

Birthday Bash

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See page 3

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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Marc Roy resigns as Hydro director

>Don Wedge

Marc Roy, a manager who 'put a big thumbprint on the city,' has resigned as director of Westmount Hydro - the third head of a Westmount department to step down in a little over a year. He will leave on Dec. 31 to resume his management consultancy after 10 years in charge at the Glen Power House.

Roy was a Westmount consultant when Danny Ponzo, then Hydro director, became seriously ill. Ponzo died tragically early and Roy agreed to stand in for him at first, but subsequently agreed to stay on.

"I originally came on a two-year contract," he recalled this week, "but it was subsequently extended.

"However, I have wanted to resume my consultancy and I hesitated until the demerger was through and again when Fred Caluori retired."

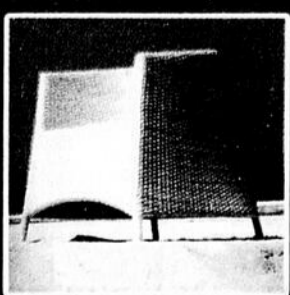
Among his achievements, Roy considers the renewal of the relay and metering systems in the sub-stations to be one of the highlights. Two have been completed and a third is nearly finished. Old electro-mechanical equipment has been replaced by state-of-the-art vacuum devices.

Roy specialized in manufactured electrical products as a consultant, and he expects to concentrate on this field in future.

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"It has proved to be a happy marriage."

(Continued on page 2)



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Continued from page 1

City Councillor Patrick Martin, Commissioner of Utilities and an engineer himself, regards Roy as "a rock" who leads an increasingly highly technical department with great skill.

"Hydro is a \$25 million-a-year business and a lot of the network is 80 years old. He has managed it well," Martin added.

The directorship vacancy was posted at the end of last month. Applicants have until mid-August to respond when the City will create a short list and begin the selection process.

"We have a protocol and a team in place,"

St Louis said. "We hope to appoint his successor so that they can work together for some weeks before Marc leaves."

Westmount has had to replace three other department chiefs in the past year; Public Security and Public Works have now been filled.

**SEND THE EDITOR
AN E-MAIL:**

larsenw@transcontinental.ca

Welcome to Westmount

With the annual July 1 move now behind us, there are many new residents in the community.

Each year, The Examiner runs a special 'Welcome to Westmount' section for the benefit of these newcomers, and this year is

no exception.

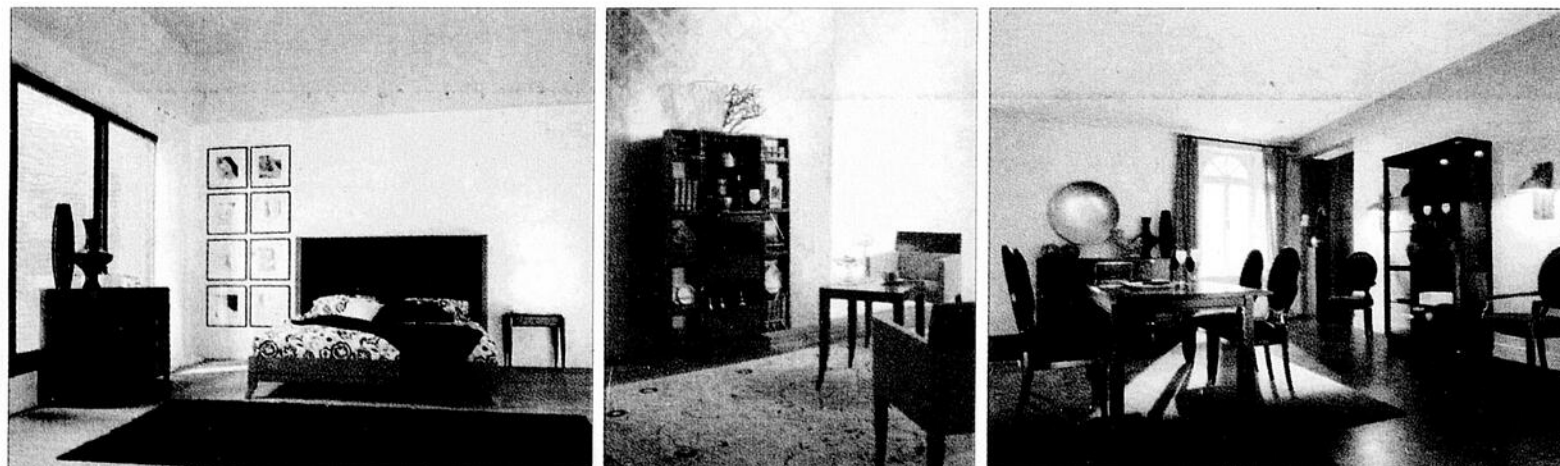
The section, which begins on page 7, contains a series of articles on a few local organizations that introduces them to new residents and provides a brief description of their function and the services they offer.

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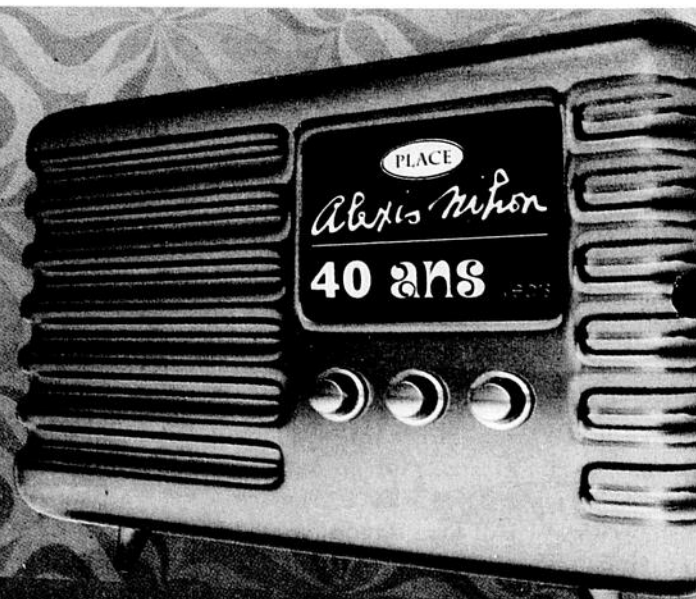
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FROM MAY TO OCTOBER

Life begins at 40

Were you born in **1967**? If so, Place Alexis Nihon will give you a **\$20** gift certificate on your birthday to help you celebrate.



Offer valid from May to October 2007 only, to each person who passes by our Info Kiosk on the day of their 40th birthday. A photo ID is required. Details available at the Info Kiosk.

Local News

Patriotic Westmounters get into the swim for Canada Day celebration

>Martin C. Barry

Cool weather and intermittent clouds weren't enough to discourage many Westmounters from taking part in the City's annual Canada Day celebrations last Sunday.

The activities started at noon outside the arena with a barbecue lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers, followed by the traditional Splash Bash at the municipal pool. Over the

Sports & Recreation Department, which organized the celebration.

Academy Road resident Peter Weldon, who lives a few steps from the pool, was ducking in and out of his apartment during the festivities, while working on a piece of music at home. "I got up and began eating hot dogs and hamburgers," he said. "Shortly, I'm going to brave the pool."



Rick Caluori has been a fixture at the barbecue for several years. Photos: Martin C. Barry

course of the afternoon, there were games, prizes, and a large Canada Day cake.

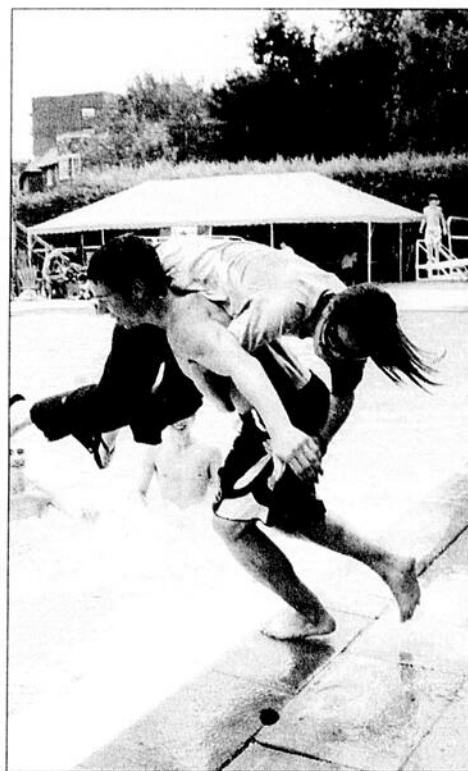
While the temperature on July 1 has usually hovered in the mid- to high-20s Celsius, this year it stayed below 20. However, there was no sign of thunderstorm activity, which has often disrupted Canada Day festivities by mid-afternoon.

"This is probably the first time it hasn't rained on us in about three Canada Days," said Mike Deegan, director of Westmount's

Canada's national holiday evoked comments from residents about this country's place in a world marked by so much turbulence.

"When we look at what's happening in the other parts of the world - Afghanistan, Iraq, Tibet, the African countries - this is certainly the best place to be," said Stanley Baker, a de Maisonneuve Boulevard resident.

Standing near the edge of the pool, while proudly cradling his year-old daughter,



Action at the pool during the popular and Splash Bash. Photos: Martin C. Barry

Margarita, McShane Jones and his family were enjoying the day. "We're having a good time, it's a family event," he said. "All four kids and mom are here so we're enjoying a hot dog."

As he cut and served Canada Day cake, Westmount's Director General Bruce St. Louis explained the personal significance of Canada Day. "You've got to do your duty for your country and your city," he said. "This is a

fun day. Considering the weather, it's a good turnout. Really it's a community event."

In addition to the scheduled activities, there were also a few instances of spontaneous celebration. For years, it has been a tradition in Westmount - seen only on Canada Day during the Splash Bash - for merry-makers to toss each other into the pool. The Sports & Recreation Department has tried in recent years to discourage the practice.

Cancer is Cancer!

You may know me as the former owner of **Togo's Italian** or **La Transition** restaurants in Westmount, secretary to Dr. John Antoniou (Orthopaedic surgeon at JGH), friend, acquaintance or you may even know me as the sister of **Tom of 'Chez Nick' fame**, and owner of Mill Pond Plaza, Knowlton

Tom passed away two years ago after a brutal 2 1/2 year battle with kidney cancer.

In 1990 my mother from lung cancer and my brother in law,

Aldo succumbed to melanoma in 2004.

Each of them went through unimaginable challenges trying to combat this unjust menace.

Why then you may ask am I walking for "Breast Cancer".

1. Cancer is Cancer!!

2. Too much Breast Cancer :

In the past few years alone I've know *over 20* women that have had to battle breast cancer.

3. And something I will remember about Tom :

Tom chose walking as his way of repairing his body throughout and in between the battles. He promoted the walks for himself and tried to encourage all of us to follow suit. The walks helped him have peace and time to reflect on his life and the love around him. And

4. Because with YOUR help, I can!

Together we can eliminate breast cancer and then take this energy with what we have learned to help eradicate many other cancers that have devastated so many families!

For more information please check out :

www.endcancer.ca

Maria Alevisatos, participant number : 412543-9 or 514-369-8112 for details.



Westmount vous informe...

Westmount Page



http://westmount.org
information : 989-5200



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CONSEIL

Séance du conseil - juillet

Veillez prendre note que le conseil ne tiendra pas de séance générale au mois de juillet. La prochaine séance générale du conseil municipal aura lieu le lundi 27 août 2007 à 20 h dans la salle du conseil de l'hôtel de ville. Tous les résidants sont invités à participer à cette séance publique.



TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Patrouille verte

La Ville est fière d'annoncer le lancement de la Patrouille verte à Westmount, en collaboration avec le Conseil régional de l'environnement de Montréal et l'Éco-quartier Peter-McGill. L'équipe de deux personnes sillonnera les rues de Westmount à pied et en vélo afin de sensibiliser les résidants et les propriétaires de commerces aux solutions écologiques existantes et promouvoir la multitude de services environnementaux offerts par la Ville. Cet été, recherchez leur chandail vert nature ! Info : 514 989-5390.



SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Couvre-feu dans les parcs

En raison de l'augmentation spectaculaire des rapports de vandalisme, de graffiti et d'infraction relative à la toxicomanie dans les parcs municipaux, la Ville de Westmount instaure un couvre-feu dans tous ses parcs. Les parcs sont maintenant fermés au public tous les soirs, de minuit à 5 h du matin. Les contrevenants sont passibles d'une amende minimum de 37 \$.



ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Concerts d'été au parc Westmount

Du 8 juillet au 12 août à 14 h

Venez assister à des concerts professionnels près de l'étang du parc Westmount les dimanches à 14 h. En cas de pluie, les concerts auront lieu au Victoria Hall. Info : 514 989-5226

- Le 8 juillet Quartette Robert Burnam
- Le 15 juillet Quartette Sheila Smith
- Le 22 juillet L'ensemble du Carré Saint-Louis
- Le 29 juillet Quatuor Nota Bene
- Le 5 août L'Esprit de la Nouvelle-Orléans
- Le 12 août Trio Jon Geary

DATES À RETENIR

Jusqu'au 24 août

Club de lecture vacances 2007
Lire au-delà du réel !
Bibliothèque

12 juillet au 18 août

Proche de nous
La galerie du Victoria Hall

Le 16 juillet - à partir de 9 h

Inscription - camps d'été
Session C
Aréna

Les 28 juillet, 18 et 19 août - 19 h

Scapin the Schemer!

Le 29 juillet - 19 h

Les Fourberies de Scapin !
Théâtre en plein air
Parc Westmount

La galerie du Victoria Hall

La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter l'exposition de groupe *Proche de nous* qui se tiendra du 12 juillet au 18 août. Dix artistes westmountais participeront à cette exposition. Info : 514 989-5226

Théâtre en plein air

La troupe *Repercussion Theatre* présentera la pièce *Les fourberies de Scapin !* de Molière le dimanche 29 juillet ainsi que la pièce *Scapin the Schemer!* les samedis 28 juillet et 18 août ainsi que le dimanche 19 août à 19 h au parc Westmount. Entrée gratuite. N'oubliez pas d'apporter vos chaises. Info : 514 989-5226 ou www.repercussiontheatre.com



BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Club de lecture vacances 2007 - jusqu'au 24 août

Décollez vers les confins de l'univers en participant au club de lecture vacances. Le thème de cette année est *Lire au-delà du réel !* Inscription au comptoir des enfants de la Bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5229

Club de lecture anglaise

Joignez-vous au club de lecture anglaise le mardi 17 juillet de 19 h à 21 h pour discuter du livre *How To Be A Bad Birdwatcher* de Simon Barnes. Info : 514 989-5386.



COUNCIL

July Council Meeting

Please note that there will be no general council meeting during the month of July. The next general council meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 27 at 8 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber. All residents are invited to take part in this public session.



PUBLIC WORKS

Green Patrol

Westmount is proud to announce the launch of the Green Patrol, in collaboration with the Conseil régional de l'environnement de Montréal and Éco-quartier Peter-McGill. The two-person team will patrol Westmount on foot and on bicycle to meet with residents and business owners. Their role is to promote and inform residents about City environmental initiatives, giving better visibility to the multitude of environmental services the City has to offer. Look for their bright green shirts this summer, and think green! Info: 514 989-5390.



PUBLIC SECURITY

Park Curfew

Due to a dramatic increase in reports of vandalism, graffiti and substance abuse infractions in municipal parks, the City of Westmount is instituting a curfew in all parks. All parks in Westmount are now closed to the public nightly from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. Violators will be subject to a minimum fine of \$37.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Gallery at Victoria Hall

The Gallery at Victoria Hall is proud to present *Close to home*, a group exhibition featuring ten Westmount artists. The exhibition will run from July 12 to August 18. Info: 514 989-5226.

Summer Concerts in the Park

July 8 to August 12, 2 p.m.

Join us on Sundays at 2 p.m. at the lagoon in Westmount Park for free concerts by professional musicians. Rain location: Victoria Hall. Info: 514 989-5226.

- July 8 Robert Burnam Quartet
- July 15 Sheila Smith Quartet
- July 22 L'ensemble du Carré Saint-Louis
- July 29 Nota Bene Quartet
- August 5 L'esprit de la Nouvelle-Orléans
- August 12 Jon Geary Trio

DATEBOOK

Until August 24

Summer Reading Club 2007
To the Library and Beyond!
Library

July 12 until August 18

Close to Home
Gallery at Victoria Hall

July 16 - as of 9 a.m.

Summer Camp Registration
Session C
Westmount Arena

July 28, August 18 & 19 - 7 p.m.

Scapin the Schemer!

July 29 - 7 p.m.

Les Fourberies de Scapin !
Theatre in the Park
Westmount Park

Theatre in the Park

This summer, Repercussion Theatre will be presenting Molière's *Les Fourberies de Scapin !* Sunday, July 29 and *Scapin the Schemer!* Saturday, July 28; Saturday, August 18 and Sunday, August 19 at 7 p.m. in Westmount Park. Admission is free. Bring a lawn chair. Info: 514 989-5226 or www.repercussiontheatre.com



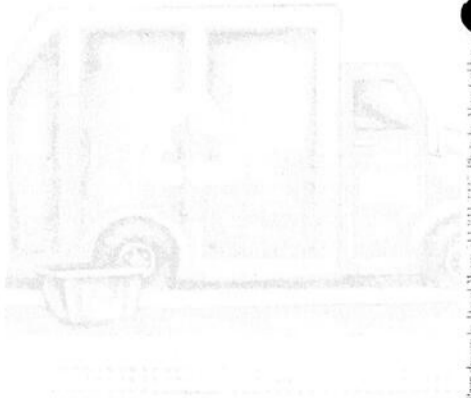
LIBRARY

Summer Reading Club 2007 - until August 24

Blast off to the outer reaches of the universe in this annual summer reading club. The theme this year is *To the Library and Beyond!* You can still register for this activity in the children's section of the Library. Info: 514 989-5229.

English Book Club

Join the English Book Club from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, July 17 as they discuss Simon Barnes' book *How To Be A Bad Birdwatcher*. Info: 514 989-5386.



The Ladies of Roslyn: a great tradition continues

>Sharon Bishin

When people strolled up and down Roslyn Avenue, examining the wares at the recent block garage sale, they were just interested in finding a good deal. They had no idea that their coins and bills were part of a larger plan - but this year's sale proceeds of \$2,000 went to sending disadvantaged children to summer camp.

Over the years, the block's residents have donated more than \$10,000 to a variety of children's health and community institutions: Camp Champeau, Candarel cancer run, Filou, the Weekend to End Cancer, a bench at the Westmount Public Library, bed nets in Africa, men's and women's divisions of the Brewery Mission, just to name a few.

The relaxed, tree-lined block of Roslyn between Sherbrooke and de Maisonneuve is a desirable location within Westmount. The real estate agents know it, the community knows it and the residents know it. Certainly, part of the reason is simple geography: so convenient to downtown, close to every necessary store and community facility, within minutes of public transportation and on the flat; no need to worry about runaway strollers or out-of-control skateboards. But the other, less-visible drawing card is the esprit-de-corps that exists among the residents. Between the addresses of 304 and 398, there are 40 semi-detached two and three-storey structures housing about 200 adults and children, several dogs and lots of personality-rich cats.

But it is the group of close to 30 'Ladies of Roslyn' that make this block special. For more than 25 years, an ever-changing but constant group of women have met regularly to plan block garage sales, barbecues and seasonal get-togethers, complete with a closed-off street and tables donated by the City. The teas or meetings are, naturally, held on a rotating basis in someone's home, sweetened with an extensive spread of wines and food contributed by all.



The Ladies of Roslyn at a recent meeting.

Of course, there is the standing joke upon entry: "Good to see you! You are right on time. No problem with traffic getting here?"

But once the socializing is somewhat satisfied, the group gets down to its real business - organizing an event to raise money for some worthwhile cause. The participants are a diverse bunch: physicians, a marketer, teachers, real estate and insurance agents, a financial analyst, a writer, stay-at-home moms, people who work in fashion or with seniors. What everyone shares, though, is a sense of community. At the organizing meeting for the block party, one mom was reminiscing about the 'collective mothering' that helped her out of a tricky situation. "It was probably the first time my husband and I went out and left our kids alone", she recalled. "We came back hours later to find a son asleep with an arm that had been strapped to immobilize a broken clavicle sustained when

he fell out of bed."

The siblings had been rough-housing but calmed down pretty quickly when the boy's pain became apparent. They were matter-of-fact. "Oh boy," they muttered, "we'd better go find another mom." Which is exactly what they did; and it was another mom who sat with the child for hours in the emergency ward. The injured child's parents were embarrassed but appreciative.

"Kind of redefines the phrase 'block parents' doesn't it?" the mom mused.

Yet another mom, Sylvia Reiter, who in recent past has spearheaded the block initiatives, spoke of how people rallied with food and babysitting when her husband, André, was diagnosed with cancer and was going through his treatments a few years ago. "They were just there for us," she stated. She and others, like Sandra Grant across the street, balances a full work life with dedicated volunteer activities, and wouldn't have it any other way.

"We have to do more because we have more," Grant said.

On a lighter note, Lily Peuckert and the writer of this article recalled with fondness how our two families jointly organized and lived through the repaving of the common driveway - the same driveway, by the way, where some of the earliest block parties we co-hosted...and we still remain friends 24 years later; how many neighbors can say that?

Lesley Bishin, 27, a Roslyn child, recently summed up the feeling this way: "Until I moved away from home four years ago, I just took it for granted that it was natural to know - and be somewhat friendly with - each and every adult, child and pet on the entire block; I thought that was a given."

Maybe not, but it's certainly handy - especially if you've broken your clavicle.

• Sharon Bishin is a longtime resident of Roslyn Avenue.

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Special sale of chinese porcelain & antique furniture

until August 10th 2007

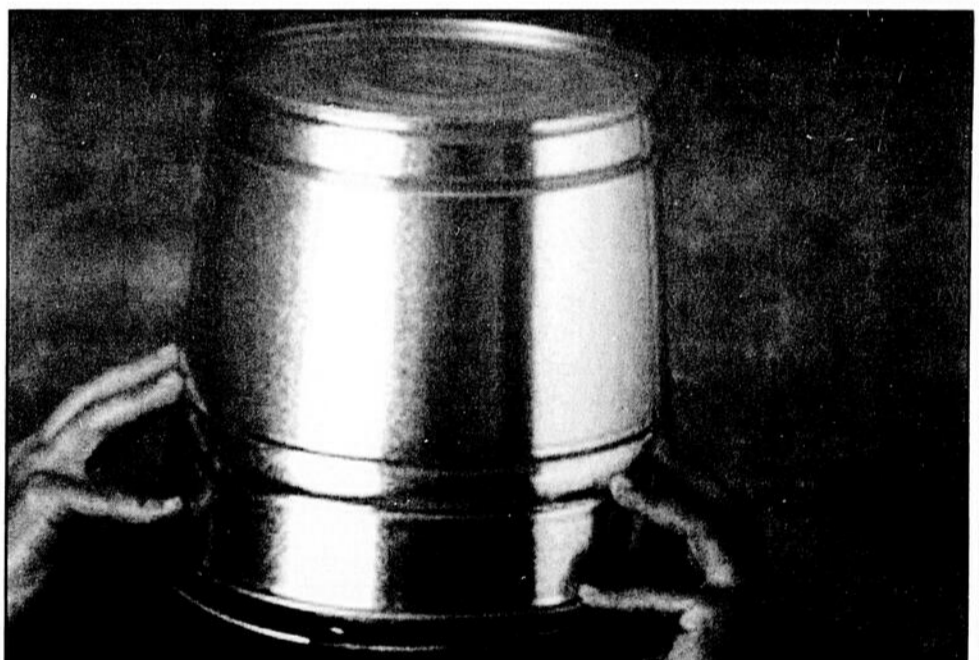
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Opinion

Fall predictions



Commentary

Wayne
LARSEN
larsenw@transcontinental.ca

As the quiet summer beckons and local activities fall off almost completely, we can look forward to a few slow news weeks. But as stores prepare their Back to School sales and many people retreat to their country homes, now seems a good time to look ahead to the fall, when everything starts up again and we will once again be inundated with news. The following are a few items we may (or may not) see in September:

- The controversial Montreal Agglom will be dismantled in favour of a new body consisting of two accountants and three chimpanzees on loan from the Granby Zoo. This prompts Westmount Mayor Karin Marks to quip, "They make a lot more noise, and lunchtimes are certainly interesting, but at least it's an improvement."

- The City of Westmount's decision to resurface Westmount Park playing fields with "natural grass" will lead to a false sense of self-importance for the local Bloc Pot candidate in the next provincial election.

- Having walked the entire length of Montreal Island on June 21, the Examiner's own long-distance hiker Matthew Surridge will announce a new challenge - walking the length of King George Park in the middle of the night, curfew be damned.

- A West Island beauty pageant will be suddenly cancelled after several Anglophone contestants back out upon learning that one of the judges is Montreal city councillor Marvin Rotrand.

- A citizens' movement to curb excess outdoor lighting in upper Westmount will get a boost from several local teenagers, who attend a council meeting to complain that floodlights from nearby homes are ruining the mood and seriously affecting their make-out sessions at the Summit lookout.

- From "Hands Off My City" to "Je me souviendrai," a new protest slogan will be heard across mega-Montreal, this time coming from some of the faithful boroughs. Within just a few months, the "Oh, Crap! Is it Too Late to Demerge?" ("Zut! Est-ce que c'est trop tard?") movement will gain momentum across the eastern portion of the island.

- An eighth community paper will appear in Westmount, prompting a visit by an official from the Guinness Book of World Records - and cheers of gratitude from local dog owners who know there is no such thing as having too much newspaper.



A laborious move to e-transparency

Some Council members still shake their heads at the lengths to which the Save the Park campaigners went to get their case heard. Yet their methods were fairly standard as modern crusades go.

Groups with a message now use the internet and its multiple tools abundantly. American politics are leading the way, embracing each new medium as it becomes established.

Three years ago, Howard Dean, the Vermont physician turned state governor, launched a bid for the US presidency with a campaign based on electronic outreach.

E-mail was already established, but blogging and social networking (YouTube, Facebook and others), have since become routine tools of American politics. They have yet to be taken up in Canada to the same extent, but their use is growing.

Closer to home, the Westmount Municipal Association has been leading the way through its website www.wma-amw.org run by president Dr. Henry Olders, although its objectives are more civic than political.

Nevertheless, it is innovating. The association's blog system was an additional outlet for publicizing views about artificial turf.

Last month, the WMA site experimented with a task that many would think belongs to the city itself.

Trent's innovation

Peter Trent, early in his mayoralty, agreed that



Civic Alert

Don
WEDGE

the WMA should have an advance copy of the basic documents that each councillor receives for every statutory monthly meeting. The City Clerk's office has continued the service despite mergers, demergers and other pressures. Subsequently, a copy was also made available in the Library near the Reference Desk, and another copy placed at the back of the council chamber before each meeting.

This service is an example of Westmount's democratic culture. To the best of my knowledge, no other council on the Island provides the public with anything like this level of information - although other methods of reaching the public are beginning to emerge.

WMA wants e-version

In recent years, the WMA and others have asked that the information be made available electronically.

"After all, for years now all the documents have been produced on computers, so they are already available in electronic form," reasons Olders.

"We do not want to make work for City staff, but it is information the whole public, not just WMA members, are entitled to. The technology exists to make it easily available.

"One would think it is a small task to assemble the various items and email the result to whoever is interested. Alternatively, they could be put on the website, and those interested be informed by email of its posting."

When raised at Council, Mayor Karin Marks agreed with the point, but the e-documents never materialized, perhaps getting lost in the committees that deal with these things.

Olders put it to the test himself when the documents - average number of pages - were received for the June meeting. As the originals were unavailable to him, he painstakingly scanned every page and loaded them on the WMA website.

Then he sent an e-mail to all members alerting them of the documents' availability.

The whole job - done labour-intensively on his home equipment - took only two hours!

Timely flow

Making the support documentation available was a first step, but the WMA has asked repeatedly that it be distributed more expeditiously.

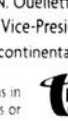
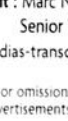
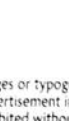
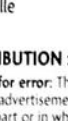
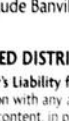
"Why cannot the minutes of meetings be posted when the final drafts are ready?"

(Continued on page 17)

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Welcome to

Westmount

The Westmount Legal Clinic is here for you

>Ted Wright

Welcome to all the Westmounters who have chosen a brand new hometown.

You will undoubtedly find out a secret that is hidden from most: Westmount can be a very friendly place to be. It is at once a real city and a real small town.

The Westmount Legal Clinic is one of those little secrets which can help you when you lease expect it.

Founded in 1993 with a grant from the Westmount Tenants Association, as a not-for-profit, donation-supported legal clinic by Robert Jones and Francine Poirier, the Clinic has expanded its mandate, according to the availability of legal referrals.

The original intent of the Clinic was to assist tenants to find out and support their individual rental rights.

Each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. at the Westmount YMCA on Sherbrooke Street,

there is a walk-in clinic which allows individuals to get a quick overview of a legal concern.

In the space of 20 minutes or so, a citizen can discover the direction of their rights, their individual circumstances and or be referred to a lawyer with expertise in that particular area of law.

There are times when a concern can be solved on the spot.

This is the true goal, to solve, as much as is possible, a difficulty that may be beyond

general knowledge.

So, welcome to Westmount and take a look around.

You will find a lot of things which do not exist elsewhere.

- Ted Wright is coordinator of the Westmount Legal Clinic and author of Know Your Wrights, a regular Examiner column that addresses tenant-landlord issues.

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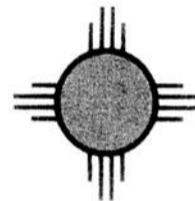
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Welcome to *Westmount*

The Westmount Public Library: A rich tradition in the community

> Simon Halpin

For over a century, the Westmount Public Library has served as a pillar of the community, providing its citizens a place to study, research, socialize, or a place to sit back and read the daily paper.

The library was first conceived in 1897 to mark Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, and the finishing touches were completed just prior to its opening in 1899, making it one of the oldest public libraries in Quebec. For the last century the library has continued to evolve to serve the community.

Its initial book count was 1,992, a seemingly paltry number by today's standards. The first caretaker of these books, Beatrice Glen Moore, suffered a nervous breakdown by the end of her first year.

The second librarian, Mary Solace Saxe, served in the post for over three decades, helping to solidify the Westmount Library as one of the best in the province. Saxe oversaw the addition of the children's department and a reference desk, as well as the construction of a new wing in 1925, which housed the new

music collection.

Just prior to World War II, the Library was updated and remodeled to modernize the facility. The duration of the war however meant hard times for the library, as a paper ration greatly reduced the addition of any new books. After the war the library updated once more, most specifically by adopting the Dewey decimal system.

The library continued to serve the community well until its next major upgrade in 1959. Some of the major rooms were reorganized to accommodate the growing collection, which surpassed the 100,000 mark by 1972. By 1984, the library had joined the computer age, acquiring its first IBM personal computer to help with the cataloging.

By 1990, the library had opened its audio/visual department, and had increased its staff from 12 members to 18. Plans were also underway for yet another renovation, which was completed by 1995.

The digital revolution was also underway, and it became the first library in the province

to connect to the Internet.

Thanks mainly to amalgamation, membership had increased to over 14,000 by 2002, a sharp increase over its initial roster of 694 members on opening day back in 1899.

According to Ann Moffat, Director of the Library, membership is now around a steady 12,000.

The library currently offers numerous services to the community, including Internet work stations, a bilingual collection, inter-library loans, self-checkout, study rooms, reference material and a computerized cataloging system.

Other services include a shut-in service, which is ideal for those that cannot leave their homes to make it down to the library. Members can have library materials including audio/visual items delivered to their homes.

Look for local community events happening at the Westmount Public Library on their website.

For more information contact:

The Westmount Public Library at 514-989-5300, drop in at 4574 Sherbrooke Street W. or visit online at: www.westlib.org

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An overview of sports in Westmount

>Stephen Robaire

With the quiet summer season getting underway, we have a moment to take a look at the season that has passed and look

ahead at the season to come.

This spring we saw our soccer enrollment reach new heights, with a total of 1,105 participants. We saw league

championships come down to the wire with the final games determining the winners of the Westmount mini-World Cup of soccer. In one category there was even a tie atop the soccer standings that rendered two champions.

We also witnessed the birth of a Westmount field lacrosse league. After initiating Westmount's youth to the sport of lacrosse in spring 2006, the sport exploded in popularity this last spring with over 80 participants. There is no doubt that lacrosse is quickly becoming a fixture in the Westmount Sports & Recreation scene.

Our baseball program was not to be

overshadowed, as one of our competitive inter-city teams made it to the finals in their league. The sunny spring gave a chance for our young house-league baseball players to play many more games than they did in last year's rainy season.

While none of our youth leagues take place in summer, our summer camp has gotten under way and our swimming and tennis lessons are filling quickly. It will not be long before our fall and winter registration is upon us. The two biggest attractions are our skating program and our many hockey leagues. Last season the arena was bursting with excitement over the return of our youth inter-city hockey teams. While last year we only had inter-city teams at the 'A' level, we will be expanding our inter-city hockey program to incorporate 'B' level teams for the upcoming season. The ever-popular youth house league and our many senior leagues will also add to the excitement surrounding the Westmount arena during those cold winter months.

For further information regarding Westmount Sports & Recreation activities please consult our website at www.westmount.org or give us a call at 514-989-5353. You may also consult our brochure which will be available online and be delivered to every house in Westmount in the first couple weeks of August.

• Stephen Robaire is a sports coordinator with the City of Westmount's Sports & Recreation Department.

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WELCOME TO WESTMOUNT

So what do you know about the history of Westmount?

The Westmount Historical Association keeps the past alive

>Doreen Lindsay

If you have just moved into Westmount, what do you want to know about your new neighbourhood? Where



Alice Lighthall was one of the founding directors of the Westmount Historical Association. A talk about her life and activities will be included in the WHA's fall lecture series.

does the name Westmount come from? Who had the foresight to preserve areas of green space as parkland for us?

The answers to these questions and much more can be found in the informative talks organized by our local Westmount Historical Association throughout the year. We organize eight talks each year, for our members and the public, which are given in the comfortable Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library.

On the third Thursday of the month, from September to December and February to May, we present talks about the houses of Westmount, the people who lived in the houses and the architects who designed them. The life of many influential people who have lived here in the past and helped shape our city are also explored, as are our religious and political organizations.

The Westmount Historical Association

was formed in 1944 under the guidance of Miss Alice Lighthall, daughter of one of Westmount's first mayors. With the support of many other Westmount residents who wanted to keep our origins from disappearing into the past, we have been collecting information and developing an archive of historical data about the beginnings of "Our Town" ever since. As a member of WHA, you are welcome to visit our archives to explore the past.

To become involved in the

Westmount Historical Association, simply send an e-mail to info@westmounthistorical.org or phone 514-925-1404.

Yearly membership is \$20 per person or \$30 per family. The first talk will be on Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. You will find a detailed list of topics and speakers in a late-summer issue of the Examiner.

**Doreen Lindsay is president of the Westmount Historical Association*

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www.westmounthistorical.org The Westmount Examiner Thursday, July 5, 2007 13

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- Install deadbolt locks.
- Keep your doors and windows locked when away from home.
- Install solid doors.
- Keep your garage doors closed and locked.
- Eliminate hiding places by keeping your shrubs trimmed.
- Secure sliding doors and windows.
- Mark your valuables with an engraver.
- Purchase a burglar alarm with a protected line.
- Leave a light on.
- For extended absences, attach a timer to lamps/radios.
- Use proper exterior lighting.
- Work together with neighbours.

Auto

- Lock your car.
- Take your keys with you.
- Never leave your car running unattended, even for a minute.
- Don't hide spare keys on your vehicle.
- Roll your windows up all the way, even in hot weather.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- Park as close to an open business as possible.
- Don't leave valuables in open sight; lock them in a trunk.
- If you have a garage, use it and lock the garage door.



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Celebrate Summer in Knowlton

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2007 Summer Festival of English Language Theatre

Theatre Lac Brome's professional repertory season, now in its 22nd year, will be offering a summer full of laughter, music and cinema at Arts Knowlton. Experience the English language through the lyrical writing of three classic and celebrated playwrights. Opening on June 30th the first play, *Star Quality*, is based on a short story by Noel Coward adapted by his biographer Christopher Luscombe. This comedy has never been produced in Canada. It offers audience members a view into back stage during the preparation of a stage performance; aging diva, young playwright, manipulating director, theatrical mayhem. Musical comedy lovers will enjoy Gilbert & Sullivan's first masterpiece, *Trial by Jury*, on a program preceded by Jacques Offenbach's curtain-raiser, *Les Deux Aveugles* *ou l'Opuffonnerie Musicale*, sung in French. August brings with it the caustic wit and humour of Bernard Shaw with his last play, *Buoyant Billions; A Comedy of No Manners*; a humorous look at the state of our modern world.

This season's repertory acting company includes; Laura Teasdale, Mary Harvey, Alison Darcy, Frank Fontaine, Neil Napier, Ian Lake, Gregory Preast, Doug Hooper and Bill Jarand, designers; Eli Bunton, Sarah Yaffe and Helen Rainbird, and directors, N.K. Pynes and Keith Turnbull.

We will also be presenting a special weekend of comedy, *Three Old Bags*, starring Emma Stevens, Pina Macku and Ghisa Israel; the downish joys and pains of growing older. The popular *Knowlton House and Garden Tour* is scheduled for Wednesday July 11th, and the *Mid-Summer Gala* will be on Saturday July 28. We will wrap up the professional summer season over Labour Day Weekend with a brand new show by *Bowser and Blue*, *Down Our Way and Up Yours*.

Our bilingual *Sunday Cinema Series* will continue to be presented on a bi-monthly schedule with some

interesting selections, including the Dixie Chicks documentary, *Shut Up and Sing*, *Babel*, *The U.S. Versus John Lennon* and *Kinky Boots*. Our *Art Walk Gallery* will show exhibits from local artists and photographers, changing exhibits every two weeks.

For further information or to purchase tickets please call Theatre Lac Brome at:

(450) 242-2270 or visit our web page at www.theatrelacbrome.ca.

Take a peek into some of the most exceptional homes with the Knowlton House and Garden Tour 2007!

KNOWLTON, Qc. - Imagine the opulence, the elegance and the country charm; breath-taking vistas, lush gardens and charming locations. The Knowlton House and Garden Tour is in its 17th year. This year we guarantee you will be inspired by the warm home décor and wonderful landscaping on the route!

This event is an absolute must-see for those who enjoy a day in the country touring fine homes and gardens of this area of Quebec known as the Eastern Townships.

This fascinating look at some exceptional homes will take place on Wednesday, July 11, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The self-guided tour includes six properties, all very charming and unique. We seem to have a Brome Lake theme this year. One lakefront property will enchant you with its' upscale elegance. Large windows look over the water and the kitchen is a dream for anyone who loves to entertain. You will also enjoy walking the grounds of an estate located in the hills high above the town with a spectacular view of the lake. Inside the elegant staircase will enchant you. That is just a taste of the homes on

the 2007 tour. All offer a wealth of interior and exterior decorating ideas as well as tips on garden architecture and planting.

Again this year, tickets holders have the choice of a gourmet picnic lunch or a coupon valued at \$10.00 that is redeemable for lunch or dinner in participating restaurants on the day of the event only. The Tour is sponsored by Theatre Lac Brome and is one of its most important fundraisers.

Tickets are \$ 50.00 and may be bought at Theatre Lac Brome/Arts Knowlton, 9 Mont-Echo Road, in Knowlton, by calling (450) 242-1395. Credit card customers may purchase their tickets at the Theatre or by calling (450) 242-1395 or visit the Theatre's web site at www.theatrelacbrome.ca

Knowlton is a one-hour drive from Montreal by taking the Champlain Bridge, direction Eastern Townships autoroute 10 to Exit 90 (Lac Brome). Turn right on Route 243 South to the village of Knowlton. At the second stop sign, continue straight to the Arts Knowlton sign and turn left into the Theatre parking lot. Theatre Lac Brome is located at 9 Mont-Echo Road, Knowlton.



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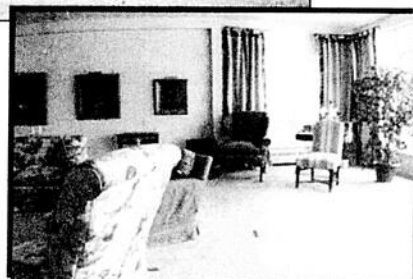
Knowlton and the area around Lac Brome is just a pleasant 75-min. drive from Montreal, via the Champlain bridge and the Eastern Townships Autoroute. To get to Knowlton, take exit 90 from the autoroute and follow route 243 South on a scenic 15-min. drive along the lakeside.

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- Install solid doors.
- Keep your garage doors closed and locked.
- Eliminate hiding places by keeping your shrubs trimmed.
- Secure sliding doors and windows.
- Mark your valuables with an engraver.
- Purchase a burglar alarm with a protected line.
- Leave a light on.
- For extended absences, attach a timer to lamps/radios.
- Use proper exterior lighting.
- Work together with neighbours.

Auto

- Lock your car.
- Take your keys with you.
- Never leave your car running unattended, even for a minute.
- Don't hide spare keys on your vehicle.
- Roll your windows up all the way, even in hot weather.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- Park as close to an open business as possible.
- Don't leave valuables in open sight; lock them in a trunk.
- If you have a garage, use it and lock the garage door.



If you suspect that your home or auto has been burglarized do not enter it

- First call 9-1-1
- Give the operator as much pertinent information as possible
- Wait for the police to arrive
- Call your insurance broker to report the incident

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Celebrate Summer in Knowlton

In the heart of the Eastern Townships

2007 Summer Festival of English Language Theatre

Theatre Lac Brome's professional repertory season, now in its 22nd year, will be offering a summer full of laughter, music and cinema at Arts Knowlton. Experience the English language through the lyrical writing of three classic and celebrated playwrights. Opening on June 30th the first play, **Star Quality**, is based on a short story by Noel Coward adapted by his biographer Christopher Luscombe. This comedy has never been produced in Canada. It offers audience members a view into backstage during the preparation of a stage performance; aging diva, young playwright, manipulating director, theatrical mayhem. Musical comedy lovers will enjoy Gilbert & Sullivan's first masterpiece, **Trial by Jury**, on a program preceded by Jacques Offenbach's curtain-raiser, **Les Deux Aveugles** 'Opuffonnerie Musicale', sung in French. August brings with it the caustic wit and humour of Bernard Shaw with his last play, **Buoyant Billions; A Comedy of No Manners**; a humorous look at the state of our modern world.

This season's repertory acting company includes; Laura Teasdale, Mary Harvey, Alison Darcy, Frank Fontaine, Neil Napier, Ian Lake, Gregory Preast, Doug Hooper and Bill Jarand, designers; Eli Bunton, Sarah Yaffe and Helen Rainbird, and directors, N.K. Pynes and Keith Turnbull.

We will also be presenting a special weekend of comedy, **Three Old Bags**, starring Emma Stevens, Pina Macku and Ghisa Israel; the downish joys and pains of growing older. The popular **Knowlton House and Garden Tour** is scheduled for Wednesday July 11th, and the **Mid-Summer Gala** will be on Saturday July 28. We will wrap up the professional summer season over Labour Day Weekend with a brand new show by **Bowser and Blue**, 'Down Our Way and Up Yours'.

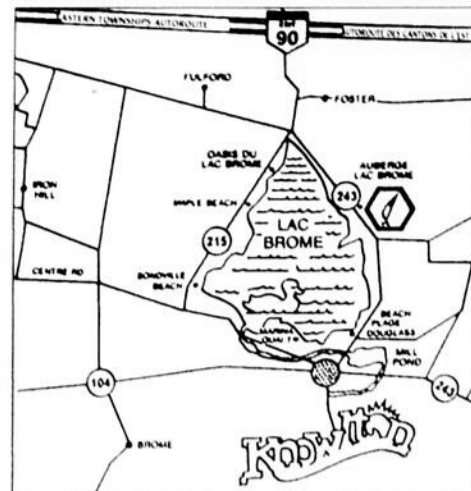
Our bilingual **Sunday Cinema Series** will continue to be presented on a bi-monthly schedule with some

interesting selections, including the Dixie Chicks documentary, **Shut Up and Sing**, **Babel**, **The U.S. Versus John Lennon** and **Kinky Boots**. Our **Art Walk Gallery** will show exhibits from local artists and photographers, changing exhibits every two weeks.

For further information or to purchase tickets please call Theatre Lac Brome at:

(450) 242-2270 or visit our web page at www.theatrelacbrome.ca.

Theatre Lac Brome at Arts Knowlton
June 29 to September 1
9 Mont Echo
Knowlton, Quebec
Tickets: \$5:00 to \$26.00 - Tuesday to Saturday at 8:00pm/ Thursday Matinee at 2:00pm
Theatre Lac Brome is 60 minutes from the Champlain Bridge: Autoroute 10 sortie 90, Route 243 south to Knowlton



HOW TO GET THERE:

Knowlton and the area around Lac Brome is just a pleasant 75-min. drive from Montreal, via the Champlain bridge and the Eastern Townships Autoroute. To get to Knowlton, take exit 90 from the autoroute and follow route 243 South on a scenic 15-min. drive along the lakeside.

Take a peek into some of the most exceptional homes with the Knowlton House and Garden Tour 2007!

KNOWLTON, Qc. - Imagine the opulence, the elegance and the country charm; breath-taking vistas, lush gardens and charming locations. The Knowlton House and Garden Tour is in its 17th year. This year we guarantee you will be inspired by the warm home décor and wonderful landscaping on the route!

This event is an absolute must-see for those who enjoy a day in the country touring fine homes and gardens of this area of Quebec known as the Eastern Townships.

This fascinating look at some exceptional homes will take place on Wednesday, July 11, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The self-guided tour includes six properties, all very charming and unique. We seem to have a Brome Lake theme this year. One lakefront property will enchant you with its' upscale elegance. Large windows look over the water and the kitchen is a dream for anyone who loves to entertain. You will also enjoy walking the grounds of an estate located in the hills high above the town with a spectacular view of the lake. Inside the elegant staircase will enchant you. That is just a taste of the homes on

the 2007 tour. All offer a wealth of interior and exterior decorating ideas as well as tips on garden architecture and planting.

Again this year, tickets holders have the choice of a gourmet picnic lunch or a coupon valued at \$10.00 that is redeemable for lunch or dinner in participating restaurants on the day of the event only. The Tour is sponsored by Theatre Lac Brome and is one of its most important fundraisers.

Tickets are \$ 50.00 and may be bought at Theatre Lac Brome/Arts Knowlton, 9 Mont-Echo Road, in Knowlton, by calling (450) 242-1395. Credit card customers may purchase their tickets at the Theatre or by calling (450) 242-1395 or visit the Theatre's web site at www.theatrelacbrome.ca

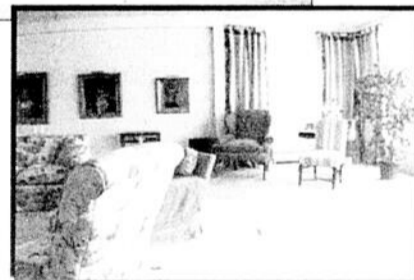
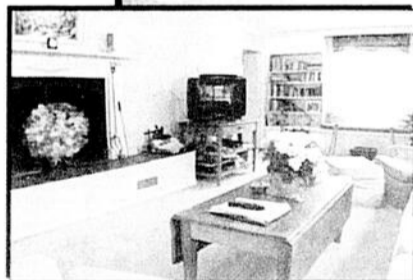
Knowlton is a one-hour drive from Montreal by taking the Champlain Bridge, direction Eastern Townships autoroute 10 to Exit 90 (Lac Brome). Turn right on Route 243 South to the village of Knowlton. At the second stop sign, continue straight to the Arts Knowlton sign and turn left into the Theatre parking lot. Theatre Lac Brome is located at 9 Mont-Echo Road, Knowlton.

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A Summer Festival of English Language Theatre in Knowlton - starting June 29

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Adapted by Christopher Luscombe

Buoyant Billions

"A Comedy of No Manners" by Bernard Shaw

Gilbert & Sullivan's

Trial by Jury & Les Deux Aveugles

de Jacques Offenbach



SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

Three Old Bags

with Gissa Israel, Pina Macku, Emma Stevens

Bowser & Blue

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* Knowlton House & Garden Tour

Wednesday July 11

* Mid-Summer

Gala Saturday July 28

Arts Knowlton, 9 Mont Echo, Knowlton, Qc.

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Welcome to Westmount

The Westmount Municipal Association: involved in the community

Coinciding with the establishment of the City of Westmount in 1908 was the formation of the Westmount Municipal Association. The WMA was formed to promote sound civic administration, and provide a vehicle for citizens to participate in making Westmount the kind of community in which we have chosen to live, study, or work—a community known for its quality of life, efficient yet transparent administration, and respectful and caring governance; a city which plays a leadership role in protecting the environment and preserving our heritage.

The association is volunteer-run, and funded by annual memberships (\$10 for individuals or

\$15 for families), as well as donations. It is a separate entity from the municipal administration, and because of this position, it can bring attention to important issues that citizens face, as well as communicate concerns directly with city council and administration.

The WMA achieves this by participating in special committees in the city, such as traffic, public security, the library, municipal housing and the Healthy City Project. They also assist citizens who wish to bring their concerns to public attention.

In order to honour those that stand out in the community, the WMA also solicits nominations for its annual Derek Walker Volunteer

Citizen of the Year award, named for the well-known and very active volunteer and former director of the WMA, who passed away in 2003. The recipient of this year's award was Nancy Wright, who was recognized for her tireless volunteer work in the community.

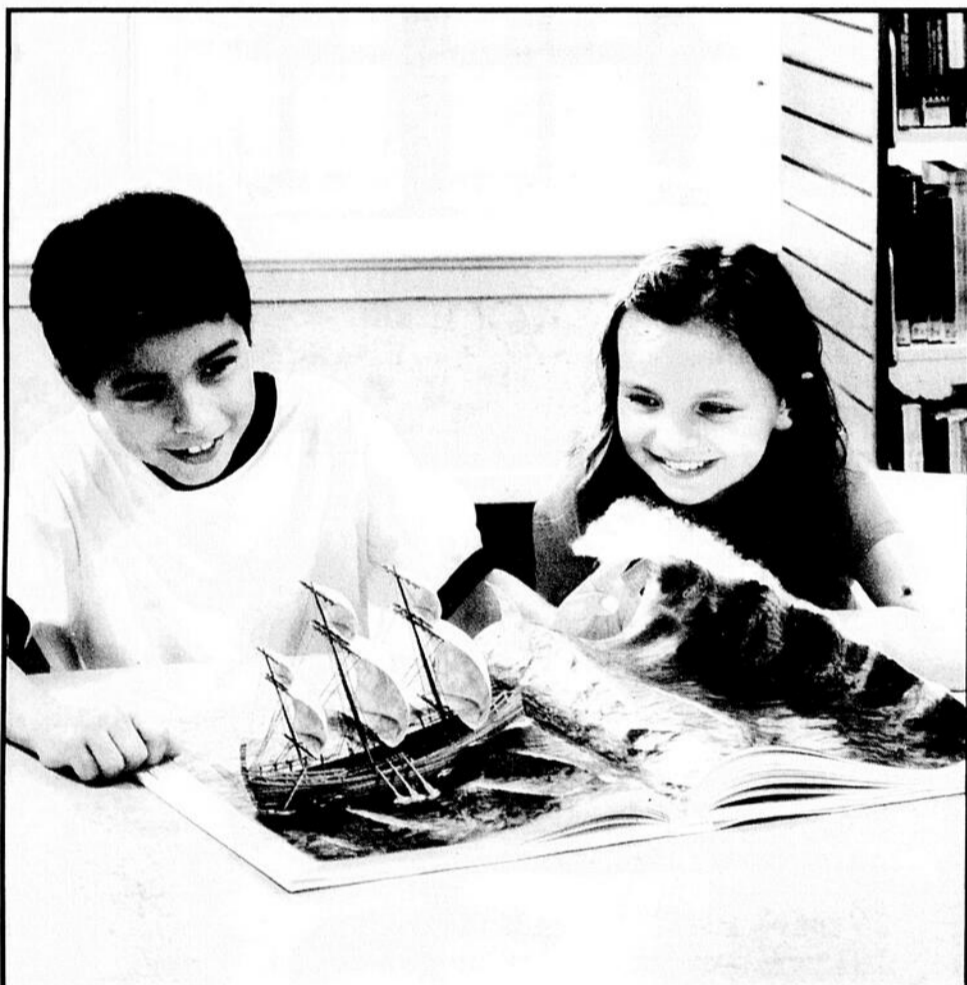
With the successful demerger, the future for the WMA remains critical as a voice for the community through municipal action and representation. WMA board meetings are open to the membership, and often feature guest speakers discussing relevant issues.

Future projects for the WMA include the implementation of communications technologies into their democratic process. This means

they hope to make issues known to the community through group e-mails, stage public forums of relevant issues on-line, and provide citizens with an opportunity to provide feedback via on-line polls and referendums.

All Westmounters are invited to join in order to help maintain and develop the quality of life of the community, through municipal action.

For more information on the WMA, visit the web site at www.wma-amw.org or write to: The Westmount Municipal Association, P.O. Box 653, Succursale Victoria Westmount, Qc. H3Z 2Y7



The TD Summer Reading Club. Where books come to life.

Make it fun for your kids to read this summer with TD's Summer Reading Club. They'll get a chance to improve their skills, and have fun with things like games, visits from authors, storytellers, puppet shows and more. Plus they'll receive a poster, stickers and activity book to track their reading. Supporting local programs that nourish your child's imagination is just one of the ways we're helping to build a better community. **Register today for free at your local library.**

TD Summer Reading Club

A joint initiative with Library and Archives Canada

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DE LA MONTAGNE

OPINION

(Continued from Civic Alert, page 6)

Olders wants to know. "They can be marked 'preliminary' until they have been formally ratified by Council."

This is a trend elsewhere. Several Montreal boroughs, as well as the Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal, have used this procedure.

The minutes have to be compiled and made public anyway, so why not make them available sooner rather than later, particularly as little or no extra work is involved?

Some councils are going much further. The oft-maligned City of Montreal Executive Committee publishes a bulletin each week of the decisions taken. Although this includes most, but not all, decisions, there is rarely any indication of what was discussed.

This is done in the name of chairman Frank Zampino and it involves substantial work.

Several boroughs issue summaries of council meetings in the mayor's name, although they can be rather skimpy. Our neighbours, CDN-NDG, regularly e-mail short "highlights" bulletins in French and English the day after each meeting

Superb Ottawa

Megacity Ottawa creates a superb digest of meetings of the council's main decisions and the background to them.

In California, Santa Monica, for example, has a model summary emailed out within a day of each weekly meeting. It records all the decisions, including a synthesis of any debates and statements.

Almost all of these are available by e-mail to citizens just by a simple request to be put on an email list, and require no additional staff work once that has been done.

Although Westmount has yet to move in this direction, it is no longer cutting edge. In dozens of North American and European cities, council meetings are televised and, in some cases, the broadcasts are retrievable via the internet.

Offering sound

"I think the time has come for Westmount to offer at least a retrievable audio stream," Olders added. "The Actualités Westmount journal offers this service. This is a wonderful public gesture, but really it should be done by

(Continued on page 18)

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(Continued from Civic Alert, page 17)

the City." Obviously most council work is done outside the council chamber and Olders has been pressing for this to become more transparent. Of course, full access is not expected as a lot of committee work is preliminary or confidential. These days, commissioners almost never report on their portfolios. However, heavily edited minutes of the Standing Committees are included in the monthly documents. Unfortunately, they are often so late that they lose their role as part of the information chain during the decision process. At the June 18 council meeting, reports were deposited of two committee meetings held in April - not even the previous month. The other standing committees were not reported on at all!

Better understanding

"Even though it may present difficulties for the administration, we feel that the public should have timely access," said the WMA president.

Olders has raised the issue of more up-to-date documentation at several Council meetings and, while getting a sympathetic hearing, there is no substantial change.

"It is frustrating," he said.

A good deal of the bad feelings over the Park issue in the spring was generated over the mysteries of Council's operation. No doubt council members do not share that perspective given their inside view. But in the end, it is the outsiders who have to be convinced. Olders's suggestions would go towards helping citizens understand the working of City Hall.

• Community activist Don Wedge can be reached at calert@web.net. His columns are archived at www.westmountexaminer.com. go to Opinion.

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Carr's giant shadow reaches Montreal

>Wayne Larsen

She is arguably Canada's most venerated artist, and definitely the most thoroughly documented. With Tom Thomson running a respectable second, no one else has ever come close to touching Emily Carr as Canada's foremost painter and colourful character. She left us with an indelible image - the tiny, dynamic spinster with her beloved monkey on her shoulder, hard at work at her easel, painting stark, hard-edged fir trees and highly stylized totem poles, all tinged with radiating light from some unseen, divine source.

And while interest in the work of Thomson and the Group of Seven has faded considerably over the years - to the point where they are regarded by many as the old dinosaurs of Canadian art - Carr still towers high above everyone, much like the giant fir trees so closely associated with her unmistakable style. Her reputation has survived unblemished, more than 60 years after her death, through today's popular focus on feminism and native art.

That reputation has now been boosted even further with a major travelling retrospective exhibition, *Emily Carr: New Perspectives on a Canadian Icon*, currently on display at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

Consisting not only of about 150 of Carr's distinctive works, the exhibition also includes a wide variety of authentic native works, from small totems and statues to brightly painted ceremonial masks, not to mention a few canvases by other Canadian painters who tackled the same subject matter. Mid-19th century glimpses into native life by Paul Kane and works by Carr's contemporaries - including Langdon Kihn, A.Y. Jackson, Anne Savage and Edwin Holgate - illustrate not only Carr's unique



Blunden Harbour by Emily Carr. Photo: MMFA

passion but also the originality of her approach to painting.

The exhibition can be divided roughly into two main phases - the early work, for which Carr travelled throughout several First Nations communities along the Pacific Coast and Skeena River interior, and the later, more dramatic canvases for which her reputation would be firmly established.

The first phase is dominated by bright colours and a keen attention to detail in her renderings of native masks and totem poles - produced as much as documentary as fine art due to the early-20th century rush to document and preserve the ancient totems and other native artefacts before they were destroyed through decay or the encroachment of modern society. It can be argued that these paintings alone would have been

enough to ensure Carr's reputation for generations to come, but few of them are well-known today.

However, Carr's sudden transformation from obscure eccentric to national icon can be seen in all works dated after 1927 - the year she was 'discovered' by National Gallery director Eric Brown through the prompting of noted Quebec folklorist Marius Barbeau and art critic Harold Mortimer Lamb. She was invited east to participate in the National Gallery's Exhibition of Canadian West Coast Art, and while passing through Toronto met three members of the Group of Seven - A.Y. Jackson, Arthur Lismer and Lawren Harris. Though suitably impressed by the first two, she was completely enraptured by Harris's work and he became a close friend. Carr returned to her easel with renewed enthusiasm; her own painting immediately took on the qualities of Harris's spiritual expressions through landscape art, and it wasn't long before her canvases bore their own distinct trademarks of washboard-like rippled skies, halos of light, solid green masses for fir trees and an almost Cubist-like handling of her home province's lush vegetation.

Though this new course also meant a general veering away from the native subjects and a more concentrated focus on the great forests of the Pacific Northwest, Carr was so dedicated to this newfound style of painting that she even revisited some of her old subjects and repainted them in her dynamic new style.

As a result, this important exhibition is filled with a well-balanced mixture of totems and forests, as well as the inevitable overlap. Carr's images of strange, wooden faces popping up out of the foliage, as if struggling for light against the thick




Emily Carr in her studio. Photo: MMFA

vegetation can be seen as a fitting allegory for a painter whose light continues to shine through the ages.

'Emily Carr: New Perspectives on a Canadian Icon' continues through Sept. 23 in the Michal and Renata Hornstein Pavilion of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, 1379 Sherbrooke St. W. Info: 514-285-2000.

Wayne Larsen is the author of *'A.Y. Jackson: A Love for the Land'*.



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A Message from the Montreal firefighters

MR. MAYOR, IS FIRE SAFETY REALLY A PRIORITY FOR YOU?

During his 2001 election campaign, Gérald Tremblay promised to improve fire safety in Montreal and pledged "a new era of partnership with Montreal firefighters...". He promised to make fire safety a priority.

Since then, the Tremblay administration and the executive committee member responsible for public security, Claude Dauphin, have not taken any action.

The many consequences of the Tremblay-Zampino administration's inaction on this issue include the following:

- Not all areas have equal access to fire protection;
- The East and West Island sectors are especially at risk;
- The Montreal Fire Department is continually forced to pull resources from central fire stations to support those in the east and west.

The Montreal firefighters urge all citizens to call the Mayor to find out if fire safety is really one of his priorities.

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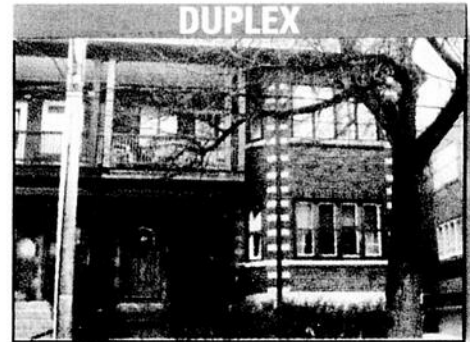
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