + privilege at this price. **\$1,495,000**

ANOTHER JUST LISTED!



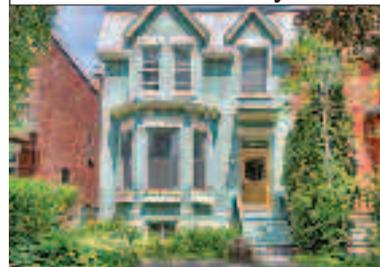
Plateau Mt. Royal, 1367 Rachel E.
Exquisite 1915 built top floor condo desirably situated directly across from Lafontaine Park GORGEOUS plaster molding, woodwork, + stained glass. **\$497,000**

Listed & SOLD over asking in 7 days!



Westmount, 25 Renfrew Ave.
Renovated to the HIGHEST standards. Virtually nothing was overlooked! Exquisite woodwork, stained glass, + details! Desirable, ultra PEACEFUL location. **\$1,498,000**

Listed and SOLD in 19 days at 97%!



Westmount, 345 Grosvenor Ave.
The LOOK, the LOCATION, the SPACE, the PRICE! Got it all! Elegant S/D 1905 home. 5 bdr, parking. Priced to leave room for your renovations. **\$939,000**

Listed & SOLD by Brian @ 97%!



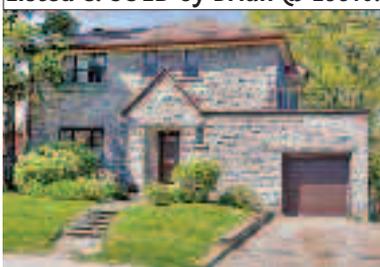
Westmount, 3241 Cedar Ave.
Magnificent, quality built 1926 "Spanish Eclectic" home. 5 bedrooms. SPACIOUS, sun filled rooms. PRIME location. WELL priced! **\$1,298,000**

Another just SOLD in 31 days @ 87%!



Westmount, 6 Springfield Ave.
EXTRAORDINARY opportunity! Needing total renovation, but what POTENTIAL! GREAT location. All original charm intact! 4 bdr. Parking+ garden. **\$798,000**

Listed & SOLD by Brian @ 100%!



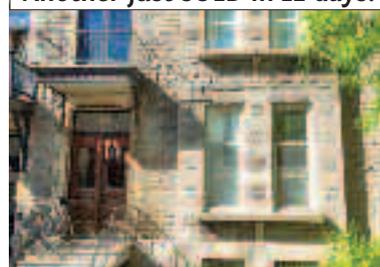
Westmount adj. (Circle Road area)
5015 Glencairn Ave.
Best location! DETACHED. **\$875,000**

Another just SOLD in 34 days @ 99%!



Westmount, 465 Clarke Ave.
Mid century modern townhouse designed with space + light in mind! Spectacular LVR with a wall of windows overlooking your garden oasis. A/C, 2 CAR GARAGE! **\$1,250,000**

Another just SOLD in 12 days!



Westmount, 456 Argyle Ave.
Think all Victorian homes are quaint and compact? NOT THIS ONE! SPECTACULARLY spacious, filled with fabulous details + light, + a basement with 12'+ ceilings! **\$929,000**

SOLD by Brian @ 98%!

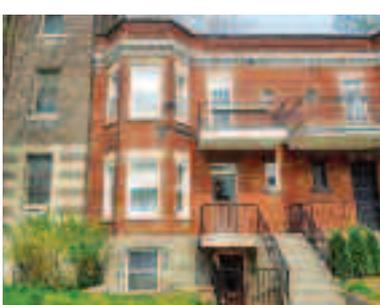


Westmount, 3238 The Boulevard
Great value! **\$1,475,000**

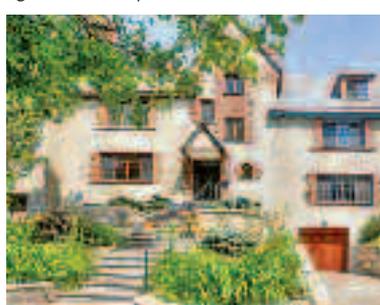


New price!

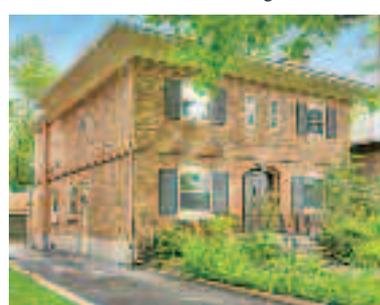
Westmount, 77 Chesterfield Ave.
The perfect Westmount family home exists! Delightful 1910 home. Updated kitchen + baths. Beautiful stained glass windows, wdwrk, + details that will impress! **\$1,295,000**



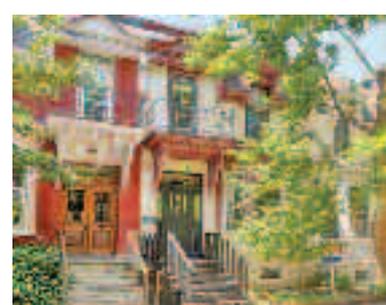
Westmount, 4773 Sherbrooke W.
RARELY available! 4 bedroom town home ideally situated with revenue potential or home office space from the basement apt! **\$745,000**



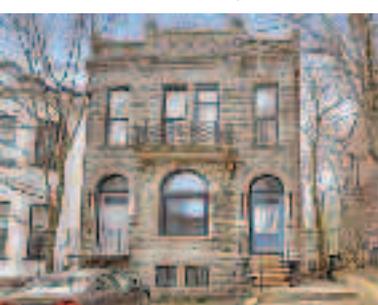
Westmount Adj., 3035 Cedar Ave.
Worthy of the pages of Wallpaper Magazine, feast your eyes on the ULTIMATE in sleek, urban design in a manificently restored townhouse. **\$1,450,000**



Westmount, 649 Roslyn Ave.
Here's an OPPORTUNITY! Detached, updated 1904 home featuring central A/C, 2 car garage, 4+1 bedrooms, 3½ baths! **\$1,699,000**



Westmount, 118 Lewis Ave.
ADORABLE 1894 Victorian townhouse. Renovated kitchen, bathrooms, finished basement, etc. Great value! **\$664,000**



Westmount, 510 Lansdowne Ave.
GREAT location! Ultra spacious, 3 bedroom upper duplex undivided condo. 10'6 ceilings. Amazing VALUE at this price! **\$575,000**



Westmount, 200 Lansdowne, #407
1,900 sq.ft. **\$798,000**



Westmount, 210 Cote Saint-Antoine
Prime location! **\$5,000/month**



Westmount, 3764 The Boulevard
Immed. occupancy. **\$4,700/month**



Saint-Lambert, 126 Upper Edison
The Westmount of the South Shore! Magnificent home. 3 + 1 bdrs, 3½ renov. baths, in ground pool, central a/c, 2 car gar. IMPECCABLE! **\$849,000**

#6 in Quebec for Re/Max 2012*

#7 in Quebec for Re/Max 2013**