

Cold temperatures and little snow create good ice

Westmount's outdoor rinks buck closure trend

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

Westmount's eight outdoor ice rinks are on their way to experiencing a second consecutive bumper year – and it appears their popularity is increasing, especially with hockey players.

"The ice is amazing this year," said Sports and Recreation director Mike Deegan.

Cold temperatures and a relatively light

snow fall so far have enabled park workers to be deployed to the rinks, building up a thick layer of ice that helps protect it against fluctuations in temperature.

"The less snow we have, the better the rinks," explained Parks superintendent Mike Hunter.

While some workers are dedicated to the rinks full-time, other crews that might not be required to clear snow have been able to help with the rinks and flood them four or five times a day, he said.

And while some municipalities have been closing outdoor rinks over the last few years, Hunter noted, Westmount's five outdoor *continued on p. 5*



Westmount Park's winding outdoor skating rink is cleaned by the city's outdoor Zamboni while Parks superintendent Mike Hunter looks on. Located on the raised land across the path from the comfort station, its existence is not widely known.

Photo: Lauren Sweeney

INSIDE

Public notice p. 8

Letters to the Editor p. 4

Underdog by M. LAMEY p. 13

Comin' Up p. 17

Social Notes by V. REDGRAVE p. 18

Models for heritage preservation in Montreal

Westmounters receive awards

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

Projects to restore a historic Westmount house and an acclaimed office building have received awards in the 2010 Montreal Architectural Heritage Campaign. This competition recognizes property owners who preserve or restore architectural heritage on the island of Montreal.

Cited for their make-over of their former house at 70 Rosemount Crescent are architect Maxime Vandal and designer Richard Ouellette. Brian Cytrynbaum, a resident of Sunnyside, was honoured for work on his building at 4094-4104 St.

Catherine St., at the foot of Wood.

Both buildings have Category I heritage ratings from Westmount.

While the Westmount winners were officially honoured by the city of Montreal earlier, their plaques were presented January 19 at Westmount city hall by Mayor Peter Trent. Recognition of their efforts "inspires others to do likewise," he said.

The competition "is one Montreal program we really like," explained Councillor Cynthia Lulham, Urban Planning commissioner. "We're very pleased we have so many lovely homes" in Westmount to enter in the competition, she said. *continued on p. 3*

Westmount winter carnival almost here. See p. 2.

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From sleigh rides to 'under the sea'

Carnival plans now in high gear

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Slide down Murray Park in an inner tube. Taste taffy in the snow after an old-fashioned sleigh ride. Or test the speed of your hockey shot. These are some of the features for this year's winter carnival Thursday to Saturday, February 3 to 5.

And just to escape the "frosty fun" – this year's theme – for a few hours, Westmounters are invited to step aboard "The Yellow Submarine" of Beatles fame for the Friday family evening "under the sea."

"This is our goal: to have something for everyone," said Claude Danis, the city's program and community services coordinator.

New twists this year

Now in final planning stages, the 28th annual carnival has some new twists to the tried and true activities. These include the revival from several years ago of a "comedy and improv" night for adults at Victoria Hall and the Yellow Submarine event.

A full schedule of events is being delivered to all homes and may also be found on the city website, starting with a seniors'

luncheon at Contactivity Centre.

Providing additional insight into the program, Danis said the city will make inner tubes available for the family tobogganing and bonfire at Murray Park Thursday night (6:30 to 9:30). Hot chocolate and oatmeal cookies will be served at the comfort station.

Meanwhile – and for adults only – the "comedy and improv night" at Victoria Hall (8 to midnight) with host Derek Drummond will feature the jazz trio Under the Three. Tickets obtained at Victoria Hall in advance cost \$12, and \$15 at the door.

This is one of two events organized by volunteers from the city's Community Events Advisory Committee (CEAC), this evening by Rosalind Davis and Elizabeth McCallum assisted by Danis and Virginia Elliott, assistant Community Events coordinator.

Friday's yellow submarine

For the other CEAC evening – the Friday family undersea event – "we're expecting a whole mixture of costumes – snorkels, *continued on p. 19*

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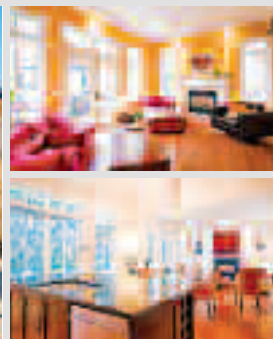
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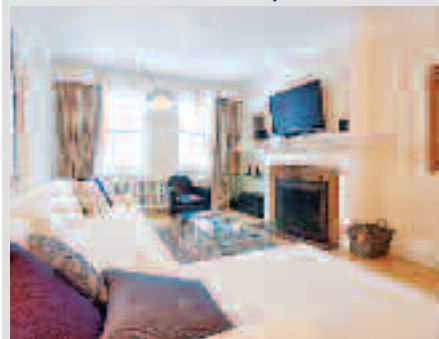


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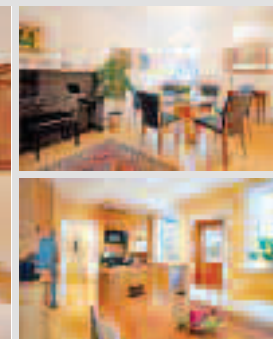


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City to study new SPCA contract that requires fixing strays

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount has not yet signed a new contract with the SPCA for pound services that would change conditions for accepting dogs picked up by the Public Security Unit, the *Independent* learned last Thursday.

Among the new conditions are those involving sterilizing by the SPCA of any such dog not already neutered or spayed before it would be released, reportedly even to its owner.

Reports in other news media last week stating Westmount was one of several mu-

nicipalities or boroughs to have signed the new contract conditions were not true.

SPCA's Alanna Devine, director of animal advocacy, confirmed the new conditions to the *Independent* January 21.

"If Westmount isn't interested in working with us to reduce the animal population, then we aren't interested in partnering with them," she said. For now, the SPCA will be accepting dogs from Westmount under existing conditions.

City director general Duncan Campbell said the city would be reviewing the contract, and the matter would be discussed with council members before any changes

were agreed to.

In fact, the city's newly appointed Public Security director David Sedgwick said the contract was an outstanding item passed on for his attention by the outgoing interim director and he had only read through it briefly. Further study was required, he said.

Veterinarian Marc Vaillancourt questioned the change in SPCA policy saying that in the case of a female dog it was "next to impossible" to know whether or not the dog had already been spayed.

While Public Security used to take found dogs wearing Westmount tags to

the Westmount Animal Hospital, which he operates at 349 Victoria, it now takes the ones it finds to the SPCA (10 in 2010) because the shelter is open 24/7.

Efforts are made, however, to track down the owners of found dogs before they are taken to the SPCA on Jean Talon. The city's database cross references dogs by breed, colour, licence number and street so in the event a dog wiggles out of its collar, chances are good its owner may be found.

(See "Matching dogs by computer – by breed, gender," November 9, p. 16.)

Heritage awards affect housing stock

continued from p. 1

The city had submitted three properties in each of the two categories – residential and commercial, according to Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier. Only building exteriors are considered by the competition judges.

Attention to woodwork and the treatment of windows was singled out in the citation for 70 Rosemount Crescent. This is a small brick house built in 1870 by John Young as a gatehouse to his estate. The home, on a steep hill, is well-known to many Westmounters for its prominent position in the "V" formed by the intersection of Rosemount with Mountain.

Once its renovation was complete in 2009, Vandal and Ouellette used the house as a marketing tool to showcase their work. It has subsequently been sold to current resident

Danny Ritter.

The office building on St. Catherine at the foot of Wood was designed by architect J.E.G. Daoust in 1931. Described by Lulham as a "very fine piece of architecture", it has now been restored "to its previous glory."

Completely rebricked, the main façade includes decorative elements reproduced to mimic the original.

Owned for 15 years by Cytrynbaum, whose business is in private equity, the building includes offices of his business holdings, among them TNT, Majestic Mills, and Java U and K-way.

"It's so nice to be recognized for something you have been so passionate about," said Claudia Cytrynbaum, his wife, in accepting the plaque on his behalf.



Mayor Peter Trent presents a plaque for the preservation of 70 Rosemount Cres. to Maxime Vandal, left, and Richard Ouellette.



From left is Cynthia Lulham with Claudia Cytrynbaum who accepted the award for the commercial building at 4094-4104 St. Catherine St. on behalf of her husband, Brian, its owner.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RECYCLING ETIQUETTE?

I am moved to write my first letter to the editor (since moving to Westmount five years ago) to comment on one thing that has disappointed me: the apparent apathy of most residents regarding environmental issues.

I went to two of the meetings that were held to discuss sustainable development and noticed that attendance was rather disappointing. And it seems that the "Sustainable Westmount Blog" started by Theodora Samiotis last February hasn't elicited a single comment, aside from the one I posted.

If I am not mistaken, this apathy extends even to small issues of local concern, such as our perfection of the technique of recycling newspapers and other light aerodynamic objects into the streets and gutters on windy days. Isn't there a by-law, which applies to recycling boxes, against placing things on top that are liable to blow away (and against those carelessly-filled boxes being put out the previous evening, as sometimes occurs)?

If it is appropriate to do so in the same letter, I also wanted to mention that I am very impressed by the pertinence, humour, and (to be cherished these days) excellent writing style of the Mayor's Column.

ROBERT LOVELESS,
UPPER ROSLYN AVE.

DEFENDING CITY MATH

In response to "Questioning city's math" (January 18, p. 5), I would like to respond to this and recent articles on the 2011 budget.

Firstly, when we worked on the budget, we worked with the following specific guidelines:

- Establish a realistic budget as compared to prior years (actual vs. budget) and carefully document any changes asked for;
- No decrease or increase in services or levels of service to the public (as compared to 2010) unless approved by council;
- Directors shall re-examine the cost-effectiveness of the current services and assess opportunities for cost savings without decreasing the service level in question, and for increasing revenues;
- Establish a specific budget for projects with positive payback without any increase from 2010 budget;
- Application of sustainable development projects and principles in accordance with action plan.

In the case of the library, we managed to achieve these results while reducing overall costs by \$19,500.

On a larger scale, this is a 0.84 percent reduction from the 2010 budget. Any reductions, as explained at the December 20, 2010 meeting, are primarily in building maintenance and therefore have no effect

on library services to the public.

DUNCAN CAMPBELL,
DIRECTOR GENERAL,
CITY OF WESTMOUNT

MONEY FOR BASTARACHE COMMISSION MORE USEFUL ELSEWHERE

We now know that the former justice minister Bellemare made accusations against Premier Jean Charest which were unfounded.

In my letter of May 18, 2010 (p. 4), I pointed out that the Bastarache investigation will cost a lot of money. It cost millions!

I pointed out in my letter that the money could have been better used to train more nurses and future doctors. Bellemare should have attacked the economic policy of the Charest government.

If the sales tax keeps going up every year by one percent, we will soon be paying 20 percent in sales tax.

As for future nominations of judges, it would be good if a committee of three persons consisting of an academic, a lawyer and the minister of Justice made the final decision on the appointment of judges.

GERALD GLASS, MELVILLE AVE.

BARNARD OPPOSED, BUT OUT OF CONTEXT

I respect that Patrick Barnard remains strongly opposed to the current arena/pool project, a position he has made clear on many occasions. However, in his letter in the January 18 edition of the *Independent* (p. 4), he takes certain of my comments out of context and makes some assump-

tions that are not accurate.

Simply put, council's objectives are to keep local spending under control and maintain the level of service to the community, while keeping property tax increases modest. The recent budget delivers on that promise, despite the external challenges, including agglomeration spending, the QST increase and the pension deficit. If agglomeration spending continues to rise well beyond the rate of inflation, it makes our job more difficult. While we can control local spending, we might have no option but to pass on agglomeration costs through higher property taxes or examine how we deliver services. The budget process is one of allocating resources and necessarily involves making choices. Council will make those choices as best it can to reflect the diverse views of the community.

The Westmount recreational centre is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to improve our city's infrastructure. Not surprisingly, it will require attention from the city to consummate the project, as part of our overall budget for capital works projects. Thanks to an unprecedented \$20-million government grant, the cost to Westmount is modest compared to the benefit, and will be repaid over 10 years. The city is taking its time in the planning stage to ensure that we bring in the project on budget and deliver a recreational centre that the community will enjoy for years to come. There is overwhelming support in Westmount for this project, it is affordable on a capital and operating basis, and it will be positive for the community.

TIM PRICE, COUNCILLOR, DISTRICT 2,
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Tom Hopkins mourned

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmounter and artist Tom Hopkins died suddenly over the January 23-23 weekend.

Hopkins was born in PEI in 1944, but moved to Montreal and was a recent Westmount resident. Loved by his students at Concordia University where he taught for many years, he "will be remembered for his signature palette and special scenes," commented Daniel Gagnon of Westmount's Galerie de Bellefeuille, which carries Hopkins' work. "He had a huge impact on younger artists."

"He was loved by many and was truly the most generous with his time, and always willing to help younger artists,"

said Rubin Goldbaum, a Westmount resident and friend.

Hopkins' dream-like paintings combined day and night, still life and figurative to create what he called his "projection screens." His work is in many private and public collections, and is also carried by Nicholas Metivier Gallery in Toronto and former Montrealer Lillian Heidenberg's Fine Art in New York, as well as galleries across Canada.

For more on Hopkins, see "Artist Tom Hopkins: On symbols and seascapes" by Heather Black (November 9, 2010, p. 14).



Parks: Outdoor Zamboni not common in demerged cities

continued from p. 1

hockey rinks are experiencing a surge in popularity.

After school and on weekends, "we can have 20 to 30 people on a hockey rink, including mothers with children. Everyone is playing hockey now," he added. "It was unbelievable over the holidays. I'm amazed at the dramatic increase."

And Hunter, who has been on the job in Westmount for 25 years, began his career as a rink attendant.

Outdoor Zamboni makes a difference

The growing use of outdoor rinks over the last three or four years coincides with the city's purchase of an outdoor Zamboni. "This is not a common piece of equipment among the demerged municipalities," he said.

The outdoor machine is shaped like a box that is pulled by a tractor from park to park and around the rinks, pulling up snow and spreading a new layer of water. "When it's finished, the job is as good as arena ice. I think it's having a very significant effect."

On the other hand, Hunter can't account for a decline in general skating. A case in point is the picturesque rink created three years ago in Westmount Park, located on raised land across the path from the comfort station. Carved out of snow banks like a large curving pond, it has been landscaped with a centre island and discarded Christmas trees to create a country-like environment.

"It's especially beautiful when the park lights are on," he said. But its lack of use suggests it may be one of the city's best-kept secrets. "Perhaps people

don't know it exists."

This winter, however, based on a citizen request, the city has increased the size of the general skating rink in Prince Albert Park.

Rinks at six parks

The eight rinks can be found at six parks: Prince Albert and Stayner (each with two, one for hockey and one for general skating), Devon, Queen Elizabeth (at Wood and Sherbrooke) and Murray (one each for hockey only) and Westmount Park (one for skating only).

This year, the new clay tennis courts at Murray (King George) Park have made "a real nice rink," Hunter said.

Rink hours follow the opening and closing of park comfort stations: 8 am to 9:45 pm. Most are used after 4 pm on weekdays and all day on weekends. However, just because a rink opens at 8 am, doesn't necessarily mean it will be cleaned of overnight snow, he explained.

But the city does have two dedicated rink workers on duty weekdays from 2:30 to 10 pm and on weekends from 7 am to 10 pm. "If there's not much snow, there can be five or six" on the job.

Interestingly, when the city's current arena was opened in November 1958, the annual report for that year stated that two of the city's 11 "natural rinks" were discontinued. These were the "ravine" general skating rink in Westmount Park and the hockey rink on Western Ave. (later renamed de Maisonneuve Blvd.).

For the stated population of 29,829, this left three rinks devoted to general skating (Devon, Murray and Western), three for hockey (Murray, Prince Albert and Clan-deboye), and three for mixed use (Queen Elizabeth, Stayner and Devon). The city's population now stands at just over 20,000.

Just looking - at the ice

A young Westmount man was issued a ticket for \$214 January 10 for being in Prince Albert Park after the midnight curfew, Public Security officials report. He had attracted attention of a patrol as he walked along Côte St. Antoine Rd. around 1 am and aroused more suspicions as he made his way into the park.

Engaged in conversation with the officer, he was reported as saying he was just checking out the condition of the ice rinks. The park was subsequently verified and no graffiti or other damage was noticed.



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Theme: Under The Sea. Tickets: \$10 (children 12 and under \$5). Cash bar.

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Le carnaval d'hiver de Westmount / Westmount Winter Carnival

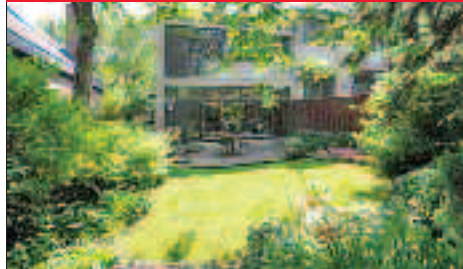
Annual Colin No tourney funds almost there

A small group of Selwyn House School alumni gathered at the school on January 20 for the seventh annual Colin No basketball tournament to raise money for a student endowment fund at the school. The informal tournament was named in honour of a Selwyn House graduate who died in 2002. His friends initiated the endowment in his memory to give less privileged students a chance to attend the private boys' school. According to Toby No, Colin's surviving twin brother, the endowment has nearly reached the payout point.

Photo: Martin C. Barry



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Stats reveal new trend emerging for winter crime? Arrests highlight graffiti spree

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

While graffiti activity in Westmount continued to rise through November, December and into January, local Station 12 police are hoping that two sets of arrests involving seven juveniles will be a major breakthrough.

A trio spotted by RCMP defacing private property on Selby St. on December 18 led to the arrest and charges of vandalism, said Commander Stéphane Plourde. One of the group has also been accused of breach of conditions. The three lived in NDG and Verdun.

Another break came January 5 thanks to the city's newly installed surveillance camera at the comfort station in Westmount Park and follow-up by Public Security.

This led police to arrest four youths nearby in the teen centre at the arena after Public Security followed them while awaiting police (see January 18, p. 9). Two are Westmount residents, Plourde said.

One of the four was also found to have

ally declines in the winter. "I don't know if we've been seeing a new trend."

Ticketing part of traffic enforcement

Commenting on recent news reports concerning ticket quotas, Plourde said he did not understand why people were objecting to the issuing of tickets since enforcement was one of three major points of traffic control. The others are engineering (signage and road network) and education.

"We ask our officers to make arrests, do their patrol, do a beat and issue tickets."

The ticket count in Westmount, however, dropped by half in December. This is typical over Christmas, he said, when police "don't like to give people tickets."

Crime down overall in 2010

Crime was down in the entire Station 12 district in 2010, according to final crime statistics for the year, Plourde said. "Everything was down. It's been a good year throughout Montreal but especially good for us." *continued on p. 13*

Barracudas take part in Collège Notre Dame swim meet



BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The Westmount Barracuda swim team placed second in a swim meet that they hosted at Collège Notre Dame on January 22 against teams from all over the city. While the Barracuda is based at the Westmount YMCA, the team is unable to hold swim meets there as the Y pool isn't

equipped with swimming blocks from which swimmers dive when competing. Dan Lundenberg, the club's new president, said he finds it regrettable that Westmount has decided against having an indoor pool, while other communities are pushing forward with new indoor swimming facilities.

Selected crime stats from Station 12

November to December '10 - Westmount

Type of crime reported	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Break and enter	3	9	10	5	10	7
Robbery (theft with violence)	2	0	0	0	2	0
Theft from vehicles	20	19	28	25	13	14
Theft of vehicles	1	5	3	1	2	2
Graffiti	26	35	22	26	23	21
Hit and run	2	10	20	28	16	21

NB: Statistics released by local station 12 no longer include sexual assault, a broad category that may often be mistaken only for rape cases.

been involved in graffiti downtown. As well, paper found in the pocket of one provided additional information concerning the group's tags, "so a few tags can now be related."

"This was good team work between police and Public Security, and the camera is proving its worth," Plourde said.

"In this case, we used the agreement with the city to give them the names of people doing graffiti so they can follow up and pursue them in civil court for damages. I hope the city proceeds to court because these kids all talk to one another and the word will get out."

Both these cases of arrests should help with this, he said adding that graffiti usu-

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In Other Words

Owners of 70 Belvedere not family members of Tunisian ex-presidency

"In Other Words" wrote about a January 12 article in *Rue Frontenac* that reported that the door of the house at 70 Belvedere PL. had been "ketchuped" by people protesting against the Tunisian government.

Rue Frontenac and the *Gazette* published articles the week of January 10 that said the property was reportedly owned by

Mohamed Sakher El Materi, son-in-law of Tunisian president Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali, now in exile.

Subsequently, in a January 19 *Gazette* article, it reported that despite property records indicating El Materi was owner, Westmount officials said the house had been sold (but not yet registered) and is owned by someone else. The woman who lives in the house and who was interviewed for the article refused to be named because "she fears reprisals."

Please write to us!

For consideration, letters to the editor must identify them as "for publication" and have authors' customary first and last names, and street names, all of which will be published. Please also include contact information (for follow-up purposes only). We do not publish letters regarding consumer complaints or inter-neighbour disputes. Letters will be edited for length, content and style. Please check your letter carefully. We may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please "redline" them instead of resending the whole letter.

No injuries in collision in front of Roslyn School



No injuries were reported nor tickets issued in this minor collision at the intersection of Roslyn and Westmount Ave. on January 20. Police say the blinding sun was a contributing factor in the accident, which took place in front of Roslyn School's bus loading zone just before school let out for the day.

Photo: Isaac Olson



Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount



AVIS DE DEMANDE DE DÉMOLITION À TOUTES LES PERSONNES INTÉRESSÉES :

AVIS PUBLIC est par la présente donné que la Ville de Westmount a reçu une demande du propriétaire du bâtiment situé au **28, avenue Devon** pour un permis de démolition de ce bâtiment.

Tous les documents pertinents concernant cette demande de démolition, incluant les plans, peuvent être consultés durant les jours d'ouverture de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30 au bureau de la directrice du Service de l'aménagement urbain de la Ville de Westmount situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount.

Toute personne qui veut s'opposer ou faire des commentaires à l'égard de la délivrance d'un permis de démolition doit, dans les dix (10) jours de la publication de l'avis public ou, à défaut, dans les dix (10) jours qui suivent l'affichage de l'avis sur l'immeuble concerné, faire connaître par écrit son opposition ou ses commentaires au greffier de la ville à l'adresse suivante :

Greffier de la Ville
Ville de Westmount
4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest
Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1E2
Téléphone: (514) 989-5318

Toutes les personnes qui auront déposé une opposition ou des commentaires par écrit à l'intérieur de ce délai seront avisées de la date, de l'heure et de l'endroit où se tiendra la séance publique du comité de démolition au cours de laquelle cette demande de permis de démolition et le « programme préliminaire » pour la réutilisation du sol à être dégagé seront considérés. Ces personnes (ou leurs représentants dûment autorisés par écrit) pourront être entendues par le comité sur la démolition au cours de la séance publique.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 25^e jour du mois de janvier 2011.

Mario Gerbeau
Greffier de la ville

NOTICE OF DEMOLITION APPLICATION TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Westmount has received an application from the owner of the building situated at **28 Devon Avenue** for a demolition permit of this building.

All relevant documents concerning this proposed demolition, including plans may be consulted on any working day, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in the office of the Director of Urban Planning Department of the City of Westmount located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount.

Every person wishing to oppose or make comments on the granting of a demolition permit must, within ten (10) days of publication of this public notice or failing such notice, within the ten (10) days following the posting of the notice on the immovable concerned, make his/her objections or comments known in writing to the City Clerk at the following address:

The City Clerk
City of Westmount
4333 Sherbrooke Street West
Westmount, Quebec H3Z 1E2
Telephone: 514 989-5318

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

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this 25th day of January 2011.

Mario Gerbeau
City Clerk



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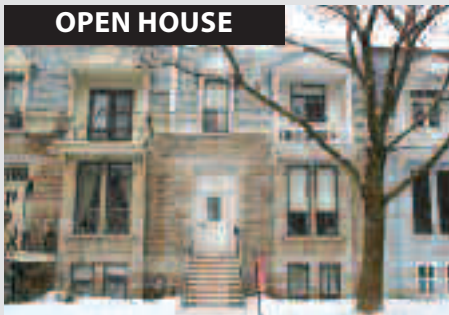
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Plateau 317 St-Louis Sq. – 3-storey greystone w/ gr. fl. bachelor, artist studio & garage. \$819,000

Plateau 218-220 Pine Ave. – **NEW!** 1 bdrm, 1037sf loft in Darcy McGee building. Steps to all. \$435,000

Westmount 457 Grosvenor Ave. – Sunny 3bdrm upper co-op with new kitchen & bath. Parking pad. \$499,000

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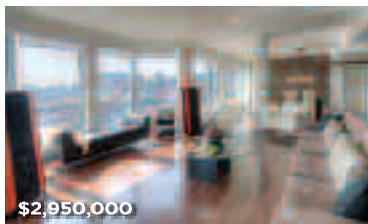
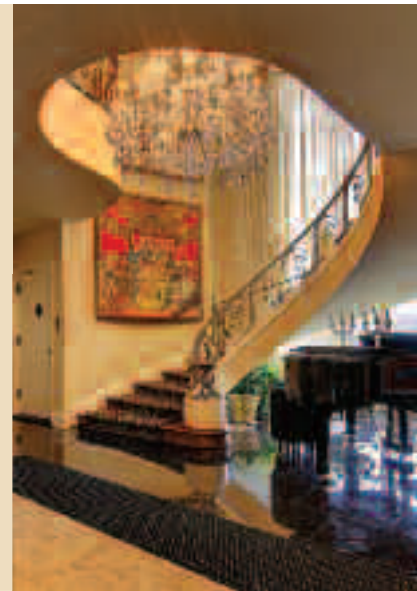
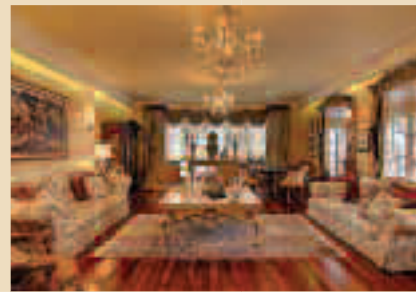
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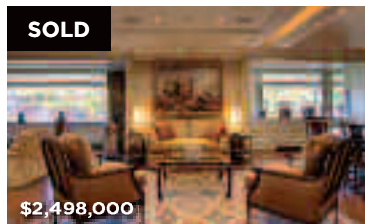


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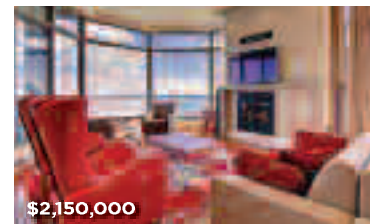


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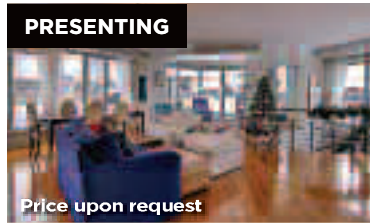
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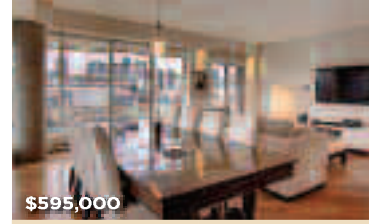
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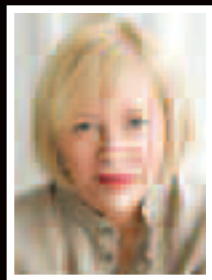
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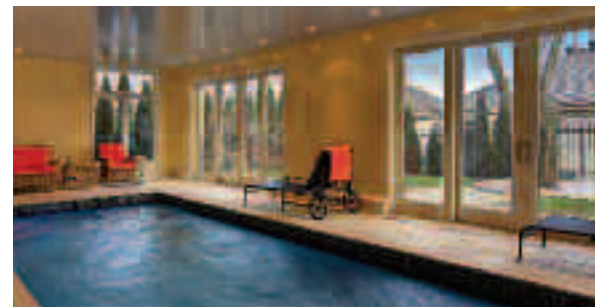
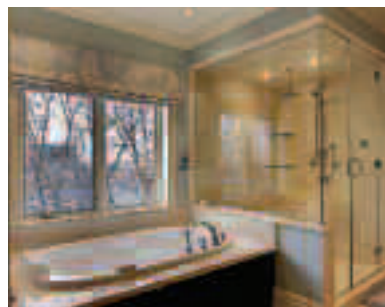
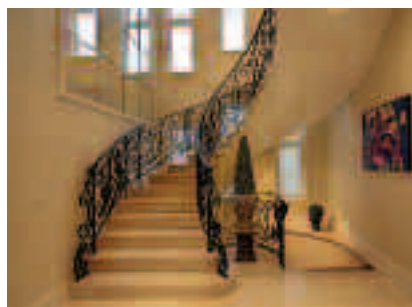
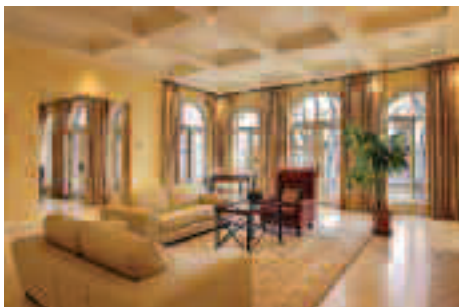
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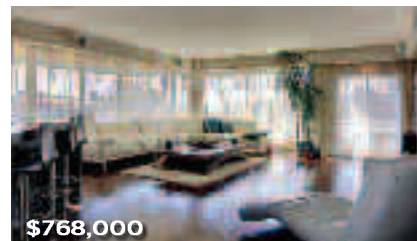
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ON THE SHELVES

Among new materials at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

Magazines

“The mystery of the dragon tattoo: Six years after his death, Stieg Larsson has become the world’s bestselling author – and its most enigmatic. The facts of his life have morphed into myth: was he murdered? Was he a spy?” by Nathaniel Rich in *Rolling Stone*, December 23, 2010 – January 6, 2011, p. 105.

“Canadian political science: missing in action? We have permitted the key concepts that matter to democratic politics to

appear tarnished and dated” by Sylvia Bashkevkin in *Literary Review of Canada*, December 2010, p. 20.

“Léon Tolstoï: Au cœur du génie russe: L’actualité du centième anniversaire de la mort de Tolstoï permet de revenir sur cet écrivain engagé, celui que Gorki surnomme l’« homme-humanité » ” by Minh Tran Huy and François Aubet in *Le magazine littéraire*, Novembre 2010, p. 56.

Adult books

Apollo’s Angels: A History of Ballet by Jennifer Homans – An illustrated history of ballet explores its evolution as an art form and its *continued on p. 19*

Together forever: Ti-gars & Popoune



9 Lives

LYZANNE

Well, their names are so funny, you can’t help but giggle a bit. Their story isn’t so funny though.

Ti-gars and Popoune have been at the SPCA Montérégie shelter for so long that I felt it was time we did something about it.

It was May 2009 when Popoune and her “brother” Ti-Gars were left behind at the cattery. Popoune is a wonderfully coloured short-haired calico, with one white mitten on her left front paw.



Ti-Gars

quite enjoy the company of other cats. Perfect family cats, these sweethearts are more than ready to be adopted.

To find out more about them, please contact Cindy at the SPCA Montérégie at 514.386.5960 or email info@spcamonteregie.com.

You can drop by the shelter at 178 du Vide Rd. in St. Angèle-de-Monnoir (exit 37 on autoroute 10). Adoption/visiting hours at the cattery are from 2 pm to 4:30 pm everyday. For more information, please refer to their website: www.spcamonteregie.com.

Your neighbour, Lyzanne



Popoune

Ti-Gars is a long-haired marmalade, with mesmerizing green eyes. They are both very healthy, inoculated and sterilized.

Both cats were very shy when they arrived, but they have since come out of their shells and now show their very affectionate natures.

They enjoy being petted and purr quite a lot in response to affection! They also

Indecent at the library

A woman at the Westmount Public Library was described as badly shaken January 14 when she heard a man near her breathing heavily and acting indecently, Public Security officials said. She ran to the library desk for help and officers were immediately called but the man had fled. The woman was driven to local police Station 12 to file a complaint.

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Underdog

MARY LAMEY

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Maddie

Gerdy's Rescue sprang her at the last possible moment, and now Maddie spends all her time telling everyone how happy she is to be alive.

Her biggest fault? She's a downright goofball. “She'll come running to say hello, except she forgets to stop when she gets there,” said Gerdy.

Look at those smiling eyes. There isn't a mean bone in this two-year-old. What she needs is a forever home where she can polish her manners and settle into family life.

She weighs about 44 lbs and is strong and healthy. She's been through heat since Gerdy got her and will be spayed soon. She's up-to-date on all her vaccines.

Is Maddie just the dog you've been waiting for? Email contact@underdogclub.org to find out more or visit www.underdogclub.org to learn about other good underdogs seeking good homes. You can also call 1.877.43.DOGGY.



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Crime stats, cont'd.

continued from p. 7

Final tallies for the Westmount sector are not broken out, however. And after investigations are completed these may differ slightly from monthly figures the station recorded separately for the city and provides to the *Independent*.

Call InfoCrime with murder tips

Police are still seeking information, he said, in the murder January 12 of 22-year-old Westmounter Jason Peagram on

Clarke Ave. across from École St. Léon in Westmount (see January 18, p.1).

Plourde is asking anyone with information to call InfoCrime, which accepts information anonymously, at 514.393.1133.

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Director Stubleby counts down the minutes to concert

BY ISAAC OLSON

As Westmounter Eleanor Stubleby and the Yellow Door Choir gear up for what promises to be an eclectic mix of international music representing the immigrant-based foundations of Montreal, she said everybody involved is counting down the minutes to showtime.

"We have just enough minutes to make it all happen," said Stubleby, who has been directing the all-volunteer, 27-year-old choir, comprising of several Westmounters, for 13 years. "It's really an exciting phenomenon to watch the choir go from learning the music to really feeling and capturing the magic of the music."

The January 29 concert will be at the

Christ Church Cathedral, located at 635 St. Catherine West, near Union Ave. Tickets are available at the door or through the choir's website: Yellowdoorchoir.com.

Practised since September and performed for the first time, the percussion-backed benefit concert, titled "World Rhythms," explores the city's historical roots by performing numbers from a wide-range of cultures such as Irish, Jewish, Latin American and more. The performance is celebrating Montreal City Mission's 100th anniversary, with all proceeds going to the non-profit organization.

Stubleby said the aim is to carry the audience through history and around the world.

"We'll close the concert *continued on p. 16*



Eleanor Stubleby

Photo courtesy of Allison Corder

Graffiti markings add up

Five incidents of graffiti were discovered January 11 on homes and buildings on Prince Albert, Somerville and Victoria as well as the Westmount Public Library, Public Security officials report. Others were reported January 14 at 4148 St. Catherine and on January 19 at the post office on Sherbrooke at Prince Albert.

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tangomartiniantiques.com

Tango Martini

Established in Westmount for nearly a decade, Tango Martini specializes in Chinese antiques and collectibles. Co-owner Carol Cheung travels regularly to China to purchase the many original furniture and décor pieces that are showcased at the St. Catherine St. shop. The shop works closely with well-established interior decorators in Montreal and Toronto, and ships to cities all over Canada and the US.



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Properties for sale near mega-hospital construction not sign of noise-related exodus: Agents

By ISAAC OLSON

According to several real estate agents, the cluster of “for sale” and “for rent” signs that have cropped up along the western-most section of St. Catherine St. in recent months are not related to the super-hospital’s noisy construction site even though the properties back on to Glen Yards, separated only by the railway tracks.

In fact, agents say the noise from the site is minimal compared to all the other city sounds in that area. And, while the sky-scaper-sized cranes towering high above may be intimidating to some, a deal has already been reached on two of the properties – both owned and sold by the same owner to a single buyer.

Located at 4872 and 4870, the deeds for two semi-detached units in the same 1917 building row are headed to the notary in mid-February. Listed at \$399,000 a piece, Rosemarie Martin, an agent with Royal LePage Heritage, said the properties’ owner does not live on site and, she speculated, the sale is not in relation to the noise. The rest of the information was confidential until the sales’ closing.

According to fellow agent Julie Bedard’s website, 4872’s tenants pay \$700 a month for rent and the neighbour, at 4870, pays \$850.

Further east, the owners of 4860 St. Catherine are moving to western Canada, and the move has no relation to the construction site, according to Chelsea Lax, a real estate broker with RE/MAX Westmount Inc.

Lax, who was filling in for broker Tania Kalecheff, noted the new owners of the property, listed at \$648,000, will benefit from the hospital as the close proximity means quick access to what is expected to be one of the best medical facilities in the country. The hospital’s entrances, she

added, will be on Decarie and St. Jacques, meaning the ambulances won’t be ripping by all day with sirens blaring. Either way, she said, the surrounding sounds, including the commuter rail, don’t really penetrate the 11-year-old house.

Fraction of cost

“The construction noise does not affect the house,” she said, noting most of the construction activity is further west and the work crew’s temporary structures and parking lot is behind the home. “It’s an amazing property because you get to live in Westmount at a fraction of the cost of most Westmount properties.”

Near the Glen Rd. intersection, 4856 St. Catherine is listed for rent at \$3,000 a month and, explained John Kranitz, an agent with Groupe Sutton Westmount, the previous tenants made a job-related move back to the U.S. Working across the street and visiting the property often, Kranitz, said even with the ongoing piling, the McGill University Health Centre’s (MUHC) construction noise isn’t that bad.

Wake up! You’re wanted!

A city Public Works employee called Public Security January 12 at 10:29 am to say he could not awaken a man who appeared to be sleeping in a car in front of 69 Clandeboye Ave.

Concerned he might be have a medical condition, public safety officers managed to arouse him but noticed red eyes and called police. He was reported to have been taken into custody on a warrant for his arrest on another matter and was not charged with being under the influence of alcohol.



Looking west, three properties for sale and one for rent along St. Catherine between Victoria and Claremont.

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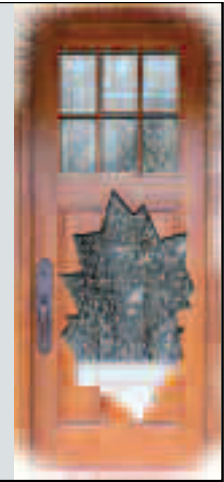
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Yellow Door Choir to perform Jan. 29

continued from p. 14

with songs that are familiar to everyone as we look at how immigrants have changed the landscape of Montreal," she said, noting there will even be a jazz number because "it don't mean a thing if it don't got that swing."

The benefit concert is keeping in tune

with the Yellow Door Choir's mission to support the community through music. The all-age choir, explained Stuble, may be composed of amateurs but, after years of working with students and professionals in a career that has taken her to television, movies, professional conducting and her professorship at McGill University's Schulich School of Music, she described the choir as home.

"There is a joy in working with amateurs that's not at all like working with professionals," said Stuble. "Part of it is because you work with them over a long period of time, and part of it is they do stuff that they don't think is possible. I love watching and helping them make that journey."

Be it when she was a child growing up in Ontario or playing the French horn as a university student, Stuble said music has always been a part of her life.

"With music, there's always something new. No matter how many times you hear something, no matter how many times you perform it, it's always changing. It always touches. It has the capacity to change and to make the impossible seem possible."

Barking dogs cost \$75

Two barking dogs in a yard on Chesterfield Ave. January 10 cost their owner a \$75 ticket for disturbing the neighbourhood, according to Public Security officials.

Responding to a neighbour's complaint just after 9 pm, officers could hear the barking but did not receive any answer at the door. They were still unable to track down the resident an hour later. As a result, the ticket was sent by mail.

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Baillie celebrates Robbie Burns at the Atwater



BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Ray Baillie, author of the historical work *Scottish Imprints in Quebec*, autographs a copy while chatting with Jacqueline Desbaillets, a de Maisonneuve Blvd. resident of Westmount. Baillie was the featured speaker for Robbie Burns Day at the Atwater Library and Computer Centre on

January 21.

His 306-page, photo-illustrated book provides detailed information on dozens of sites across the province where Scottish Quebecers left their mark.

The book is published by Price-Patterson Ltd., which has a shareholder in common with Sherbrooke-Valois Inc., which owns the *Independent*.

Victory for hockey Novices



Westmount's Novice A Wings won the St. Laurent Tournament over the January 22-3 weekend. According to proud Westmount sports coordinator Andrew Maislin, "This was the first time we have won a tournament at the novice level in many years."

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

• George Wall Shakespeare lecture on "The Two Parts of *Henry IV*," 11 am at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. Cost: \$20. Info: 514.935.7344. Also Wednesday, Feb. 2, 7 pm.

• "Great Trials" IPLAI lecture series covers "The Trial of Sir Thomas More" with law professor Desmond Manderson at Westmount Public Library, 5:30 pm. Cost: \$15. Info: 514.398.6154 or iplai@mcgill.ca.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

• Westmount Winter Carnival takes place from February 3 to 5. Indoor and outdoor events at the arena, Victoria Hall, Westmount Park and Murray Park. Schedule available on the city website www.westmount.org. See story, p. 2.

• Montreal volunteer, community leader and Westmount resident Alex Paterson gives a talk on "the joys and benefits of volunteering," 12:30 pm, 1200 Atwater Ave. Free admission, donations invited. Info: 514.935.7344.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Bake sale and cat adoption day at Naturalanimal & Pawtisserie, 4932B Sherbrooke St. to raise funds for Moustache, a non-profit rescue group, 11 am to 4 pm. Also on Sunday, same time.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

City council meeting, 8 pm at city hall.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Poetry workshop with Ann Lloyd at the Westmount Public Library, 2 pm. Info: Donna Lach 514.989.5386 or dlach@westmount.org.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Quasar saxophone quartet at Victoria Hall, performs "From Bach to Zappa," 7 pm. Tickets: \$20; seniors and students \$15, available at Victoria Hall or at the door.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Atwater Library Lunchtime Series presents a celebration of Black history month with the Imani Gospel Singers, directed by Marcia Bailey, and a discussion of the evolution of Black gospel music, 12:30 pm. Free, donations invited.

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Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Held in early December, Art Basel Miami Beach attracted a myriad of Montrealers. At the annual bacchanalia by the sea, there is a lot of art – and a lot of parties.

The best party took place the night before the fair opened. Cirque du Soleil founder, Montrealer **Guy Laliberté** hosted a fundraiser for the One Drop Foundation, his non-profit organization dedicated to providing safe water to all. Montrealer **Louise Courey Nadeau** co-chaired the event with Floridian **Carol Iacovelli**. Westmount resident **France Chrétien Desmarais**, vice-chair of One Drop, attended with her husband **André Desmarais**, president and co-CEO of Power Corp.

At the red carpet night were celebs **Gloria Estafan** (with hubby **Emilio**), and Montrealers **Daniel Lamarre** (Cirque pres) with **Emmanuelle Duperré**, **Claudia Barila** (Laliberté's partner) and model/photographer



Guy Laliberté, and Louise and André Nadeau, surrounded by Cirque performers.

Pascale Bourbeau, who attended Montreal artist **Kristian Verono's** chic vernissage in a gallery by the ocean the very next eve.

Noted at the Miami Beach event were Montreal gallerists **Pierre François Ouellette** (showing Montreal artists at AQUA

satellite fair), **Jeannie Riddle**, **Brian Brisson**, **Donald Browne** (Galérie Donald Browne at the Belgo), and Westmounters **Nadia Niro** (Galérie Orange) and **Robert Landau** (showing at the Convention Centre/main fair).

Celebs at the fair? **Steve Martin** (great hat!), **George Hamilton** (great tan!) and Joe Fresh guru **Joe Mimran** (cool in winter white) with his wife **Kimberley**, designer of Pink Tartan. (FYI, Joe Fresh is a collection of cheap chic clothing available at a few Loblaws stores in Montreal – the closest to Westmount is the Loblaws on St. Jacques St. in NDG.)

Montrealers noted at the fair included **Stéphane Aquin**, **Jean-Claude Baudinet**, Musée d'art contemporain director **Marc DeSerres**, **Jean-Guy Cyr** (he has the great art deco/vintage Jack's on Amherst) and **Nathalie Goyette** and **Philippe Lamarre**.

Westmounters enjoying the blue skies included **Joanne** and **Douglas Cohen** (in



Westmounters André and France Desmarais, with Cirque performer.

from Palm Beach), **Linda and Terry Smith**, **Carmel Mintzberg** and **Nissa Khan**, who was working at Westmounter Robert Landau's gallery at the Convention Centre, and enjoyed the sales – and the stars!



Pascale Bourbeau and Kristian Verono



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More new materials at library

continued from p. 12

reflection on politics and culture throughout the past three centuries.

Mrs. Delany and Her Circle edited by Mark Laird and Alicia Weisberg-Roberts – At the age of 72, Mary Delany embarked on a series of a thousand botanical paper collages bringing together her interest and knowledge of natural science, fashion and design of 18th century England.

DVDs

Winter's Bone – Seventeen-year-old Ree Dolly sets out to track down her father, who put their house up for his bail bond and then disappeared. If she fails to find him, she and her family will be turned out into the Ozark woods. Challenging her outlaw kin's code of silence and risking her life, Ree hacks through her relatives' lies and threats and begins to piece together the truth. Winner of the Grand Jury Prize Sundance Film Festival 2010.

Talk of Angels – An Irish governess falls in love with the married son of her em-

ployer during the Spanish Civil War. Based on a novel by Kate O'Brien.

Adult French – Where's the beef?

Ma biographie gourmande by Joël Legendre – The well-known television personality talks about his childhood on a farm and presents his favourite vegetarian recipes, many of them dairy-free. Some traditional Quebec meat-based recipes such as “ragoût de boulettes” are reinterpreted in this book.

Mon premier dîner végétarien by Alice Hart – Was eating less or no meat one of your New Year's resolutions? This book shows the basics of vegetarian cooking and also explains how to build a nutritionally balanced menu. More than 100 recipes are presented, and you will also learn how to make tofu, yogurt and grow sprouts.

Reference

Smart Shopping Montreal, 13th edition by Sandra Phillips.

The Gramophone Classical Music Guide 2011.

Carnival night goes under sea

continued from p. 2

face masks, mermaids and everything nautical,” Danis said. The program includes games, dancing, a jello-eating competition and the traditional dinner of vegetarian lasagna and Pogos – along with a cash bar.

CEAC organizers of this event are Sue Jamieson, Doug Leahey and Sada Reddy.

Usually a sellout event, only 200 tickets are available on a first-come basis, so anyone hoping to attend should pick them up as soon as possible, Danis added. These cost \$5 for kids 12 and under; \$10 for everyone else.

Both the horse-drawn sleigh rides (10:45 am to 4 pm) and the sugar shack

(11 am to 3 pm) on Saturday take place on the main field of Westmount Park alongside Melville Ave.

Meanwhile at the arena, day-long activities run from 10 am to 9:45 pm starting with an hour-long costumed figure skating show and face painting until noon. A Termite mini-hockey tournament for small fry (11 am to noon) is followed by general skating and free hotdogs.

The afternoon includes a puck shooting competition from 12:30 pm to 1:30, and fun races and games on ice from 1:30 to 2:30 when an inter-city skills competition takes place.

The carnival wraps up with general skating from 3 to 9:45 pm.

The Priory collects old shoes for Soles4Souls



Priory students, from left, Westmounter Clara Verna, Renée Anderson, Veronica Verenini and Westmounter Gabriel Clement work at the shoe drive that took place at the school during the month of December. The grades 2 and 3 project was inspired by grade 3 student Gabrielle Graceffa to collect worn shoes from friends and family and send them to an organization, Soles4Souls, that distributes shoes to needy children in developing countries. According to the school, Graceffa read *New Old Shoes* by Joanne O'Sullivan that inspired her to help other children through “something as simple as donating a pair of old shoes.”

Photo: The Priory School



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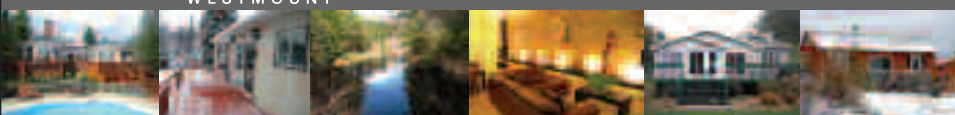
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WESTMOUNT 64 Aberdeen

This classic Westmount semi-detached family home with 4 bedrooms is on the market for the first time since 1961. Features include a large backyard, detached garage, high ceilings, and the possibility to open a third floor. Close to the park and school. **\$1,285,000**

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DOWNTOWN 1200 de Maisonneuve

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WESTMOUNT 70 Forden

Located on one of Westmount's finest streets, this large semi-detached with 4+1 bedrooms, large family room, beautiful wood floors, finished basement, 3 fireplaces, and detached garage is all within walking distance to the park and offers a stunning stone façade. **\$1,975,000**

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WESTMOUNT ADJ. 3086 Saint-Sulpice

Prestigious stone residence on a quiet street with 5 bedrooms, hardwood floors throughout, gas fireplaces, French doors, beautiful kitchen with stainless steel appliances, high ceilings, finished basement, fenced backyard and two car garage. Immediate occupancy. **\$2,300,000**

NEW ON THE MARKET



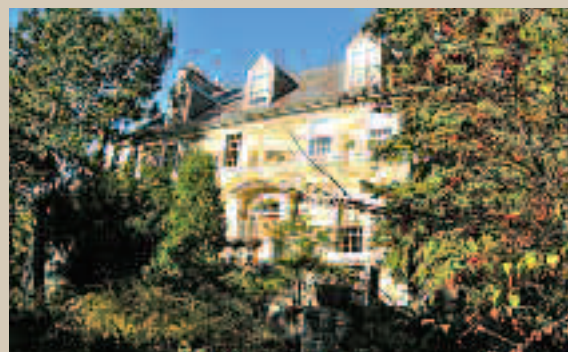
WESTMOUNT ADJ. 3088 Saint-Sulpice

Stone residence with 5 bedrooms, hardwood floors, high ceilings, French doors to patio, very large master with ensuite and large walk-in closet. Located just minutes from downtown and Greene Avenue, this property is available immediately. **\$2,300,000**



WESTMOUNT 319 Redfern

A stately façade is just the beginning of this magnificent stone residence. Inside you will need a few minutes to take in the splendor of the interior with its grand staircase, beautiful wood moldings and floors, and stained glass windows. **\$1,925,000**



WESTMOUNT 10 Place Braeside

This remarkable greystone residence is filled with light and features a beautiful cross-hall plan, 6 bedrooms, large formal living area and family rooms on 3 levels. This magnificent home is a rare opportunity to own a piece of Westmount luxury. **\$4,500,000**



DOWNTOWN 3442 Stanley

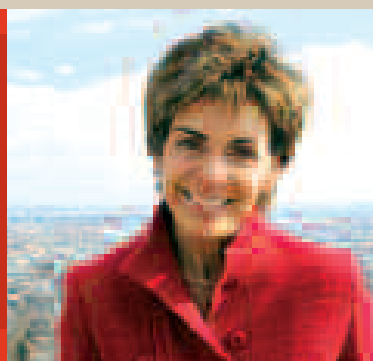
This classically elegant property is located just steps to the Sofitel and Sherbrooke Street West. The owners have restored and preserved the essence of a time gone by with all the convenience of today's busy family. Gourmet kitchen, beautiful woodwork, and parking for 6 cars. **\$3,495,000**



WESTMOUNT 4302 Montrose

This splendid detached home is perfect for a growing family with lots of bedrooms, a large kitchen that opens to a terrace overlooking a huge backyard (just begging for a pool to be installed), a finished basement, and a two car attached garage. Minutes to downtown. **\$2,465,000**

Deeply rooted value



Marie Sicotte

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