

■ Around Westmount: Activities for the holidays... page 11

WESTMOUNT EXAMINER

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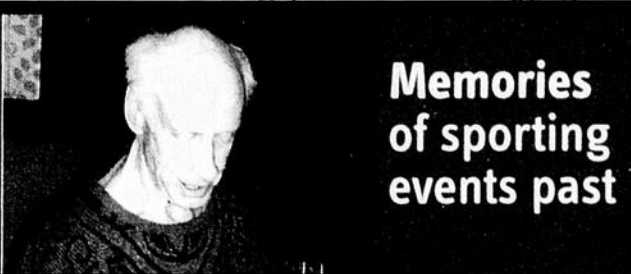
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From brightly lit commercial streets to quiet residential avenues, Westmount is lit up with the spirit of the holiday season. This house on Forden Avenue is one of the many beautifully decorated homes in the community. Photo: Rachelle Fox

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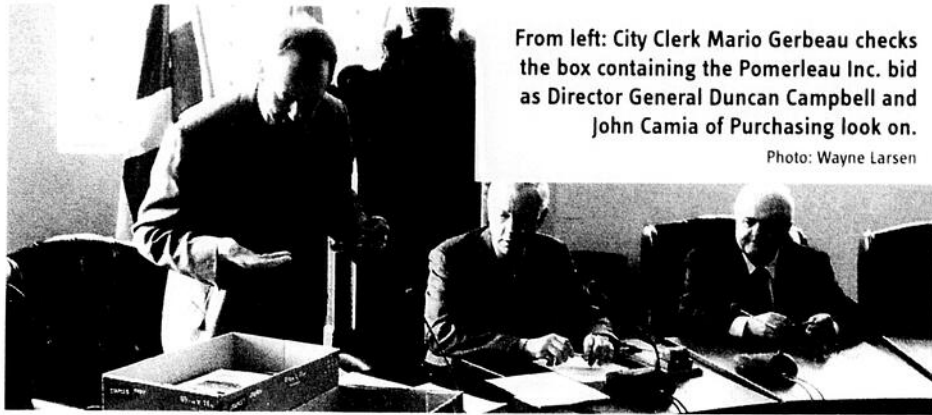
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Arena tender attracts lone bidder



From left: City Clerk Mario Gerbeau checks the box containing the Pomerleau Inc. bid as Director General Duncan Campbell and John Camia of Purchasing look on.

Photo: Wayne Larsen

WAYNE LARSEN

Construction of the controversial Westmount Recreation Centre came one step closer last week with the announcement that the firm Pomerleau Inc. has bid on the design-build project for a price within the designated \$37 million budget.

The news came last Friday at City Hall, where City Clerk Mario Gerbeau opened the box of submissions to declare that only Pomerleau Inc. had bid on the arena project's design-build construction.

Though still subject to confirmation by city council, Pomerleau Inc.'s bid to design and build the Westmount Recreation Centre comes in at a total of \$36,399,038 — with an estimated \$4- to \$5 million in taxes included.

City councillor Patrick Martin, who has been working closely on the Westmount Recreation Centre for several years now, was happy to see that Pomerleau Inc. will most likely take on the project.

"If it were to be anybody, boy, I'm sure glad it's Pomerleau — assuming that the bid is conforming," Martin said, adding that Pomerleau Inc. is the same firm that undertook the Westmount Public Library refurbishment in the mid-1990s and more recently, through the

design-build system, an intergenerational centre in Cote St. Luc.

"They also did a twin-rink complex in Vaudreuil," he said.

In providing a brief history of the tender process, Director General Duncan Campbell pointed out that there were originally six firms in the running, but that was reduced to two by the evaluation committee before the proposal phase. On Nov. 28, construction giant SNC Lavalin withdrew from the process, leaving Pomerleau the sole bidder.

But while the Westmount city council chamber was filled with smiles and handshakes following the announcement by Gerbeau, Campbell and John Camia of the City's purchasing office, opponents of the project were quick to express their discontent.

Grosvenor Avenue resident David Ludmer, who was in attendance on Friday, immediately sent a letter to the Westmount Municipal Association, urging them to look into the financial details of the Westmount Recreation Centre and the implications of having a single bidder.

The confirmation of Pomerleau Inc. is expected to be announced within the next few weeks.

Delivery day

PSOs drop in on needy families with holiday cheer this week



From left: Jason Thomas, Marie-Eve Parent, Denis Proulx, Amelie Arel, David Sedgwick and Mario Testa were preparing to deliver this year's holiday food items to local families on Tuesday morning. Photo: David Adelman

DAVID ADELMAN

The atmosphere outside Public Security headquarters on Stanton Street was light and jovial on Tuesday morning as several officers were on hand to load up their yellow vehicles with boxes containing frozen turkeys, canned goods and other holiday food items, all destined for needy families in the Westmount community.

As a second patrol car was being loaded, Director David Sedgwick looked over at his officers with a sense of pride and gratitude. "It's a nice chance to positively impact the

community by helping some people who are in need around this time of year," he said. "This is our way of wishing them a happy holiday."

He pointed out that a few of the officers had come in early, on their own time, to help with the delivery, which was taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Almost \$4,000 was raised for the cause this year. Sedgwick said the Public Security Department would like to express its appreciation to those who donated this year, and he hopes more will continue to give for next year's holiday season.

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Dear Readers and Clients,

Please note that our office will be closed from December 26 - January 2. We'll return on January 3.

This doesn't mean that we won't be publishing over the holidays. We're working hard to make sure you have your Examiner on December 29 and January 5. They'll be small but mighty issues!

From the staff at Westmount Examiner, we'd like to take this opportunity to say thanks so much for your support this past year. We're excited about continuing to work hard in 2012 and striving each week to bring you an informative, interesting and unique perspective on our community.

We wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a happy and healthy new year!

WESTMOUNT
EXAMINER



For the Record
Wayne Larsen

LARSENW@TRANSCONTINENTAL.CA

Going a bit Griswold

One of the greatest comedic moments among our holiday classics has got to be when Chevy Chase, as the ever-hapless Clark Griswold, triumphantly plugs in the Christmas lights on his house — an enormous network of wires, plugs and hundreds of thousands of coloured bulbs criss-crossing his roof and walls which, when they finally work, light up the whole block in a blaze of Christmas glory that blinds the neighbours and sends the dials of the family's electrical meter into a spinning frenzy.

Even now, more than 20 years after Chase's antics in National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation, the term "Griswold" is synonymous with overdoing it at Christmas.

"They really pulled a Griswold this year," we might say of a family who have cluttered their property with a herd of inflatable reindeer, polar bears, snowmen and Santas, topped off with a Nativity scene that somehow includes penguins and brightly lit tin soldiers. And who can forget that partially deflated Santa drooping into a rather compromising position with one of his reindeer?

Although it's easy to poke fun at all the gaudy, everything-but-the-kitchen-sink Christmas displays out there, extracting a few cheap chuckles at the expense of those whose tastes might not be as refined or their budgets as large, at least they are out there celebrating the season in a way that is festive and meaningful to them — much the same way Clark Griswold embraces the holidays, but hopefully with less disastrous results.

The same cannot be said for the Christmas season in general. In recent years we have seen a decline in the Christian element of the holiday — once the very *raison d'être* of Christmas — in favour of much more secular observances. We hear stories about schools cutting any mention of Christmas from their holiday concerts, resulting in repertoires that bear no resemblance to the carol-filled programs of previous generations.

Secular holidays are fine; but at this time of year we should be celebrating our Christmases and our Chanukahs as we wish; these holidays are about peace and goodwill, which are anything but offensive. So let it snow, deck the halls, and go a bit Griswold this year. You won't be offending anyone.

STRAIGHT TALK FROM MARTIN

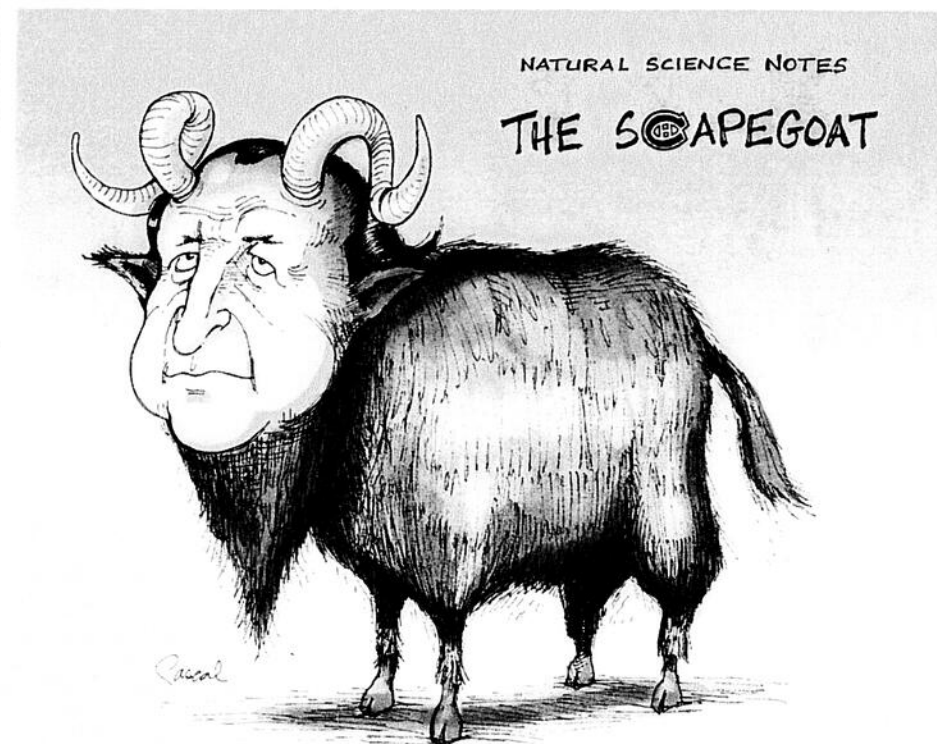
Monday's city council meeting was ostensibly called to present details surrounding the

tabling of the 2012 municipal budget, and only that subject was up for discussion. Well, to no one's surprise, as soon as question period opened it wasn't long before the Westmount Recreation Centre came up, in relation to the budget.

Clearly frustrated at having to field the same questions regarding the arena, City Councillor Patrick Martin confronted questioner Mavis Young — and several of the assembled residents known to oppose the project — with some candid comments of his own. Addressing the long-standing problems of misinformation and misunderstanding that have plagued the debate for the past few years, Martin stressed the importance of getting the facts straight.

"I'd be happy to meet with you any time, at your convenience," Martin told Young. "I have said the same directly and indirectly to Mr. (David) Ludmer, to Mr. (Patrick) Barnard, to Georgina Smith, and others, the people on Lansdowne... I'd be happy to meet with you."

"Can we discuss it, so we can at least agree on what are the facts?" Martin continued. "I have no problem with people disagreeing with me or with council, but as long as it's based on a common understanding of the facts. I have never had one person come to me and say, 'Okay, let's talk.' Not one person in



three years has ever taken me up on my offer. You know we all have day jobs, and come here and do our bit for the city and we reach out to you and say, 'You want to talk, we're willing to talk.' And I've never had one person say, 'Let's have coffee, let's go to your house, or you come to my house or we'll go to Second Cup.' Not one person who has been critical of the (arena) project has ever said 'Let's sit down and talk facts — and then we can decide whether we disagree or not.'"

Kudos to Patrick Martin for reaching out to disgruntled residents. Hopefully a few of them will accept his offer and sit down for a quiet

conversation rather than a heated debate.

The endless sniping back and forth in print may still be entertaining to some readers, but it has certainly lost its lustre for most; dramatic exchanges at the microphone might liven up an otherwise uneventful city council meeting, but they only lead to more animosity. The two sides are obviously no closer together on this very important issue. A few quiet, civilized discussions, off the record and away from the public eye, are what this debate needs.

Who knows — if that were to happen, the New Year might bring a more tempered and informed quality to the discussions.

Letters to the Editor

Arena plan ignores tough economy

To the editor:

The most frequently asked question on the streets of Westmount is not "How are you?" but "How can this council keep saying that there are only a small handful of people who are against the proposed \$57 million-plus, two adult-size underground hockey arena project?"

It is time to help our council out so they will not continue to make this mistake in public anymore.

Does Westmount's council expect that all 2,150 people who signed the petition "Change Westmount Arena Plan" to meet at the Bell Centre once a month to voice their

disapproval?

Even Victoria Hall could not hold this many people who not only disagree with them but who are dismayed and angry about the rate that their tax dollars have been spent and what is going to happen with their future tax dollars.

The handful of people the mayor and his council refer to numbers more than 400 handfuls.

Here is the truth this council will not face: The 2,150 handful of people do not want what is being planned for the park using their tax dollars, and yes this includes the grants, which only cover some of the costs, and which, by the way, are the tax dollars that have come out of the pockets of citizens living everywhere in Canada.

What makes what is going on and what has taken place more shocking is that the mayor and his council continue to ignore the difficult economic conditions that the entire world is suffering through. Both the mayor and his council have been acting as if they are

oblivious to the tough times people are trying to deal with, and yes this also includes people who live in Westmount.

Happy Holidays, and may the New Year bring out the better in people.

Larry Klepper,
Ste. Catherine Street

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The Examiner welcomes letters from readers on topics of local interest. While we only publish the writer's name and street, all letters must include the writer's name and address, as well as a daytime phone number for verification. Letters may be sent by mail to:

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We look forward to hearing from you!

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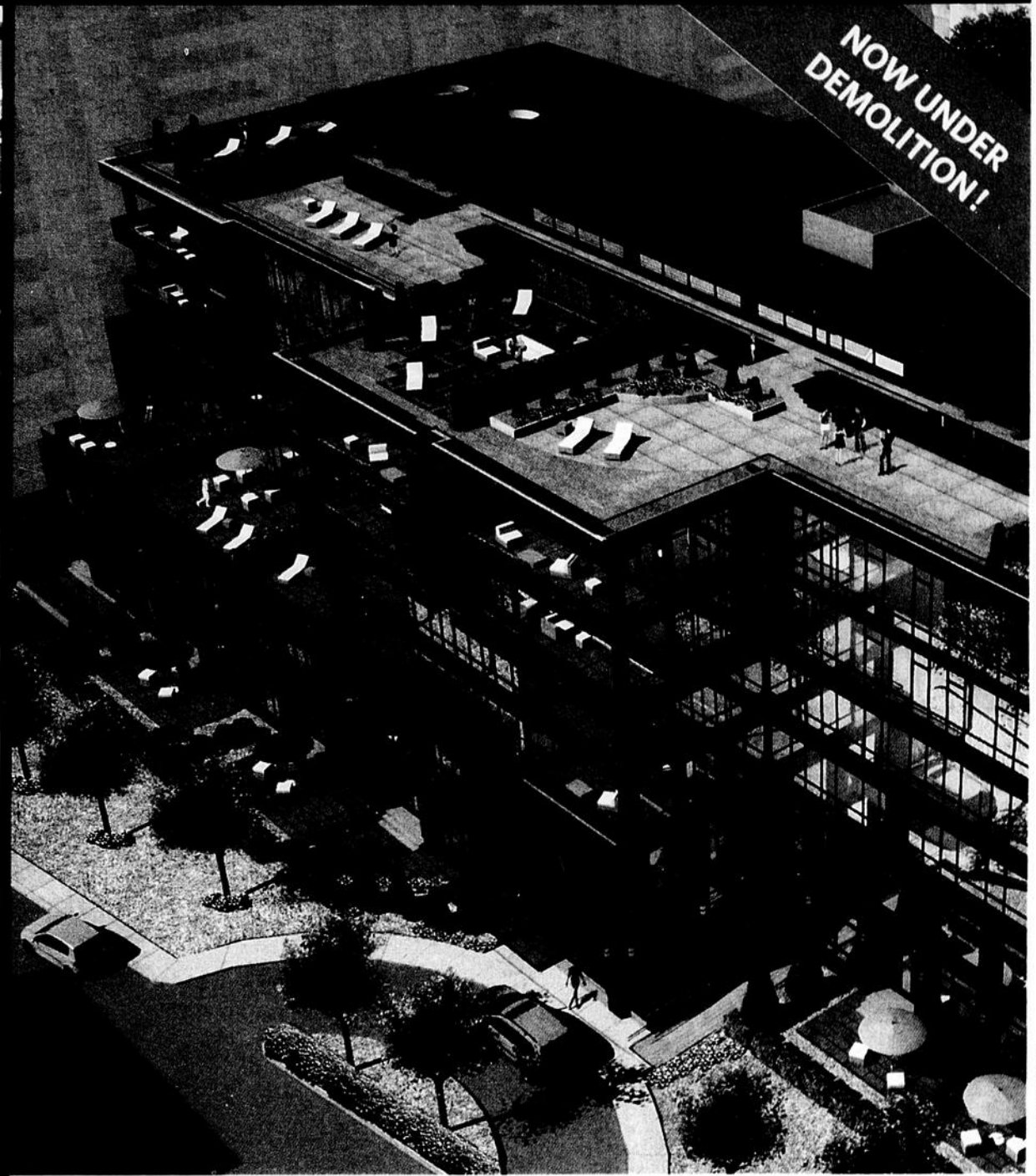
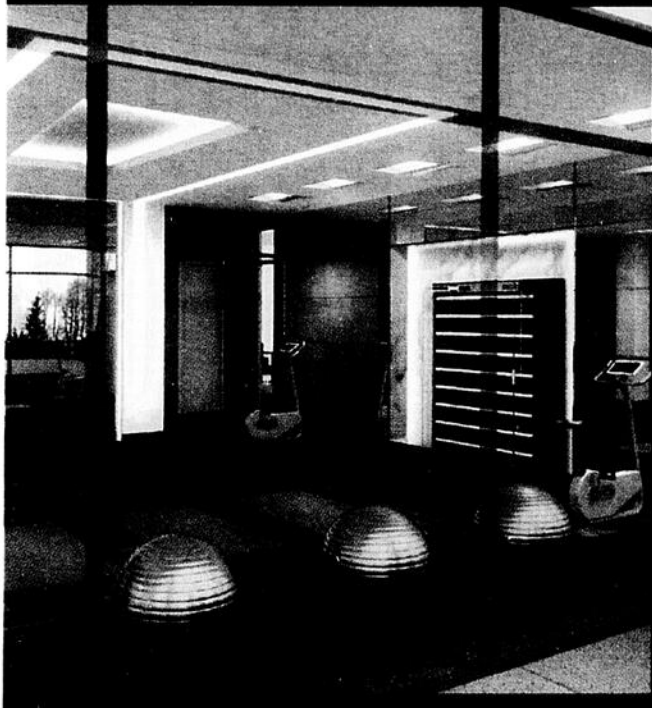


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Old News

The hypocrisy and fallacy behind Canada's new niqab rule

TEN YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 20, 2001:

CHAIN OF COMMAND: "City councillor Karin Marks says Westmount needs its own organogram — a chart establishing the chain of command in the borough. Addressing Montreal city council last week, Marks said that when the megacity's planners created organograms showing how each of the 27 boroughs was to operate its services, they decided to use the same one for all the suburbs as for the districts of the City of Montreal. Marks said that Westmount and other suburbs, which had a more complex structure supplying services as municipalities, should have been allowed to tailor their existing municipal organograms to their own needs. 'Every borough was given the same organogram to put into place,' said Marks. 'My understanding was that these organograms were created for the new City of Montreal boroughs because they don't have a structure, but they were then passed on to all the rest of us for us to also assume.'"

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 19, 1996:

SENTENCE IS APPALLING: "The fiancé of Lyanne Breau, murdered a year ago in Westmount Square, was appalled Monday when her killer was sentenced to a life sentence with all likelihood of being released in 12 years. 'There's no way it's going to compensate for the 60 years she may have lived,' Michel Caron told reporters outside a crowded courtroom, where Sylvain Brazeau, a 32-year-old electrician, was sentenced on the charge of second degree murder."

THIRTY YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 17, 1981:

LIBRARY TOWER: "Westmount Public Library may be bulging at the seams with books, tapes, maps and publications, but one part of the 85-year-old building escapes use. Head Librarian Mrs. Norah Bryant suggested to members of the Rotary Club of Westmount last week that perhaps they could think up some way of using the tower at the front of the building. The tower has been virtually unused throughout the history of the library, she said."



TOULA FOSCOLOS
TOULA'S TAKE
TOULA.FOSCOLOS@TRANSCONTINENTAL.CA

The Canadian government recently announced that from now on Muslim women must take off or lift their veil when taking the oath of citizenship. According to Immigration Minister Jason Kenney, it's a matter of principle. Whose principle, I'm not quite sure...

The new rule is based on nothing concrete; nothing but unfounded fears and anecdotal evidence. It's a discriminatory solution to a problem that doesn't even exist. It immediately brought to mind the recent introduction of a "code of conduct" for newcomers put together by the City of Gatineau, which left a bitter taste in my mouth and was justifiably lambasted by *La Presse* columnist Pierre Foglia. It was Hérouxville all over again...

According to Salam Elmenyawi, head of the Muslim Council of Montreal, there are only a few hundred women who wear face coverings in the entire country. A few hundred women... In an interview accorded to journalist Margaret Hartmann, Elmenyawi stated that by forcing Muslim women to choose between their religious beliefs and their desire to be Canadian citizens, the government is, "sending a message that we're watching you and we're going to tell you which parts of your religion are acceptable and which are not."

Few issues have managed to stump me over the years as much as the presence of the niqab in Western society and how governments seek to limit or ban it completely. As a woman, I, too, sometimes have a knee-jerk reaction to it. Face coverings are problematic because of what they represent, not because of what they are. They don't exist in a cultural vacuum; they are usually associated with the subjugation of women and many things that run counter to a liberal society.

However, as someone who - at the very least - aspires to be a critical thinker, I loathe relying

solely on my knee-jerk reactions because they, too, are nothing more than a reflection of my own cultural references.

I have a real problem believing the arguments presented, least of all the two main principles the Canadian government seems to pretend the ban will defend: gender equality and secular public institutions.

What bothers me about our perceptions dictating legislation is that Canada is chauvinistically claiming that we, as a country, have already achieved gender equality and now seek to enforce it with immigrants coming here. With, you know... the ones who "don't know any better."

To say that reeks of paternalism is an understatement. Gender-based violence and poverty are still real issues here. We live in a world where leaking a sex tape and faking a marriage lands you and your family on Barbara Walter's Most Fascinating People of 2011. We're nowhere close to having achieved gender parity, and preventing a handful of women from becoming Canadian citizens because they choose to wear a niqab does nothing to rectify that reality. It may feel like a victory, but it's a hollow one.

As for our staunch commitment to secularism, it's inconsistent and hypocritical to say the least. One can hardly demand visible symbols of one's faith are limited and/or purged from public places, while protecting others the majority deems acceptable. If we want to preach secularism, it should be all or nothing.

More importantly, whether some see the niqab as a blatant practice of gender inequality (as many unequivocally believe) or a mere exercise of choice, it doesn't really matter. The real question we should ask ourselves is this: Is the niqab really a security issue (like Minister Kenney insists, and I see no evidence of such assertion) or does it simply offend our Western sensibilities? And if it isn't a security issue, are we comfortable with laws that simply allow us to navigate uncomfortable issues the way we would a cafeteria; picking and choosing what we want, ignoring what we don't?

Hermann Hesse said: "It is not our purpose to become each other; it is to recognize each other, to learn to see the other and honour him for what he is." It's not always an easy thing to do, but it's a necessary thing to do.

25 years and counting!



From left are partners Magda Kuskowski, Elizabeth Shapiro, Andrea Wolff, and Mira Katnick.

What began in Westmounter Andrea Wolff's basement has evolved into a dynamic and diverse practice. ARCHITEM Wolff Shapiro Kuskowski architects. Known for their local work (Selwyn House School, Shaar Hashomayim, 15 Belvedere among others), ARCHITEM is still situated in Westmount and has just celebrated its 25th anniversary with a big event at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. The firm has just completed the design of the MMFA's Old and Modern Masters galleries in the Jean-Noel Desmarais pavilion.



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Vic Hall was busier than ever in 2011

■ VIRGINIA ELLIOTT

Looking back, 2011 was a bumper year at Westmount's community centre, Victoria Hall, with more cultural events than ever before.

The year began with an Improv evening as part of the Westmount Winter Carnival in early February, while March welcomed music workshops for kids with a free concert by Annabelle Canto from Jeunesses Musicales.

More live performances were in the works when the Left of Centre Theatre Company made its debut at Victoria Hall with a delightful rendition of Aladdin, and then ended the year with a wacky pirate tale of Robinson Crusoe, the Truth — much to the delight of a sell-out crowd.

Other local groups like Dramatis Personae, Montreal West Operatic Society and Persephone presented several excellent theatre productions, including A Moment of your Undivided Attention, Hail Unity, and Far from the Madding Crowd, respectively.

Westmount's music lovers were wooed by Beatles Replay, the Ballroom Blitz Orchestra and Michael Locke's flamenco guitar as the Concert Hall vibrated with music and dancing from several eras and styles.

The Community Events Division works in collaboration with organizations like the Conseil des arts de Montréal who subsidize cultural events to make music, theatre and dance accessible to the community. Shows this year included Quazar Quatuor's 1938, and the beautiful exhibition in the Gallery of Victoria Hall on Guido Nincheri's work. There was even a Westmount visit to see firsthand the beautiful frescos in St. Léon Church.

Local artists continue to impress the



Residents Kiana Butler, Tessa Kemerer and Carmen Castro are seen here depositing used batteries in the receptacle in Victoria Hall. Photo: Community Events

community with the quality of their work in the yearly schedule of exhibitions in the Gallery at Victoria Hall. Professional and amateur resident artists alike are showcased in this public gallery that connects with the greenhouse and the Westmount Public Library.

NO SHORTAGE OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

The summer began with a circus act from France, and Acadian singers from Maine, to celebrate St Jean. Thanks to a grant from the City of Westmount, Repercussion Theatre gave its annual Shakespeare performances in the park to a total audience of about 2,100 enthusiastic spectators.

The regular summer concert series at the lagoon was complemented by performances of Words and Music organized by Wanda Potrykus.

The year 2012 will start with a bang with Westmount's own George Bowser performing in the musical duo Bowser & Blue for the Westmount Winter Carnival, which takes place on Saturday, Feb. 4 in the Concert Hall. Tickets will be available as of Jan. 9 at the Community Events Office at Victoria Hall.

City Councillor Nicole Forbes has been instrumental in developing an expanded

cultural program, which includes the Close to Home series on Wednesday evenings, and new for 2012 will be the Sunday Tea Time Concerts in the Gallery.

"Culture is as important to a community as the air we breathe; the good quality and lots of it," says Forbes. "We are fortunate to have such a beautiful venue in Victoria Hall and I look forward to attending the wonderful concerts and plays planned for the new year."

The Sports and Recreation booklet has more details about the cultural program, as does the City website's calendar.

Another important initiative has been the safe disposal of household batteries. At the end of October, a battery drop was installed at the entrance of Victoria Hall. It has become very popular with the community since the only other places batteries can be safely deposited is at Public Security on Stanton Street and at the Public Works Yards. The battery drop was established so that the toxic chemicals in the batteries won't leach into landfill sites and contaminate the soil. Westmount was the first municipality in Quebec to have hazardous waste deposits for batteries in the early 1990s. New boxes for used battery drop off will soon be installed at the library and City Hall.

Virginia Elliott is Assistant Community Events Coordinator for the City of Westmount.

Mitchell receives Speirs Medal



Steve Mitchell, left, receives the Speirs Medal from out-going Selwyn House board chair Ted Claxton.

Selwyn House School honoured retired Athletic Director Steve Mitchell during the school's Founder's Day event on Thursday, Nov. 24, presenting him with the prestigious Speirs Medal, the highest honour the school can bestow.

Mitchell spent 27 years at Selwyn House, coaching hockey, football and baseball, and

served as Athletic Director from 1990 until his retirement earlier this year. During this period, he was responsible for increasing the number of choices of phys-ed activities at Selwyn House from 12 to 30, oversaw the construction of the Speirs Gymnasium and increased the school's access to off-campus facilities to include 18 rented sites.

To celebrate the Holiday Season, we wish you to realize all your dreams, **big** and small.


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Study students make a big contribution



From left: The Study students Morgane Dachiw and Maya Bedjaoui with Sister Dianna Lieffers of St Gabriel's Parish and many holiday baskets for needy families in the Pointe St Charles area.

Each year since the 1940s, students from The Study have filled holiday baskets for families of St. Gabriel's Parish in Pointe St. Charles. The tradition continued this year, as members of The Study community once again came through with a major donation to the church. Aside from door-to-door carolling on the streets of Westmount to raise funds for gift certificates included with the baskets to buy a Christmas turkey or ham, the girls also included a brightly wrapped present for each member of the recipient family.

Each year since the 1940s, students from The Study have filled holiday baskets for families of St. Gabriel's Parish in Pointe St. Charles. The tradition continued this year, as members of The Study community once again came through with a major donation to the church. Aside from door-to-door carolling on the streets of Westmount to raise funds for gift certificates included with the baskets to buy a Christmas turkey or ham, the girls also included a brightly wrapped present for each member of the recipient family.

The students are proud of their school's contribution. "We've been putting baskets together for St. Gabriel's every Christmas since kindergarten," said Maya. "It is so nice to finally meet Sister Dianna. We want to come and help out even more next year."

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C'est dans l'esprit des fêtes que nous tenons à remercier tous ceux et celles qui nous ont appuyés durant l'année. Dr Vaillancourt et son équipe vous souhaitent de très joyeuses Fêtes et une Bonne et Heureuse Année!

 This is the season to thank everyone who supported us during the year. Dr Vaillancourt and his team extend their very best wishes to you during this holiday season!

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Season's Greetings

Priory students learn the joy of giving

While the holiday season is exciting for children, The Priory's Principal Deborah Heuff and Priory teachers are reminding students about the importance of giving and supporting those in need. With the true meaning of Christmas in their hearts, Priory students reach out and help others in the community.

As part of the Priory's community outreach program, the Grade 1 children are donating toys and books to less fortunate children. Each student specially selected a "gently used" item from their home. They brought their donations to class and during a show and tell activity, the students explained why they chose to donate their item and why they thought another child would enjoy it.



Grade 3 students Sofia Scalia, Roxana Barin and Maeve Harrington display their Penny Bears headed for Shriner's Hospital.

Continued on page 10,11 ▶▶▶

Best wishes for
the holiday season to all
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fêtes à tous mes clients et amis!

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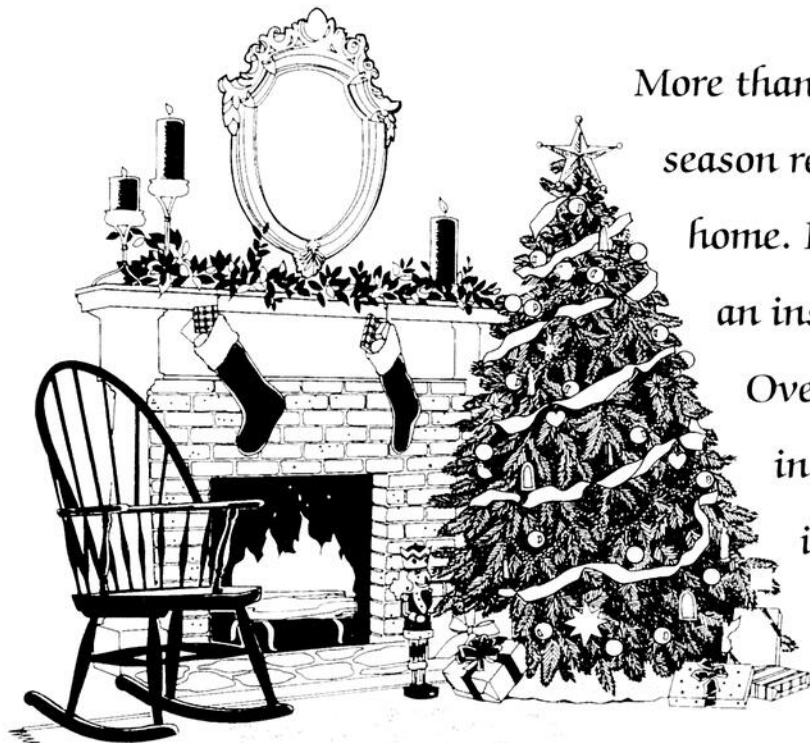
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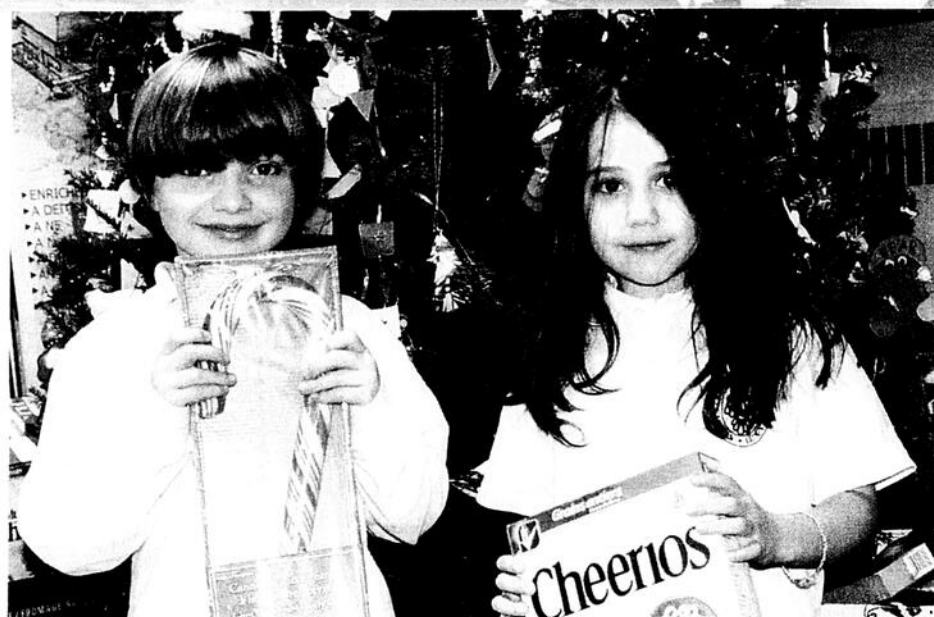
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Grade 2 students James Price-Gilchrist and Alexandra Gospodinov help pack non-perishable goods for St. Gabriel's Parish Christmas baskets.

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season!

*Meilleurs vœux pour la
 saison des Fêtes!*



Jacques Chagnon

Député de / M.N.A for Westmount-Saint-Louis

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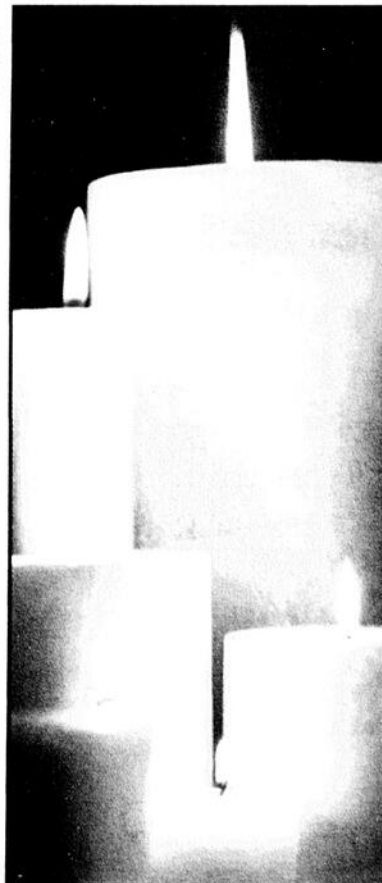
▶▶▶ Continued from PRIORY page 9

Montreal's Christmas Campaign.

The toys and books will be put into special gift baskets which will be then given out to needy families during the Women's Centre of

The Grade 2 children spread some holiday cheer when they recently visited the VISTA Seniors Residence. They performed a few

Continued on page 11 ▶▶▶



Christmas at St. Matthias'

Please join us in celebrating the miracle of our Savior's birth during the season of Christmas.

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 24
 CHRISTMAS EVE**

5:00 pm Childrens Pageant
 10:00 pm Candlelight Service

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 25
 CHRISTMAS DAY**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
 10:30 am Choral Eucharist

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►►► Continued from PRIORY page 10

Christmas songs and shared milk and cookies with their audience, including former Priory principal and VISTA resident Ms. McConnon. The students left with a feeling that they had brought smiles and laughter to their new-found friends.

The Grade 3 students experienced the joy which comes when giving from the heart. Penny Bears, dressed in cozy and colourful hand-crafted sweaters, were the Grade 3 students' present to children at the Shriner's Hospital. Through the initiative and help of Priory parent Mrs. Harrington, Peggy Wigglesworth from The Penny Bear Foundation donated 24 volunteer-made teddy bears. The students dressed the bears, created cards full of good wishes for a quick recovery and packaged the bears with ribbon.

A touching performance was given by The Priory School's choir, The Choir, and the Grade 4 class at this year's annual Christmas and Chanukah Toy Tea fundraiser. The students sang five varied selections, including Holly Jolly Christmas, My Favorite Things,

and Christmas Time Is Here, while Mr. Lahteenmaa accompanied them on the piano to an audience of supportive parents, choir members from other schools and a host of other appreciative listeners. Each year, the Toy Tea, which takes place in the Tudor Hall on the fifth floor of Ogilvy's, helps to raise money and collect toys for the children of battered women and other children's charities in Montreal over the Christmas season.

Grade 5 students brought a little joy to the residents of the Montclair Residence in NDG by bringing some homemade treats, holiday ornaments they had made in class, and played holiday themed board games. They certainly proved that it takes little to bring smiles of joy and happiness to those around us.

Other holiday initiatives around the school include the annual Priory Santa's Flea Market, which does much more than just serve as a means to buy Christmas presents at bargain prices. The spirit of the season is evident as Grade 6 students organize this event and help younger children shop and wrap presents, all the while raising money for charity.

Also, the Priory's SWAT Team (Students

Working to Advance Technology) are putting their tech skills to good use as they film, produce and create a Christmas Concert DVD to benefit less fortunate families in our community.

The Priory has also been holding a food drive to support St. Gabriel's Parish Christmas Basket Program. Last year St. Gabriel's Parish distributed more than 550 Christmas baskets to families in their community.

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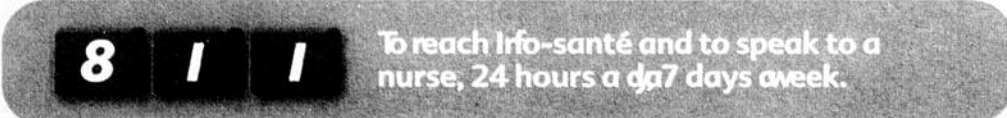
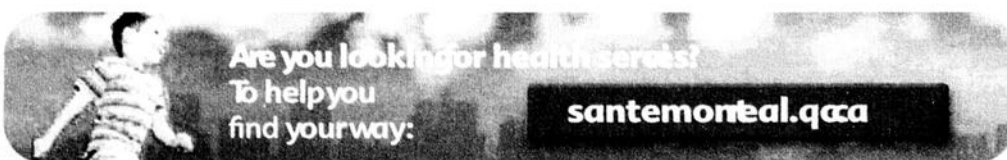
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Personal memories

Westmounters recall the city's sporting life

■ DOREEN LINDSAY

Since personal memories form much of our history, the Westmount Historical Association invited people to share their experiences of participating in sports in Westmount — resulting in a warm evening of nostalgia in the Library last Thursday.

Residents gathered in the Westmount Room to talk about their youthful days of skiing, skating, tobogganing, lawn bowling, and games at the Westmount Athletic Grounds.

As an example of the extent to which the City of Westmount has initiated and supported sports programs for residents, WHA member Mark Boundy presented interesting findings for parks beginning 100 years ago. In 1911, he read from the Annual Year End Reports, the parks capital expenditures were \$157,717 with \$342 of that going for the making and clearing of skating rinks. In 1915, the City spent \$2,216 on maintaining skating rinks. In 1930 they listed 10 hockey and skating rinks and 4,180 passes were issued.

Tennis was also extremely popular. Westmount maintained 18 tennis courts, 12 in Westmount Park, four in Murray Park and one each in Devon and Selby parks. A Westmount Cricket Club was organized in 1931, and

participated in the Montreal City and District Cricket League.

There was no shortage of personal memories. Nancy Walking talked about 1960s winter skating and carnivals at the arena, while Barbara Moore recalled "moving to Westmount in the 1940s and going up above Sherbrooke Street to skate in Prince Albert Park in the evenings."

Other stories about skating were retold by Susan Wibe from her stepmother, who had lived near Murray Park. The Westmount Athletic Grounds featured strongly in her memory. During the winter there was music to skate to every Friday night, and she remembered them as having a large track and field meet every spring.

"I learned how to ski in Murray Park," she recalled. "There was a really good toboggan run down. I also roller-skated down to Roslyn School."

Westmount Lawn Bowling Club vice-president Richard Menear brought stunning posters that he had designed. He spoke about reinventing tradition. Westmount has 65 active bowlers this year and they are recruiting new younger members. The club likes to start new traditions. In 2006 they initiated a tournament for the employees of the City of Westmount

WHA member Mark Boundy discusses the history of Westmount's parks during last week's meeting. Photo: Doreen Lindsay

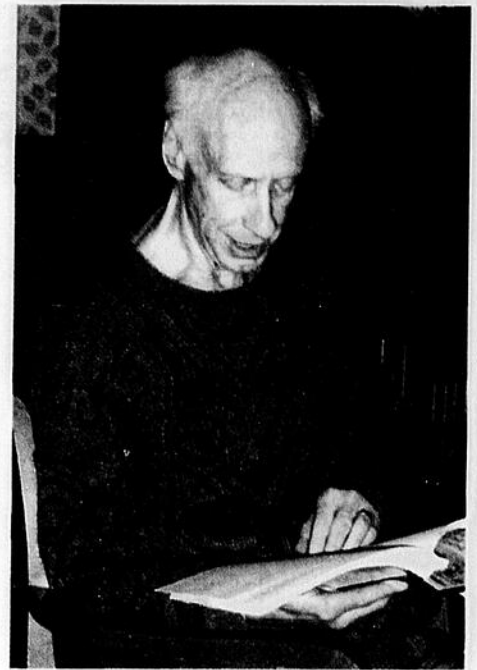
that has expanded to 12 teams of four players each.

Richard Lord, who attended Queens School before going on to Westmount High, recalled the time when Richard Holden told him that if they started a team in Stayner Park he would pay for it. When asked, Lord responded that no, the kids did not play in the Grey Nuns property above Ste. Catherine Street. The nuns reserved that land for cultivating.

Wendy Scott e-mailed her memories of skating in Murray Park. "My first attempts at skating were in the rink that is now a tennis court in the summer — first on cheese-cutters, then after I had had a couple of lessons, on white figure skates," she wrote. "We tobogganed downhill there, sometimes on the icy slide... what a thrill."

She also remembered skating in Westmount Park. "The meandering pond in front of the changing house was shaped somewhat like the Serpentine in London, and I remember that there were coloured lights and music," she wrote.

Martha McKenna showed a photograph of herself with her brother and sister after she explained how they would ski from their house on Sunnyside Avenue across the Westmount Summit, first packing down the snow with



their skies. Some Sundays they would ski down the gully to Côte-des-Neige then up and across the Montreal Mountain and home again.

David McCall sent a reproduction of the Constitution of the Westmount Golf Club that was founded on 20 April 1900.

These recollections will be added to the information gained in the first three sessions about Sports in Westmount and combined in the WHA newsletter to be published in February.

Doreen Lindsay is president of the Westmount Historical Association.

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AVIS LÉGAL

COLLÈGE DES MÉDECINS DU QUÉBEC
 AVIS DE RADIATION (dossier: 24-07-00673)
 AVIS est par les présentes donné que le Dr Nabil Edward Fanous (74608), exerçant la profession de médecin (oto-rhino-laryngologie) à Montréal (Québec), a été trouvé coupable par le conseil de discipline du Collège des médecins du Québec des infractions qui lui étaient reprochées soit:

Concernant une patiente qui le consultait pour la première fois le 17 novembre 1998 à sa clinique de Montréal, pour un problème d'hyperpigmentation (taches brunes) dans plusieurs régions de son visage:

- d'avoir prescrit, le 31 janvier 2003, et ce, suite aux résultats du bilan biochimique et du Beta-HCG, de l'Accutane 20 mg die, pour une période de huit (8) mois, sans jamais faire quelque suivi que ce soit durant le traitement, lequel aurait dû comprendre notamment les évaluations périodiques de la fonction hépatique et du niveau de triglycérides et obligatoirement, à tous les mois, un dosage de Beta-HCF (chef 1);
- d'avoir prescrit, en date du 20 octobre 2004, et ce, suite aux résultats du bilan biochimique et du Beta-HCG, de l'Accutane 20 mg die, pour une période de six (6) mois, sans jamais faire quelque suivi que ce soit durant le traitement, lequel aurait dû comprendre notamment les évaluations périodiques de la fonction hépatique et du niveau de triglycérides et obligatoirement, à tous les mois, un dosage de Beta-HCG (chef 2).

Le 13 janvier 2010, le conseil de discipline a imposé au Dr Nabil Edward Fanous une radiation du tableau de l'ordre pour une période de six (6) semaines sur le chef 1 et une période de huit (8) semaines sur le chef 2 de la plainte. Ces périodes de radiation doivent être purgées concurrence.

Le 20 janvier 2010, le Dr Fanous en a appelé de la décision du conseil de discipline au Tribunal des professions. L'appel a eu pour effet de suspendre l'exécution de la décision rendue. Le récent jugement du Tribunal des professions rendu le 28 novembre 2011 et signifié au Dr Fanous le 1^{er} décembre 2011 rejette l'appel. La décision du conseil de discipline à l'effet de radier le Dr Nabil Edward Fanous est donc confirmée.

Le Dr Nabil Edward Fanous est radié du tableau de l'ordre pour une période de huit (8) semaines à compter du 1^{er} décembre 2011.

Le présent avis est donné en vertu des articles 156 et 180 du Code des professions.

Montréal, le 15 décembre 2011

ME CHRISTIAN GAUVIN, avocat
 Secrétaire du conseil de discipline

4219037

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Celebrating Christmas in Westmount

Looking for something to do, here are a few suggestions



MARILYNN VANDERSTAAY
AROUND WESTMOUNT

Traditionally, Christmas is supposed to be all about family and friends, dinners and events. But for those who find their families anywhere but home, are newcomers to Westmount or just want to do know what's going on around Westmount over the holidays, here is a quick listing of what is open and available.



For those who would like to attend church in Westmount, services are plentiful in all denominations. Ascension of Our Lord, 375 Kitchener Ave, will celebrate with a family mass at 7:39 p.m. Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day, Sunday Dec. 25, they will celebrate with a Christmas carol service at 9:30 a.m. followed by a Solemn Christmas Mass at 10 a.m. and the Christmas service at 10:30 a.m.

Westmount Park United Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Boul. W., will host its Christmas service Saturday Dec. 24 at 7:30 p.m., while Mountainside United Church, 4000 The Boulevard, will celebrate Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 24 with a family and community Christmas Eve service at 8 p.m.

St. Matthias Anglican Church, Cote St. Antoine Rd. at Church Hill, will celebrate Christmas with Eucharist services Christmas Eve at 10:30 p.m. and Christmas morning at 8 a.m. followed by a Christmas service at 10 a.m.

Holiday dining around town

Last year we celebrated Christmas dinner with my mother in the Jewish General Hospital

with take-out from a Chinese restaurant that we spread all over the lounge and shared with patients and visitors. This year I hope not to do that.

But for those who find themselves without a Christmas meal a little planning ahead will keep you fed. The China Grill, 4124 Ste. Catherine St. W. will be open for dinner from 4 to 10 p.m. Schwartz's Deli, 3895 St. Laurent Boul., will be open Christmas Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Chez Nick's, 1377 Greene Ave., will be open until 8:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, but closed Dec. 25 and 26.

If you are looking for a more upscale traditional Christmas dinner, the restaurants at the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel, 900 René Lévesque Boul. W. are open with two time-honoured menus. The Montrealer will host a buffet dinner for around \$68 and the Beaver Club will offer a Christmas dinner for around \$80. Reservations are recommended however, at 514-861-3511.

For those who like to order the traditional chicken dinner from Chalet BBQ, 5456 Sherbrooke St. W., it will be open for in-house and takeout/delivery until 9 p.m. Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day, and open again Monday, Dec. 26 from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

For those who want to get in some last-minute grocery shopping, Metro Fletcher, 4840 Sherbrooke St. W., will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day, and open 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Dec. 26.

Activities over the holidays

For those who are looking for some activities over the Christmas weekend, both the Atwater Library and Computer Centre and the Westmount Public Library will be closed Dec. 24 to 26 and Dec. 31 to Jan. 2.

But the AMC Pepsi Forum theatres, which are showing movies for all interests, are open Christmas Day. And for those who would like to try out those new skates, the Westmount arena will offer free rink time on the small rink every day over the holidays except Christmas and New Years days. The Westmount Y, 4585 Sherbrooke St. W., will close for the weekend and Monday at 2 p.m. Christmas Eve.

For a more inclusive listing of all that is going on in Westmount over the weekend, including Chanukah events, visit www.gowestmount.ca

As for me, my sincere wish for you all, whatever you celebrate, is that you celebrate something wonderful and that it is a merry and satisfying Christmas weekend. And if you cannot find something to do and somewhere to go, the many soup kitchens and hospitals are always looking for an extra pair of helping hands and a warm Christmas smile to make Christmas 2011 a very merry weekend for everyone.

Merry and blessed Christmas to my community of Westmount.

Regards, Marilyn



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