



Flattened: 31 Willow Ave., p. 23 photo: Carol Kremer.

**Real estate transfers –
new every month,
like the market! p.12**
**McEntyre writing
competition winners
p. 11**



Bought & Sold 40 Belvedere Rd.



Profile: Karin Marks p.22

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

June 3-4, 2008

We are Westmount

Vol. 2 No. 6a

Kitchen compost nears 2 tonnes, plastic a problem

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city's newly launched kitchen compost collection showed increasing amounts being diverted from landfill over the first two collections – 1.7 tonnes initially rising to 1.8 tonnes the next Monday.

Volunteer “ambassadors” have been visiting neighbours to offer tips on the new program to facilitate the rollout and the feedback will help the city in phasing in the collection to other sectors of Westmount. For the moment, the only part of the city receiving compost collection is garbage sector 8 (bounded inclusively by the east side of Lansdowne, the south side of Côte St. Antoine, the west side of Clarke and the north side of de Maisonneuve).

There has been some confusion, however, regarding the packaging of garden debris, Councillor John de Castell said.

In this sector only, the traditional Wednesday garden debris collection by city crews has been combined with the Monday kitchen waste pickup. As a result, because any form of plastic contaminates the composting process, *garden debris* must be placed in compostable cornstarch bags, paper yard-waste bags, bundled or loose in garbage cans or other containers.

In all other sectors of the city, leaves and twigs and other garden debris should still be packaged in clear plastic leaf bags, paper leaf bags or bundled, but not loosely in other containers.

For more city coverage, please see:

- Sustainable coordinator hired p. 9
- Cannon restoration p. 8
- Proposed noise law change p. 9
- City's financials p. 11
- “Blues” picket p. 9
- Arena/pool update p. 8

LCC's new Chamandy arena



From left: Westmounter Chil Heward ('49) with Bob Anderson ('56), Dave Wood (coach from '48 to '77) and Roger Reynolds (coach from '53 to '68) in LCC's new sports centre. For more, see p. 11.

Photo: Isaac Olson.

Westmount may seek Agglomeration funding

Re-cycling the park bike path

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount may ask the island-wide Agglomeration Council to pay for the renewal of the bike path and underground water line through Westmount Park, Mayor Karin Marks told the May 26 meeting of city council.

After numerous claims that Westmount has had to subsidize unrelated projects in Montreal through the island-wide council, this may be an opportunity to recover some of the funding, she explained.

The proposed work would ensure safety in the park following Montreal's creation of the *continued on p. 8*

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we will ever do will be
within the walls of our
own homes.

Green envoys

Jenny Patton (right),
Healthy City Project
environment committee
chair, with some of the
25 “compost ambassa-
dors”, see story above.

From left: Kathryn
Stevenson, Kathy
Kaufman, Sheila
Mason, Helen Rainville
and Julie Keith. They
received knowledgeable
assistance from Alan
and Kendall Kaufman
(foreground).



Terry Evans - 514-933-6077

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Roslyn Ave. garage sale postponed

The Roslyn Ave. garage sale, which takes place on Roslyn between Sherbrooke St. and de Maisonneuve Blvd., was postponed due to weather. It will now take place on Saturday, June 14 from 9 am to 2 pm.

This year's beneficiaries will be Westmounter Keith Martin's "Moving Muscles" cross-Canada bike ride for muscular dystrophy and the women's shelter of the Old Brewery Mission.

Where it was in Westmount

The WMA contest pictures in last week's *Independent* were the statues in conservatory pool and the ceiling of St. Léon's Church. Other locations used in the Family Day quiz included the Laurentian Bank, the arena, St. Matthias' Church, Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue, the council chamber, Victoria Hall and the library.

The WMA has announced that Valerie Aitken was the overall winner with Susan Zegray and Mark Venema as runners-up.

Garbage inspector rehired

The city of Westmount has rehired its previous garbage inspector, Kevin Dawson, for a six-month contract extending until October 20.

Dawson reports to Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier, who explained to the *Independent* that he would be focusing on commercial establishments and laneways - especially Tupper lane, Greene Ave. and St. Catherine St. will also be areas of concern.

One problem has been private bins on public land, but the resurfacing of the Tupper lane had helped demarcate the public portion of that laneway.

People who put out their garbage the day before collection will also be ticketed, as will restaurant terrasses using public garbage cans for food waste.

Poirier explained that issues with recycling are also in Dawson's mandate.

Tickets start at \$200. Residents with complaints can call Urban Planning at 514.989.5219.

Family Day rained on, not rained out

Rotary at arena, ready for June 7 arena sale



A noisy and well attended Family Day was held on May 31, inside the arena due to weather - the first rain in 15 years. Among the attendees were: Rotarians Anthony Salvaggio and Gerry Hionis baking pancakes (left), and Ray Lawson (above right), who was there with his father, also Ray (not pictured). Some face painting was

Rain and indoor venue didn't bother the kids



involved, but no rowdiness.

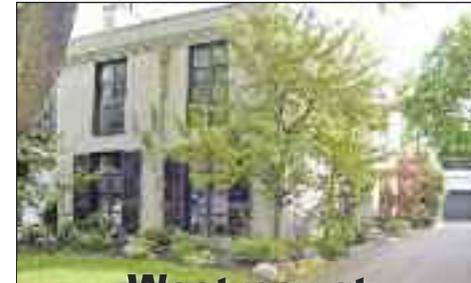
The Rotary Club of Westmount will be hosting its annual auction (June 6) and garage sale (June 7), also at the arena.

The Friday night auction starts with a preview at 6 pm. Saturday, the doors open for the garage sale at 9:30 am, closing at 2:30 pm.

Roslyn celebrates its 100th

Swimming pool opened on June 2

The free swim schedule and details on swimming activities are available at www.westmount.org under Recreation and Culture.



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Science teacher Roger Pelland with the "farthest-travelling" Roslyn alumnus, Roger Hasley ('49), who came in from West Vancouver. Pelland, who has been at the school since 1979, is one of eight elementary school science teachers in the province. He has also authored his own textbook, Science-Tech, now available in both languages.



Longest serving teacher, Andrée Hampson, with colleague Connie Primiano. Both started at Roslyn in 1975, but Primiano now works at the English Montreal School Board as assistant director of HR.

Roslyn's May 30 to 31 reunion was a huge success. Roslyn School Foundation chair Jasmin Uhtoff told the *Independent* that organizers expected 200 attendees on May 30, but ran out of name tags after 350 had been issued. Teachers surprised at least one former, non-graduate student by remembering him from 25 years ago!

Local Bahai to hold meeting, film

Westmount's Bahai adherents will be hosting an information night and film screening on Thursday, June 12 at 7:30 pm. The topic will be the treatment of Bahai in Iran. Bahai is a monotheistic religion founded in 19th century Iran/Per-

sia, which currently has approximately 5 million adherents worldwide.

The location depends on numbers and will be confirmed to registrants. To register and attend the event, please call Tara at 514.919.8272.

334 Grosvenor – Vintage Victorian

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Mayor's Column

Waste, Westmount and ways of doing things

BY KARIN MARKS,
MAYOR OF WESTMOUNT

At our monthly city council meetings, I traditionally report on my activities within both the city and the Agglomeration. Now, in regular columns in our local press, I would like to share some of these things with the Westmount community at large.

This month, the city of Montreal presented a proposed long-term plan for the treatment of waste. To add a little complication to such matters, Westmount and the other demerged cities are responsible for the pickup and delivery of waste, while its treatment is an island-wide Agglomeration power.

In early June, the plan will be the subject of review by a public commission at Montreal city hall. The 15 reconstituted cities – which, of course, includes Westmount – will present a brief. This past week, a small group of mayors and councillors from some of those cities met with our new sustainable development coordinator to analyze the plan and prepare our response to it.

Montreal's plan

First of all, we were a little taken aback by the physical appearance of Montreal's plan. It is almost a coffee-table book, replete with multi-colour graphs and glossy photos, and over 100 pages of text. It was

prepared by the city of Montreal and the costs were passed on to the Agglomeration budget (i.e. all of us). It struck us as hardly a good example of reducing waste. The entire plan can be also be found at www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/pdgmr.

The document includes many valid principles, including the need to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover. The document points to ways of informing, educating, encouraging and rewarding appropriate behaviours. Their principle of not sending garbage off island is made clear. The document asks boroughs, municipalities and individuals to identify how they will decrease their consumption, their waste and the material that they acquire from some distance away.

The plan proposes the building of a major new disposal facility: a sorting centre to be built in 2011, or possibly a pilot gasification or thermal plant to treat waste and to create useable energy as a by-product. The document states that by 2018, compost pickup across the island will be in place.

Too little, too late

While all of this is laudable and essential, all of us preparing our brief had the same reactions: it is too cumbersome and offers too little, too late. The true management of waste comes as a result of changes in habits of individuals and insti-

tutions. Changes of habits happen in a very local way from neighbour to neighbour in local classrooms and community meetings.

For example, here in Westmount we are making steady changes in the way we offer our services and in the way we do things. Locally, compost pickup is beginning to replace one of our previous garbage pickups. In smaller cities, legislation can also play an important role. Such practices as a ban on the use of non-recyclable plastic bags in their territory or the requirement for residents to leave grass clippings on the lawn instead of collecting them in green waste are examples of existing regulations in some municipalities.

Why are pickup and treatment distinct?

One of the things which became obvious to all of us was that there was an inherent conflict in the separation of responsibility for pickup and treatment. When we in our small cities are planning for and paying for pickup and transport, it is not only the ecological benefit, but a financial one as well to diminish the quantities and take them to disposal sites in as close proximity as possible to our own community.

We question the notion of the Agglomeration building centralized and expensive infrastructure to treat the waste from large sectors of the island because such large-scale facilities require large quantities of waste input to amortize their high costs. Requiring large quantities of waste input over a long period of time seems antithetical to the goal of waste reduction.

Other conditions may change over the life of such a waste-hungry facility. If federal and/or provincial governments implement polluter-pay packaging laws, which they should, we will likely have a great deal less to recycle. If newspapers communicate more and more via the internet, and less and less in hard copy, we will have less to recycle. With the availability of recycled products, private industry will find new uses for them and they can be sold as a commodity for conversion into some new and different products. This could be a local revenue source en-

couraging greater recycling participation of residents.

If technology advances at its current rate, might it be possible for us to truly treat our garbage locally so that we could have a gasification facility here in Westmount or share one with a neighbouring community? Could it offer supplementary energy to use in one of our municipal buildings? Compost can now be treated in relatively small facilities with no odour or negative effects. The cost may be beyond our means today, but will it be five years from now?

No more 'business as usual'

This is not a time to assume that we will continue to produce and operate as we always have. It is a time to create the environment for change by both the carrot and the stick – by incentive and service, and by legislation and enforcement. It is a time to be creative about what we can each do in a small geographic area or in close proximity to the source of our garbage.

The Agglomeration plan produced by the city of Montreal was a wonderful catalyst for enthusiastic discussion in the preparation of our response to it, but in our opinion, it missed the mark. As a group we will continue to work together to finalize our response in order to convey our vision for waste management.

To find the best solutions, we will incorporate communication, cooperation, creativity and coercion – four Cs to add to the three Rs.

New information: The *Independent* received incorrect information concerning the names associated with the Dramatis Personae photo (May 28 issue, p. 26). Natalie Segall, pictured here, was incorrectly identified.



WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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If you *do want to receive our publication and you have a sticker on your mailbox* (or are outside our distribution area), please send a cheque for \$1.50 times the number of issues left in the year. We will mail them to you for the rest of the current calendar year.

Most frequently restocked drop sites: Lobby of 310 Victoria Ave.; Sherbrooke St. exit to Metro grocery store at Victoria Ave. and Sherbrooke St.

Drop notice: Snow conditions may delay us getting around to all of our drop sites on Tuesday of publication week. Whatever the snow conditions, we still aim to reach our "most reliable" drops (Metro on Victoria, Westmount Square and 310 Victoria lobby) on Tuesdays.

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Letters to the editor

We are very pleased to report that we have been receiving too many letters to the editor for this space! They are now printed on p. 6.

Civic Alert

Missing questions: Park, bikes, Turcot, commercial recycling

BY DON WEDGE



Westmount council has modernized itself with e-documents for members and an audio recording of most of the monthly council proceedings on the city web site.

The audio recording is an unindexed, seamless stream, and the uninformed listener would not know that the recording is incomplete – the whole of question-period is deleted!

The few minutes when citizens get to be heard – often the most varied and interesting part of the process – are omitted. So if you listened to the playback of last week's May meeting, what did you miss?

Certainly, there was an eclectic mixture, yet none of the questioners seemed concerned that, as reported on p. 9, the city's blue-collar workers were outside with their whistles, protesting at the delay in finalizing their agreement that is part of the merger requirements.

Mayor Karin Marks had opened the meeting by outlining the city's position, and this may have eliminated questions. Nevertheless, the absence of citizens' interest in the serious labour situation is concerning. Some questions were almost frivolous by comparison.

However, one of the most cogent was posed by Westmount Municipal Association past president Henry Olders. He wanted to know what had happened to the association's request for recycling in the commercial sector.

"We were going to survey merchants," Olders reminded council. "Then the city said they were doing it." Not wanting duplication, the WMA dropped its plan.

Commercial recycling

The mayor replied that the project had been shelved. Quebec wanted a 60 per cent diversion from landfill and that would be achieved by kitchen waste compost col-

lection. The expansion of recycling would have to follow.

There were technical problems, too, such as how to avoid making traffic problems worse in already congested zones.

This response illustrates a weakness in the present system, where such matters are discussed in standing committees, but not relayed to the public.

The commercial recycling decision could have been explained at the time it was made. Instead it became a mystery lost in bureaucracy.

Olders also asked about suggestions that some Westmount land might be requisitioned for the Turcot interchange reconstruction.

The mayor confirmed that a small part of the Public Works yard had been mentioned. As there were many other potential scenarios, council was not over-reacting but watching closely.

Olders congratulated council on its move to e-documents, and asked if the agenda and background work could now be put on the WMA web site.

In fact the whole 200-page package for the May meeting had been posted on the city web site for the world to see. It has since been removed.

Other WMA stalwarts brought their concerns. Stanley Baker asked if the city already had a noise bylaw. It does – since 1993, according to Councillor Patrick Martin, when discussing its provisions (see story on p. 9)

John Johnston read a statement varying from how vegetation might be damaged by the new bike path to a public consultation about it. His observations may have to be revised following council's latest decision to delay the changes for a year (story on p. 1).

Give away Summit Park?

The preservation of Summit Park has become a subject raised more frequently than the once traditional topics of dogs and parking.

John Fretz objected to the damage done by the emergency snow dumping last winter. He even suggested the Summit reserve would be better treated if it were handed over to Montreal! He wanted it managed by Les Amis de la Montagne (see his letter to editor on p. 6).

There were startled looks at the mention of the private group, which harms Westmount by ignoring the differences between the two mountains!

An expected contribution from Save the Park! campaigner Patrick Barnard was extraordinarily long and rambling, sounding at times more like an excerpt from a personal diary than a question.

There were lighter moments, too, such as a good humoured request for more restaurants from Stan Grossman as "a spokesman for a group of one, me!" He also advocated bike racks attached to parking meters be turned 90 degrees, "when parallel to the road, you can only safely put one bike on the sidewalk side."

In a little more than a half-hour, nearly a dozen citizens had made their points, thrown some light on council's actions and helped shape the city. It is called democracy and should be available for all to hear, not only read about!

Citizen activist Don Wedge's email address is calert@web.net.

On the Market: 118 Upper Bellevue

This large English-style stone detached house sits perched above spectacular city and river views. The property benefits from a spacious balcony, accessible from the living room and wood-paneled dining room. During summer months, the balcony doubles as an outdoor living room.

Five bedrooms, four bathrooms, a powder room and a spacious garden that extends from the back of the house to Sunnyside Ave. make this house a true family home. The master bedroom has an *ensuite* bathroom with a separate shower and a dressing room that could easily be made into a walk-in closet. The one-car garage is accessed through the small kitchen and the driveway has two parking spots.

The two wood-burning fireplaces are functional. The property also benefits from lots of storage space, a cedar closet, a sauna and a Jacuzzi. The three-level house's bottom floor is an apartment unto itself and would be perfect for teenaged kids or as a nanny's quarters. This house does need some updating, but would make the perfect home for a family with



children.

Address: 118 Upper Bellevue Ave.
Asking price: \$2,699,000
Municipal taxes: \$15,790
School taxes: \$4,016
Realtor: Christina Miller, Re/Max Westmount Inc, 514.933.6781

Editor's note: Our houses are chosen randomly, but the number generator sure seems to like Upper Bellevue! This is our third house on that fairly short street.

On the Market is content provided by the Independent and is not paid for, or approved by, real estate sellers or their agents. Houses are chosen randomly.

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More birthday wishes to Indie - with thanks

■ Congratulations on your first-year anniversary. I always read the *Independent* and like the small page size.

NEALY CHEA, LANSDOWNE AVE.

■ Best anniversary wishes to the *Westmount Independent*.

It's just the sort of wide-ranging, open-minded newspaper that we need to accurately reflect the changes going on in our community.

Suddenly, with the Superhospital and its related issues, such as increased traffic in our streets, and other concerns including park and green space management, the rink and pool reconstruction, the debate on artificial turf - all of these require a broader scope to keep citizens informed and to breathe air into the channels of communication with the municipality.

We have an excellent team of councillors and mayor, but too often a lack of initial public dialogue on pending projects leads to confusion and irritation.

I think a lively paper like the *Westmount Independent* is an invaluable asset to the community and I'm sure the newspaper will continue to grow.

JOHN FRETZ, LANSDOWNE AVE.

■ Thank you for overcoming mediocrity! It's wonderful to be able to read print articles that are *well written* and non-blurry. Thank you for pictures that are more than sharp enough to be recognizable! The ink hold-out is great, and the brightness is nice and high.

The colour resolution is vastly superior to all the competing offerings.

Above all, we owe you a great debt of

gratitude for dragging us out of the banality of a non-locally committed publication that had (it seems) little interest in supporting the growth and development of the future of Westmount...Best wishes to the *Westmount Independent*. Please grow old and prosperous!!!

ANNE DIXON-GROSSMAN & STAN GROSSMAN, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

■ I really enjoy reading the *Westmount Independent*. And I appreciate your courtesies and business-like ways to this [advertising] client. No typos, just the right number of commas, etc. Well written, excellent photos etc.

Rock on,

ELIZABETH MACNEILL, SHERBROOKE ST.

■ Congratulations on your first-year anniversary. Your paper - every issue - is

very informative. My only criticism is that the type is quite small.

GERALD GLASS, METCALFE AVE.

■ My husband and I would like to congratulate you on your first anniversary. Looking forward to your continued success.

LILIAN & ANDRE TRUDEL, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

■ The *Independent* is really doing a great job. You have a great paper!

AMANDA JELOWICKI

■ Congratulations and best wishes on your first anniversary. I very much enjoy reading your paper.

RUTH MICHAEL, UPPER LANSDOWNE AVE.

Birdbath for story garden

The Westmount Horticultural Society will mark its 10th anniversary Tuesday, June 10 at 6 pm with the donation of a bird bath to the new story garden at the Westmount Public Library.

Margaret Nicolai, wearing Lily Lam's award-winning storyteller's cloak, will read a story.

"It is ... a way of showing our appreciation to the library for being able to use the Westmount Room for our monthly lecture meetings," said WHS co-president Gabrielle Pilot.

Following the storytelling, the June meeting will take place at 7 pm as a tour of Westmount greenhouses. City gardeners Mélanie Banninger and Hélène Bazinet will give a tour.

Letters to the editor

SUMMIT SNOW

As I understand it, the Summit Park woods extending north and down the slope to Côte de Neiges are as much a part of the sanctuary as the island in the middle of Summit Circle.



A view of the snowblowing effects at Summit Park.
Photo: John Fretz

At the height of the snow removal frenzy this winter, city council decreed to allow blowing snow onto our front lawns where possible.

Well, snow crews blasted tons of snow a hundred feet back into the north Summit woods. It's still melting now and the debris is a sight to see: broken saplings, snapped branches and no sign of any concern from Westmount.

The point is very little snow was blown onto the capacious upper Westmount lawns. It was dumped in the park. Either this is a sanctuary, or not. Obviously, the council's extraordinary measure did not save harmless this parkland. The snow clearing crews just took licence. The snow

mounds were 20 feet high banked against trees.

Westmount has introduced a number of laudatory green initiatives, but this picture shows a flagrant disregard for the Summit woods. An oversight on the part of the council?

But very little attention has been paid to these woods in the past.

A couple of years ago at the Westmount Library, a consultation meeting about parks and green spaces generally agreed that the erosion and degradation alongside pathways in the woods needed urgent maintenance. Nothing was done. Some gravel was dumped in a shoddy fashion at one of the entrance ways where the footing was dodgy.

Is it time for the mayor and the council to give up this pretence of being interested in the woods? Should they hand its preservation management over to the city of Montreal and the aegis of Les Amis de la Montagne?

They do run Mt. Royal in accordance with its majestic appeal, and not like these blighted woods.

JOHN FRETZ, LANSDOWNE AVE.

DETAILED PLAN FOR WESTMOUNT PARK FIELDS QUESTIONED

Having by chance seen the tender drawings issued to revitalize the soccer pitches of Westmount Park after years of benign neglect, I am confused. As I have been reading in various local papers, more than a year of monies and time had been

expended undoing the city council's proposed artificial turf solution. Thankfully, a group of citizens, Save the Park!, did their homework and discovered that the artificial turf proposals were not only ecologically harmful, but possibly dangerous on health grounds.

Now, instead of bolstering the soccer pitches by re-sodding, installing a complete new tile drainage system, and, most importantly, scheduling a rotation of use among the three pitches so that one pitch is always in a state of non-use in order to rejuvenate its natural turf, what has the city-appointed citizens' group endorsed?

A one-pitch soccer field, fenced-in, surrounded on all sides by hard surface paths reducing the green parkland, and also flanked by concrete bleachers.

In the past, I had read in the Westmount papers that the Westmount Sports and Recreation department needed two artificial surfaces to deal with the heavy soccer demands from the burgeoning incubator league of soccer. Instead of filling that demand with three natural grass surfaces, with one at all times in rejuvenation, the city-appointed advisory group has approved a plan which will leave us with a solitary, fenced-in grass pitch surrounded by hard-surfaces. Apparently city council has accepted this new proposed solution. Has Westmount's Sports and Recreation also accepted it?

As far as I can see, a certain lack of common sense, coupled with a blindness to the reduction of park and green space, continues unabated.

ROGER JOCHYM, LEWIS AVE.



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de Maisonneuve
Sally Aitken & Allan Aitken,
St. Catherine St.
Jane Allan, Victoria Ave.
Marty Algire and Lindsay Holmgren,
Burton Ave.
Stewart Arbuckle, Metcalfe Ave.
Joyce Arsenaute, de Maisonneuve
Phil Aspler, Victoria Ave.
Nada Backovic, Dorchester
Betty Balaila, Sunnyside Ave.
Donna Banks & Stuart Robertson
Deanna Barwick Wall
Francine & Serge Belec, Grove Park
Bob Bassett, Sherbrooke St.
Charles Bierbrier, Aberdeen Ave.
Joe & Marilyn Blankfort, Lansdowne Ave.
Herb Bercovitz, Sherbrooke St.
D. Besner and M. Besner
Paul A. Billette, Columbia Ave.
Barbara Bourke
Julie Bourne, Victoria Ave.
John Bridgman, Bruce Ave.
Brigitta Brittain, Grosvenor Ave.
Thane Calder, Argyle Ave.
Thea & Bill Calder, Clarke Ave.
Malcolm Campbell, Lansdowne Ave.
Trevor & Margie Caron, Clarke Ave.
Dr. Charles Casey, Sherbrooke St.
Jacques Chagnon, MNA for
Westmount-Saint-Louis
Chloé Chapoulie, Pom'Canelle,
Sherbrooke St.
Jake Chadwick and Mary Brierley,
Roslyn Ave.
Nealy Chea, Lansdowne Ave.
Diane & Doug Deruchie, Wood Ave.
Pat Donnelly, York St.
Peter Duffield, Clandeboye Ave.
Kathleen Duncan, Lansdowne Ave.
Paul & Judy Echenberg, Sydenham Ave.
Nancy & Charles Eddis, Sherbrooke St.
Tom Nicoll & Ruth Elyse, Bruce Ave.
Terry Evans, Ramezay Rd.
Mila Felcarek and Katherine Hope,
Grosvenor Ave.
Barry Friedberg, 310 Victoria Inc.,
Victoria Ave.
Brian O'N. Gallery

Gerald Glass, Metcalfe Ave.
Peter Govan, Victoria Ave.
Joan & Geoff Graham, Olivier Ave.
Stan Grossman & Anne Dixon-
Grossman
John & Karma Hallward, Carleton Ave.
Michael St. B. Harrison, Mountain Ave.
Richard & Susan Hart, Belmont Ave.
Julie Hébert, Lansdowne Ave.
Keith Henderson
Anne Holloway, Lansdowne Ave.
Suni Hope-Johnston, York St.
Beverley Hutchison, Kitchener Ave.
Gerhard Jacob, Olivier Ave.
Amanda Jelowicki
John Johnston, de Maisonneuve
Daniel Kaufman
Susan Kazenel
Larry Klepper
Shelley Kerman, Church Hill
Helen Kurlents, Sherbrooke St.
Marilyn & Michael Lally, Windsor Ave.
Hélène Le Bel, Grosvenor Ave.
Donald & Sheila Lawrence, Greene Ave.
Sarine and Ray Lawson
Richard Lord, Clarke Ave.
Susan Lord, Grosvenor Ave.
Dick & Janet Macklem
Jack Martin, de Maisonneuve
Margaret Martin, de Maisonneuve
Elizabeth MacNeill, Sherbrooke St.
Carrie Mazoff
Susan McGuire, Montrose Ave.
Deirdre McIlwraith, NOVA Montreal,
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Peter & Joan McKinnon, Lansdowne Ave.
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Ruth Michael, Upper Lansdowne Ave.
Henry Mietkiewicz & Dorothy
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Brian Mitchell, Mount Pleasant Ave.
Francie Montgomery, Douglas Ave.
Ian H. Moodie, We Care Home Health
Services, Victoria Ave.

Barbara Moore, Lansdowne Ave.
Leah Moss, Carleton Ave.
Jacqueline & Edward Neville, Clarke Ave.
D. O. Newnham, Metcalfe Ave.
My-Trang Nguyen and Michael
Ballantyne, Somerville Ave.
Diana & David Nicholson,
Rosemount Ave.
Allen Nutik, Redfern Ave.
Mary O'Reilly, St. Catherine St.
Colin & June Paterson, Melville Ave.
Lori Perkins
Frank Philpott, Claremont Ave.
Judith Philpott, Claremont Ave.
Gabrielle & Wakeham Pilot
Gwen Planet, Roslyn Ave.
Michael Polak, Prospect Ave.
Nicholas and Tracey Powell,
Sherbrooke St.
Sara Provencher, Clarke Ave.
Harold & Pam Price, Sherbrooke St.
Merne Price, Lansdowne Ave.
Michael and Jennifer Price, de
Maisonneuve Blvd.
Tim & Denise Price, Murray Hill
Mary Ramsay, Clarke Ave.
Dr. Gertrude J. Robinson
Patricia Roman, Lansdowne Ave.
Ron & Dorothy, Grosvenor Ave.
Robert G. Ross

Mary Sancton, Sherbrooke St.
Lorna Sandler, Somerville Ave.
Sharyn Scott on Consignment,
Sherbrooke St.
Duncan Shaddick, Clarke Ave.
Patrick Shea, Sara Pedersen and
Liam Shea, Clandeboye Ave.
John Shingler, Burton Ave.
Ruth Shine, Bead Emporium
Leon Stiller
Dusty Vineberg Solomon,
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Florence Stevens, de Maisonneuve
Peter F. Trent
Andre & Lilian Trudel,
de Maisonneuve Blvd.
Liliana Uribe, St. Catherine St.
Justin Vineberg, de Casson Rd.
Rhoda Vineberg & Robert Vineberg,
Forden Crescent
Trina Vineberg-Berenson,
Lansdowne Ave.
Mackenzie & Rena Watson, Metcalfe Ave.
Steve & Jan Weir, Parkman Pl.
Joan Winsor, de Maisonneuve Blvd.
Christina Vroom, Stanton St.
Boyd Whittall
Mavis Young, Melville Ave.
Anthony J. Zitzmann, Anwoth Rd.

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Direct Access

Selwyn golfs for financial aid, charity

Nearly 200 golfers took part in Selwyn House's 10th Annual Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament, which was held at the Royal Montreal on May 26.

On the roster of golfers for the day was Montreal Canadien and Selwyn House parent Alex Kovalev. The guest speaker was Lorne Rubenstein, golf columnist for the *Globe and Mail*.

The event was a great success and met the objective of raising funds for the

school's endowment, the primary purpose of which is financial aid to students, with a portion also going to the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation.

"About 10 per cent of the student population receives financial assistance," explained Selwyn House headmaster William Mitchell. "Currently, \$300,000 is dedicated to this program annually. Our objective is to ... be able to offer assistance to at least 20 per cent of our students."



Michael Penner ('86), co-chair of the alumni association, presents the winning foursome with their trophy. From left: Bill Black ('86), Tim Price (parent), Bryan Fitzpatrick ('74), Penner and Jim Bowey (parent).

Bike path change put off

continued from p. 1

bike path downtown last year, which is changing the Westmount portion "from a leisure path to a transportation route," she said.

As a first step, the council withdrew an agenda item for approval of tenders to renew both Westmount Park's playing fields and the bike path, initially a combined project. The bids were higher than expected.

"So we all felt it was an opportunity to obtain professional help," she said, and re-examine the path as a separate plan, prepare an estimate and "ask the Agglo to fund it," Marks explained.

Playing fields ready for fall

The change in plan and a call for new playing field tenders is not expected to delay the work beyond the start of the fall term at Westmount Park School, which uses the east section as a playground, said Councillor George Bowser.

In further explaining the work, he said

that the water line through the park runs beneath the bicycle and pedestrian paths.

It had not been determined whether or not rehabilitation of the line can be effectively carried out by inserting a sleeve. This is a less costly procedure than excavating and replacing the new pipes.

Cannon restoration: Reinventing the wheel?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city is looking for specialists to restore the two absent cannon that were removed from Westmount Park more than a year ago, as well as their gun carriages.

The challenge is finding someone who can "guarantee the authenticity of the work," said Councillor George Bowser at the May 26 city council meeting. He was replying to a question from a previous meeting on the status of the cannon.

He also said that an appropriate location must be found for the cannon after restoration. One was "stolen" by Université de Montréal students in 1981 as a prank but subsequently returned.

Specs sent to Westmount in 1973

The cannon and carriages were previ-

ously restored following information on their history and specifications sent to Westmount from the London, England-based Royal Artillery Institution in 1973. A photo and description of an authentic gun carriage accompanied the description.

"I hope you will now be able to proceed with the manufacture of the carriages," the letter stated. One extensive restoration took place in 1989. The cannon have resided in the park for more than 100 years.

The pair were identified as 12-pound medium-brass smooth-bore muzzle loaders of the type continually in service with the Crown from 1750 to 1860. The bronze cannon were cast by the King brothers of Woolwich in 1810 during the reign of George III.

Arena project forging ahead

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A small but giant first step forward in Westmount's arena/pool renewal project took place at the May 26 meeting of city council.

Four city officials were named to an evaluation committee to develop call-for-proposals criteria related to architectural and engineering services. They are: director general Bruce St. Louis, urban planning director Joanne Poirier, public works director Jacques Lahaie and sports and recreation director Michael Deegan.

Councillor Patrick Martin stated it was an excellent team for what "in monetary terms is probably the largest project we've

undertaken in Westmount."

This will begin the process to determine what can be built on the site, he explained. "We want it done right." He was disappointed, he added, that "two citizens who have expressed particular interest in the project" - seemingly referring to Patrick Barnard and David Parsons - had already left the council meeting before the item arose.

Martin later said the importance of hiring consultants was "to see what is possible and not possible - all in harmony with the neighbourhood."

A brainstorming session later took place May 29 related to possible ways of financing the project.

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Wolfe to head sustainability

BY DON WEDGE

Westmount has appointed urbanist Joshua Wolfe as its first sustainable development coordinator. An internationally known expert in the field as well as an activist, Wolfe began his new appointment on Monday and is based at city hall.

He has long experience in the field. He was among the first commissioners appointed by Mayor Gerald Tremblay's executive committee to *L'Office de consultation publique de Montréal* when that was formed in 2002, an appointment he now relinquishes.

Wolfe has also recently been working with the Urban Ecology Centre on the Milton Park Sustainability Lab, a project funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to improve sustainability and liveability nationwide.

The new coordinator holds a master's degree in urban planning for the Université de Montréal and since 1990 has been registered with the American Institute of Certified Planners. He worked on an early sustainable development project in San Diego County and elsewhere in California.

He was among the team drafting the American Planning Association's Sustainable Community Policy Guide in 2000.

Obviously pleased with the calibre of the new coordinator, Westmount director general Bruce St. Louis admitted that despite all Wolfe's qualifications, the appointment was closely contested.

"I was amazed by the number and strength of the applications we had. It was certainly no slam dunk!"

Wolfe's appointment was welcomed by Jenny Patton, Healthy City Project environment committee chair. "There is enormous local interest in many of the problems the world faces and we have to translate them into manageable issues. His leadership will be invaluable," she said.

Probably best remembered by the general public for articles on urban affairs in *The Gazette* before going to the US, Wolfe is also the author of a host of publications, including the book *To Discover Montreal*.

Among others is *The Role of Heritage in Municipal Planning*, co-authored with Mark London, a former city of Westmount advisor.

Wolfe has been part of many professional and citizen-based activities. He was executive director of Heritage Montreal, set up the *Comité du patrimoine bâti juif* and was a director of the *Fondation du patrimoine du Québec*

"Blues" picket first demerged offer



Outside city hall on May 26.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Representatives of Westmount's blue collar union picketed without incident outside city hall during the May 26 council meeting. They were protesting a global offer from the city April 21, primarily the monetary provisions.

The "blues" belong to SCFP local 301, into which they were merged with Montreal workers with the forced mergers. The contract expired June 30, 2006 for those belonging to demerged municipalities. Negotiations have been ongoing ever since.

As a result, this is the first contract to be negotiated between Westmount and the union, which continues to represent Montreal, since the demerger. The workers previously belonged to CUPE.

In a vote of roughly 80 percent against on April 28, the workers rejected Westmount's global offer from July 1, 2006 to December 30, 2010, said Alan Kulaga, Westmount HR director and chief negotiator. While he would not comment on

specific details, he said the city's offer was in the monetary framework of Montreal's 2 percent per year.

"We also added the long service pay bonus that we provided prior to the merger," he explained.

While the union is seeking a four-day workweek, Westmount city council has long maintained the position that Westmount cannot operate on such a schedule, but offered a four and a half day work week over the summer – all consistent with other labour groups in Westmount.

Negotiations resumed May 22 after the vote and are set to continue June 3.

New law focuses on leaf blowers and ambient noise

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Bugged by leaf blowers?

Changes to Westmount's noise bylaw aim to further restrict their use as well as setting out new parameters for measuring the level of excessive noise in general while considering the effect of ambient noise in the immediate environment.

The draft legislation was introduced at the May 26 city council meeting for adoption at a subsequent session.

The object of the proposed law also includes establishing clearer criteria to better define what constitutes "excessive noise" and setting new fines.

In general, like the original noise legislation adopted some 15 years ago, noise that disturbs the "quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment or comfort of the neighbourhood or of persons in the vicinity" will be considered to be a nuisance. This includes sound from power equipment, machinery, animals and other sound generators both outside and inside buildings.

Various maximum levels are stipulated

according to the type of equipment, time of day and day of the week, with more restrictive usage on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

Key changes include new restrictions on leaf blowers, whose use will be limited to April 1 to May 1, and October 7 to November 22. During these periods the blowers will be allowed only between 8 am and 6 pm Monday to Saturday – and never on Sunday or a public holiday.

As well, the use of older, noisier models will be prohibited after June 21, 2010.

Being "personally very sensitive" to leaf blowers, Councillor Patrick Martin said the law addresses issues of particular interest to him. These were leaf blowers used out of season for dust and several at once.

The effect of ambient would also improve legal enforcement.

Exceptions to the bylaw include municipal operations, religious services and equipment required for emergencies, essential or situations involving safety and public welfare, such as snowstorms.



Notaries

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SERVICES MUNICIPAUX

Horaire d'été

Pendant la période estivale, soit du lundi 2 juin au vendredi 29 août, les heures d'affaires des bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront :

- ◆ du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30
- ◆ le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h

Pour la liste complète des heures d'ouverture de chacune des installations municipales, veuillez consulter notre site Web. ☘



SPORTS ET LOISIRS

Projet de renouvellement des infrastructures de l'Aréna-piscine

Un sommaire des suggestions et commentaires des résidents recueillis lors du forum public spécial du 12 avril au Victoria Hall est maintenant disponible sur notre site Web.

Ouverture de la piscine

La piscine extérieure de Westmount ouvrira pour la saison estivale 2008 le lundi 2 juin. Veuillez consulter notre site Web pour l'horaire complet des baignades. ☘



ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Dramatis Personae

Le groupe communautaire de théâtre Westmountais *Dramatis Personae* présente la pièce *Departures and Arrivals* de Carol Shields mise en scène par Jacqueline Van de Geer. Les représentations auront lieu le vendredi 6 juin à 20 h, le samedi 7 juin à 14 h et 20 h ainsi que le dimanche 8 juin à 14 h dans le salon de la Loge du Victoria Hall. Info : 514 486-7423. ☘



SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Parc Summit - période migratoire

Rappel aux propriétaires de chiens : durant la période migratoire des oiseaux, soit du 15 avril au 15 juin, les propriétaires promenant leurs chiens au parc Summit doivent les tenir en laisse en tout temps. La Sécurité publique patrouillera et

DATES À RETENIR

Jusqu'au 13 juin

Exposition : *Se nourrir le cerveau!*
Projet artistique créé par des jeunes de Westmount
La galerie du Victoria Hall

Le 10 juin

Société d'horticulture de Westmount
Célébration pour le 10^e anniversaire
18 h – Jardin des contes, Bibliothèque
19 h – Visite des serres

Le 16 juin – 20 h

Séance du conseil
Hôtel de ville

délivrera des constats d'infraction de 75 \$ aux personnes qui ne respecteront pas ce règlement. ☘



BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Il était une fois une nuit très très sombre!

Pour les enfants de 8 à 12 ans. En anglais. Viens te joindre à nous et à la conteuse professionnelle Margaret Nicolai les samedis 7 et 14 juin de 10 h 30 à midi pour apprendre à raconter une histoire mystérieuse, un récit tordu ou même une énigme!

Ces ateliers seront suivis d'une **soirée spéciale** le mercredi 18 juin de 19 h à 20 h en compagnie de Margaret Nicolai et des participants aux ateliers qui raconteront leurs histoires et devinettes dans le Jardin des contes. Info : 514 989-5386. ☘



HYDRO WESTMOUNT

Vous déménagez?

Veuillez nous aviser de votre déménagement au moins **sept** jours précédant celui-ci en composant le 514 925-1414. Vous éviterez ainsi de payer l'électricité consommée à votre ancienne résidence après votre départ. **Payez-vous votre compte à la banque ?** N'oubliez pas d'aviser cette dernière que le numéro de votre compte a été modifié. Ceci vous évitera des ennuis inutiles. ☘



MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Summer Hours

During the summer period, Monday, June 2, until Friday, August 29, the business hours of all City administrative offices will be as follows:

- ◆ Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ◆ Friday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For a complete list of office hours for all municipal installations, please consult our Web site. ☘



RECREATION

Arena/Pool Renewal Project

A summary of the comments and suggestions offered by residents during the April 12 special public forum at Victoria Hall is now available online.

Swimming Pool Opening

The municipal pool is now open for the 2008 season. For a complete schedule of free swim times, please consult our Web site. ☘



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Dramatis Personae

Dramatis Personae, Westmount's Community Theatre, is presenting *Departures and Arrivals*, a play by Carol Shields directed by Jacqueline Van de Geer. The representations will be held on: Friday, June 6 at 8 p.m., Saturday, June 7 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, June 8 at 2 p.m. in the Lodge Room at Victoria Hall. Info: 514 486-7423. ☘



PUBLIC SECURITY

Summit Park Migratory Period

Dog owners should take note that during the bird migratory period - April 15 to June 15 - dogs in Summit Park must be kept on leashes at all times. To ensure that this regulation is respected, Public Security will be carrying out random patrols and issuing \$75 fines to any violators. ☘

DATEBOOK

Until June 13

Exhibition: *Food for Thought!*
Westmount Community Youth Art Project
Gallery at Victoria Hall

June 10

Westmount Horticultural Society
Tenth Anniversary Celebration
6 p.m. – Storytelling Garden, Library
7 p.m. – Greenhouse Tour

June 16 – 8 p.m.

Council Meeting
City Hall



LIBRARY

It was a Dark and Stormy Night!

For children 8 to 12 years old. Join us for a 2-session workshop with professional storyteller Margaret Nicolai on Saturday, June 7 and Saturday, June 14 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Learn to tell a mysterious story, a twisted tale or even a tricky riddle for your friends to solve!

These sessions will be followed by a **special evening** on Wednesday, June 18 from 7 to 8 p.m., when Margaret Nicolai and the workshop participants will tell their tales and recite riddles in our Storytelling Garden. Info: 514 989-5386. ☘



HYDRO WESTMOUNT

Moving?

Please call us at 514 925-1414 at least **seven** days prior to your move. That way, you won't have to pay for electricity used in your old residence after you leave. **Do you pay your account through the bank?** Don't forget to advise them that your account number has been changed. This will avoid any unpleasant surprises. ☘

McEntyre winners

The following winners of the McEntyre Creative Writing Competition were to be honoured at Victoria Hall on June 2, after presstime. There were 1,225 entries!

Grade 1

1st – Natasha Yang, The Study
2nd – Leah Annia Plante-Wiener, The Study
3rd – Alexei Clarke, Selwyn House

Grade 2

1st – Layla Razek, The Study
2nd – Olivia Hallett, Roslyn
3rd – Elaine Manoj, St. George's

Grade 3

1st – Anders Bretsen, Selwyn House
2nd – Matthew Behr, Selwyn House
3rd – Gerry Nikolopoulos, Selwyn House

Grade 4

1st – Ariadne Lemieux-Cumberlege, The Study
2nd – Laura Stojak-Cohendet, The Study
3rd – Alexa Schwarzwald, Roslyn
HM Martina Erdstein, The Study

Grade 5

1st – Daniel Wen, Selwyn House
2nd – Joshua Dermer, Selwyn House
3rd – Yasmeen Dajani, The Study
HM Sam Carmel, Roslyn

Grade 6

1st – Alana Shahbazian, ECS
2nd – Ulysses Pamel, Selwyn House
3rd – Alexandra Hayman, ECS
HM Caroline Chamandy, ECS

Grade 7

1st – Sabrina Nolan, The Study
2nd – Erik Richard, Westmount High
3rd Sidney Smith-Lopez, ECS

Grade 8

1st – Meagan-Helen Henderson, ECS
2nd – Roxane Rashidian, Villa Ste Marcelline
3rd Annya-Andrea Cajal,

Villa Ste-Marcelline
HM Tim Shaw, Selwyn House

Grade 9

1st – Lexi Stefanatos, ECS
2nd – Phoenix Parisella, Westmount High
3rd Leanne Ottoni, ECS
HM Monica Doan, Westmount High

Grade 10

1st – Kelly Donivan, The Study
2nd – Victoria Quaglia, Westmount High
3rd – Shirley Yin Kay H, The Study
HM Giancarlo Jones, Westmount High

Grade 11

1st – Leila Sayegh, Westmount High
2nd – Shayna Spivak, Westmount High
3rd – Jacques Asselin, Westmount High

Chief judge: Janet Scott Boeckh.

Judges: Allan Aitken, Sally Aitken, Valerie Aitken, Lora Baiocco, Victoria Barbeau, Diane Barker, Gabriel Baugniet, Rebecca Baugniet, Karen Boeckh, Pierre Boudreault, Heather Brydon, Nancy Butchart, Elizabeth Cameron, Pepita Capriolo, Carmen Carbone, Cindy Clark, Judy Clarke, Alana Coates, Carol Cohen, Colette Connors, Rosalind Davis, Wendy Dayton, Connie Dingle, Kim Dlouhy, Virginia Elliott, Mary Flegel, Pam Frankel, Mary Sue Gibson, Joan Graham, Sue Gray, Margaret Gundara, Julie Hooton, Cynthia Joy, Sharyn Katsof, Celia Lang, April Lepitre, Erika Leung, Christa Liddy, Thea Lindsay, Eugenie Low, Tassy McEntyre, Joyce Macnamara, Isobel Marks, David Michel, Ann Moffat, Angela Murphy, Gwen Newsham, Murray Nichol, Tara Norris, Mridu Wanchoo-Parmar, Caroline Proctor, Lucie Ranger, Susan Reed, Carolyn Roper, Lysanne Ryan, Christina Sandoval, Sarah Stevenson, Heidi Stressley, Bettina Terfloth, Marilynn Vanderstaay and Nancy Wright.

LCC inauguates new arena

continued from p. 1

Touted as Montreal's most advanced and eco-friendly hockey arena to date, Lower Canada College (LCC) hosted a ceremonial opening face-off on May 29 in celebration of its new, \$7 million state-of-the-art sports centre. Throughout its history and continuing until the present day, Westmounters have formed an important part of LCC's student body.

The new stadium, built entirely with donated dollars, is the first step in a planned centennial revitalization of the campus that includes a new academic building, according to headmaster Chris-

topher Shannon. Unlike the (now closed) previous rink, the new indoor hockey arena is slated to be open 11 months of the year and there are plans to set aside skate time for the local community and to host charity events.

As captain of the alumni hockey team, Westmouter Chil Heward (class of 1949), was part of the 1955 ceremonial face-off when the school's famed open-air stadium first opened. This year, backed by a century's worth of family involvement with LCC, Heward took to the ice on a pair of well-worn skates to once again celebrate the new facility's grand opening.

Welcome tax down, snow spending up

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A clearer picture has emerged into just how much of a toll the big snow winter took on Westmount.

A financial analysis of the city's treasury after the first four months of 2008 shows that total expenditures amounted to \$11.1 million on a budget of \$37 million. This was 16 percent higher than the same time last year, thanks mostly to snow operations.

To remove and dispose of snow this year from the start of January, the city spent more than \$2.5 million, some \$700,000 more than last year, and leaving

only slightly more than \$200,000 for snow at the end of the year.

As a result, the city will postpone some of its intended purchases or work until the end of the year when it will become apparent as to how much money may be required for snow removal in November and December.

Interestingly, the financial analysis shows Westmount's revenue from the infamous "welcome tax" decreased some \$700,000 over last year at the same time, or 58 percent.

The reason for dip is not sliding real estate sales, director general Bruce St. Louis explained, but rather outstanding billings.

Monty Price speaks on Afghanistan

Captain Montgomery Price of the Canadian Forces spoke at the Atwater Library on May 28 about Canada's Provincial Reconstruction Team. Price is a former Westmouter and a Selwyn House alumnus.

Price was posted in Kandahar City, Afghanistan from March to September 2007.

The Canadian approach in Afghanistan is multi-departmental and included teams from Foreign Affairs, the RCMP, Correc-

tional Service of Canada, two municipal police forces and the Canadian International Development Agency.

"The goal is to build up the Afghan government's capacity to exert its power," explained Price to the *Independent*.

Canadian units assigned at the time included a company from the Royal 22nd Regiment, a platoon of MPs and individuals from CIMIC (Civil Military Cooperation).

[Tip 3]

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68 Summit Circle	\$1,600,000	Mathieu Tessier & Anne Pâquet	6814361 Canada Inc.	12-May-08
315 Kensington Ave.	\$1,200,000	Shay (Shai) Adam	Marc Deserres	2-May-08
3606 The Boulevard	\$1,200,000	Giuseppina Terlizzi	Faye Rossdeutscher	6-May-08
40 Arlington Ave.	\$1,150,000	Ingrid Heck & François Laurin	Claire Lanctôt	14-May-08
492 Argyle Ave.	\$1,100,000	Aaron Ostrega	Estate of Elaine Sanft	6-May-08
339 Côte St. Antoine Rd.	\$930,000	Jonathan David Cutler & Jean-François Monette	Louis Villeneuve & Georges Remus Capsuneau	24-Apr-08
4470 Côte des Neiges Ave.	\$900,000	Forest Hill-Cote-Des-Neiges Property Inc.	Petro-Canada	30-Apr-08
329 Prince Albert Ave.	\$840,000	Christiane Rufin	Royal Lepage Relocation Services Limited	2-May-08
329 Prince Albert Ave.	\$827,000	Royal Lepage Relocation Services Limited	Amélie Hennion & Jan Oeding	30-Apr-08
4742 The Boulevard	\$825,000	David Bracco & Sandrine Junod-Bracco	Estate of Vyautas Pavilanis	23-Apr-08
600 Grosvenor Ave.	\$825,000	Corbin Church & Maryse Lalumière	William Marsden & J. Bagnall (Marsden)	30-Apr-08
516 Victoria Ave.	\$785,000	Angela Lehrer & Michael Vineberg	Martin Clarke & Susan Campbell	16-May-08
83 Holton Ave.	\$765,000	Jeremy Cymet & Stephanie Pesner	Arun Mehra & Katherine Foster	29-Apr-08
256 Kensington Ave.	\$750,000	Geoffrey Lawson	Julie Brochocka	23-Apr-08
69 Somerville Ave.	\$750,000	Samuel Pickering & Susan-Margaret Dixon	Anne Marie Werba & Claude Hazanavicius	12-May-08
1 Severn Ave.	\$720,000	Panagiota Kalfantis & Marie Saint-Amour	Peter Carsley, John Carsley & Timothy Carsley	15-May-08
320 & 320A Victoria Ave	\$717,500	E Possible Solutions Inc.	Rossana Maria Fialdini-Zambrano	21-Apr-08
638 Roslyn Ave.	\$715,000	Michael Farkas & Lisa Skinner	Andy Weinman	30-Apr-08
4700 St. Catherine St. Apt. #513	\$650,000	Naomi Komar	Allan Sykes	2-May-08
4628 St. Catherine St.	\$640,000	Jonathan Frankel & Julie Brown	Terrence Di Monte	2-May-08
54 Thornhill Ave.	\$599,000	Janet Bagnall	Pierre Boucher & Marc Beaudoin	2-May-08
1110 Greene Ave.	\$550,000	Bruno Marchildon & Aimée Bouzaglou	Jacques Hérivault & Juliette Hérivault	2-May-08
342 Lansdowne Ave.	\$532,500	Maxence Renaud & Chloé Chapoulie	Robert Vincent & Debra Titone	13-May-08
77 Bruce Ave.	\$435,000	Mélanie Schirmer	Vytas Gruodis & Sarah Elizabeth Cundill	2-May-08
399 Clarke Ave. Apt. #404	\$400,000	John McArthur & Nicole Senyard	Barbara Lapin	1-May-08
432 Claremont Ave.	\$380,000	Blair Morris & Natalie Huffels	Vanessa Cheong	16-May-08
399 Clarke Ave. Apt. #205	\$377,000	Marco Bertola & Anna Ewa Krasowska	Harriet Rochlin	7-May-08
344, 344A & 344B Victoria Ave.	\$370,000	9071-9287 Quebec Inc.	4349610 Canada Inc.	2-May-08
4476 St. Catherine St. W. Apt. #401	\$333,000	Mardjan Samii	Pamela Price & James Gilchrist	9-May-08
435-437-439 Grosvenor Ave.	\$315,000	Ian Quint	Développement Villa Grosvenor Inc.	12-May-08
Vacant Land	\$8,125	Atlantic and North West Railway Company	Joseph Decarie	1-May-08

Nota bene: Evaluations were unavailable for this edition of Bought & Sold.



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WESTMOUNT

**COLUMBIA**

Bright English style cottage renovated with taste, on quiet cul de sac, 3 bedrooms, MBDR+++, wood floor, fire place, playroom, bedroom + bathroom in basement. Extended kitchen w/dinette, pkg for one car. **Asking \$575,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1395608

LE SUD OUEST

**DU CANAL**

Great loft with wall to wall windows with city views, 11-ft ceilings, originals beams, brick wall. Huge windows on this corner unit, over looking the canal, bike path, walk to Old Mtl, downtown. Garage, gym locker. **Asking \$299,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1407510

WESTMOUNT

**METCALFE**

Minty-built A/C townhouse in 'mint' condition. Not ready for a condo? Here's a perfect downsizer in prime location on the flat. Luxurious and affordable with every comfort and convenience. 3 bdrm, 2 f/p, 2 car integrated garage. **Asking: \$875,000**
Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1432521

WESTMOUNT

**COLUMBIA | NEW OCCUPATION DATE**

Beautiful duplex in lower Westmount, steps to Greene Ave. In both units 3 bedrooms, finished basements, independent parking, outdoor area and balconies. Upper unit has been upgraded. Stone walls, wood floor. Occupancy as per leases. **Asking \$679,000**
Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1342727

N.D.G.

**WEST HILL AV.**

Unique blend of contemporary and traditional NDG home in prime location. Bright, spacious 3 bedrooms with high ceilings, mouldings, many built-ins, oak floors, chair rail paneling FP, garage, mature and exotic garden. **Asking \$550,000**
Photo : www.mcguiganpepin.com/1445266

N.D.G.

**WEST HILL AV.**

A perfect NDG family home - spacious entrance, x-hall plan, bay windows, fireplace, woodwork, 4 good-sized bedrooms, bright dinette extension, roomy basement with lots of potential and a garden...very quiet street close to Sherbrooke St., Monkland Village and Godfrey Park. **Asking \$479,000**
www.mcguiganpepin.com/1447708

WESTMOUNT

**MAISONNEUVE W.**

Spacious s/d house in A1 location - the flat- steps from Westmount Park, and every amenity. Ten-foot ceilings with ornate moldings, skylight, newer windows, playroom. 4+1 bedrooms, large eat-in kitchen. Ext. pkg for 3 cars. Ideal family house. **Asking \$999,000**
Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1410550

WESTMOUNT

**GREENE AV.**

An opportunity to live in a great location-close to metro, shopping, all conveniences. Lower duplex, in very good condition: well maintained and updated, while keeping the original charm. **Asking: \$1625/mo.**
Photo : www.mcguiganpepin.com/1439483

At Second Glance

Westmount schools making the grade

BY HEATHER BLACK



Congratulations to the Westmount students who recently won awards in the essay competition sponsored by the Royal Commonwealth Society, whose awards ceremony was held at St. Matthias' church hall. Local schools were well represented amongst the winners: ECS, Selwyn House, The Priory, Sacred Heart, St. George's and The Study.

But it is also report card time and this year the tallies are numerical. But is there a newfound consensus on academic achievement?

Percentage grades reviewed

Many parents prefer percentage grades in order to rank their child within the class, while others fear a loss of creativity and self-esteem. However, a 2003 research review debunked the "self-esteem movement" where students – praised without results – equated effort with stupidity and

quit when challenged. What students need, according to Dr. Roy Baumeister, is contingent praise and criticism – for what you did right and for what you did wrong.

The problem was that many teachers, parents and even students themselves used grades to define themselves, although researchers had found a correlation between age and grade – those born in the fall do better than their spring or summer classmates. In 2002, Finnish researchers confirmed that this pattern continues into early adolescence.

So now "self-mastery" is the new buzzword. And test results or percentage grades can serve this function. Learning specialists like Dr. Mel Levine endorse tests – and a variety of test methods – as studying and recitation assists brain development. And then creativity or innovation – often a new juxtaposition of previous ideas – is based on memory.

Testing current events

But many teachers have always kept test scores and percentages as an objective measure of skill attainment. Some schools

that promote international education, like ECS, give weekly current-events test for students in grade 6 and up.

Social studies teacher Paul Walsh was instrumental in promoting the "global girl" theme, which prepares students for leadership roles in the community and the world.

Along with school activities like model UNs, students participate in "Save the Children" projects, "Denim Day" and, with Selwyn House, "Habitat for Humanity". All these activities promote positive action as well as newspaper readership – an important consideration in light of a 2006 report from Finland where 60 percent of 15-year-old Finns read the newspaper several times a week, with good effects.

This Finnish research indicates that newspaper reading increases academic achievement, and boosts mathematics skills, particularly for girls.

There is also a positive correlation between the perception that school is beneficial, the willingness to read and pursue higher education. Moreover, researchers credit newspaper reading for that coun-

try's repeated top literacy and mathematical standards in the OECD. Researchers also noted that newspapers support the learning efforts of young people, as well as those marginalized in society and immigrants – all good news in the wake of the Bouchard-Taylor commission's report.

Global youth

So is there a connection between newspaper reading and skill attainment here? The results of the recent Royal Commonwealth Society's province-wide competition – 24 of the 56 winners were from Westmount – may suggest yes. And it also appears that percentage grades can be beneficial.

But when it comes to motivation to learn, chalk one up for the mighty newspaper.

Heather Black is a Westmount communication designer. Contact her: atcitizen@gmail.com

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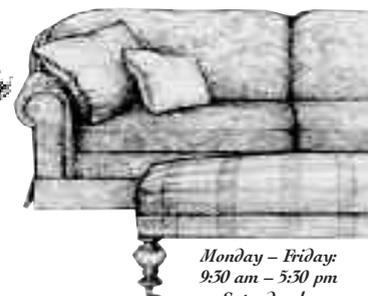
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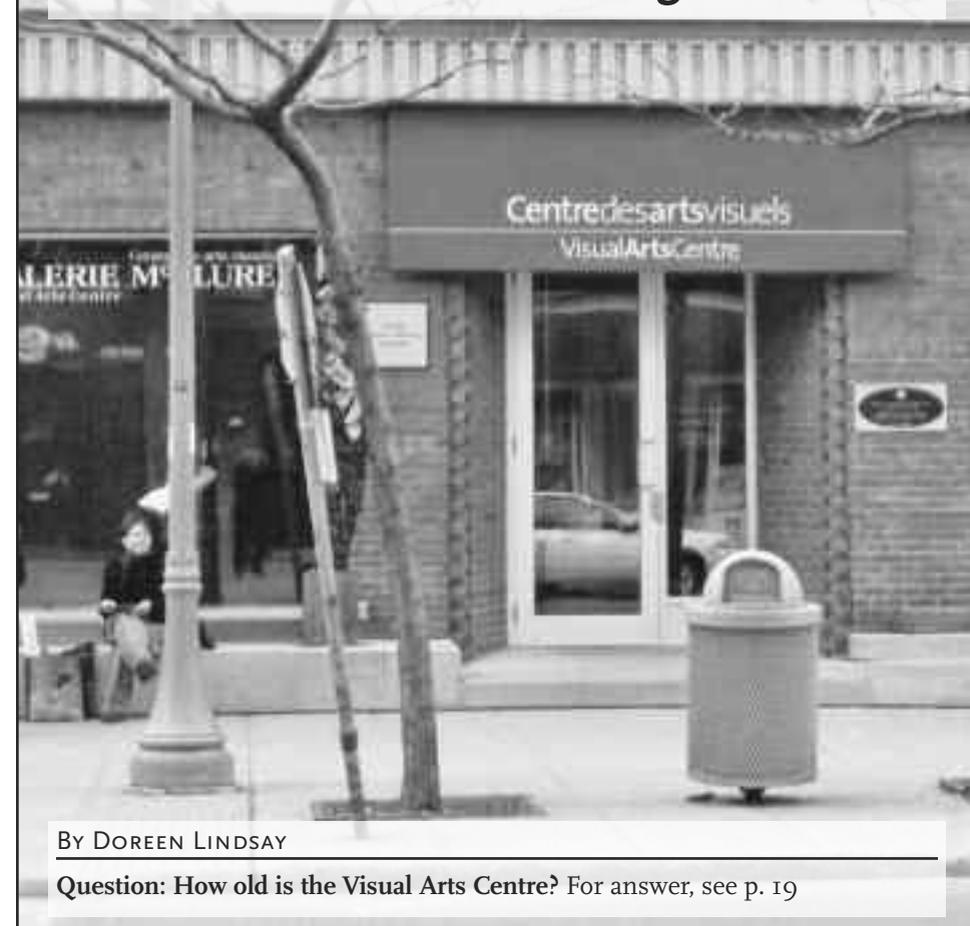
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Westmount Today, Yesterday and Before How old is this Victoria Village landmark?



BY DOREEN LINDSAY

Question: How old is the Visual Arts Centre? For answer, see p. 19

June at the Art Galleries

Collins Lefebvre Stoneberger

Christopher Mangiaracina: paintings.

Exhibit continues to June 28

4928 Sherbrooke W. 514.481.2111

Galerie de Bellefeuille

Harald Schmitz-Schmelzer:

sculptural paintings.

Exhibit continues to June 16.

Robert Marchessault: paintings.

Vernissage: June 19 at 5:30.

Exhibit continues to June 30.

1367 Greene. 514.933.4406

Galerie D'Este

Henry Moore: series of 4 prints.

1329 Greene Avenue, 514.846.1515

Galerie Sandra Goldie

Sarah Hatton: new artist;

Robert Wiseman and Frank

Caracciolo: new paintings.

Please note new address:

4898 deMaisonneuve W. suite 100.

514.670.8327

La Galerie sur Greene

Leslie Bell, Gretta Gibney, Diane

Lambin and others: new gallery extension on the ground floor.

1368 Greene.

514.938.3863

Han Art

Anne-Sophie Morelle: sculpture.

Vernissage: June 5 at 6 pm.

Exhibit continues to September 5.

4209 St Catherine W.

514.876.9278

McClure Gallery – Visual Arts Centre

Mary Hayes “Brats”: paintings.

Exhibit continues to June 21

Ikebana “Harmony of Nature”: floral arrangements.

Vernissage: June 25 at 6 pm.

Exhibit continues to 28

350 Victoria.

514.488.9558

Parisian Laundry

Valérie Blass: sculptural paintings, sculpture, video.

Exhibit continues to July 12.

Nathan J. Wasserbauer “The Armada of Panoramix”: paintings.

Exhibit continues to July 12.

3550 St Antoine W.

514.989.1056

West End Gallery

Kay Aubanel: new artist, paintings.

1358 Greene.

514.933.4314

Colourfully Yours: Wine and design in the Townships

BY AURELIEN GUILLORY
& GRETA VON SCHMEDLAPP

Well, hello my dears.

I've been missing my old country haunts in the Eastern Townships. After jetting all over the world, I was so happy to have Aurel invite me to his cottage in Abercorn, near the Vermont border.

He's just around the corner from Henrietta Antony and her son John's extraordinary vineyard known as Chapel St. Agnes, where they slowly produce a superb and award-winning *vin de glace*.

So, after a blissful sleep in the soothing country air, we were invited to an afternoon *dégustation* in the cellars, about 60 feet below the mountainside.

Such a change from the tropical greenery of Puebla! The vaulted, solid-stone room, with a giant mural of the wine harvest, and the rare Tudor table and sideboard really transported us all to 18th century Czechoslovakia, and with cubes of *foie gras* from Brome lake ducklings and fresh

brioche. The combination of flavours and textures was almost sensory overload!

We did manage to slowly return to the current century, not before taking a tour of the newly finished solarium and perusing all of the awards that the Antony family has accumulated.

We vowed to tell a favourite niece of ours that this is the only place for her wedding and reception.

After a light salad supper, your peripatetic Greta was soothed to slumber by the piping of the tree frogs near Aurelien's pond.

A trip to Knowlton

As the von Schmedlapps have rarely toured the region, Aurel told me that we would be visiting the quintessential Townships village of Knowlton, 20 minutes from his land.

I was introduced to Joel Dumas, the multi-faceted entrepreneur of Espace Mosaik, an elegant and ecologically inventive shop filled with items from his company in Bali.

Unusual slabs of massive tropical wood

have been designed by him into chairs and tables, incorporating Balinese craft techniques.

Aurel then escorted me across the street to the new Lofts Mosaik, 12 condos with solid, soundproof walls and radiant-heated concrete floors. Each unit has a mezzanine overlooking the 22-foot high living and dining areas.

I was surprised by the spacious feeling and each condo has either a deck or some private garden area.

Aurel's condo

Aurel has designed #8 with special colours, including gloss cream enamel floors. The kitchen has a superb (and surprising) sunny yellow ceiling!

I must confess, dear design friends, that I was a bit skeptical about that yellow when he showed me the sample paint chip, but it really does work in the space.

My friends and fiends, you will have a super opportunity to meet Aurel on several Sundays from 2 to 4 pm when he is hosting free colour consultations and personal colour diagnosis to those who visit “his”

condo.

We have furnished the loft with unusual items from Bali, as well as an Italian modern leather bed, and marvelous carpets and Chinese furniture from the shop TOLA, located here in Montreal on Laurier next to that decadent Patisserie Gascogne!

I do hope that you loyal readers will visit Knowlton soon, for the new things in the village, the famous Brome lake duckling, and who knows, you might even get to meet the real Greta von Schmedlapp!

All the best to you lovely readers, and next time I'll give you a report on Aurel's recent trip to Lima, Peru, and the special things he found there for your home!

Bye for now, your Greta.

Keep your comments coming: Catch us at www.colorsbyaurelien.com

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VISUAL ARTS CENTRE
MY CUP OF TEA
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TOILE SUR RENDEZ VOUS
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BY ANNIKA MELANSON

Rich Rewards for Westmount

Westmounter Andrea Rich is a speech-language pathologist and director of Rich Rewards Child Developmental Center (4141 Sherbrooke St., Suite 300, 514.776.6729). Rich grew up in Westmount and attended Trafalgar School.

Rich Rewards is a small, family-focused private practice comprised of a team of speech-language pathologists, play therapists and sensory-music therapists. Rich's team has experience working with many types of children, including babies with



Westmounter Andrea Rich is a speech language pathologist and the founder of Rich Rewards, a child development centre, which opened in December at 4141 Sherbrooke St. (corner of Greene Ave.)

feeding and swallowing deficits, children with autism spectrum disorders and school-aged children with learning disabilities. For a more extensive list of therapies offered, go to www.neurocomm.speech.com.

"Early intervention is key," said Rich, referring to children's diagnoses. Every patient is seen within one week to 10 days of making an appointment.

Rich is a busy lady. She is also the founder of Mummieslist, the food and wine editor for *Bridal Guide* and a mother. Rich's future projects include a Montreal directory for parents of special needs children. And who says you can't do it all?

Madame de Pompadour moves into Westmount

Downstairs from trendy boutique James, there's a new girl in town: eclectic boutique Madame de Pompadour (4910 Sherbrooke St., 514.670.6632, www.mme.depompadour.com). Madame de Pompadour was the mistress of King Louis XV and was known for her fabulous style and taste in decoration as well as the fantastic parties that she threw.

The new boutique has a variety of treats, from Voluspa candles (\$45), Hamp-

ton Popcorn (\$12 to \$65) in flavours like Naked Chocolate and cheese picks that come with Dry-Erase pens to ID cheese (\$35). The boutique is collaboration between friends Maya Meir (part-owner of James) and Danielle Garonce.

For jet-set kiddies, there is a children's section that carries Hunter boots and Vans as well as clothes by Baby Calypso and Baby Scoop. *Très chic*. "Every detail of the store has been a labour of love," said Garonce. Madame de Pompadour would surely approve.

High-end linens for babies and children at Bouton Jaune

Popular high-end children's linen boutique, Bouton Jaune, has opened a second store (4922B Sherbrooke St., 514.670.7233, www.boutonjaune.com). Owner Nancy Minner started out by designing and sewing children's clothes at home in 1998.

"The products are known worldwide," said Minner, who buys her fabrics in Europe. (When asked where, she answered "that's my big secret.") Everything is designed by her and made in Quebec. Masson has an *atelier* on Masson and each piece is sold individually, so that clients can make up their own, original collections. This is also an advantage when budgeting as different pieces fall into different price points and one can combine an expensive piece with a more reasonable grouping.

Baby registries are available, as are baby baskets and a monogram service.

High-end retailer TNT opens in Westmount

Westmounters, fashionistas and designers shopped and mingled at the official opening of TNT (The New Trend, 4100 St. Catherine St., 514.935.1588, www.tntthenewtrend.com) on May 27. A



Westmounters Brian Cytrynbaum (far left) and Claudia Cytrynbaum (in orange) with TNT owners from Toronto, Arie Assaraf and his wife Carrie Richmond.

live DJ kept the tunes pumping while guests sipped raspberry *mojitos* and checked out the latest designs from Robert Rodriguez, who was at the party, to Trina Trink, Velvet, Missoni, Valentino Red, Isabelle Marant, Tahari and many more designer clothes, shoes, handbags and baubles.

Local merchants are preparing for the Westmount Street Festival

The Sherbrooke and Victoria Merchant's Association, which includes more than 70 local merchants from these streets, is preparing for the annual Westmount Street Festival, which will take place from Friday, June 13 until Sunday, June 15. There will be live music, activities and of course lots of shopping.

Upcoming at the Visual Arts Centre

Claudia Gravel, a former teacher's assistant at the Visual Arts Centre, will be showing her new jewelry collection at Astri Prugger Design (320 Victoria Ave.) on June 12 from 7 to 9 pm. For more information, contact Astri Prugger at 514.369.4799.

Correction: In the April 29 issue of the *Independent*, the telephone number of My Cup of Tea was incorrectly listed. The correct number is 514.489.8880.

Update on Teddy Bear: A successful adoption

Teddy Bear, a handsome brindled pit-bull mixed with Labrador who had been at the SPCA for a few months, was featured in *Underdog* and *Pet Expert*. We wanted a fantastic family for him since he is such an affectionate and friendly dog, both with people and other pets.

We are very pleased to report that he has been adopted by a wonderful couple, Lisa and Kirk, and their dogs and cats.



Kirk with Teddy Bear.

9 Lives

BY LYZANNE

Big Moose has the classic white and marmalade markings of a handsome domestic shorthair, and beautiful green eyes. He had a very peaceful life with an elderly gentleman, who can no longer take care of him.



Big Moose

Big Moose is about 3 1/2 years old and healthy, but a tad overweight from getting a lot of treats!

He is neutered and his shots are up to date. His front paws are declawed, so he is an indoor cat only. He has a bit of a John Wayne walk, a swagger, because he has a slight birth defect in one hip, but it doesn't bother him and it doesn't concern his vet.

He is very affectionate and really enjoys being petted. For more info on Big Moose, please call Gerdy on her pager at 514.203.9180 or email her at info@gerdysrescue.org.

Canelle is a petite tortoiseshell domestic shorthair, with sparkling eyes and a laid-back attitude. She is a very healthy 5-year-old, spayed, and her shots are up to date. She is declawed, so she is an indoor-only cat. Canelle is a quiet girl but very



Canelle

friendly. For more info on Canelle, please call Gerdy on her pager at 514.203.9180 or email her at info@gerdysrescue.org.

Thank you for helping us find families and homes for Big Moose and Canelle.

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History quiz: Visual Arts Centre

continued from p. 16

Q: How old is the Visual Arts Centre?

A: 62 years old this year.

At the Visual Arts Centre, 3,000 artists-in-training a year come to study painting, drawing, watercolour or ceramics with artists who love to teach. Each willingly pays an annual registration fee of \$20 per year, in addition to the cost of their courses, to belong to the largest independent art school in Canada.

Of interest to me is the knowledge that they are walking on one of the oldest farms in Westmount. Victoria Ave. developed along the original Hurtubise road leading from his house on Côte St. Antoine Rd. to the Glen.

The centre moved into this building at 350 Victoria Ave. in 1972, just a year after taking its new name. Before that, it had been functioning as The Potters' Club in rented rooms at 326 Victoria. The Potters' Club had been founded by Westmounter Eileen Reid in the basement of her house on Elm Ave. in 1946 with eight members.

In the beginning, there were classes in ceramics and the applied arts of weaving, tie-dye, macramé and silkscreen printing. Between 1985 and 1989 a CEGEP textile

program was established with a grant from the provincial government, which was very successful. At the same time, more and more fine art courses were being given and a new mission statement described the centre as a fine arts school first, with a strong ceramic component.

McClure Gallery

Virginia McClure, whose name was eventually given to the art gallery of the Visual Arts Centre, joined the original Potters' Club in 1956. Over the years, McClure has been a very active teacher, administrator and fundraiser for the centre in addition to continuing her own artistic development. From 1991 to 1998, the Farfelu artisans' co-op rented space to operate a small boutique. Since 1998 when the gallery enlarged and took over this space to focus on exhibitions of well-established contemporary and quality emerging artists, it has received government grants and critical recognition as an effective contemporary art gallery in Montreal. In addition to its ongoing-juried exhibitions, the centre established an invitational guest curator program in 2002 to develop innovative exhibitions. The gallery today forms a vital part of the life of the school

and the community.

Victoria LeBlanc, director of the centre since 1996, emphasizes the equal attention paid to attaining high quality in both the fine and applied arts. She is proud of the Outreach Program, which was developed in 1996 to involve youth and teen groups with special needs, and the Inde-

pendent Studies Program, set up in 2001 to provide more individual tutoring. Recently, the Visual Arts Centre underwent a major renovation by improving and adding much needed space.

Doreen Lindsay is president of the Westmount Historical Association.

Underdog

BY FERN BRESLAW

There's this really cute, albeit clumsy, dog named Charlie who arrived at the SPCA at the beginning of January.

He was quickly renamed Smiley since, despite his life as a stray, spending months in a cage and a bout of the kennel cough, this young man had managed to keep his hopes high.

He literally smiles every time someone stops by his cage.

The problem with this poor boy is that he's extremely clumsy. He injured his leg when he first arrived and his optimistic tail-wagging ways are so intense that he keeps hurting himself over and over. In fact, the wagging is so unstoppable that the only solution the SPCA hasn't exhausted is to have his tail amputated to



prevent further injuries. This is scheduled to be done at the same time as he is fixed.

Smiley is smart, loving and has the kind of outlook on life that would make Oprah cry (although she does cry easily). After everything he's been through, he deserves a family that will give him something actually worth smiling about.

Find out more about adopting Smiley/Charlie by contacting the Montreal SPCA.



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Comin' Up...

Here's what is happening in Westmount in the coming weeks:

Thursday, June 5: First Thursday Gallery Walk of the art galleries on Greene Ave. Meet corner Greene and de Maison-neuve (Galerie D'Este) - 5:30 pm.

St. Leon Parish's (330 Clarke) Annual Super Sale - 1 to 6 pm. Info: 514.935-4950.

Friday, June 6: Rotary auction - 7 pm at

the arena.

Saturday, June 7: Rotary garage sale - 9:30 am to 2:30 pm at the arena

Tuesday, June 10: Westmount Horticultural Society's 10th anniversary - 7 pm at the library.

Wednesday, June 11: "The Gift of Song" with Joshua Nelson - 8 pm at Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom. \$18 students

(with ID) and Seniors Groups Discount, \$36 General Admission, \$180 Benefactor and \$118 Patron, incl. post-concert desert gala. Info: Bill Surkis 514.233.2976 or Leon Blauer 514.386.0684.

Thursday, June 12: Professor Benjamin Perrin speaks on "Prostitution, Debt Bondage and the Sex Trade: Where Should the Exploitation Line Be Drawn?" - 7:30 to

9:00 pm at Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom. Info: 514.937.3575.

Saturday, June 14: Harmonia Westmount Choir presents "Summer Nights" with director Fredericka Petit-Homme at Mountainside United Church, 4000 The Boulevard - 7:30 pm. \$10.

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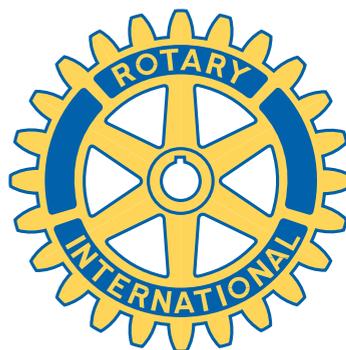


The Rotary Club of Westmount

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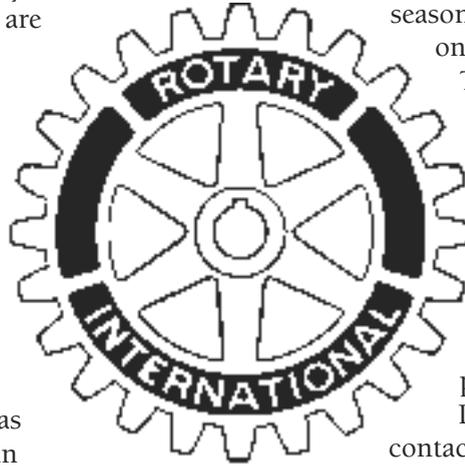
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The Rotary Club of Westmount

What is Rotary?

We all try to do good things, but our busy lives often make getting through the day a success in itself. Our families and careers are rewarding, but how can we contribute to the community around us?

In 1905, in Chicago, Paul Harris was happy with his career but missing the friendly spirit of the village where he grew up. He invited four friends to his office and as they continued to meet, they rotated among their places of business. The first service club was born, Rotary. Today it is more than 1,200,000 people in over 32,000 clubs in over



200 countries and geographical areas.

The Rotary Club of Westmount, Montreal's largest Rotary Club, has a diverse membership of men and women, young professionals to seasoned retirees pooling their talents on local and international projects.

The club is always on the look out for new members who have the heart and desire to help their community and the world. Wednesday luncheon meetings are at Victoria Hall. This can be a rewarding weekly break especially for entrepreneurs or home-based professionals.

Learn more at www.rotary.org or contact The Rotary Club of Westmount at info@rotarywestmount.org.

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Westmount Profile: Karin Marks 'Rediscovering' life

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

Fighting for what she believes to be a "just" cause is nothing new to Karin Marks. In the sixties, she was counselling Vietnam draft dodgers from the US on how to establish themselves in Canada – very much to the chagrin of her more traditional parents.

So now, as mayor of Westmount and leader of the demerged municipalities, she sees her fight for changes in the island-wide agglomeration council as a natural progression in her life.

And this, along with her mission to shape Westmount into a sustainable community, has been given new meaning with the birth nearly three years ago of her granddaughter Kylie.

"Unquestionably, she has changed my life," Marks says.

"While we grownups were busy complaining about the snow, she was opening her mouth to swallow the snowflakes in her discovery of life. Watching this was an experience in rediscovering life myself. It's a wonderful, wonderful gift."

Being a "doting grandparent," has invigorated her quest to leave a "whole and diverse" Westmount to future generations, one that is both sustainable and affordable.

Living many lives

Bargain hunter, designer, business-woman, singer and passionate cook, Marks stated soon after her election to city council in 1991 that she felt she was getting to live more lives than what had been allotted to her.

She was running her own cottage industry and raising two daughters in the small white 1850 clapboard house on Lansdowne. It's here where she and her husband, financial systems consultant Brian Puddington, continue to live.

Designing velvet and satin shoebags, vests, scarves, jewelry and other exquisite accessories, she sold them under the name "Kasumi" to Holt's, Birks, Eaton's, The Bay and a string of chains and boutiques.

It was a life dominated by tradeshow and selling trips. And she had no idea what lay ahead.

Demerger movement changed everything

The demerger movement and her mayoral career catapulted Marks into a high profile political role as Westmount's representative – and lone independent – on

the Montreal megacity council.

Subsequently, as president of the Association of Suburban Municipalities, she says the fight to obtain true decision-making with Montreal at the Agglomeration Council has been slow and steady. "If I've learned anything, it's that change happens slowly. You have to keep working on it, not banging people over the head. A lot of things happen through building relationships, having respect for each other and putting your case out there."

Work days can last up to 10 hours and include evening meetings or community activities. "I feel it really is important to a church or synagogue to have me attend special events," she says.

"I'm lucky to have this role. If I didn't feel this way – or like people – I wouldn't be doing it. It's a choice in life – go to the gym every day or immerse myself in this."

Two speeds: fast and stop

She works intensely and then crashes. "I have two speeds, fast and stop."

That's why weekends and holidays in Vermont are so important to her. "I cross-country ski and cook." The cooking, in particular, is a passion. "I also love to sing."

In a previous life, she sang with Westmount's A Cappella Choir (now known as Harmonia). She also enjoyed potting, jewelry-making, watercolour painting and doing stained glass. All are pursuits that have a parallel with her political life, she explains. "I enjoy the process. It's the artistic expression of creating something and building on it."

Grew up in Westmount

Raised in Westmount, Marks attended Westmount High. She studied marketing at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City with a work stint at Sacks Fifth Avenue.

After taking political science at Concordia, she obtained a McGill diploma in education and taught on the West Island. She went on to head a professional development program at Dawson, start the adult education program at LaSalle College and pursue a master's in education at the University of Massachusetts.

She also developed middle management training programs as a consultant and, in 1988, started up Kasumi. In her first term as a city councillor for district 5, she chaired the planning services committee and worked tirelessly to set up Westmount's teen centre.

Inspired by her mother

Throughout, she says, her mother, Irene Marks, played a key role. Until recently suffering an aneurism at age 91, her mother was still planting her daughter's garden and running messages for the family.

"She is an amazing force – a strong woman who has always been interested and involved in the community. When I was 5, she helped start up the Golden Age Club that has become such an important part of the six-storey Cummings Centre. I've been very blessed. How many people are there at 60 who still had such an active mother?"

Marks sits on many city committees as well as island groups such as the *Table de Concertation de Mont-Royal* and the board of the Montreal Transit Commission (STM). She is also vice-president of the Agglomeration Council, "but the title means nothing."

"STM meetings are very long but fascinating. It's an exciting time because public transit is becoming a more important issue and the STM is developing a customer culture."

Marks gave up her car and joined the car-sharing Communauto. "It isn't always easy," she says. "You have to be well organized." She recalls one evening meeting on the West Island when she couldn't re-



Mayor Marks through the admiring eyes of granddaughter Kylie

member the colour of the car she had that day. "I was walking up and down the parking lot looking for the logo on the door. It

continued on p. 23

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continued from p. 22

was very funny!”

Closet dollar-store lover

In her own efforts to live by the green motto of “recycle, reuse and reduce”, her biggest challenge is the latter. “I’m a closet dollar-store lover and I have to stop and say there’s no need to purchase all this stuff – gadgets and all kinds of things.”

While Marks believed in recycling, it wasn’t a burning cause for her until Al

Gore’s movie, *An Inconvenient Truth*, brought the pieces together. “I’ve always had great faith that we are an adaptable society. But if we don’t change, we won’t have the ability to adapt.

“After my granddaughter was born, I looked at this tiny thing and wondered how can we leave a worse world for her?”

And Marks keeps this thought ever-present as her political life continues to flourish and lead her in directions she never thought possible.

House on Willow flattened

The demolition of a house on the northeast corner of Willow and Claremont avenues May 28 attracted a crowd of neighbourhood residents and students from Marianopolis.

The house, at 31 Willow, was well-known in years past for the spectacular flower garden maintained by its previous owner, Murray Marmor. Vacant for some

time, the house and property had fallen into disrepair but some nearby residents have preserved some of the plantings in their own gardens.

While neighbours were welcoming the building of a new home, said one, it was nevertheless sad to see the sudden disappearance of a house that had once been a home.



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