

City adopts resolution opposing post office closure

Petition circulated as deadline nears Feb. 15

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city of Westmount officially joined a campaign to save the “Victoria Post Office” in adopting a resolution February 4 to oppose its closure.

At the same time, Councillor Gary Ike-man asked those attending the council meeting to sign a petition that he waved from the council table.

The resolution describes the post office as an important part of the Victoria village and an important symbol of the federal government in Quebec. It also states there is no guarantee the nearest retail postal outlet (at the Pharmaprix on Sherbrooke at Grey) “will remain in the long term.”

Gerard Fellerath, president of the Sherbrooke/Victoria Merchants Association, also urged people to sign the petition, copies of which could be found at many Victoria village stores including Hogg hardware and his own, Folklore 1.

“What can we do together to save the post office? he asked Mayor Peter Trent, who had initially sounded the call to action by asking *continued on p. 23*

Look out, Lansdowne!



This car flipped on Lansdowne below The Boulevard the afternoon of February 8. Westmount Public Security and Montreal police were on scene, but no one was injured. The accident was ascribed to a mechanical issue.

Photo courtesy of Sylvie Lafrenière



City page p. 18

Winter carnival photos BY R. THOMPSON
p. 26

Underdog BY C. LEE p. 17

Social Notes BY V. REDGRAVE p. 16

Letters p. 6

Snow removal challenges identified at council

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city is working on a strategy to address five areas “where we could do a better job” in snow removal operations, city director general Duncan Campbell told the city council meeting February 4. The points arose from the record 45.6 cm of snow that fell December 27.

Identified and discussed by city staff at a meeting January 24, they are: snow dumps, plowing of lanes, parked cars, private contractors and communication with residents. Some might require a closer

look at city by-laws, he noted.

Campbell said the city would be meeting with Montreal officials to discuss the Butler snow chute in the Southwest borough, which Westmount uses but which fills up too quickly. It also will meet with contractors hired by the city to plow lanes where there is “no easy solution” (see January 15, p. 14).

By calling the owners of cars parked in tow zones the night before snow removal, the city found a better compliance rate with removing cars before
continued on p. 19

See our camps pages, p. 8-9.

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Y's centennial events come to a close



The Westmount Y closed its centennial celebrations with a small party in its gym February 7. Some 50 people sipped wine and beer and nibbled on canapés while 13-year-old Selwyn House student David Lotey-Goodman entertained on the piano and photographs of Y supporters were projected onto a large screen. Above, Y director Gary White welcomes supporters including Mayor Peter Trent and city councillors Victor Drury and Nicole Forbes.

Photo: Ralph Thompson



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Residents prefer the Independent, phone for information

City releases Ipsos communications survey

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

In this digital age, Westmount residents still prefer keeping abreast of current events within the city through “hard copy,” with the *Westmount Independent* as first choice of all information sources, an Ipsos survey for the city stated.

While digital communications “should be expected” to grow over time, it states, fully 79 percent of residents now use the telephone to contact the city, followed by service counters and, to a lesser extent, email.

The 46-page report was tabled by the city council February 4 covering a wide range of findings.

Among them, respondents reported being best informed about the Westmount Public Library, public safety, sports and recreation, and the arena/pool project. They felt least informed on waterworks maintenance.

The survey was commissioned by city management to assess communications needs and attitudinal shifts since a similar

survey by Ipsos in 2009.

“We thought it was time to take another pulse,” Councillor Theodora Samiotis told the council meeting.

Representative sample

The recent telephone survey was conducted between December 10 and January 2 when 300 Westmount residents aged 18 years or over were polled in a random dial selection. Calls lasted on average 16 minutes each. This was described as a “representative sample” with a maximum margin of error of 5.7 percent at a 95-percent confidence level.

When the previous survey was conducted, the *Independent* was in its infancy, having begun publishing less than two years earlier semi monthly.

The new survey found that since then “the *Westmount Independent* has grown as the local newspaper of first choice and is now read by more than 4 in 5 residents.”

It was “now the leading medium via which residents keep up with current events in the city (close to 1 in 2), outstripping by far the *Examiner*” and 11 other categories of other news and information sources.

Website used more often

Also since 2009, “both the incidence and frequency of [residents] visiting the official city website have increased,” the report stated. More than two in three – more so among younger residents – had done so within the preceding 12 months.

While *E-Westmount* subscriptions for receiving direct city information have tripled over 2009, the reported stated, “It is still only a minority of residents that make use of it.”

Leading a list of 13 topics on which residents believed themselves to be well in-

formed were the Westmount Public Library at 88 percent, with public safety along with sports and recreation following at 83 percent and the Westmount recreation centre at 82 percent.

Least informed waterworks

“A shrinking proportion of residents (only 7 percent) desire more information regarding the pool/arena project,” it

found, but 1 in 2 believed themselves to be least informed about waterworks maintenance.

Perceptions of the quality of both English and French communications from the city are “significantly improved” over 2009, the survey stated, though there remained “perceived room for improvement with regard to French communications.”

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Westmount black-out stems from Hydro Quebec

A power outage that affected all of Westmount Thursday, February 7 was caused by a problem at Hydro Quebec's Poste Maisonneuve, according to city director general Duncan Campbell. This is the substation that supplies Hydro Westmount with its electricity to redistribute within Westmount. The mid-afternoon outage lasted about 20 to 30 minutes, he said.

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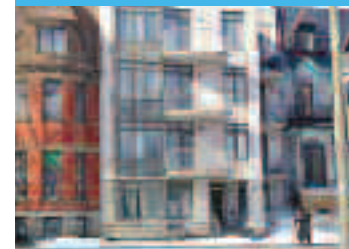
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NEWS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEETING, FEB. 4

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Church Hill resident has solution for pre-school

The same question has been asked at almost every council meeting for more than a year by residents of Church Hill: what is being done to “legalize” the issue of Miss Vicky’s pre-school operating as a commercial enterprise out of St. Matthias’ Church in a residential zone?

At the February 4 meeting, Bertha Dawang, a resident on the street, asked why the matter remained under discussion for 15 months in an effort to find a way for the church to comply with city by-laws.

“So next time I get a parking ticket – and I don’t have one yet – will it lead to discussions for 15 months?” she asked. “Is this not a mockery of the by-law?”

Dawang suggested it was incumbent on city officials, a religious institution and an educational enterprise to set a moral example of upholding the law.

Director general Duncan Campbell said he had received a note that day from the church saying they were looking into a resolution.

“What is the problem?” she persisted, proposing her own solution: that the church set up a committee to operate the school as a non-profit benefit to the community that pays rent to the church, and hires someone to run it.

“Sounds like an excellent idea,” Campbell replied, saying it had been discussed. But he suggested Dawang speak to the church about it. “That’s not my job. That’s your job,” she said. “I’ll be back next month.”

Residents have voiced concern over safety and traffic issues around the pre-school as well as the discovery it had been operating without a city occupancy permit and in apparent violation of zoning. The city gave the church, which depends on revenue from the school, until the end of 2012 to find a solution (see December 11, p. 2).

No federal payout yet for arena

While the city has already paid contractor Pomerleau \$11.6 million including tax for work on the new Westmount recreation centre (see February 5, p. 3), it has still not received any reimbursement from the federal government on its half-share of the \$20-million infrastructure grant.

City director general Duncan Campbell told Councillor Patrick Martin at the February 4 council meeting that “we haven’t yet received any payments from the federal government” though the city had made the request.

The Quebec government starts paying its \$10-million share on completion of the project and then over the duration of the city’s 10-year arena/pool project loan, according to Campbell.

Tanguay returns to Westmount



Local police Station 12 commander Stéphane Plourde, right, introduces commander Marc Tanguay at the council meeting February 4. Over the next few weeks, Tanguay will replace Plourde, who has been temporarily assigned to Station 20 in downtown Montreal. Tanguay served as a patrol officer at the Westmount station in the early 1990s when it was a full-service station, number 23.

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**More council news, p. 3, 5,
7, 12.**

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City seeks deeper study on Summit Woods

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A preliminary report on Summit Woods was not accepted by the city and has been sent back to a consultant for more in-depth study, Councillor Cynthia

Lulham explained at the city council meeting February 4. The area has not undergone renewal for many years.

“It needs a much bigger study,” Lulham told Jane Atkinson of Kensington Ave., a member of the Summit Woods Advisory

Committee (SWAC), who asked why the group had not been able to see the previous report.

An example of what will be addressed, Lulham said, is rehabilitation of waterways that have become clogged.

Atkinson asked what “urgent measures” the city had planned to address the need for attending to “basic maintenance and invasive plants identified by the SWAC.” These should have priority over new work such as landscaping over the closed portion of Summit Circle.

“We need that study first,” said Lulham, who is Parks and Urban Planning commissioner. She explained that the city was applying for a grant regarding Summit Circle greening (see January 15, p. 8). But it was all part of rehabilitating Summit Woods, a nature preserve.

The potential closure of Summit Circle on a permanent basis has been discussed from time to time at council meetings but the city has been waiting for a study, plan and budget. At present, cement planters block the roadway to cars.

Trent pins Campbell



Photo: Lauren Sweeney

The city council meeting February 4 began with Mayor Peter Trent pinning the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal on director general Duncan Campbell, noting his volunteer contributions to the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA), which nominated him for the recognition. Campbell has held many CAMA positions including the presidency.

Public meeting Feb. 19 to view Greene public square design, 3 other corners

A public meeting will take place Tuesday, February 19 to present a plan for a town square outside the new 5 Saisons store at Greene and de Maisonneuve, Councillor Cynthia Lulham announced at the city council meeting February 4.

Coordinated landscaping for the other

three corners is also to be presented by architect Brian Burrows at the 7 pm meeting at Centre Greene.

Lulham also said the plan for a public square on Prince Albert at its dead end at Sherbrooke would follow, “I hope in March.”



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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I thought this statistic might interest you or perhaps be useful in enticing potential companies/organizations to advertise.

We ran our first three financial literacy workshops in late January – all of which were fully booked. Almost 40 percent of the course participants had come to us through the one ad in the *Westmount Independent*.

We now have over 90 seniors on the waiting list for upcoming courses.

Thanks for helping us spread the good word!

TANYA MAYHEW, ATWATER LIBRARY
& COMPUTER CENTRE

CAN'T TRUST POSTAL OUTLETS WITH REGISTERED MAIL

Marilynn Vanderstaay, noted in her letter (February 5, p. 6) that the post office on Prince Albert "is one of only two legitimate post offices in Westmount, where employees are trained by Canada Post." The implication of that statement about training is crucial.

Several years ago, my newly issued passport was claimed at the Pharmaprix postal counter in Alexis Nihon Plaza by a man who presented my delivery notice card (stolen from my mailbox) and fake ID. Electronic documents subsequently

proved that the agent did not notice the discrepancy in surname of the man's ID, and it left me wondering whether the rules for third-party authorization were adequately known or followed by franchise agents.

While mistakes or sloppiness may occur at post offices too, I do not trust the outlets when it concerns registered mail.

SUSAN KAZENEL, KENSINGTON AVE.

LONG DRIVEWAY OWNERS NEED NIGHT-TIME REMOVAL

We are some humble Westmounters who share long driveways and who need overnight snow removal. We pay contractors for that service with our own money in addition to paying all the taxes to our different governments. For us, city administrators are undoubtedly entitled to rule on the way contractors should do their job: where to put snow, what equipment must be avoided during the night, what level of noise should be tolerated, etc., but they have no reason to ban this important service in itself just because some classless residents, far from our area, had time to claim their holy rights in the city hall while we had to go out earn our living.

We cannot imagine a by-law which, because of noisy leaf-blowers, bans leaf-collecting all together with the use of a leaf-blower – the common logic here is

that a particular means should not be confused with the process and end. We cannot accept a by-law which bans dogs in Westmount just because some dog owners let their pets pollute our lawns or disturb our peace. The common sense here is the baby should not be thrown out with dirty water.

A smart and fair by-law should balance different needs of different people, be they rich or poor, minority or majority. Judging others through egocentric and exclusive keyhole, asserting "truth" about snow removal while one has never used contractors, polarizing people because they have different needs and opinions, those behaviours are not helpful to improving the snow removal by-law of our city. Envy or hate-driven psychology can only bring sleepless nights even in a soundless dark world, while a sound mind will provide a cure for sleeping soundly.

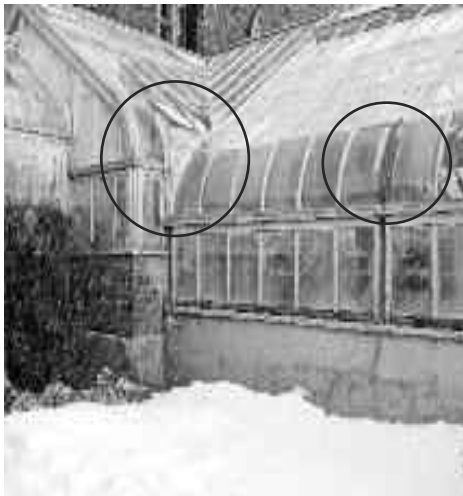
JIAN YANG, PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

GREENHOUSE ALL TAPED UP

How has one of the proud symbols of Westmount been left to decay to the extent that it is now held together by tape?

And what does this say about us?

DAVID LUDMER, GROSVENOR AVE.



A photo of the greenhouse February 2 showing tape and plastic covering part of the glass.

Photo courtesy of David Ludmer

HAS WESTMOUNT RESEARCHED MONTREAL SEWER SITUATION?

All of Westmount's sewers discharge into sewers that pass through St. Henri and lower Montreal. So the ability of Westmount's sewage system to accommodate heavy rainfall without backing up and overflowing depends to a large extent on whether the antiquated Montreal sewage system has the necessary capability to han-

dle the discharge coming from Westmount in addition to whatever comes in further downstream.

This raises a question concerning the extent to which the budgeted \$350,000 storm water deviation program in the St. Catherine St. area may actually reduce the risk of sewage back-up and flooding in lower Westmount during periods of heavy rainfall. As a preliminary to proposing this project, has Westmount thoroughly investigated the situation in respect to the Montreal sewage system, which has to accommodate the discharge coming from Westmount?

If Montreal's sewage system is maintained to the same standards as its potholed roads, then Westmount's salient problem might possibly be that the discharge from its sewers is overloading a Montreal sewage system of inadequate capacity due to substandard maintenance and/or a lack of necessary improvements to accommodate a steady growth of the city's requirements during more than 100 years since the sewage system was first put into service.

JOHN DOREY, VICTORIA AVE.

NO RIDING ON BIKE PATH IN WESTMOUNT PARK

Regarding the bike path in Westmount Park, considering the topography of Montreal and specifically Westmount, reading ("Re-shaping SW and SE sectors, lowering bike path," January 15, p. 1) and hearing some of the comments [at public meetings] about up/down, underpass/overpass, etc. and considering that most of us go up or down further just to get into our own homes, this whole discussion misses the point.

As with virtually all parks, there are no-riding zones, either for cars or bicycles, and as with a large portion of Westmount Park such is the case, and the entire zone of the bicycle path through Westmount Park should be zoned "no-riding." It adds a few minutes but to the betterment of the community.

KEN LONDON, PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

GET BIKE PATH OUT OF PARK

We now are apprised of a contemplation by a committee headed by Councillor Cynthia Lulham that is contemplating a sunken bike path through Westmount Park: a cockamammy idea.

This will only add more unnecessary costs for taxpayers, e.g.: construction, drainage, cleaning (autumn leaves), snow clear-

continued on p. 23

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Some problems due to 4300

City, residents exasperated by Redfern worksite

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The condo development at 215 Redfern has become a time-consuming exercise in apparent frustration for city officials and residents alike, according to measures described at the city council meeting February 4.

Timothy Slonosky, who lives on the street, said the city had “done a good job so far,” in trying to enforce city by-laws regarding work hours, traffic regulations, noise and nuisance. But it was a cyclical problem whereby incidents would be solved for a few minutes or days and then return.

“I get about 18 emails of complaint a day about trucks going the wrong way and the drivers,” said Councillor Cynthia Lulham. “I’m there every second day.”

Public Security, police, Urban Planning inspectors and city officials have been devoting much of their time to checking out the worksite, she explained. “For the life of me, I don’t know what else we can do.”

There are so many different subcontractors coming and going from a site on a small congested residential street, she pointed out. Police traffic officer Steven

Goldberg, she added, had been on Redfern more than any other street and had ticked many infractions by truckers.

4300 adds to the mix

One evening recently, Lulham said she had personally removed no-parking signs that had been put up by a contractor without a permit to do so; then she had emailed residents to tell them they could park there. The next morning the signs were back up – put there, it turned out, by

The view from 215

Developer of 215 Redfern Jason Berger told the *Independent* February 8 he had not received any complaints following a meeting last spring (April 24) with residents, Councillor Lulham and other city officials. “We gave them our email and phone numbers, which are also posted on the notice boards at the site and encouraged them to contact us. To date I have not received one.”

He said if someone sees something that is “not right,” they should take a cellphone photo and send it to the office right away “and we’ll try to get in touch with the GC (general contractor) on the site.”

He said, “We want to be good neighbours, and one element of good neighbourliness is communication. The lines of communication are open.”

Berger also said that “everything has been done in compliance with the by-laws” and that “I assure you we have all the permits we need to work on the property.” He said he was unaware that some fines had been issued, including one recently regarding a lack of permit (see separate story).

window washers at the adjacent apartment complex at 4300 de Maisonneuve, not workers at 215 Redfern as had been assumed.

Lulham said she and Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier had visited The 4300 “to be forward thinking and get a list of their projects,” as well.

Slonosky asked if Westmount could not follow the lead of Toronto and write into the permit of a large project the need to hire a police officer.

Footprints in the snow

A public safety officer flagged down a police car at 12:21 am after watching a man behaving suspiciously January 29 in the area of Grove Park, Public Security officials said. Footprints in the snow were noticed in driveways nearby. A police car was flagged down, and the man was stopped at Clarke and Anwoth, detained for questioning and reported released. He was described as a 35-year-old, who was known to police.

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Missing permit brings \$1,250 ticket

Public Security officials said a ticket for \$1,250 was to be issued in connection with work at 215 Redfern on February 4 at 12:30 pm when a large flatbed truck was found angled across the sidewalk at 12:30 pm to unload material required for a four-day excavation project. No permit was reported to have been obtained for the occupation of city property for that project.

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Day camp or sleeping camp:

BY MARLENE EISNER

Canada's wiry weather analyst, Wiarton Willie, came out again on February 2 for his annual evaluation of Mother Nature's intentions and predicted an early spring. Good news for people who hate the winter and more pressure for parents who ask: What will my child do during the summer?

With nine weeks of unstructured time to fill, many mums and dads choose to send their child to either a day camp in the city or a sleep-away camp that is usually located in a rural setting. Day camps run structured programs focused on indoor

and outdoor play that ends each afternoon, and are open to children from three to about 12 years of age. Some day camps offer junior counsellor- and senior counsellor-in-training programs for 13 to 16 year olds.

Côte St. Luc resident Erin Silverstone has decided to send her daughter Samantha, who will be six in April, to day camp for the first time this summer. Silverstone said in previous years, she kept her daughter in daycare during the summer months.

"At \$7 a day, I wasn't going to give that up if I didn't have to, ... and her [daycare] of-

continued on p. 9

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Camps Camps Camps Camps Camps

which is right for your child?

cont'd. from p. 8

ferred a really good summer program, almost like camp.”

The day camp Silverstone chose is located within a large community centre and offers a good balance between indoor and outdoor activities.

“They have swimming lessons twice a week, and I’m happy that it’s in an indoor pool because of the sun exposure. Plus I like the person who runs the camp. I know she does a good job.”

When Samantha is older, Silverstone said she would consider sending her to sleep-away camp.

“If we could afford it and she wanted to go, I absolutely would send her for a month. I think it’s a good experience.”

Most sleep-away camps offer one or two month options, although some have two-week starters for younger campers to try. Children who attend sleep-away camp should be comfortable being away from their parents and have a certain level of independence to be able to take care of their personal hygiene. These camps, which accept children from six to 17 years of age, also offer activities outside the realm of day camp, such as camping, overnight canoe trips and more.

Sid Milech knows a lot about children and camp. He started out in 1974 as the director of Redwood Country Day Camp, was the principal of Jewish People and Peretz School, and is now the director of the Y Country Camp, which is located in the Laurentians near Mont Tremblant. He said the most significant factor in knowing when a child is ready for sleep-away camp is when they ask to go.

“I think the first sign is when the child actually mentions it to the parent, as opposed to a parent mentioning it to the child,” said Milech. However, even if a child doesn’t

ask to go, it doesn’t mean they wouldn’t enjoy the experience. Knowing your youngster is comfortable at sleepovers is a good sign that they may be ready for overnight camp. That’s when a one- or two-week starter camp at the age of seven or eight may spark an interest, he said, as well as sending them with a friend, something that is “reassuring for the child.”

Starter camp was just the ticket to getting Westmount resident Edie Leday’s child hooked on sleep-away camp. Two summers ago, when her daughter, Sascha Ouaknine, was eight, she signed her up for one week at the camp her husband had gone to. Her daughter ended up staying for two. The following summer she went for a month, and she is going back again this summer.

“When she came home after two weeks, we put her back into day camp and she wasn’t happy,” said Ledany.

“She was bored. And she [had] loved day camp, but after being in sleep-away



This summer will be Samantha Silverstone’s first day camp experience.

camp and feeling ‘I’m mature, I can take care of myself,’ plus the kind of activities she could do up north in the country – you just can’t compare with the city.”

Collecting pennies for clean water



Roslyn school students collected pennies the week of February 4 to support RBC’s Blue Water projects. Their campaign was called “Change for Change.” One bag was given to each classroom and in one week, 26 bags of pennies were collected, according to Debbi Jardine, Roslyn’s recreation coordinator, who supervises and runs community service and poverty awareness projects. A filled bag totalled about \$25 and was supposed to provide clean water for one person in a developing country for life, she explained. From left: grade 3 students Ella Kirklaan, Sophia Dimitrakopoulos and Owen Frankel helped bag some of the coins collected from their classmates.

Photo courtesy of Debbi Jardine



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Station 12 Reports

Greene Ave. café burglarized

BY ISAAC OLSON

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

Station 12 police are investigating an early morning burglary of a café and bakery located on Greene Ave. near St. Catherine St.

Constable Caroline Gauthier said the business’s motion detector was activated from inside the store at around 4:15 am on February 7. When police arrived shortly after, they discovered the front door’s dead-bolt was completely removed. The lock, she said, was of high quality and the person who removed it knew what they were doing.

Video surveillance footage shows a man in his mid-30s calmly walking up to the café’s cash register and cleaning it out, said Gauthier. He then went into a back office, found a lockbox and stole more cash, though the constable declined to disclose the exact amount.

Police have sent the lockbox to its foren-

sics identification unit with hopes of lifting fingerprints off its surface. Clear images of the unmasked thief were also captured on camera.

The suspect, she said, walked with steady intent, showing that he was a seasoned veteran of the trade rather than an opportunistic, smash-and-grab type. He had brown hair, blue jeans and a sports jacket with white lettering on the front. He is a thin man, she said, and was wearing running shoes. Anybody with any information is encouraged to contact police and can do so anonymously.

Gauthier said it is important that people phone the police if they ever see someone lurking around commercial buildings at odd hours of the night or in other suspicious locations.

Leaking hydrant valve reroutes traffic

A leaking shut-off valve on a blue water hydrant February 4 related to the Metro system caused traffic to be rerouted off St. Catherine between York and Claremont, Public Works officials said. The repair work took a couple of

Colquhoun follows suspect at 4 am

Thief caught in foot pursuit to Clanranald

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It was shortly before 4 am on February 5 that a Public Security sergeant took off on foot to follow a man acting suspiciously as he went up Victoria and along Côte St. Luc Rd. to Clanranald, where he was apprehended by police from Station 26 in Côte des Neiges, said director David Segwick.

The man had been seen walking on private property and attempting to enter several parked cars, Public Security officials said.

An individual arrested by police from Station 26 in Côte des Neiges was found

in possession of iPods, charging cords and several GPS units. One GPS was found to belong to a Westmount resident of Wood Ave., who was reported to have agreed to press charges.

“It’s one thing to follow someone in a car,” said director David Sedgwick in relating the incident. “But it just shows the dedication of an officer to get out and follow someone on foot for a kilometre at minus 20°C.”

He said it was at 3:40 am when Sgt. Kim Colquhoun spotted a man of about 6-foot-2, wearing a bomber-type jacket walk off a property on Lansdowne. She kept him in sight as he headed south to Westmount Ave. and west to Victoria.

Leaving the patrol car, she followed him north on Victoria to The Boulevard as he wandered on and off various properties. As soon as she saw him try the door handles of parked cars, she called police and continued to follow him west until police stopped him at Côte St. Luc Rd. and Clanranald at 4:05 am.

NDG SOCCER ASSOCIATION 2013 REGISTRATION

Saturday February 23, 2013 – 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Saturday March 16, 2013 – 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sunday March 24, 2013 – 2 p.m. - 7 p.m.

WHERE: Le Manoir Gym, 5319 Notre-Dame-de-Grace Ave (corner of NDG Avenue & Decarie Blvd).

PLAYER PHOTOS

ALL PLAYERS should be present in case they need their photograph taken for their ID card.

NDG Soccer Association cannot process the registration of any player who needs a player photo taken and is not at the registration in-person.

NDG Soccer Association also requires copies of every player’s medicare card and a 2013 proof of residence (Bell, Videotron or Hydro bill) with the player’s family name on it.

NDG Soccer Association welcomes players from outside of the CDN/NDG Borough. Ours is a full summer league from June to September and we have children from **Westmount**, Cote St. Luc, Hampstead, Montreal West, Lasalle and Verdun playing on our recreational and competitive teams. SOCCER IS FUN IN NDG.

Come and join our expanding leagues!

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DATES D’INSCRIPTION DE L’ASSOCIATION DE SOCCER DE NDG POUR LA SAISON D’ÉTÉ 2013

Samedi 23 février 2013 – 10h-15h

Samedi 16 mars 2013 – 10h-15h

Dimanche 24 mars 2013 – 14h-19h

OÙ : le gymnase du Manoir, 5319, avenue Notre-Dame-de-Grace Ave (intersection du boul. Décarie).

PHOTOS DES JOUEURS

TOUS LES JOUEURS doivent être présents s’ils ont besoin de prendre leur photo pour leur carte d’identité.

L’ASNDG ne pourra pas finaliser l’inscription de joueurs qui doivent avoir une photo mais qui ne se présentent pas lors de l’inscription.

L’ASNSG aura aussi besoin d’une copie de la carte d’assurance maladie du joueur et d’une preuve de résidence de 2013 (facture de Bell, Vidéotron, Hydro-Québec, etc.) portant le nom de famille du joueur.

L’Association de soccer de NDG est ouverte aux joueurs qui ne résident pas dans l’arrondissement de CDN/NDG. Notre saison d’été a lieu du mois de juin au mois de septembre et nous avons des joueurs provenant de **Westmount**, Côte St. Luc, Hampstead, Montréal Ouest, Lasalle et Verdun qui évoluent au sein de nos équipes récréatives et compétitives. ON A BEAUCOUP DE PLAISIR AU SOCCER À NDG. Joignez-vous à nos ligues en pleine expansion!

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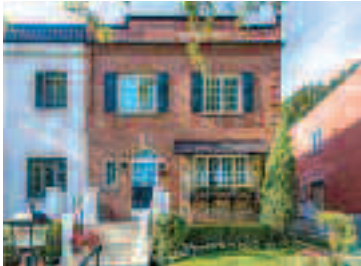


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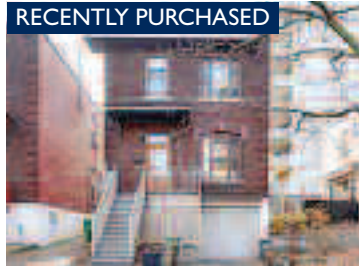
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74 McNIDER, OUTREMONT \$1,075,000*
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Views, views, views...



302 GROSVENOR, WESTMOUNT \$1,095,000
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300 DES SOMMETS, #112, ÎLE-DES-SOEURS \$995,000
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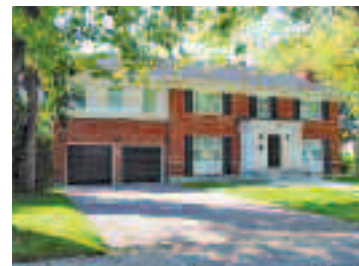
62 SIMONE-DE BEAUVOIR, ÎLE-PERROT \$3,500,000
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Nazareth House's Toque Tuesday for the homeless



Nazareth House representatives, from left, director Sheila Woodhouse, volunteers Zachary Doyle and George Carathanasis, and house manager Doris Mercier, spent the day at Alexis Nihon Plaza February 5 selling toques to support and raise awareness for the 200,000 people in Canada without a place to call home. It was Toque Tuesday, which is part of Raising the Roof's annual National Toque Campaign, of which the Nazareth House is a community partner. The shelter is located on Seymour Ave., a few blocks east of Atwater.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Martin questions tax hike for new windows

In this day and age when the city is encouraging sustainability, Councillor Patrick Martin raised the issue at the February 4 council meeting of having his property taxes increased for installing new energy-efficient windows in 2012.

He said he found it "quite interesting" and suggested it was something that councillors Cynthia Lulham, as commissioner of Urban Planning, and Theodora Samiotis, commissioner of the Environment, should look into.

Lulham answered that Montreal was responsible for valuations on which taxes are based.

He later told the *Independent* that he re-

ceived an additional tax bill from Westmount recently for 2012 reassessing him \$42.65 for about half a year after his new windows were installed. He wondered why if he was taxed for his new windows, why not for his new roof?

He considered both windows and roof to be in the same category of protecting the building envelope.

When various subsidies and incentives are being offered for improving energy efficiency in the home, he wondered why residents should be taxed for installing new windows, a tax that, in his case, would add \$100 to the annual bill.

—LS

PSO finds child alone in car

A small sleeping child left alone in an unlocked car was spotted by a public safety officer patrolling on St. Catherine near Wood February 2, Public Security officials said. The child was aged about 2 or 3 years. While efforts to track down the driver of the car at several nearby stores proved unsuccessful, it wasn't until the officer began writing out a ticket for parking in a no-parking zone that the mother came running back.

Woman found barefoot on street

A woman walking barefoot on Sherbrooke across from city hall at 9 am January 29 refused help, Public Security officials said. Answering a call about the woman, officers reported she showed them her membership in the Society for Barefoot Living, which they checked out on the internet. She left heading east and was stopped again on Sherbrooke at Wood, this time by police.

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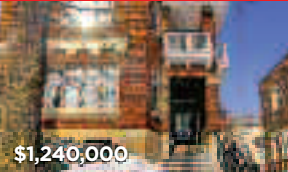
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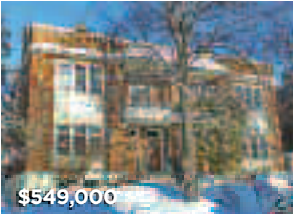
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Bright & sunny upper duplex, 4+2 bdrms, hdwd fls., extra living space in fin. basement, private balcony & garage. mls 10433994



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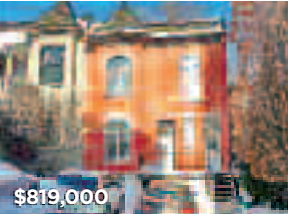
NDG | GIROUARD PARK
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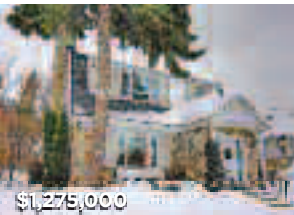
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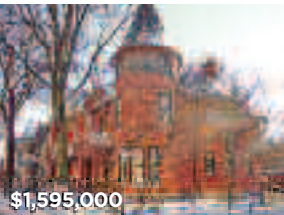
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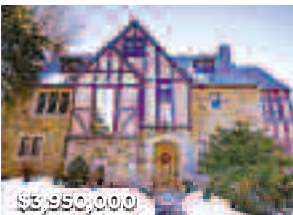
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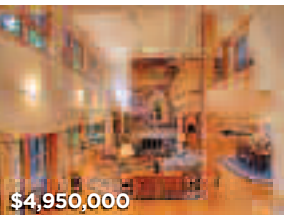
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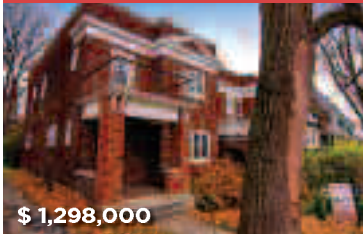
WESTMOUNT | Beautiful stone home located on very prestigious street, 3+1 bedrooms, 3+2 baths.
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WESTMOUNT | STUNNING!! Stone home. Beautifully renovated. 5 bdrms, 3+2 baths. Hardwood flrs, gas f/p, A/C. Park. x2. **J. Boulay/C. Marineau 514.839.9862**

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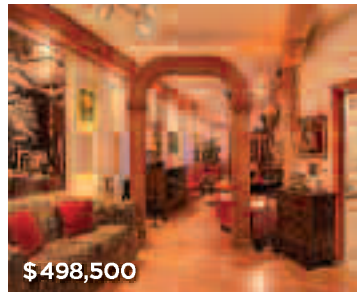
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WESTMOUNT | Beautifully renovated 2 1/2 story res. 3+1 bdrms, 3+1 bths. Finished basement. Fireplace. Jacuzzi. 2 garages ++ **H. Kaghazchi 514.928.5415**



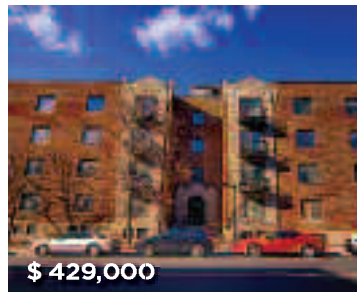
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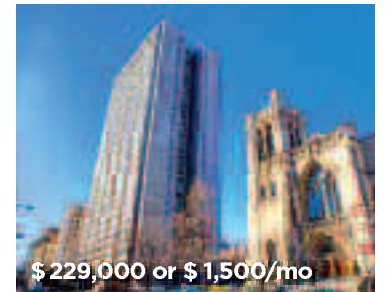
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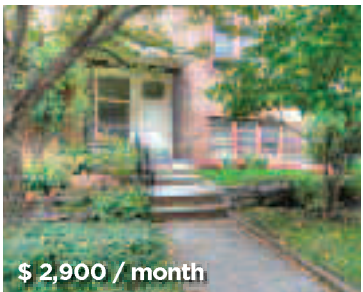
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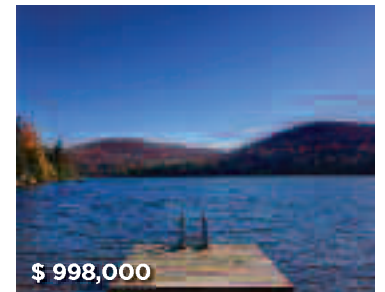
WESTMOUNT | GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY to move into a great 2 bedroom apartment at a discount price. Garage.
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514.917.1912



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Hamid Sedigh Kaghazchi
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Maryam Khaleghi
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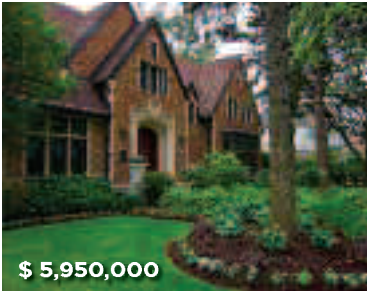
WESTMOUNT | **SUNNYSIDE**
Traditional beauty on desirable street. 4 bedrooms, 3+1 baths, 2 garages. **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



NEW TO MARKET

\$ 1,150,000

WESTMOUNT | **ELM STREET**
Renovated and attractive row house, steps from Greene Ave. 4 bedrooms, open concept, 2 ext. park. **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



\$ 5,950,000

TMR | **GENEVA CRESCENT**
Built in 2005. 18,000 sq. ft. corner lot. 4+2 bdrms. inground pool. **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



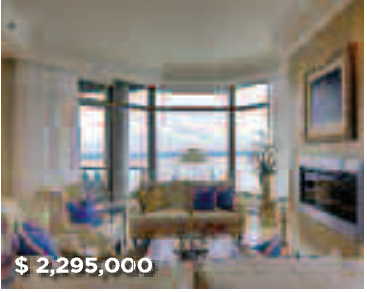
\$ 3,500,000

WESTMOUNT | **LEXINGTON**
Classic Art Deco residence on 11,000 sq. ft. pool-sized lot. 6 bdrms. **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



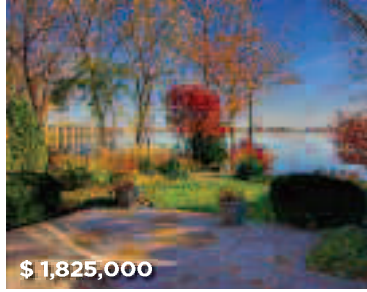
\$ 2,495,000

AHUNTSIC | **WATERFRONT**
Estate on 36,000 sq. ft. double lot. Tennis court, indoor pool. **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



\$ 2,295,000

NUNS' ISLAND | **SOMMETS II**
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\$ 1,825,000

NUNS' ISLAND | **TOWNHOUSE**
Prestigious residence on the St-Lawrence river. 3 bdrms. Spectacular views!! **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



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WESTMOUNT ADJ. | **MANOIR DE BELMONT** Elegant renovated 2+1 bdrm condo. Gourmet kitchen. 2 garages. **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



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CITÉ DU HAVRE | **PROFIL-O**
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WESTMOUNT | **TOWNHOUSE**
Charming townhouse. 3 bdrms converted into 2. Close to Victoria Village. 1 garage. **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



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WESTMOUNT SQUARE | Just like a private suite, reconfigured fabulous sun-filled pied-à-terre. High-end finishes. 1 gar. **Carl R-Fontaine 514.726.2077**



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Opening of Peru exhibition at MMFA attended by VIPs



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) opened the fascinating exhibit “Peru: Kingdoms of the Sun and the Moon” for free January 31 to the some 1,000 VIP members who stood patiently in lines that curled around the large entrance area. One tiny girl of about 5 years old twirled around happily in her lovely skirt whilst waiting.

MMFA director **Nathalie Bondil** introduced the exhibition, including the “Peruvian Mona Lisa,” as it has been dubbed by

international media, which has become a symbol of the war on art trafficking. The gold ornament in the shape of an octopus was stolen from a reportedly illegal Peruvian tomb excavation in 1988, but was found in a London gallery by Scotland Yard in 2004. It was returned to Peru in 2006 and is now part of the collection at the Museo de la Nacion in Lima.

Noted amidst the standing-room-only crowd were **Victor Pimentel**, curator of the exhibition; **Michael Applebaum**, mayor of Montreal; **Rafael Varón Gabai**, deputy minister of Cultural Heritage and Cultural Industries, Peru; the MMFA’s **Thomas Bastien** and **Danielle Champagne**; **Charles Lapointe**, CEO/president Tourisme Montréal and the new chairperson of the Conseil des Arts de Montréal.

Westmounters noted were **Bunny Berke** and **Larry Lusko**, and artist **Paul-**

Émile Rioux.

The MMFA show is the first time a fantastic mask, dating from 100-800 AD has been out of Peru. It is presented with 370 other works of art – funerary vessels, gold and silver ornaments, paintings, photographs and videos. The exhibit runs until June 16.



Nathalie Bondil and Victor Pimentel.



Rafael Varón Gabai and Michael Applebaum.



Paul-Émile Rioux and Charles Lapointe.



Bunny Berke and Larry Lusko.

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Underdog
Club*

CYNTHIA LEE

Betsy is a beaut, but she isn't the sharpest tool in the shed. So what if her lightbulb doesn't burn the brightest, it isn't the dimmest around either. Let's just say that if she were a person and not a dog, Betsy wouldn't be a candidate for a Nobel prize – you get the picture.

But what Betsy lacks in smarts, the 7-year-old basset hound mix with a smidgen of coonhound makes up for in spades with sweetness. She is an equal opportunity cuddler who has never met a lap she didn't want to nestle in. At any chance, she just hops right in and settles in for a snuggles.

Because of her knack for getting comfy in any place, Betsy's behaviour leads to some inappropriate napping from time to time. This older gal has been known to take a snooze whenever and wherever.

Aside from these funnier quirks, Betsy



Betsy

has some issues which would benefit from some training. She likes to hoard toys and has a penchant for taking what isn't hers into her personal coffers. In a yard with other dogs, Betsy likes to have all the balls and toys in her possession. As you might suspect, this doesn't make her the most popular gal on earth.

The toy possession problem has also transformed into some possessiveness around food as well. And Betsy could also do with some reinforcement in the area of toilet training. She knows the

basics but needs some reminding.

Her rescuers feel that with some work and a lot of love, Betsy can improve greatly in these areas.

Sure, Betsy has her share of idiosyncracies. How about you? Aren't we all lacklustre in a few areas too? If you're like Betsy and lovable to the core but need a helping hand, why not consider the buddy system with Betsy? She's at the Frontier Animal Society. Please drop them a line at frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com or 819.876.7747.

The folks at Frontier would also like to provide an update on Lonnie, the 4-year-old border collie with a history that likely included abuse. "She has really come a long way in the last few months," said a Frontier volunteer, who explained Lonnie is still very timid but not fear-peeing anymore, "which is a big step forward." They are looking for a special adopter who will give her time to trust.

Contact the Underdog Club at contact@underdogclub.org.

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Email: info@groupecopley.com



2013.02.13 • Vol. 1/03
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infoWestmount

HÔTEL DE VILLE

Série conférences du Projet ville en santé :
Apprivoiser la circulation pour une meilleure qualité de vie

Le jeudi 7 mars à 19 h à la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount. Le comité environnemental du PVS de Westmount présente **Dan Lambert**, président de l'Association de marche et de cyclisme de Westmount, qui discutera de la gestion de la circulation en milieu urbain résidentiel. Événement gratuit; bienvenue à tous. Info : 514 989-5284.

CENTRE DES LOISIRS DE WESTMOUNT

Suivez l'avancement du CLW

Suivez l'avancement du projet; envoyez un message à centredesloisirswestmount@westmount.org, suivez-nous sur Twitter @constructalert et aimez-nous sur Facebook au [westmountrecreationcentre](https://www.facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre). De plus, vous trouverez des



photos sur le site web www.westmount.org.
Exposition des plans du CLW
Les plans du nouveau Centre des loisirs de Westmount sont présentement exposés à la Bibliothèque de Westmount et au Victoria Hall.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Piste cyclable : conditions hivernales

Les cyclistes sont invités à consulter le site web de la ville au www.westmount.org ou à s'abonner à Twitter (@westmount_cycle) afin de connaître l'état de la piste cyclable. L'accès peut en être limité en raison du mauvais temps et lors des opérations de déneigement.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Rappel : déneigement

La neige provenant des entrées privées ne doit jamais être poussée ou pelletée dans les rues, ruelles ou trottoirs de la ville. La neige peut être ajoutée aux bancs de neige existants avant le déneigement sans jamais obstruer les trottoirs et la voie publique. Les entrepreneurs et les propriétaires sont passibles d'amendes pour toute infraction.

Lors de la collecte sélective, veuillez déposer votre bac bleu de façon à ne pas entraver le déneigement des rues et des trottoirs.

Patinoires extérieures

Consultez le site web de la Ville au www.westmount.org pour connaître l'état des patinoires extérieures. Leur fermeture temporaire est parfois nécessaire en raison des conditions météorologiques. Info: 514 989-5311.

Prochaine séance du conseil :
le 4 mars

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Les mardis 13 février et 27 février à 10 h 15. Faites preuve de créativité lors de ces ateliers où vous pourrez vous exprimer en vers dans une ambiance décontractée. Info : 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture en anglais

Le mardi 19 février à 19 h. Joignez-vous au club de lecture en anglais pour discuter du roman *Olive Kitteridge* de l'auteure Elizabeth Strout. Info : 514 989-5299.

Club d'échecs et de Scrabble

Le vendredi 22 février à 14 h. Nous sommes toujours à la recherche de nouveaux joueurs. Info : 514 989-5299.

Théâtre: « The Fabulous Fable Factory »

Le dimanche 24 février de 14 h à 15 h au Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke O. Interprétée par la troupe **Teen Tour Theatre**, cette pièce de théâtre interactive présente une sélection de fables connues d'Ésope, dont « *The Tortoise and the Hare* » (Le lièvre et la tortue) et « *The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse* » (Le rat de ville et le rat des champs). Pour les 4 à 12 ans. Gratuit; inscription obligatoire. Info : 514 989-5229.

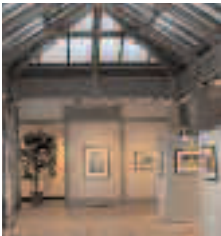
ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

La galerie du Victoria Hall

La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter les œuvres d'**Anna Gedalof** et d'**Aileen Marie Vantomme** du 14 février au 9 mars 2013. Info : victoriahall@westmount.org ou 514 989-5521.

Galerie : appel de dossiers

La galerie du Victoria Hall lance un appel de dossiers pour sa programmation de la saison 2013-2014 (septembre 2013 à août 2014). Ce concours s'adresse aux artistes professionnels ou émergents qui habitent Westmount. Les propositions doivent inclure 10 photographies ou images électroniques d'œuvres



récentes (programmation générale) ou 5 photographies (volet groupe); une liste des œuvres présentées et les renseignements s'y rattachant (titre, grandeur, année, etc.). Svp indiquer si vous poser votre candidature pour la programmation générale ou le volet exposition de groupe, ou pour les deux.

Période d'inscription annuelle : du 15 février au 15 avril. Les dossiers doivent être envoyés au sein du Comité de sélection, Victoria Hall, 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, Westmount, H3Z 1E2 ou déposés au Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest. Info : 514 989-5521 ou victoriahall@westmount.org.

Association historique de Westmount

Le jeudi 21 février à 19 h à la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount. Conférencier : Stephen Glass, directeur musical de la Congrégation Shaar Hashomayim de Westmount. Info: 514 989-5510.

CITY HALL

Healthy City Project Speaker Series:

Tame Traffic to Improve Livability

Thursday, March 7th at 7 p.m. at the Westmount Public Library. The Westmount HCP Environment Committee presents **Dan Lambert**, President of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association, who will speak about managing traffic in urban residential areas. Free; everyone welcome. Info: 514 989-5284.

WESTMOUNT RECREATION CENTRE

Follow the progress of the WRC

Receive updates on the construction by sending a message to westmountrecreationcentre@westmount.org. You can also follow us on Twitter : @constructalert and like us on Facebook at [westmountrecreationcentre](https://www.facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre). The latest photos may also be seen at www.westmount.org.



WRC Plans on Display

Plans of the new Westmount Recreation Centre are now on display at the Westmount Public Library and at Victoria Hall.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Bicycle path: winter conditions

Cyclists using the De Maisonneuve bicycle path are invited to check www.westmount.org for updates on conditions or subscribe to Twitter (@westmount_cycle). The bicycle path may close if necessary due to weather conditions or snow removal operations.

PUBLIC WORKS

Reminder - snow clearing

Snow from private driveways and walkways should never be placed on public sidewalks, lanes or streets. Snow may be added to the existing snowbanks prior to removal, but must not be placed where it obstructs public roadways or sidewalks. Fines may be levied on homeowners and/or contactors who violate these regulations.

On recycling day, please ensure that your blue box is out of the path of Westmount's sidewalk plows.

Outdoor Skating Rinks

Consult the City website at www.westmount.org to check on the condition of the outdoor skating rinks, as weather conditions may require their closure from time to time. Info: 514 989-5311.

Next Council Meeting:
March 4

LIBRARY

Poetry Workshop

Wednesdays, February 13 and 27 at 10:15 a.m. Get creative in these light-hearted workshops that get you to express yourself in verse. Info: 514 989-5299.

English Book Club

Tuesday, February 19 at 7 p.m. Join the English Book Club to discuss the novel *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. Info: 514 989-5299.

Chess and Scrabble Club

Friday, February 22 at 2 p.m. Drop by for a friendly game; we look forward to meeting new players. Info: 514 989-5299.

Theatre: The Fabulous Fable Factory

Sunday, February 24, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke Street West. This interactive play, performed by the **Teen Tour Theatre**, presents some of Aesop's best known fables, including *The Tortoise and the Hare* and *The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse*. For ages 4 to 12. Free; registration required. Info: 514-989-5229.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Gallery at Victoria Hall

The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to feature the works of **Anna Gedalof** and **Aileen Marie Vantomme** from February 14 to March 9, 2013. Info: 514 989-5521/victoriahall@westmount.org.

Gallery: Call for projects

The Gallery at Victoria Hall announces its Call for projects for its 2013-2014 exhibition season (September 2013 to August 2014). Emerging or professional artists who are residents of Westmount are invited to apply. Submissions should include 10 photographs or electronic images of recent works for a season exhibition or 5 photographs for the group exhibition category; a descriptive list of the photographs submitted (including title, size, year completed, etc.); a short résumé and an artist's statement. Please indicate whether you are applying for a season exhibition, the group show, or for both.

Annual registration period: February 15 to April 15. Please forward your project to: Gallery Selection Committee, Victoria Hall, 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, H3Z 1E2 or deliver it to Victoria Hall - 4626 Sherbrooke Street West. Info: 514 989-5521 or victoriahall@westmount.org.

Westmount Historical Association

Thursday, February 21 at 7 p.m. at the Westmount public Library. Guest presenter: Stephen Glass, Musical Director, Congregation Shaar Hashomayim in Westmount. Info: 514 989-5510.



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Afternoon film club **"For Romantics Only!"** 2 pm in the Westmount Room at the Westmount Public Library. Register: circulation desk or call 514.989.5299.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- Back-to-back **demolition hearings** for 91 Summit Crescent and 3219 The Boulevard (Braemar) at 5 pm and 6 pm respectively, at city hall. (See story January 29, p. 2.)
- **Barbara Lewis** performs "Passionate Heart, never too late for love," 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. Free.
- Artists **Anna Gedalof and Aileen Marie Vantomme** exhibit their work at The Gallery at Victoria Hall, until March 9.
- **Montreal Storytellers' Guild** celebrate the theme of love and courtship with stories, songs and poems, 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Coffee/tea and cookies. Free.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- **"Heritage Day,"** a one-day display of photographs showing historical neighbourhoods in Westmount, 12 to 9 pm in the Westmount Public Library. Info: 514.932.6688. Members of the Westmount Historical Association will be in attendance to explain and answer questions.
- **Sylvia Martin-Laforge**, director general of Quebec Community Groups Network, speaks at the meeting of the Women's Canadian Club of Montreal, 12:30 pm at the Unitarian Church, 5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd. Sandwich lunch for sale, 11:15 am to 12:15 pm. Cost: free for members; \$10 for visitors. Info: Carolyn Roper 514.932.4005.

Snow removal, cont'd. from p. 1

For now, the city will maintain its noise by-law regulations regarding a ban on overnight snow removal by private contractors from 9 pm to 7 am but will tolerate it up to 11 pm and after 5 am after 10 cm of snow has fallen.

Meanwhile the noise by-law will be reviewed to determine if adjustments can be made. The city will also look into whether it can allow certain kinds of equipment to operate on private lots without the back-up beeping.

The city is also looking into ways of improving communication with private contractors as well as residents by enabling them to find out in advance where city crews will be working the next day.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- Public meeting to present plan for new **Greene square**, 7 pm at Centre Greene. (See story, p. 5.)
- **"Reform Judaism: Present and Future"** with Rabbi Lisa Grushcow, 12 to 1:30 pm at Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom. Open to all. Free. Bring your own dairy lunch. Coffee and tea provided. Also Tuesday, February 26. RSVP the Friday before. 514.937.3575, ext. 213.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- A lecture on the Shaar Hashomayim by the **Westmount Historical Association**, 7 pm to 9 pm in the Westmount Public Library. The first in the winter/spring series, prepared by Doreen Lindsay, and focusses on synagogues and churches in Westmount. Admission free for members; non-members \$5 at the door. Info: 514.932.6688.
- **LaFlorya Gauthier** discusses her new biography of Isaiah T. Montgomery, a former slave who founded her home town in Mississippi in 1887, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater. Free.

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My husband, the metaphor mixer



On the Lighter Side

INGRID KOVITCH-DANNENBAUM

My husband, Herb*, possesses a unique literary gift.

With little effort – and possibly no conscious intent whatsoever – he can transform figures of speech rife with subtle yet profound import into phrases entirely devoid of meaning. Casually tossing around such linguistic staples as “quick as a dart” and “clean as a fiddle,” he gives new meaning to the term “mixed metaphor.”

Herb is always flexible in his approach to problems because there is, after all, “more than one way to skin a fish.” And if a delicate tack is unsuccessful in getting the job done, he is not above “taking matters into drastic steps.” With energy and perseverance, he will exhaust all options until he is finally able to “hit the nail on the nose.”

Social conversations are peppered with malapropisms. Professional encounters

have seen the début of many heretofore untried verbal creations. He has even been known to slip an occasional “re-phrasing” into formal presentations.

Yet remarkably, apart from me, no one else ever seems to notice. Is it the grace and facility with which he incorporates these fabrications into his speech? Or his staunch conviction and bold authority? Surely I can’t be the only one who finds that his word choice sticks out like a sore foot?

Some might (quite reasonably) contend that Herb’s irreverent mélange of expressions is a scornful adulteration of our fine language. Others might cite such prattle as evidence for a dyslexic-type of processing disorder. But time and compassion have allowed me to appreciate this peculiarity for what it really is: a masterful capacity for verbal mosaicism.

While the rest of us remain mired in ordinary vernacular – using and overusing tired metaphors and decaying clichés – Herb enjoys a childlike aptitude for genius and creativity. His mind remains so lithe, so acrobatic and so enviably unencumbered by linguistic convention.

And why shouldn’t he luxuriate in such benign recreation? After all, is a whistle

any cleaner than a fiddle? Is one any more likely to skin a cat than a fish? (I hope not.)

Unconstrained by standard usage, Herb is free to savour a limitless range of expression. While I once struggled to find a gentle yet vivid image for a friend, whose style of dress minimized her ample rear, Herb summarily described her as an expert in “making the least of her most.”

Now who could decry such wizardry?

What *is* perplexing, however, is why Herb does not extend the same tolerance

to others who dabble in similarly fanciful lingo. A clear example, I suppose, of one who can dish it out, but can’t eat it too.

** name changed upon request*

Westmounter Ingrid Kovitch Dannenbaum is an avid dabbler in sports, cooking, DIY projects, outdoor pursuits and crafts (when she is not accumulating pets and corralling her four kids, that is). In her spare time, she works as a family doctor.

How to make a winter shelter for stray cats



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Last winter, I received an email presenting these ideas for easy-to-make winter shelters for stray cats. I feel it is worthwhile to share these ideas with you again as we live through some more cold weeks. Maybe you know of someone who has a cat living near their garage or backyard for whom they would like to offer some form of shelter in this freezing winter climate.

As many of you know, I brought my then-abandoned-in-the-park-on-Olivier-Ave. cat Maximus in from the cold in -30° C weather one horrible night when I was taking my dog out for her evening walk. My neighbours on Olivier, Helen and Trevor Giles, had prepared a shelter box for him along the front foundation of their home and they had tried over and over to bring him into their house but he could not be coaxed inside.

The polystyrene box was made to be slipped into a vinyl carry-all box sold for household storage use. The polystyrene frame was insulated with a radiant barrier (aluminium stuff that radiates back the cat’s

body heat). Bedding was cedar chips (for flea and bug control) and hay, with extra hay between the polystyrene box and the vinyl carry-all box to keep cold air out. The inside and the outside of the box have a side opening for access.

Once the cover of the vinyl carry-all box is added over the polystyrene cover, the shelter is sealed and lightweight, which makes it easy to move under the house or in any other area that is protected from the wind (especially the opening) and the snow, so that the cats do not get buried.

Another hint: on really cold days, putting one of those magic heating bags that heat up in the microwave and stay hot for hours, would be wonderful to put in with dry food and warm water as well.

Additional information for a number of structures of this type is available on the web.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



The inside box is made of polystyrene that has good insulating properties.

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PAR ORDRE DU TRIBUNAL :

Avis est donné au Défendeur que la demanderesse a déposé au greffe de la Cour du Québec du district de Montréal une requête introductive d'instance. Une copie de cette requête et de l'Avis au défendeur ont été livrées à l'intention du Défendeur Saher Mohamer El-Matri, au greffe du Tribunal, au palais de justice de Montréal, situé au 1, rue Notre-Dame Est, à Montréal.

Il est ordonné au Défendeur de comparaître dans un délai de 30 jours de la publication de la présente ordonnance.

A DÉFAUT de comparaître dans ce délai, un jugement par défaut pourra être rendu contre vous sans autre avis des l'expiration de ce délai.

Si vous comparez, la demande sera présentée le 18 mars 2013, en salle 2.05 du Palais de justice et le tribunal pourra, à cette date, exercer les pouvoirs nécessaires en vue d'assurer le bon déroulement de l'instance ou procéder à l'audition de la cause, à moins que vous n'ayez convenu par écrit avec les avocats de la Demanderesse d'un calendrier des débattues à respecter en vue d'assurer le bon déroulement de l'instance, lequel devra être déposé au greffe du Tribunal.

À Montréal, le 18 février 2012

COPIE COMPTÉE

ANNE OUELLETTE

Greffier adjoint

J.O. 0009

Trent takes on mergers, mega-city proponents at Rotary lunch meeting

Mayor Peter Trent was in fighting form February 6 when he spoke to the Rotary Club of Westmount about his book, *The Merger Delusion*, at its weekly Victoria Hall lunch.

He attacked the municipal mergers (in his view “annexations”) of late 2001 and their various proponents, including former PQ cabinet minister Louise Harel (now head of the Vision Montreal municipal party), former Liberal premier Jean Charest, former Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay and the French-language media generally, which he notes is now starting to re-examine its generally pro-merger stance.

According to Trent, the mergers cost Montreal \$400 million annually in extra operating costs, which pales in comparison to Trent’s \$150 million-per-year estimate of Montreal’s “cost of corruption” in the capital expenditures field. But where, asked Trent rhetorically, is the special commission into these larger costs?

“That’s why I wrote this bloody book,” he said.

Trent contended that Harel knew this increased spending would happen as well as the untruth of other “merger

myths,” such as that existing Montreal taxpayers would benefit, that mergers were a worldwide trend and that Quebec municipalities were routinely merged by provincial decree.

Trent vs. Charest

He accused Charest of reneging on his promise to allow true de-mergers by creating a process for incomplete ones that kept majority-demerger communities from exiting their forced marriages if they were below a 35-percent-of-total-voters threshold. He attacked Tremblay for promising not to campaign against demergers at the time of his first election in 2001 and then doing so.

The talk was not without its lighter moments. Trent vied with noted Rotary punster John Donovan for the worst joke of the day, “When I was first elected to council, I was called an ‘alderman’ and women like older men.” He also encouraged book buyers, “We have a few here it just so happens.”

Rotary president Ian Moodie thanked Trent for his speech, “We take great pride in having you in Westmount.”

City councillors Nicole Forbes and Victory Drury were also in attendance.



Real estate appraiser, Independent columnist and Rotary guest Andy Dodge asked Mayor Peter Trent about whether Westmount’s low pre-merger tax rates were a factor in proponents’ desire to merge it with Montreal. Trent replied that pay-as-you-go capital expenditures and prudent management had reduced those rates and Westmount’s debt before merger, which ended up working against Westmount because Montreal kept the pay-as-you-go level of taxation but financed all capital expenditures with debt, which Westmount took with it when it demerged in early 2006.

Photo: Independent

Love stories raise funds for Montreal Children’s Library



Photo: Martin C. Barry

Professional storytellers Stéphanie Bénéteau (on stage) and Roman Pylat captivated the imaginations of more than 50 people during “Stories of Love,” a fundraising evening of storytelling held at Mountinside United Church on February 9 for the benefit of the Montreal Children’s Library. With Valentine’s Day not far off, the two recited tales about love and relationships. The library operates three branches in Montreal, including one in the Atwater Library.

A truly white wedding



About 80 people gathered around a couple at what appeared to be a marriage ceremony February 9 at around 4 pm in Westmount Park. The bride was dressed in an off-white gown with a grey coat and winter boots.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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Westmount Soccer Club expands to 4 teams

The Westmount Soccer Club, which was founded last year, hopes to grow from one initial team to four this summer. There will be boys' U11, U14 and U16 teams, as well as a girls' U11 team. Team try-outs will be held in early May, and the season will run from late May until the end of September.

Last year's U13 boys' team finished its regular season with a third-place result in the Lac St. Louis league.

"The city operates a very popular spring

house-league program, and the new inter-city Westmount Soccer Club will allow our young soccer players to continue developing their skills throughout the summer, and especially to keep playing their favourite summer game with their Westmount friends and against skilled, competitive players from other communities," the group said in a press release.

Additional information and registration is available online at www.westmountsoccer.org

Murdoch to coach provincial lacrosse team

Westmount lacrosse team head coach Tim Murdoch was recently selected as head coach of Quebec's provincial (under 19) lacrosse team for 2013. He is also head coach of men's varsity lacrosse at McGill. The provincial team will play for the First Nations Trophy, a six-team national championship tournament to be held in Montreal over Labour Day weekend.

Murdoch started the Westmount lacrosse club in 2010 in conjunction with the city's Sports and Recreation department. Last year, the club's roster was composed of 22 teenagers spanning grades 7 through 11. It competes independently against high schools in Montreal, as well as lacrosse clubs in the northeastern United States.

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Post office feedback deadline is Feb. 15

.....
cont'd. from p. 1

for residents to protest to Canada Post (see January 22, p. 1). "Making a lot of noise," was probably the only way, Trent suggested.

He told Fellerath that his recognition of the post office's value was "very meaningful coming from you," and he thanked

Fellerath for contributions he had made over the years to the community.

The deadline imposed by Canada Post for citizenry feedback is February 15. The petition is to be taken to the office of Westmount-Ville Marie MP Marc Garneau a few days before.

The city's resolution is also to be forwarded to Garneau as well the minister of Transport Denis Lebel, minister of state

for Transport Stephen Fletcher, as well as the president of the Montreal local of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers Alain Duguay. It will also go to the president of Canada Post, Deepak Chopra, and board chair Marc Courtois.



Gerard Fellerath addresses council February 4 while Jane Atkinson waits her turn.

.....
Letters, cont'd. from p. 6

ance.

The idea will not benefit the community, but would be detrimental because:

- cyclists would encounter dangers, especially during periods of rain or snow;
- the park would be a split entity.

In consideration of the park and the Olmsted legacy, let us consider the following: Originally a road ran through it – the road, from Melville Ave. to Academy Rd., was closed off to create one large integrated park (why are some people trying to reverse this?).

Let Westmount Park be a real park. Place stalls to slow down the gung-ho, speeding cyclists or divert the bike path away from the park entirely.

STAN GROSSMAN,
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

Electronic Independents available

Enjoy the Indie at supper time on Tuesdays! Sign up by writing us: office@westmountindependent.com.

Snowboarders clear out as PSOs arrive

Youths who piled snow on the public steps from Mount Pleasant to Holton for snowboarding were already removing it when public safety officers arrived at the scene January 30 after a call at 12:39 pm. They had been spotted by Public Works personnel who were believed to have spoken to them, Public Security officials said.

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Surrey Gardens bungalow getting second storey



History by the house

ANDY DODGE, CRA

In 1955, bungalows were the stylish model of house, following in the footsteps of Frank Lloyd Wright and “Usonian” architecture (minimalist style which accommodated the baby boom following World War II).

The style moved into the built-up community of Westmount and found a foothold in the largely undeveloped area at the top of Westmount mountain, where large lots had been drawn up and there was plenty of space for a house that would have living and sleeping facilities on the same floor.

Typical of this trend was 18 Surrey Gardens, whose land and conception were documented last month and which is now being transformed into a two-storey house. The land changed hands seven times between 1947 and 1955 before the house was finally built by Pinkus Construction, perhaps using a design by Stanley Shenkman, who was living nearby at 60 Summit Circle (another '50s house, which was transformed and rebuilt in 1990).

The house was sold to Elise Duhamel,

wife of Ernest Emile Mongeau, a tavern-keeper, who paid \$49,500 on September 28, 1955 at a time when many older Westmount houses lower on the mountain were selling between \$16,000 and \$25,000. Included in the sale was a \$20,000 loan, which Lazar Pinkus had first arranged with Montreal Trust the previous December.

Just five weeks later, on November 2, she sold to Jacques Corbeil, an industrialist, for \$56,000. The Mongeaus had never moved in, and there was still some minor work to be done to complete the house. It appears Corbeil lived there for the next 15 years, though he did not allow his name to be published in *Lovell's* directory for most of that time.

The house sold in 1970 to Honor Owens-Freeman, wife of Henry Arton, for \$65,600, including taking over what was left of the \$20,000 loan originally taken out by Lazar Pinkus, along with a balance of sale to Corbeil for more than \$37,000 – a five-year loan at 7.5 percent interest.

Troubled times

The Artons owned the house for nine years but the ownership was troubled, to say the least. In February 1971, a 60-day notice was issued against the property for lack of payment of the September 1970 mortgage payment. It was noted that the property taxes had not been paid and Corbeil had not been forwarded the proof of



An extra storey is being added to 18 Surrey Gardens, previously a bungalow.

insurance. In April of that year, a judgment was issued in favour of Regent Equipment & Paving Corp. for a \$5,413.30 bill. By October 1974, the Banque Canadienne Nationale successfully sued the Artons for \$35,855.75; though the case had nothing to do with the house, it was noted that the property was a part of the assets, which were owned by the Artons.

In April 1975, Corbeil transferred his mortgage rights to Charles Pipe, and in November 1977, they were assumed by Atlas Fashion Consultants Ltd., now totalling almost \$43,000.

The Artons moved out in 1978 and rented the premises, reportedly to the Swedish Consul General. Then in January 1979, they replaced all the mortgages with an \$85,000 loan from Guardian Trust, but by August they had to turn the house over to Jack Benderman, a real estate agent, for the same \$85,000.

Separation: Round 1

By the next April (1980), as Quebec was preparing for the first separation referendum, Benderman found a buyer, Dieter Poetzsch, an executive who (with his wife) paid a reported \$197,000 for the property in June, after the referendum. Poetzsch sold his share to his wife in May 1983, and a month later she sold to Hoechst Canada Inc. for \$320,000. Peter Blum, who was chief executive officer of the chemical manufacturing company, moved in, according to *Lovell's* directory.

In May 1985, a company known as Dark Star Investments purchased the house next door at 20 Surrey Gardens, and a year later sold 653 square feet of land to Hoechst Canada for \$12,000 or just under \$18.50 per square foot. Then in December

1992, Gemma Cheng purchased the property, including the extra land on the north side, for \$590,000, some 77 percent more than the total investment by Hoechst Canada.

The Westmount real estate market collapsed in the mid-1990s and climbed back slowly after the second provincial referendum. So, by September 1999, Cheng was only able to get \$600,000 for the property, basically what she had paid for it eight years earlier. She and her husband moved around the corner to 85 Gordon Crescent, another bungalow, which they still own. The buyer was a numbered company operated by Maurice Hébert, who made considerable renovations and then resold it in July 2003 to Beata Salihova, married to Oleg Kharlanov, who paid a flat \$1 million for the property.

In July 2006, radio personality Aaron Rand purchased the bungalow for \$1,300,000 and lived there for seven years. He was recently quoted as saying that his favourite street in Montreal was “Surrey Gardens in Westmount because it’s the only street I know that has a grassy median running its length. The view of St. Joseph’s Oratory from up there is amazing, especially at night.”

Rand sold the property in January 2012, this time for \$1,700,000, and the new owner, another numbered company whose president is Isabelle Gagnon, set about making plans to add an extra storey on top of the bungalow.

The city issued a \$600,000 building permit in May last year and the work is now nearly complete.

Part 1 of the 18 Surrey Gardens story “Surrey Gardens bungalow has full history,” was published in December 11, 2012 issue.

Running with the pack



Westmounter Jordan Schacter runs with the pack, January 29 around noon, near Cedar and Ramezay. Schacter is a dog walker.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Author Terry Rigelhof on Philip Surrey



In conversation

HEATHER BLACK

Westmount writer Terry Rigelhof is currently completing a biography of local artist Philip Surrey, which is expected to be launched in the fall. Recently, I spoke to the writer about his new work.

Personal friend

For Rigelhof, Philip Surrey (1910-1990), a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, is an important but undervalued Canadian artist. Known for his urban landscapes and distinct, lyrical style, he is linked with painters Jean Paul Lemieux and Alfred Pellon. Although Rigelhof drew on documents from the national archive, many stories originated in conversations with the artist.

Rigelhof first met Surrey in 1975, and the two became friends after the writer moved to Grosvenor Ave. in 1983. Having much in common – both were born and raised in western Canada – Surrey asked Rigelhof to write a book about him when the writer was older. Rigelhof recalls that Surrey wanted him to have better grasp of “the ambitions, hopes, fears, disappoint-

ments of his generation of artists.”

A book reviewer for the *Globe and Mail*, Rigelhof has a long list of publications to his credit, including *Hooked on Canadian Books: The Good, the Better, and the Best Canadian Novels Since 1984* (2010) and *A Blue Boy in a Black Dress: A Memoir* (1995). Indeed his first piece was published when he was 14. When asked why he wrote, Rigelhof replied: “I have been writing so long that I don’t know how to stop.” And with reference to Surrey, he commented: “I couldn’t draw nearly as well as I could put sentences together.”

Biographer

A former humanities teacher at Dawson College, Rigelhof is interested in all aspects of Surrey’s life. This includes his studies with Frederick Varley, his membership in the Contemporary Arts Society, and his choice of subjects. Westmount sites such as Sherbrooke St. and Victoria Ave. were a source of inspiration for Surrey.

But Surrey was also deeply involved in “civil society” and, during the ’50s, he was the art director of the popular weekly *The Standard*. Not surprisingly, Rigelhof has found political references in Surrey’s work. The painting of the Boston Bruins at the Forum entitled “Changing the Lines” followed the renewal of the 1970 War Measures Act.

Rigelhof hopes the biography will raise the artist’s profile. In researching Surrey’s art, Rigelhof has found the internet to be an invaluable tool which: “has opened many portals to a fuller evaluation of his accomplishments.” And with the book nearing completion, Rigelhof would also like to compile an accompanying catalogue of his work.

Warm reception

As Surrey’s expressive style and poetic humanism is recognized – the artist received the Order of Canada in 1982 – response to the project is positive. As Rigelhof relates: “What’s most gratifying by far is the

Bulldog found, claimed

A parking inspector found a dog running around alone at the corner of Greene and de Maisonneuve January 30. It was described as a beige and white bulldog without identifying tags. The dog was taken to the Public Security station just after 3:30 pm where it was picked up by the owner who called looking for it. The resident of St. Antoine St. had no prior dog offences and was told to obtain a dog licence.

level of interest art dealers and collectors are taking in my work on Philip Surrey even though it’s still in progress.

Surrey’s paintings and drawings can be found at several local art galleries, including Galerie V. Trimont.

Heather Black is a Westmount communication designer. Contact her at blackheajea@gmail.com.

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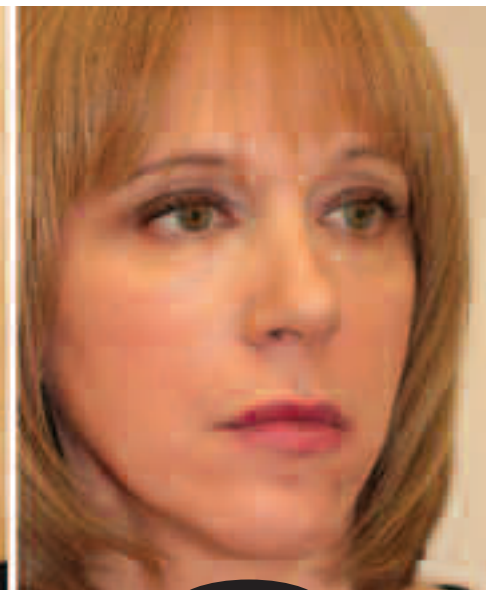
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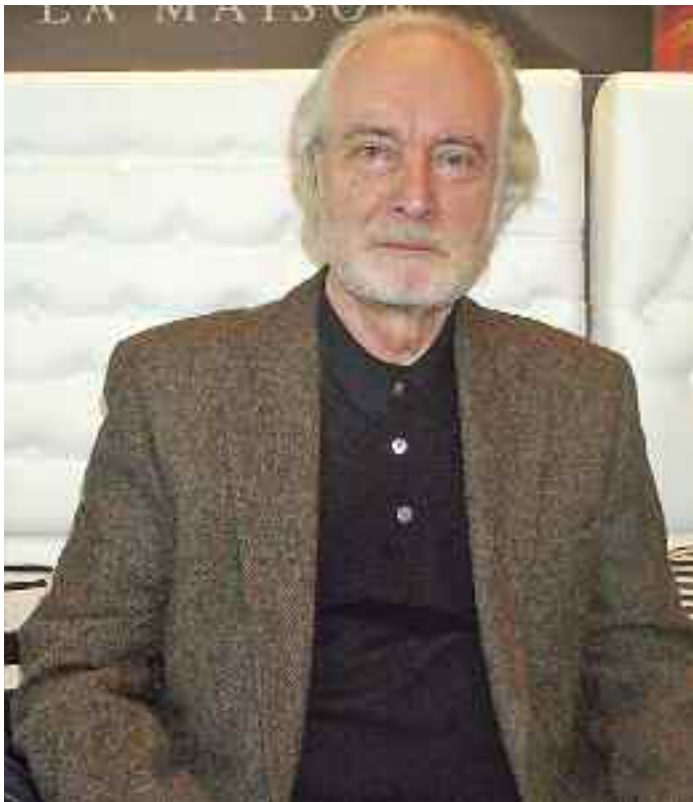
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Terry Rigelhof, January 22.

White stuff in time for Westmount’s winter carnival

PHOTOS BY RALPH THOMPSON



Seth and Savanna Holweger with adult Abigail Jacob enjoy maple taffy at the “cabane à sucre” during the outdoor events of the winter carnival at the Westmount Athletic Grounds February 9.

Outdoor activities of Westmount’s 30th annual winter carnival was held at the Westmount Athletic Grounds on February 9. Activities included tobogganning, skating and sleigh rides. A family dinner and dance event was held the previous evening at Victoria Hall. The weekend event was launched February 7 with a seniors’ carnival luncheon at Contactivity Centre.



Pavil Lenoir, 8, in a snazzy yellow and green snowsuit, scores a goal in the puck-shooting contest.



Five-year-old Jack Fraser celebrates his goal after slipping past goalkeeper Isaac Suh on the refrigerated rink at the Westmount Athletic Grounds during carnival events.



Thomas Jans (red hat) and Noa Van Assche react with lightning speed to fend off a snowball.

Deeply Rooted Values



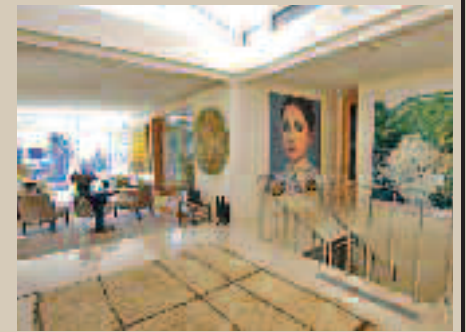
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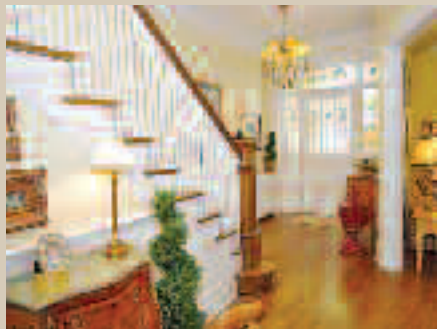
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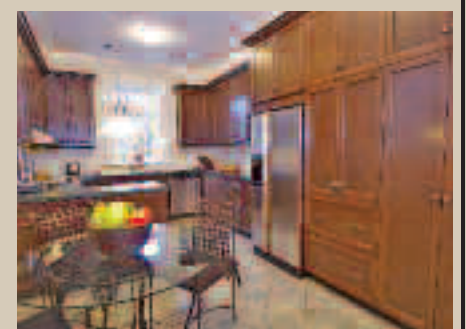
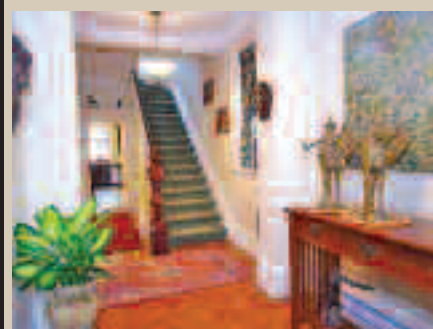
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MLS 8765402



WESTMOUNT \$1,198,000 **4549 Sherbrooke W.**

This 4 bedroom century old detached home has been lovingly restored. Exceptional woodwork throughout, high ceilings, fireplace and large rooms for family living and entertaining. Located across from Westmount Park.

MLS 8653037



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WESTMOUNT

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Beautiful 1910 family home on the flats, steps to the Y, library & park. High ceilings, moldings and woodwork. 4 bedrooms & upstairs den. Main floor powder room. Eat in kitchen. Large back yard with lane access. 2 car parking.

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NDG

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OLD MONTREAL

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A definite WOW factor! Sunrise, sunset, city and waterfront views. This spectacular PH is exquisitely appointed throughout. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 garage. 3500 sq.ft. Ideal layout for entertaining. A must see!



OLD MONTREAL ADJ.

\$274,000

Ideal 1st condo or pied-a-terre. Impeccable 1 bedroom with balcony. High ceilings and hardwood floors. Spa like bathroom. Walking distance to Lachine Canal and Old Port. Owner transferred. Priced to sell!



DOWNTOWN

\$599,000

Classic 3 bedroom in one of Montreal's landmark coops. Well proportioned rooms and great layout. Separate dining room. 2 bathrooms. Doorman. Walking distance to Mont Royal. Impeccably maintained. Excellent value



DOWNTOWN

SOLD

Recently renovated 2 storey condo with open concept living areas. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room. Fireplace. Central air. Garage. Absolutely move-in! Asking \$649,000

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