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EAST END
FEBRUARY 24, 2011

# The Suburban

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**NEWS & ANALYSIS**  
**Station construction started**  
 The work on the Eastern Train has already begun and motorists in Ahuntsic, Montreal North and St. Léonard are already feeling it. The AMT is advising road users that construction on stations of the future Montreal-Mascouche commuter rail line will result in temporary lane closures on some streets.  
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**GMAA SPORTS**  
**Lynx slip past LBPHS**  
 The Villa Maria Lynx squeezed by LBPHS [Pearson] 6-5 in girls indoor soccer action Wednesday in NDG.  
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Brewchad, a band with east-end roots is gaining popularity all around the city, and will perform at l'Alizé this Sunday night for Montreal's component of the worldwide Emergenza Live Band Festival. Left to right: John Serino, Nigel Hunt, Pat Romano.


## Hiring method questioned at RDP council

By Joel Ceausu  
 The Suburban

At February's Rivière des Prairies-Pointe aux Trembles council meeting, the air was rife with praise for new borough director Daniel Le Pape, as councilors and residents took turns welcoming him to his new post. Some however, added criticism about how he was hired. Borough councillor Giovanni Rapanà criticized Borough Mayor Chantale Rouleau's use of an outside firm to locate a new borough director. "I was opposed to wasting taxpayers' money to hire an agency with the task of seeking a new director," he told *The Suburban*, "The city of Montreal has hundreds of officials with the skills to fill the position," he said, adding that the city already possesses a human resources department capable of

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## The band is stoked

By Joel Ceausu  
 The Suburban

Maybe he didn't intend it, but John Serino's caffeine-starved blog rant about "Does radio still make a difference?" elicited both fiery and thoughtful responses -energizing the guitarist and lead vocalist of Montreal indie rock band Brewchad who are preparing for a big gig this weekend.

Yes that's Brewchad, no easy moniker to decipher unless you speak un poco l'Italiano. "It's actually an Anglicization of 'bruciato' meaning 'burned' he explains, adopted by him and fellow Brewchad founder Pat Romano in 2004 as an oblique reference to the music industry's tendency to eat its young. But it can also mean hot, even scorching, the temperatures the St. Léonard natives hope to stoke when they take their sound live on stage at l'Alizé this Sunday night for Montreal's component of the worldwide Emergenza Live Band Festival.

Talk to Serino, 33, about music, the Internet and performing live, and the word "project" often comes up. An odd reference for a band, stage show, or tour, but something

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See HIRING, page 5

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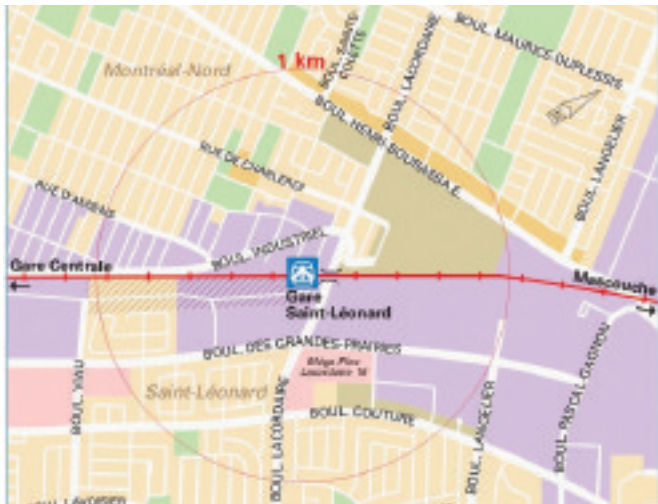
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## Station construction started

By Joel Ceausu  
The Suburban

The work on the Eastern Train has already begun and motorists in Ahuntsic, Montreal North and St. Léonard are already feeling it. The Agence métropolitaine de transport is advising road users that construction on stations of the future Montreal-Mascouche commuter rail line will result in temporary lane closures on some streets.

In Ahuntsic-Cartierville, the two centre lanes (one northbound and one southbound) of l'Acadie between Port Royal and Louvain will be closed to traffic for the next five to six weeks. This closure is necessary to carry out work on the railway viaduct. In



Saint-Léonard station will be at Lacordaire where borough meets Montreal-North.

Montreal North, the right lane of southbound Lacordaire between Industriel and des Grandes Prairies will remain closed for two weeks to allow work on the entrance that will provide access to the future St. Léonard station. Motorists

are urged to obey all posted signs.

The Eastern Train will serve seven new stations on the island of Montreal, and will accommodate 11,000 passengers per day once it gets rolling in fall 2012. ■

## Jeunesse-emploi job workshops

By Joel Ceausu  
The Suburban

St. Léonard residents who need help in their job search are being offered two workshops next month.

The Carrefour Jeunesse-Emploi Viger-Jeanne Mance and the Centre de recherche d'emploi de l'Est are holding Tuesday workshops on March 8 and 15 at 1 p.m.

at Café lettré, 8420 Lacordaire Blvd. (at the borough library).

On March 8, participants will learn how to create a resumé and cover letter to highlight their experience, training and specific achievements in order to obtain a job interview. This workshop will allow people to enhance their job applications and make them more attractive to prospective employers. On March 15, employment

counsellors will offer advice on job interviews. Facilitators will present interview questions most frequently asked, their objectives and planned responses. Participants will also learn about body language and overall presentation.

The workshops are free and open to people 16 years and older. For more information call 514-328-8500, ext. 8589. ■

### BREWCHAD

Cont'd from page 1

he is very conscious of. "It's a project because we are not yet done with what we want to do and where we want to be."

It's a measured approach from a lifetime playing and creating music, and a grueling journey to find the right sound: Serino and Romano spent nine months on their first track, Shades of Grey. "We started trading and sharing riffs on 20 different genres until we got it right and found what we knew was our sound." It was like a courtship he said, each bringing his best, until out of the union of music and exhaustive writing and studio work, something wonderful happened: they conceived a song.

It was the first of many as Brewchad released its first 12-track CD *You that I Lost* in 2009 to a vast and warm welcome. The addition of British drummer Nigel Hunt helped the songwriting duo infuse their American rock sound with a British pop shine, a soft contemporary style that doesn't shy away from harder rock beats and even softer classi-



L to R: Dan Romano, John Serino, Nigel Hunt.

cal (including cello and violin backup) works. They took their newly polished sound on the road performing in lots of Montreal clubs and venues, including Café Campus, Club Soda, Le National and Bistro de Paris. "At first it's all friends and cousins coming to the shows, but then we saw videos posted online from strangers, people coming out to shows who we didn't know," said Serino. "We began to gain a measure of popularity," a hard-earned measure for the trio, who all have day jobs, families and other responsibilities.

It's a hell of a grind song writing, performing live and parenting. Tall orders when you have a

day job (he's a graphic artist), "but it's part of the project. Being an artist is not an excuse for being a failure in life," he says. "We have family, kids, and the music industry is a business after all. That's why it's called the music business. Otherwise it's all happy fun time. You have to respect it for what it is."

Serino, Romano and Hunt went back into writing mode several months ago because "fans want more." They also needed another guitarist before they headed back out on the club circuit, so they scoped the Montreal scene (as well as Kijiji) for the next great talent, and found him in Marc-André Séguin who will join them at the Ontario St. club this weekend.

Now the band is stoked — not only about Sunday's gig, but also about the major upset Arcade Fire pulled off at this year's Grammys. "It's a sign of things to come," he says. "The younger generation telling record companies they won't be dictated to." Which makes Serino's aptly titled blog rant echo what was on the lips of many music industry players on Grammy night: "What the Fu%k!" ■

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