

Light for the living and the dead



At the Serbian Orthodox Church on Melville avenue on Monday, congregants gathered to celebrate Christmas and light candles for the living and the dead. The circular holders are for the living, the sand trench for the dead. The service went on despite a call to the rectory by someone who said they were paid to put a bomb in the church. Strife in Yugoslavia is never far from mind. A Radio-Canada television crew taped the whole service, which will air Sunday. For more on the Serbian service and family traditions, see At Your Leisure on page 22.

Photo by OWEN EGAN

Your home away from home...

RESTAURANT

La Transition

INSIDE...

- Coroner orders probe in death of homeless man..... 3
- Police log 10
- On stage in 1992..... 12
- Fire calls 20
- At your leisure 22

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Average tax bill up by \$746

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

After a tax break last year, Westmounters will pay dearly for the city's rising share of Montreal Urban Community costs, according to a \$51.3-million municipal budget for 1992 adopted by city council Monday night.

The commercial sector is hardest hit by a new surtax; it will shell out 32 percent more than last year despite elimination of the business tax.

Homeowners face a 15-percent increase, pushing the average tax bill up by \$746 more than last year, reaching a bill of \$5,578. Compared with 1990, however, this year's average bill is only \$147 more.

The 1992 municipal tax rate was set at \$1.07 per \$100 of valuation.

Since last year's rate of \$1.28 was based on lower valuations, the two cannot be compared.

In addition to taxes at the regular rate, commercial property owners will pay a surtax of 1.16 times the regular mill rate or \$1.2412.

In presenting the new budget, up

13 percent from \$45.3 million in 1991, Councillor David Laidley said the city kept its own spending at last year's level. Most of the increase was required to meet MUC costs which now gobble up 46 percent of every tax dollar.

City council also adopted the 1992 triennial property valuation roll in full rather than averaging it over the three years to simplify collection, though this might have provided homeowners with an \$80 saving.

It also appropriated \$1.4 million from accumulated surplus to further ease the tax load on homeowners.

A capital spending program of \$7.4 million was also approved for this year to be largely financed through loan-by-laws.

"I couldn't find anything wrong with the plan," said Westmount Municipal Association president Tom Thompson, in reacting to the budget. He was one of a dozen citizens who

attended the public budget session.

Real estate expert Andy Dodge said residents in Ward 1, where valuations have soared, would suffer most. He also predicted an outcry from the commercial sector.

Without the commercial surtax, homeowners, who have borne an increasing share of the tax load over the past 15 years, would have seen their taxes skyrocket 22 percent to help cover the extra costs.

"Even with the new surtax, Westmount's commercial sector continues to enjoy one of the lowest overall tax rates in the MUC," said Councillor Laidley in the budget speech.

He said the city was conscious of hard times faced by the commercial sector and had not imposed the full amount of surtax allowable by law. The rate of 1.16 times the mill rate compares with the maximum allow-

Continued on page 8

• See pages 6 to 8 for more stories on the 1992 budget.

THE WESTMOUNT *Examiner*

Making all of Westmount your home

Vol. LXIV, No. 1-2 Westmount, Quebec, Thursday, January 9, 1992 56¢ + 4¢ GST = 60¢

Woman, 76, killed crossing street

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A Westmount woman died after being hit by a car on St Catherine street near Kensington avenue Tuesday about 5:24 pm, police confirmed yesterday. She would have been 77 tomorrow.

The victim, identified as Margaret MacDougall, lived in Place Kensington, a seniors' apartment residence directly across from the accident scene.

The victim was a longtime Westmount resident. Her daughter, Honor, is married to former Westmount alderman Douglas Robertson.

She had lived in Outremont briefly before moving into Place Kensington when it opened two years ago.

Residence director John Koubatis said he would like the city to install lights or caution signs indicating a

safety crossing at the location.

Police said the woman was crossing the street between intersections and was apparently stuck in traffic when she was hit by an eastbound Honda.

The driver, a 27-year-old woman from Montreal West, appeared not to have seen the victim, who was dressed in dark clothing, said Const Gaston Bernier.

He said the woman was stabilized at the scene by Urgences Santé who took her to The Montreal General Hospital. She seemed to be doing well initially, he said, but died soon after a relative was called to the hospital at 8:30 pm.

It was an accident, the officer said. "All fatal accidents are investigated but there appears to be no obvious negligence on the part of the driver."

Const Bernier points out that officers from local Station 23 have made a special point of visiting seniors' residences in Westmount over the past year, Place Kensington included, to promote pedestrian safety of the elderly.

"I want to reiterate the importance of wearing light-colored clothing at night and crossing in a pedestrian walk. Take the time to walk the distance to an intersection. Put the odds on your side. The fact that you see the car doesn't mean the driver has seen you."



An elderly woman, hit by a car on St Catherine, is helped to hospital Tuesday evening by firefighters and Urgences Santé.

Photo by OWEN EGAN



Next Scheduled City Council Meeting
Monday, February 3, 8:00 pm

Date de la prochaine séance du conseil municipal
Le lundi, 3 février, 20h00



**WESTMOUNT
NOTICE OF APPROVAL
BY-LAW 1085**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to all who may be concerned that By-law 1085 entitled "BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW 994 CONCERNING BUILDING AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION", adopted by the Municipal Council of Westmount at a general sitting held at the City Hall on 7th October 1991 was approved by the Council of the Communauté urbaine de Montréal at its meeting of 11th December 1991 as conforming to the objectives of the development plan and the complementary document and that a certificate of conformity with respect to the said by-law was issued by the Secretary of the said Communauté on 19th December 1991. Accordingly, the said by-law came into force as of 19th December 1991, pursuant to the provisions of Section 44 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (R.S.Q., chap. A-19.1).

The object and purpose of the said By-law is to stipulate that a building permit shall expire and the right of an owner and/or constructor shall terminate if the work on the exterior of a building in a residential zone is not completed within 12 months from the date of issue of the permit and the work on the interior of a building in a residential zone is not completed within 18 months from the date of issue of the permit.

Any interested person may consult the said By-law and obtain copies thereof at the Office of the City Clerk of Westmount, 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Quebec, on any working day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, P.Q., this 7th day of January 1992.

Me Marie-France Paquet
City Clerk



**WESTMOUNT
AVIS D'APPROBATION
RÈGLEMENT 1085**

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné à tous ceux qui peuvent être concernés que le Règlement 1085 intitulé «RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER LE RÈGLEMENT 994 CONCERNANT LE BÂTIMENT ET LA CONSTRUCTION DES BÂTIMENTS», qui a été adopté par le Conseil municipal de la ville de Westmount lors d'une séance générale tenue à l'Hôtel de Ville le 7 octobre 1991 a été approuvé par le conseil de la Communauté urbaine de Montréal lors de son assemblée du 11 décembre 1991 comme étant conforme aux objectifs du schéma d'aménagement et aux dispositions du document complémentaire et qu'un certificat de conformité relativement audit règlement a été délivré par la secrétaire de ladite Communauté le 19 décembre 1991. Par conséquent, ledit règlement est entré en vigueur à compter du 19 décembre 1991, conformément à l'article 44 de la Loi sur l'aménagement et l'urbanisme (L.R.Q., chap. A-19.1).

Ledit règlement a pour objet et but de stipuler qu'un permis de construction expire et que le droit de construire conféré par celui-ci à un propriétaire et/ou à un constructeur se termine si les travaux effectués à l'extérieur d'un bâtiment situé dans une zone résidentielle ne sont pas terminés dans les douze (12) mois de la date de l'émission du permis et si les travaux effectués à l'intérieur d'un bâtiment situé dans une zone résidentielle ne sont pas terminés dans les dix-huit (18) mois de la date de l'émission du permis.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter ledit règlement et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffier de la ville de Westmount, 4333, rue Sherbrooke ouest, Westmount, Québec, n'importe quel jour ouvrable entre 8h30 et 16h30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 7e jour de janvier 1992.

Me Marie-France Paquet
Greffier de la Ville



**WESTMOUNT
NOTICE OF ADOPTION
BY-LAW 1088**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to all who may be concerned that By-law 1088 entitled "BY-LAW TO IMPOSE AND LEVY A TAX TO MEET THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1992" was adopted by the Municipal Council of Westmount at a special sitting held at the City Hall on 6th January 1992.

The object and purpose of the said By-law is to:

- adopt the 1992 budget of the City; and
- establish the rate of the general real estate tax and the rate of the compensation needed to collect the revenues required to meet the budgeted expenses of the City of Westmount for the fiscal year 1992.

Any interested person may consult the said By-law and obtain copies thereof at the Office of the City Clerk of Westmount, 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Quebec, on any working day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this 7th day of January 1992.

Me Marie-France Paquet
City Clerk



**WESTMOUNT
AVIS D'ADOPTION
RÈGLEMENT 1088**

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné à tous ceux qui peuvent être concernés que le Règlement 1088 intitulé «RÈGLEMENT RELATIF À L'IMPOSITION ET AU PRÉLÈVEMENT D'UNE TAXE EN VUE DE FAIRE FACE AUX DÉPENSES DE LA VILLE DE WESTMOUNT POUR L'EXERCICE FINANCIER 1992», a été adopté par le Conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount, lors d'une séance spéciale tenue à l'Hôtel de Ville le 6 janvier 1992.

L'objet et le but du règlement est :

- d'adopter le budget de 1992 de la ville; et
- d'établir le taux de la taxe foncière générale et le taux de la compensation nécessaires pour percevoir les revenus requis pour défrayer les dépenses prévues au budget de la ville de Westmount pour l'exercice financier 1992.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter ledit règlement et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffier de la ville de Westmount, 4333, rue Sherbrooke ouest, Westmount, Québec, n'importe quel jour ouvrable entre 8h30 et 16h30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 7e jour de janvier 1992.

Me Marie-France Paquet
Greffier de la Ville



**WESTMOUNT
NOTICE OF ADOPTION
BY-LAW 1089**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to all who may be concerned that By-law 1089 entitled "BY-LAW TO IMPOSE AND LEVY A SURTAX ON NON-RESIDENTIAL IMMOVEABLES" was adopted by the Municipal Council of Westmount at a special sitting held at the City Hall on 6th January 1992.

The object and purpose of the said By-law is to impose and levy a surtax on all non-residential immoveables situated in the City of Westmount.

Any interested person may consult the said By-law and obtain copies thereof at the Office of the City Clerk of Westmount, 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Quebec, on any working day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this 7th day of January 1992.

Me Marie-France Paquet
City Clerk



**WESTMOUNT
AVIS D'ADOPTION
RÈGLEMENT 1089**

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné à tous ceux qui peuvent être concernés que le Règlement 1089 intitulé «RÈGLEMENT RELATIF À L'IMPOSITION ET AU PRÉLÈVEMENT D'UNE SURTAXE SUR LES IMMEUBLES NON RÉSIDENTIELS», a été adopté par le Conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount, lors d'une séance spéciale tenue à l'Hôtel de Ville le 6 janvier 1992.

Ce règlement a pour objet et but d'imposer et de prélever une surtaxe sur tous les immeubles non résidentiels situés dans la Ville de Westmount.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter ledit règlement et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffier de la ville de Westmount, 4333, rue Sherbrooke ouest, Westmount, Québec, n'importe quel jour ouvrable entre 8h30 et 16h30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 7e jour de janvier 1992.

Me Marie-France Paquet
Greffier de la Ville



**WESTMOUNT
PUBLIC NOTICE**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Westmount, that according to Section 461 of the Cities and Towns Act (R.S.Q., Chapter C-19) and pursuant to the resolution adopted by the Municipal Council of the said City at its general sitting of 6th January 1992, the City of Westmount will dispose of

Continued on page 10

*Westmount
Community
Calendar*

Today, Jan 9

Registration for girls 4 1/2 and up at Roslyn School ballet program continues until Friday. 697-1886.

Saturday, Jan 11

Children's activity: Samedi Greene presents circus jugglers and a unicycle workshop from 10 to 11:30 am at Greene Avenue Community Centre, 1090 Greene avenue. \$1.

Children's activity at Oink! Oink! 1361 Greene avenue, at 11 am. Quartz, Serpentine and Granite. Discover trilobites and other fossils.

Overeaters Anonymous meets every Saturday at 3:30 pm at Westmount Baptist Church, 4755 Sherbrooke street. Non-smoking.

Sunday, Jan 12

Bagel breakfast: Guest speaker is prize-winning writer Edeet Ravel on Midrash (Parables) for Today: Old Wine in New Bottles, at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom, 4100 Sherbrooke street, \$3, everyone welcome. 937-3575.

Seniors' luncheon at 12:30 pm at the Leisure Institute of Shaar Hashomayim, 450 Kensington avenue. Three short films on Canadian artists. \$3.50 members, \$4 others.

Adult Prisoners of Childhood support group meets at 7 pm every Sunday in the basement of Westmount Baptist Church, 4755 Sherbrooke street. \$1.

Monday, Jan 13

Art exhibit: Watercolors by Jane Desjardins are on view at the Westmount library until Jan 26. 934-4690.

Montreal Camera Club meets at 7:30 pm at Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve boulevard. Featured is slides of fourth nature division followed by Suzanne Schanz on Sequences in the Natural World. Guests welcome. Use rear entrance.

Tuesday, Jan 14

Seniors' swim: At Westmount Y from 1:30 to 3 pm every Tuesday and Thursday. No charge.

TOPS, a dieting support group, meets at the Westmount Y from 7 to 8:30 pm weekly. \$1.

Wednesday, Jan 15

Art exhibit: Paintings by Laryssa Luhovy and Philippe Valois at Westmount Square until Feb 7. Vernissage from 5 to 7 pm tonight. 932-0211 or 271-8674.

SWAG meeting at 10 am at Victoria Hall. Guest speaker is Rev Bruce Mutch of Toronto, president of Canadian Pensioners Concerned.

Thursday, Jan 16

Open house at St George's High School, 3100 The Boulevard, from 8:15 am to 3 pm and 6 to 9 pm. Dramatic performances, science fair, guided tours. 937-9289.

COMING UP

Jan 18: Samedi Greene presents a wild bird demonstration with the Ecomuseum of Ste Anne de Bellevue, at Greene Avenue Community Centre, 1090 Greene avenue, from 10 to 11:30 am. \$1.

Jan 19: Seniors' tea at 1:30 pm at the Leisure Institute of Shaar Hashomayim, 450 Kensington avenue. Film Musicana will be screened. \$2.50 members, \$3 others. 937-9471.

Jan 21: Traveller Donna Davidson will give an illustrated lecture on Hindu Cultures and Artistic Expression. An Indian dancer from Bharti Natya Foundation will perform. From 2 to 3:30 pm in Victoria Hall. Reserve in advance at 935-8531.

Jan 21: Open house at St George's elementary school, 3685 The Boulevard, from 9 am to noon. 937-9289.

Jan 25: Burns dinner by Sons of Scotland at Victoria Hall at 7:30 pm. Dancing, entertainment and door prizes. Tickets sold until Jan 18 only at 766-1367.

Jan 25: Samedi Greene presents Glass houses watercolor with Lisa Baldwin.

Jan 25: The Début Sunday Musicale moves to Saturday this occasion only at 2:30 pm at Chateau Westmount with pianist Nari Matsuura.

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Examiner

Thursday, January 9, 1992 - 3

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Fire investigator Barry Coates sifts through ruins in apartment living room at 50 Academy road. The fire was fought by mutual aid firefighters from six cities.

Electrical cord responsible for New Year's blaze in apartment

An overheated extension cord burned into the wooden floor of a top-storey apartment living room at 50 Academy road New Year's night, starting a fire that caused heavy damage to two units and the roof, fire investigators said.

No one was home in the apartment, allowing the fire to burn up to 60 minutes before being detected about 8:44 pm, said Lieut Inspector Barry Coates.

Tenants fled the smokey building when the alarm was pulled. Many were sheltered nearby in the arena.

It was brought under control within an hour without reported injury.

"What a way to start the new year," said Gertrude Keen, one of the luckier residents whose apartment was not damaged. She and a family moving from Toronto were among the first residents who were allowed back in about 11 pm.

\$67,000 damage

Fire officials estimated damage at about \$67,000.

The fire destroyed the third-floor apartment 11 where it started at the back of the building, ruined number 7 beneath and caused water damage to the ground floor unit number 3

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

directly below.

It might have been much worse. "We were very, very lucky the fire was discovered when it was," said Fire Captain Gary Watson. Had the fire occurred when everyone was asleep "we'd have been still there fighting it the next day."

The building of 12 units is connected to two others forming a large block on Academy road.

The fire appeared to start from an overheated electrical cord in the living room in apartment 11 near electrical equipment which included a TV and stereo, none of which had been left on, Lieut Coates said. He did not know why the cord overheated.

After burning into the floor, the cord appeared to have short-circuited in a beam beneath, he said. The fire burned through to the living room below where firefighters found a lamp, VCR and a jumble of other items from above which had fallen through the burning floor.

Travelled up

As well as burning down, the fire also travelled up an outside wall by

means of a fake fireplace, igniting the roof.

The blaze was detected by a woman awakened in apartment 7 (below the fire) by the sound of a window breaking, police said. Neighbors said Martha Bernstein's cat had also awakened her. She smelled the smoke, went into the hallway, spotted flames coming from the broken window of apartment 11 above and called for help.

It was fortunate the building's janitor was unable to unlock the door of apartment 11 before arrival of firefighters, said Capt Watson, since that contained the smoke to the one apartment, making it easier for firefighters to pinpoint the source of the blaze and begin attacking it quickly. Smoke detectors rang in the two affected apartments, he said.

Chief Jim Adams said any electrical cords plugged in carry current even when appliances are turned off. He advises unplugging as many items as possible when not in use to avoid danger from short circuits, power surges and defective off-switches in appliances such as irons, toasters and TVs.

Coroner orders probe in death of homeless man

Victim slumped on sidewalk beside Place Alexis Nihon

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Further investigation has been ordered by a Quebec coroner into alleged neglect in the death of a 40-year-old homeless man who was found lying on the sidewalk on Atwater avenue outside Place Alexis Nihon three days after Christmas.

Police said the coroner wants more information on why assistance was not called for the man earlier and why treatment was stopped by one doctor before being reactivated by another after he was taken to Reddy Memorial Hospital.

The victim was transferred to intensive care at the Montreal General Hospital where he was declared dead more than an hour later, police said.

Initial cause of death was listed as heart failure but an autopsy was to be performed.

"The coroner wants more information on why nobody helped him," said Constable Bernard Roy. "Apparently many people had seen him lying against the building." Among them was a bus driver who said he has seen sleeping itinerants many times around Cabot Square, the officer explained.

He said police received the call about 8:30 am. They found the man near the entrance to 1500 Atwater on the east side of the commercial plaza. Urgences Santé personnel began working on the man and took him to the nearby Reddy where a doctor worked on him again until he was declared dead.

"It seems that another doctor came by, noticed the man was still alive and ordered him to be revived. At 11 o'clock he was transferred to the intensive care unit at the Montreal General Hospital where he was pronounced dead at 12:22 pm."

There were no signs of foul play, Const Roy said. Police contacted a number of shelters, he said, until they found someone at one who thought they might know a sister of the victim. She was contacted. The woman was to identify the body.

Woman being followed by Jeep seeks help

A woman driving a car Sunday at 2:15 am flagged down public safety officers at Lansdowne avenue and de Maisonneuve boulevard to complain that a red Jeep had been following her from Queen Mary road.

Noticing the Jeep had turned the corner and stopped, then proceeded through a red flashing light, officers began to follow it. The driver went

through several suspicious manoeuvres such as pulling into a driveway and turning off headlights, then driving with only the foglights. Montreal Urban Community police were informed and intercepted the Jeep in front of 5010 Sherbrooke street.

The driver was ticketed for going through a yellow light.

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We Say

Keeping house

THE upkeep of large houses is not *terra incognita* to many of Westmount's private citizens, but even they will have been startled to read a Canadian Press piece from Ottawa on Monday reporting the cost of running the official residences of the prime minister and the leader of the opposition.

This was for only the first nine months of last year: \$358,000!

The 34-room 24 Sussex Drive, the home provided by a grateful nation for the former Westmount Mulroney family, cost us all \$230,000.

And Stornoway, same number of rooms, housing the Chrétien's, cost the somewhat less liberal but nonetheless generous taxpayers \$128,000.

It is rather difficult for even the rich and merely well-to-do here to assess whether value was received for the \$155,000 and \$93,000 respectively of public funds spent for household operating expenses.

Admittedly, there are growing kids to be fed and more lunches to be served to visiting premiers at 24 Sussex than at Stornoway, perhaps accounting for the imbalance. But even the lower amount would more than satisfy, we think, the needs of the most affluent or even profligate Westmount homemaker.

And if the two official mansions were tucked in among some of our local hard-to-hide hideaways, we would not expect to see among the building permits at city hall \$17,000 and \$11,000 respectively for painting. (Yes, these amounts are for freshening up the places; paintings of the other kind, in frames, are dealt with in separate items such as \$6,760 to the Canada Council for art rental for the pleasure of Jean and Aline Chrétien and their guests.)

Meanwhile, Brian and Mila Mulroney and family now walk on a new \$5,705 rug and enjoy \$11,000 in new appliances (electric can opener?) and \$10,000 in new furniture.

It is perhaps revealing to note that the Chrétien's got by with only \$5,000 for new furniture but also \$6,000 for furniture repair and restoration.

GET the picture?

Frankly, we don't. Nor will many of the "ordinary" people of Westmount. But in Ottawa this sort of spending on the minutiae of political life seems to be taken as normal, even in times of great unemployment and swelling homelessness.

Back here at 4333 Sherbrooke street west, also Monday, Westmount city council gave its approval to the 1992 city budget and we are reasonably confident, despite some critics, that there is little included in the expenses that would be regarded as out of place among the good but not outrageous standards of this community.

In fact, close examination of the numbers reveals considerable evidence that little has been passed without close scrutiny. Undoubtedly there will be items in a \$51-million budget (or even in the \$27 million for local non-MUC expenses) which have got by. But we can be thankful that we don't have a municipal 24 Sussex Drive here and no Stornoway in the absence or apparent need of an official opposition. Else, councillors might have had cause to pounce on the spending of, say, \$12,000 for linens for Stornoway in the last six months of 1990 and another \$9,000 for same in the first nine months of 1991!

Maybe these revelations don't count for much when the federal budget is counted in billions, but it is still money.

And what really worries us is the countless number of places, besides official residences, where the same kind of disregard for expense surely permeates.

If only the government in Ottawa could be comprised of people like Mayor Peter Trent & Co who know the value of a dollar, having come by it the hard way.

Let it be Murray Park

INCREASINGLY our news staff is finding it appropriate to qualify mentions of King George Park with a parenthetical reminder that what really is being mentioned is Murray Park.

For those of us who grew up tobogganing, coasting, wading or just hanging around Murray Park, the qualification is helpful if not, for some, necessary.

Even many who grew up here after a particularly loyal and monarchy-minded city

council changed the name, without much public debate, betray by usage a preference for the old Murray name. It is shorter, has a nice sound and belongs to our Westmount heritage.

Times have changed and the country, to say nothing of the province, is much less slavishly attuned to things British. Indeed, American visitors must be startled; the King George they think of is hardly someone to be commemorated by a beautiful

You Say

A language only a committee could make

A recent letter (Dec 31) written by Alex H. di Meo and published in your paper took issue with the use of American English in THE EXAMINER.

Your response was certainly fair, and brought to mind this poem that an anonymous person forwarded to me for my own publication, *Word Watching*. It underlines what you have said about wonders of this language of ours.

An apology for the English language

I take it you already know
of tough and bough and cough and dough,
Others may stumble but not you
on hiccough, thorough, lough and through.
Well done! And how you wish perhaps
to learn of less familiar traps?

Beware of heard, a dreadful word,
That looks beard and sounds like bird.
And dead: it's said like bed not bead,
For goodness sake don't call it deed.
Watch out for meat and great and threat
(They rhyme with suite and straight and debt.)

A moth is not a moth in mothers,
Nor both in bother, broth in brother.
And here is not a match for there
Nor dear and fear for bear and pear,
And then there's dose and rose and lose.
Just look them up — and goose and choose.

And cork and work and card and ward
And font and front and word and sword
And do and go and thwart and cart.
Come, come, I've hardly made a start!
A dreadful language? Man alive
I'd mastered it when I was five.

William Palmer

PO Box 386
WESTMOUNT PQ H3Z 2T5

Reader pens a little verse to fight winter doggy curse

A stroll around the block bordered by Olivier, St Catherine, Greene and de Maisonneuve inspired me to write this poem:

Now winter in Westmount's begun
The banks of snow are full of dung,
Gone are the baggies and the spades
Parked at home till winter fades.
No "scoop the poop," why should they bother?

That white stuff gives a perfect cover.
Call out the canine cops we say
Citations to those lazy mutts convey.
At 200 clams per oversight,
We'll balance the budget overnight.
So when the snow doth melt anew,
Our streets will not be full of "do."

Perhaps an article by your paper might inspire dog owners to "pick it up."

Muriel Doherty

225 Olivier avenue
WESTMOUNT PQ H3Z 2C7

public park. They possibly don't know that the change was made in a burst of high regard for the Crown to honor the visit here in 1939, which few now remember, by the last of the Georges.

One would think that after more than half a century the "new" name would be in common usage. We are, after all, not immune to change. In the 1960s we quickly managed to start using "de Maisonneuve" instead of "Western avenue." The big difference, however, is that there are signs at each corner naming the street whereas the names of Westmount's parks are kept relatively secret, passed on to newcomers and visitors only in whispers by knowing residents. And the whispers all these years have kept saying "Murray Park."

We doubt if there would be a rocket from Buckingham Palace or even from avowed living monarchists if city council were quietly to slip onto the agenda a resolution to rescind the by-law which consigned the pioneering Murrays to no more than a street name.

Let it be, officially, Murray Park once more. And put a sign up to say so.

Former top civil servant makes sorry spectacle

Gordon Robertson's use of threats of violence and comparisons to Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union indicates the desperation of those trying to foist Quebec's iniquitous "distinct society" clause off on the Canadian public.

His attack on the rule of law in Canada as a rationale for endorsing an odious form of linguistic and cultural apartheid is a new low for this ill-starred committee. The commissioners gave him a standing ovation at the conclusion of his plea for a "separate but equal" concept to allow Quebec to retain Bills 101 and 178.

Prime Minister Mulroney used Mr Robertson's testimony on CTV as proof that English Canadians must accept compromise on the key issues (i.e. concession of civil liberties that date back to the British Bill of Rights of 1689 including those individual rights espoused in John Diefenbaker's Canadian Bill of Rights, a Parliamentary statute that received unanimous assent on Aug 4, 1960).

But Mr Robertson's testimony told the Canadian public what has gone wrong in Ottawa. How could a man who thinks this way hold such key government positions? In 1963 he was appointed clerk of the Privy Council and cabinet secretary and from 1975 to 1979 he played a vital role in constitutional negotiations and then was made president of the Institute for Research on Public Policy.

A note of bitter irony came when Mr Robertson, a man whose career has focussed around the accommodation of Quebec's demands for the status of a unilingual state, was unable to answer a question in French

Continued on page 15

our M.N.A.
Richard B. Holden
says...



Ready for new year

AFTER reading four P.D. James mysteries and Heward Graffey's tome on why we get the politicians we don't want, I'm ready to tackle the pile of mail left at my office during the past three weeks.

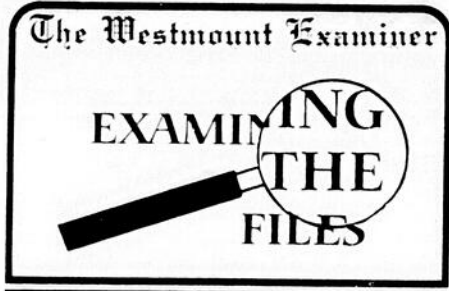
Speaking of tackling, the number of football bowl games on New Year's Day has reached a level of ridiculousness matched only by the NHL playoff schedule. And when it comes to schedules, my own is noticeably lighter now that the new Civil Code has finally been adopted.

Just when I thought that readers of THE EXAMINER were no longer interested in my activities, my executive assistant, Jill Bauch, did an interview with EXAMINER news editor Alison Ramsey about the availability of funding through my office of various worthy causes. It's either a sign of the times or a tribute to Ms Ramsey's style, but requests have been pouring in... one even arrived from a group that had already received what I thought was a generous grant (\$2,000). Enough already!

I am told that the Bourassa government is preparing a throne speech for the opening of a new session of the National Assembly in March. Presumably by that time an offer from the feds will have been made to the Rest of Canada regarding a constitutional package and it will then be put to Quebecers either by way of a referendum or an election; the latter being highly unlikely in view of the quasi-certainty that the PQ would be elected.

The government will start on the road back to popularity with such goodies as cultural sovereignty, increased educational facilities and more health and social services for the elderly, the unemployed and those who depend on welfare. It will hold out the hope of prosperity and harmony in a renewed and invigorated Canadian union (without, of course, giving details of what that might be).

There are those who predict that the premier will step down this summer, thus allowing his party to use the excuse of a fall leadership convention to delay the holding of the October referendum required under Bill 150. I don't believe this will happen; but then, I've been wrong before!



Forty-five Years Ago
January 3, 1947

Editorial: "It is interesting to note the large number of rich people who are nuts. One woman near here built a house for fifty thousand, more or less, and now she won't let anybody in to put curtains on the windows, or fix the yard. She buys ten pounds of horse meat a week for her dogs, cuts the week's supply of meat into strips, a strip per dog per day, wraps the strips in wax paper, and feeds the dogs so much they are sick. Another rich man was thrown into jail for beating his dogs. If you cared to have five or six pages about rich people who are nuts, I could furnish it. — Gordon Smart in Script, Beverly Hills, California."

Thirty-five Years Ago
January 4, 1957

Jack Hirshberg, former resident, sends a column from abroad. "Poker is outlawed in Israel, as are craps and 21, but bridge is okay and a national lottery raises vast sums of money... Too frightening to forget are the urns containing ashes of those cremated in Hitler's hate ovens — and the yellow bars of soap which you learn were made from the human fat of murdered German Jews, with a few Catholics tossed in for good measure. When will it end, this war which has never stopped since Israel was born? When will the world's youngest democracy be allowed to settle down and devote its full energies to the chore of providing a better life for Jew, Moslem and Christian, alike? I put the question to the 48-year-old editor of a major newspaper. 'Peace? Never in our time, I'm afraid,' he replied."

Twenty-five Years Ago
January 5, 1967

Headline: "Selby building condemned." Story: "Westmount has condemned the three-storey apartment building at 323 Selby street — where a woman lost her life in a fire Christmas night... Unless the premises are vacated forthwith, the city will seek a court order to have the residents evicted. This move has been because the building has been damaged by fire; the windows have been broken; the electrical wiring has been damaged by fire, requiring a cutting of the service; heating the building properly has become impossible."

"Quick action on the part of a Westmount constable halted an indecent assault on the weekend on Church Hill. An 11-year-old boy was stopped by a stranger on the street and asked the direction to a house in the area. When the boy accompanied the man to the dwelling, he was taken into a side areaway and molested."

Ten Years Ago
January 7, 1982

"Only one citizen turned out at council's January statutory session to express concern over the steep tax increases in bills which citizens received over the holiday period."

One Year Ago
January 10, 1991

"No blood for oil. That's the message members of Westmount Initiative for Peace and other peace groups across the country want to send Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. And they intend to do it via a mini oil-barrel blitz on Saturday. They will collect signatures on empty 35 mm film canisters with a 'no blood for oil' message on it and will be sending them to Mr Mulroney's office."

"An escaped prisoner from Ontario was arrested in Westmount Sunday after a stolen car almost ran down a local police officer and then crashed into two others at Dorchester and Atwater, police said."



our Mayor
Peter F. Trent
says...



Budgetary blues

JANUARY was the Roman month consecrated to Janus, that two-headed god of doorways and beginnings. Being bicephalous, Janus could quite conveniently look both forward and backward. His blessing was sought at the beginning of every day, month and year.

Old Janus would be balefully eyeing the year ahead as we start it off with a particularly tough municipal budget.

Our only spending increases are a result of upped payroll contributions to Ottawa and Quebec, greater MUC spending and Ryan's "reform."

With a detachment that can only be described as Olympian, Claude Ryan has shuffled off some \$375 million of transit subsidies. The MUC in turn has dumped its share on its member cities without so much as a by-your-leave. And we so quickly forget the \$320 million school tax grab that started in 1990.

Now, you would think that the MUC would pare down its own costs considering both the recession and the Ryan cuts. Not so. Before finance expenses, the MUC has increased its own spending 50 percent in five years!

Ryan did leave us an out. After years of disallowing a variable tax rate, Quebec will now permit us to use a surtax on non-residential property.

The commercial sector in Westmount has been paying less and less of the tax burden, and the homeowner more and more — in spite of increased commercial floor space. The total of commercial 1991 tax rates charged by Westmount was 45 percent of that of Montreal, the city that surrounds us. With the new surtax, this will go to about 60 percent — the same as the residential rate differential between Westmount and Montreal. (Yes, our tax rate is only 60 percent of

Montreal's.)

Our society's laws and regulations have become almost pathologically complex. Tax laws, in an attempt to be fair — and raise more money — are positively Byzantine. Simplicity in taxation is not just a virtue, it should be a requirement.

Ryan's "reform" brings with it the usual overwrought trappings acquired through political compromise: the option of keeping the old business tax (three — count them,

three — taxes!), a horrendously complex and costly abatement mechanism for vacancies, and the optional phasing-in of valuation increases.

All these well-meaning attempts to ease the short-term pain must fail, since they are poorly understood and cost a fortune to administer.

Janus gave man the knowledge of civil law. He should have stayed in the doorway business.

**Want an allegory for life?
Try making your pasta**

I MADE pasta again last weekend.

I do not mean that I boiled a vat of water and added desiccated rods of flour paste. No, I made pasta with my pasta machine.

At least, it's mine now. I bought it at a garage sale last summer, from a man on Arlington avenue. It was a beautiful sunny day and there, in gleaming stainless steel, cheek-by-jowl with dozens of lesser offerings, stood my pasta machine.

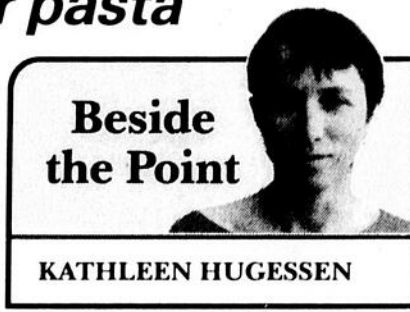
For a decade or more, I had yearned for just such an appliance. The yearn wasn't much rooted in reality as I'd never been all that mad keen on eating pasta. But I did want to make it. Whenever I'd come close to buying a brand-new shiny machine, however, my Scots blood would boil. "That's a lot of coin for something you'll use but once," the ancestral voices echoed down the ages. "It's just one of your passing fancies... like the cheese."

(The Scots blood has never forgiven me for The Cheese, which involved many dollars-worth of milk, a special — and expensive — thermometer and all of one night. It resulted in a rather dull block of mildly cheese-flavored rubbery stuff.)

But a garage-sale purchase had my Scots blood barely simmering. The man who sold me my pasta machine told me he was parting with it only because he'd been using it so often that he'd decided to move to an electric model. He watched wistfully as I left with my bargain.

I made my first batch of fresh homemade flavorful and delicious pasta within a couple of days. It was easy. It was fun. And it was messy — a marvellous mess which ends up dry and floury so a broom, a dry cloth and five minutes are all that are needed for clean-up.

Sometimes my two sons help. Pasta-



**Beside
the Point**

KATHLEEN HUGESSEN

making is the only kitchen activity I have yet found that is actually made easier by the willing hands of the under-10 set.

There's a crank to turn — everybody loves a crank — and there is a little lump of egg, flour and oil which turns into a messy looking flattish thing and then becomes a smoother and longer and longer and longer sheet. One child cranks, one child guides the emerging sheet and the parent sees to feeding the dough through the rollers. When the sheet is thin enough, it is passed through one of the sets of cutting rollers and out come linguine or spaghetti.

That's with the kids. Without them, pasta-making is occasionally more difficult or frustrating, ultimately rewarding, and generally an allegory for life.

My guests, my children and I celebrated a belated New Year's with sundried tomatoes, fresh basil and far too much thick cream cooked together and tossed with my fresh pasta. We had champagne. It was wonderful and not remotely slimming.

All this by way, Gentle Reader, of wishing you a Happy New Year. May it bring you much joy and, if you're really lucky, a pasta machine.

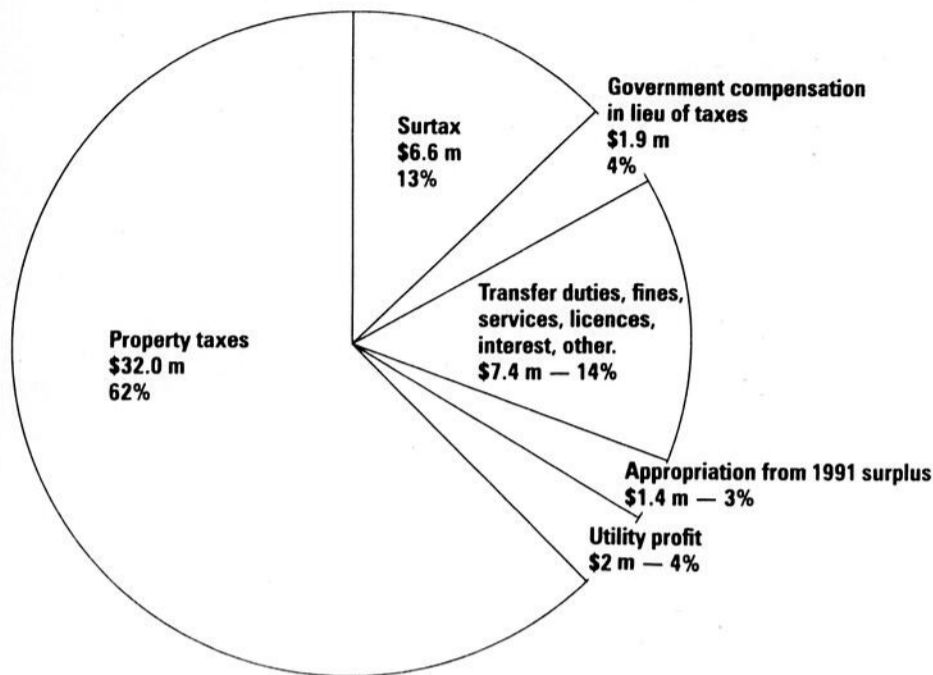
I Say!

MANY a man fails as an original thinker simply because his memory is too good.

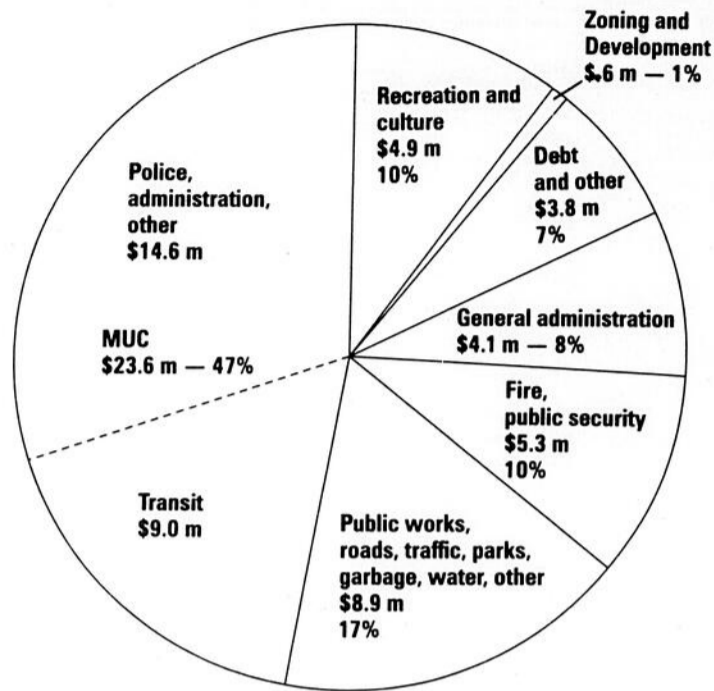
—Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche

BUDGET '92

BUDGET TOTAL: \$51.3 million



REVENUE



EXPENDITURES

City's age, aging workforce enables public works to maintain costs

It is a maintenance budget, both literally and figuratively, for the public works department, according to director Fred Caluori.

In other words, there won't be any major changes in the capital or operating budgets of the department. As well, the emphasis is on maintaining, renovating or upgrading existing roads and buildings.

"With the city being fully developed," says Mr Caluori, "most pro-

jects are to replace what has deteriorated."

What also makes it possible for the city to hold the line on expenses is by using attrition, which is not replacing personnel who have resigned or retired, and contracting out work that might ordinarily be done by city workers.

The department began using contract workers in 1977, said Mr Caluori. The first time it was done as a

By J. MARION FEINBERG

staff-cutting measure was May, 1986. It eliminated 14 full-time garbage collection positions.

The public works operating budget totals about \$8 million for 1992 and includes such costs as snow removal, garbage collection and road, sidewalk and building maintenance. The snow removal budget is at \$2.2 million which represents the cost of an average season of snow.

"If we have a bad year though, we'll have to find the funds," says Mr Caluori, adding that cost-saving began last year when they began hiring laborers on a part-time or on-call basis.

Garbage collection will cost the city \$1,275,500 which is up from last

year's figure of \$1,153,500, because the recycling program will be extended to include apartments.

"At this point recycling is still costing the city money," says Mr Caluori. "It doesn't reduce the standard refuse collection cost since there is additional pick up. When the apartments begin blue box recycling, probably in June, we can look at collecting only once a week."

Environmental activist Don Wedge suggested that Westmount could trim some \$200,000 from its budget as did T.M.R. by cutting back regular garbage collection to one day a week from two now that curbside recycling pickups are in place.

Mayor Trent told Mr Wedge that he was in favor of the cutback and would be watching the LaSalle example with interest for possible implementation in Westmount in 1993. He believed the restricted schedule could be instituted without problem in winter months but had some reservations about the summer adding, "but many people are away then anyway."

Last year, the city saved \$16,000 in disposal fees for landfilling autumn leaves, by collecting and selling the leaves to Laval nurseries for composting. The project will be repeated this year.

In the area of capital expenditures, public works is budgeted at \$4.9 million which includes renovations, road work, parks and vehicle replacement.

"We're not putting in any new roads," says Mr Caluori, "but recon-

structing roads that have been in use anywhere from 50 to 70 years."

In the capital expenditures budget, the length of Surrey Gardens and de Maisonneuve are scheduled for facelifts. De Maisonneuve has one of the oldest concrete bases in Westmount, dating back to 1913, according to Mr Caluori.

"If we can, we'll narrow the road width to increase the amount of green space and maintain a six-foot sidewalk," he says.

He says he is trying to set up a meeting with the City of Montreal to see if it is feasible to run a bike path along de Maisonneuve to link up with an existing path west of Westmount's limits.

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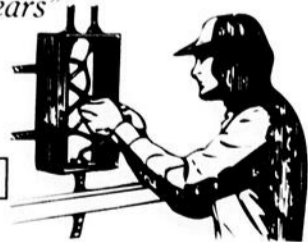
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BUDGET '92

Surtax to raise extra \$3 million from businesses

Westmount businesses can expect the landlord to raise their rent now that business taxes on occupants have been replaced by a surtax on all non-residential properties.

There's no protection from a lease, says Mayor Peter Trent, since Bill 145 which empowers municipalities to impose a commercial surtax overrides existing lease arrangements.

The law also states landlords must provide commercial tenants with a strict accounting of the surtax charges, which can be levied only on the space occupied by the business, the mayor said at Monday's council meeting.

The surtax will be charged at a rate of 1.16 times the municipal rate of \$1.07 per \$100 valuation, or \$1.2412. There is no surtax on vacant land.

In Westmount, where the city is not providing for vacancy abatements, this means building owners

must absorb the cost of surtax on vacant offices rather than distributing it among other tenants.

In cases of mixed occupancies, such as apartment buildings housing offices or stores, the surtax cannot be charged to residential tenants, the mayor assured Andrew Cook-Jolicoeur, who expressed concern about his building at 200 Kensington avenue.

The city chose to replace the business tax by a property surtax to increase revenue by \$3 million without adding more tax burden onto homeowners, to streamline its tax collection operation and reduce the incidence of bad debt incurred by business closures.

The new surtax is expected to bring howls of protest from the commercial sector, now saddled with a 32-percent tax increase over last year.

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Real estate expert Andy Dodge told council the city could expect to receive calls "from now to eternity" if the surtax is not properly explained to businesses.

The mayor told THE EXAMINER he was against governments, such as Quebec, overriding prior private agreements such as leases, but said he favored the surtax as a way of redistributing the tax load more equitably.

Since 1975, Westmount has acquired more and more commercial properties such as the new Place Alexis Nihon tower, yet this sector has been paying less and less of the tax load because of the shift in property valuations.

Non-residential property valuations now account for only 17.4 percent of the city's total roll compared to 27.1 percent when they accounted for 27.1 percent, the mayor explained.

While apartment properties also declined to 9.4 percent from 19 percent over the same period, single-family dwellings have assumed 59.3 percent of the valuation load compared to 48.5 percent in 1975.

Since, by law, taxes are levied on all types of property at the same rate, the commercial sector has paid less tax load, placing more on the shoulders of the homeowner.

The mayor says he does not believe the surtax will drive business away from Westmount considering hard economic times since the city's taxes,

despite the surtax, remain among the lowest in the MUC.

According to former mayor May Cutler, who recently moved her Tundra Books office to Westmount, taxes here were one-third those in Montreal.

Not only will the surtax raise some \$3 million more for Westmount city coffers, it is also expected to streamline the collection procedure, ultimately saving the city about \$100,000 in collection costs which include maintaining a rental value list.

Now the city will bill only 160 owners of non-residential properties rather than 1,400 commercial occu-

pancies.

It expects to receive \$6,141,000 in surtax from the commercial sector plus \$430,700 from federal and provincial properties (schools and hospitals are exempt) for a total of \$6,571,700. Last year the city received \$3,587,300.

Other municipalities in the MUC have applied different variations on the surtax in their 1992 budgets, Mayor Trent said.

"Some have opted not to use the surtax, some are using a combination of business tax and surtax which is the most complicated way to do it."

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Real Estate

By Reg Morden

New Year

HUMAN NATURE AND DESIGN

When you look at the outside of a house, can you tell whether it is well-designed? You don't have to be an architect for a valid first-glance opinion. A major element of good design is how it appeals to you in relation to its environment.

While a house design is the sum of many things, inside and out, it must fit comfortably into its surroundings so that it appears to be a part of it. This is why houses of traditional design have retained their popularity. They seem to be part of the landscape. If you are buying or building a house, you should give considerable thought to both design of the structure and its appearance in its environment.

There are some excellently designed "modernistic" homes. Their "way-out" architecture may please the owner and his architect. But many are so innovative that they have dubious resale value to the average buyer.

As always, we begin the New Year full of hope and enthusiasm and an unflinching positive attitude. There will be problems and opportunities and interesting times indeed. The low interest rates should perk up the buyers. The vendors will have to listen to the market and their agent for sound advice.

Over the past 12 months, this column has tried to address a wide variety of issues related to real estate. We will do the same in 1992. If you are thinking of buying or selling this year, I would be pleased to hear from you.

I hope 1992 is your best year ever!

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BUDGET '92

Park signs, dog runs and renewed de Maisonneuve on tap

Westmounters may at last get new park signs, more trash cans in dog runs, a fancy fire rescue truck and more repairs to the arena's heating system.

These are a few items on the city's 1992 capital expenditures budget, a wish list, tabled Monday night in addition to the municipal budget.

At \$7.4 million, the capital expenditures budget is a little skimpier this year than last when it nudged \$10 million. The budget includes \$2 million worth of projects which failed to get off the ground last year.

The city historically underspends its capital budget, because of projects that fail to win council approval or are delayed, explained Councillor David Laidley at city council's budget meeting Monday night.

This year all proposed projects in the capital program will be financed from the working fund or loan by-laws so will depend on the money market, he said. The city's accumulated surplus, most of which is now absorbed, was used last year to fund some capital programs, he said. The remaining \$1 million of surplus will be kept as a cushion.

Longer-term projects for 1993 and 1994 outlined in the capital budget

are "just rough indicators," Mr Laidley said. These are estimated at \$6.8 million and \$6.6 million.

In store for '92

What's on tap for 1992?

There's \$5 million to repair and repave streets, replace cars and upgrade electricity including installation of traffic lights for Arlington avenue and Sherbrooke street.

Then come a myriad of other items like automated library services and book security with a pricetag of \$350,000, safety borders around playground equipment for \$25,000, the fire rescue truck for \$370,000 and \$85,000 for hand-held ticket printers. These are to help parking inspectors grind out more tickets to bring in even more revenue.

The ticket writers were carried over from 1990 and the custom-built rescue truck from 1991 when it was budgeted at \$300,000. Tenders were opened for the vehicle Nov 22 with the highest-priced one, a bid from the Saulsbury company in the U.S., about \$365,000 in Canadian funds. It was pulled from Monday night's business agenda for further consideration, according to Mayor Peter

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Trent.

New signs for rules in the parks are budgeted to cost \$40,000 and another \$40,000 is included for greenhouse changes and possible demolition.

There's \$85,000 for park benches (they cost \$800 each) and garbage cans at a cost of \$550 each as well as new street planters at \$500 apiece and \$10,000 to redesign planters in front of Cumberland at 1350 Greene avenue.

Cash for trash

Yes, confirmed city director-general Manley Schultz, the trash containers really do cost that much. They're made of fiberglass and come with tops, he said.

There's also another \$200,000 for

ongoing work at the summit lookout and \$25,000 for consultant fees in connection with more work on the arena's somewhat troublesome heating and mechanical systems.

The plan also calls for \$350,000 of renovations to the public security and fire department buildings along with \$20,000 in architectural fees to do the work despite pleas from the fire chief not to put any new moneys into the out-dated building.

Any such work has yet to be approved by city council, said Mayor Peter Trent. A new fire station, however, would be a few years away in any event, he said, since the city has other priorities at this time, including the library renovations.

Details of the proposed street work for \$2.5 million includes major reconstruction of two streets: de Maisonneuve boulevard between

Greene avenue and the west city limits as well as Surrey Gardens throughout.

For a cost of \$1 million, the city hopes to continue replacing its fleet of cars and vehicles including the replacement of a fire pumper truck as well as assorted vans, pickups, dump trucks and a hydraulic pruner.

There's \$600,000 for new street lights and \$900,000 for upgrading and repairs to the city's electricity network, including \$75,000 related to testing for and maintenance of PCI transformers.

Some of the projects proposed for 1993 and 1994, in addition to more street repairs, lighting and regular replacement of the city fleet, are continued computerization of city departments, a new fire department ladder truck for \$500,000 and costly electrical transformer updating.

No gain, no loss from Ryan reforms

New tax revenues resulting from the Ryan fiscal reforms in Bill 145 appear to be offsetting the losses as far as homeowners are concerned, the city's new budget reveals.

For what municipal affairs minister Claude Ryan took away with one hand, he returned with the other.

Mayor Peter Trent predicts the city may make money on the changes.

The worst impact of the Ryan reforms on Westmount's 1992 budget is

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

the loss of MUCTC operating subsidies. The net fiscal transfer to Westmount in this area (excluding other MUC increases) is \$3.7 million, money which must now be made up from taxpayers.

The city also expects to lose some amusement tax revenue because of certain new exemptions though it has, in fact, budgeted for \$30,000 more than it expects to have taken in for 1991.

To offset the new transit payments to the MUC, Westmount plans to impose a new surtax on non-residential properties, one of the gifts from the Ryan reforms to municipalities. This is expected to yield \$3 million more in tax revenue for Westmount.

Federal government properties alone will pay close to \$430,700 to the city in surtax, more than the \$314,200 Canada will pay to Westmount in 1992 in compensation in lieu of regular taxes.

"Ryan is sticking it to the feds," said Mayor Peter Trent, because pro-

vincial buildings will pay little in surtax since schools and hospitals are exempt.

Until this year, he says, Westmount has been receiving less and less from federal government properties. In 1975, for instance, the city received \$355,000 in federal compensation compared to \$297,000 in 1991, not counting inflation, he notes.

Another area of increased revenue is the welcome tax when properties are sold. Though this has been doubled under the Ryan reforms, the city has budgeted a conservative increase due to uncertainties in the real estate market. The city has budgeted an increase of \$287,600 more than the \$562,400 it expects to get in 1991 but may actually realize much more.

"I feel the city is really too conservative in this area and that we'll get more like \$1 million," Mayor Trent said.

If so, the new revenue from all sources should just about equal the \$3.7 million extra in payments for the MUCTC. "I'm going as far as to say we'll come out on top," he added.

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Low interest rate charged on tax bills

WESTMOUNTERS who have to choose between paying off their credit cards or paying their tax bill on time would be well advised to pay off the cards.

The city will charge one percent interest per month on unpaid tax bills, city council agreed Monday night. It is the lowest interest rate in many years. Compounded, the rate is 12.68 per annum. By month, this compares with 1.5 percent in 1983 and 1.25 percent last year.

The general drop in interest rates is reflected in the city's new budget as a \$500,000 loss in revenue on short-term deposits over that budgeted last year, as well as a decrease of \$28,000 in interest earned on tax arrears compared to the amount collected in 1991.

TAX BILL . . .

Continued from page 1

able of 1.24.

"In addition to the surtax, we could have left the business tax in place," he said.

The decision not to spread the 1992 valuation roll over three years was made to simplify tax collection and reduce confusion, Mr Laidley said. This option proved to be too complicated in other municipalities where

it had been used before.

Homeowners would have gained a tax saving of about \$80 the first year and \$50 the second, he explained. The saving was not deemed to be worth the confusion involved in averaging the roll. The loss to homeowners is more than offset by imposing a commercial surtax, he explained.

Conversely, phasing in the valuation roll would have further penalized the commercial sector.

Tax bills are to be mailed out the end of January, payable in two installments March 1 and July 1. As in other years, if the first is not paid on time, the second immediately falls due and subject to interest of one percent a month.

Mr Laidley said the city met its spending guidelines of zero increase on controllable expenditures.

It plans to spend \$27.2 million to provide local services, reserving another \$500,000 for anticipated tax refunds to residents who successfully contest their valuation. The remaining \$23.6 million goes to the MUC compared with \$18.7 million paid last year.

To balance the 1992 budget, the city needs 20 percent more than it collected from property and business taxes last year. It will levy \$32 million in property tax revenue as well as \$6.6 million from the non-residential surtax.

Mayor Peter Trent presented Mr Laidley with a poster reading: "Please note that due to budget restrictions, the light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off."

Your council's tax bills

HOW MUCH are your council representatives paying on their tax bills this year?

Interestingly, though his tax bill is the second lowest, it's the councillor from Ward 8, John Bridgman, who faces the biggest tax hike over last year despite the large valuation increases afflicting residents of Ward 1. Only Ward 3 councillor Nicolas Matossian, whose valuation rose a mere 18 percent, achieved a tax break.

Ironically, the average tax hike of all nine council members is exactly 15 percent, reflecting the average tax increase of all single-family dwellings in Westmount this year.

Here's a peek at the council's own tax load using their own 1.07 tax rate (last year's bill appears in parentheses), in order of percentage increase:

- John Bridgman (Ward 8), 72 Bruce, \$3,056 (\$2,213), up 38%
- Gail Johnson (Ward 1), 3755 The Boulevard, \$11,010 (\$9,038), up 22%
- Peter Trent (mayor), 49 Rosemount, \$8,872 (\$7,402), up 19.9%
- James Wright (Ward 6), 318 Kensington, \$4,880 (\$4,088), up 19.4%
- Karin Marks (Ward 5), 370 Lansdowne, \$3,474 (\$3,037), up 14.4%
- Herbert Bercovitz (Ward 4), 4931 Sherbrooke, \$3,452 (\$3,046), up 13.3%
- John Lehnert (Ward 7), 117 Lewis, \$1,972 (\$1,783), up 10.6%
- David Laidley (Ward 2), 654 Murray Hill, \$6,139 (\$5,859), up 4.8%
- Nicolas Matossian (Ward 3), 51 Delavigne, \$5,640 (\$5,715), down 1.3%.



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Boy's wrist hurt on sliding hill

A 14-year-old boy injured his wrist on the sliding hill at King George (Murray) Park Friday, Dec 27, public safety officers report.

A security patrol was flagged down for assistance at 3:20 pm by a group of youths at the bottom of the hill. The victim was driven to his

home on Harvard avenue in N.D.G. where his mother said she would take him to hospital.

Officers reported three recent incidents of vandalism to the snow fence which is installed across the hill to shorten it for safety purposes.



Continued from page 2

the following unclaimed vehicles, after the expiry of 10 days following the publication of the present notice:

| YEAR | MAKE | COLOUR | LICENSE # | SERIAL NO. | DATE OF ENTRY |
|------|--------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1982 | CHEVROLET CAVALIER | Blue | GSR 791 | 1G1AD69G8C7123366 | 91-10-31 |
| 1980 | PONTIAC PARISIENNE | | TRANSIT 5934824 | 7N69JA1314318 | 91-11-08 |

GIVEN under my hand at Westmount, Quebec, this 7th day of January 1992

Me Marie-France Paquet
City Clerk



WESTMOUNT AVIS PUBLIC

AVIS PUBLIC est par la présente donné par la soussignée, greffier de la Ville de Westmount, qu'en vertu de l'article 461 de la Loi sur les Cités et Villes (L.R.Q., chapitre C-19), et que suite à la résolution adoptée par le Conseil municipal à sa séance générale du 6 janvier 1992, la Ville de Westmount procédera à la disposition des véhicules abandonnés suivants, à l'expiration d'un délai de 10 jours suivant la publication du présent avis:

| ANNEE | MARQUE | COULEUR | # DE LICENCE | NO DE SERIE | DATE D'ENTRÉE |
|-------|--------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1982 | CHEVROLET CAVALIER | Bleu | GSR 791 | 1G1AD69G8C7123366 | 91-10-31 |
| 1980 | PONTIAC PARISIENNE | | TRANSIT 5934824 | 7N69JA1314318 | 91-11-08 |

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Me Marie-France Paquet
Greffier de la Ville

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Police (business calls), 21 Stanton St. 280-2223

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Municipal Yard, 14 Bethune St. 935-8037
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Cour municipale, 21, rue Stanton 935-8531, local 351 or 352
Police (bureau d'affaires), 21, rue Stanton 280-2223

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Hall Victoria, 4626, rue Sherbrooke ouest 935-2066
Voirie, 14, rue Bethune 935-8037
Service d'éclairage, chemin Glen 935-8218
Bibliothèque 935-8444
Sécurité Publique 935-1777

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STATION 23 LOG

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Man, 41, charged with beating wife

A 41-year-old Westmount man faces charges of assault for allegedly slapping his wife on the face New Year's night over an argument involving his mother-in-law, police said.

The battered wife apparently did not want her husband charged, but phoned police in the hopes of preventing future attacks.

She told officers he had hit her before and she told him she would call 911 if it happened again. That's what she did at 11 pm. Police said their policy is to lay charges in connection with conjugal violence even if the battered woman does not give her consent.

City property used to steal cigarettes

A city trash can was apparently used to carry away cartons of cigarettes from the Oxford Soda and Stationery store broken into early Saturday, police said. The can, located outside the Greene avenue shop, was also used to smash glass in the front door, giving access. Damage was \$300. The break-in was discovered by a passing public safety officer at 12:57 am. All appeared in order on his earlier patrol at 12:12 am, he stated.

Cold exposure

A man exposed himself to a 33-year-old Westmount woman Dec 31 as she was starting to cross the street at Melville avenue and de Maisonneuve boulevard about 4 pm, police said. He had emerged from a car parked on the east side of Melville. The suspect, described as a white man aged about 45, fled north to Sherbrooke street.

Screws foil theft

Efforts to burglar-proof an apartment at 266 Lansdowne avenue proved successful over Christmas, according to police. Screws placed in windows, allowing them to open only a few inches, foiled attempts by a would-be intruder to get in two windows. The precautions were taken after the apartment was broken into last April. It is not known if the latest attempt was related to another break-in at the same building Christmas day when residents saw a suspect going up the fire escape.

Métro pickpocket

A woman discovered her money, credit cards and agenda missing Friday moments after someone bumped against her as she entered the Atwater Métro station from de Maisonneuve boulevard, police said. The pickpocket victim was a 41-year-old Montreal resident.

Apartment break-in

An apartment at 4300 de Maisonneuve boulevard was broken into between Dec 20 and Jan 3 by breaking a screen at the rear and opening the window, police said. A television set, VCR and jewelry were reported missing.

Money-seeking student grabs uncle's throat

An arrest warrant has been issued for a Quebec City university student wanted for alleged assault on his uncle Saturday afternoon, police said. The 24-year-old suspect had visited his 69-year-old uncle on de Maisonneuve boulevard asking for money. When it was denied, the older man was taken by the throat and shaken.

Phantom tickets vanish from car

A man lost four tickets to *The Phantom of the Opera* Dec 27 when his briefcase was stolen from a car parked in front of 4060 St Catherine street, police said. The thief had apparently tried to steal the car, a 1986 Volkswagen Jetta, but was unable to get it started. The thief settled instead for the black leather briefcase. The victim was a resident of Boucherville. The theft occurred between 4 and 6:30 pm.

Man found beaten after Cult concert

An 18-year-old man was taken to St Mary's Hospital late Friday night when he was found beaten up at Grosvenor avenue and de Maisonneuve boulevard, police said. The man said he had been to The Cult concert at The Forum and didn't know what had happened to him. He was placed under arrest for breaching a condition of probation prohibiting the use of alcohol. The probation concerned a theft of \$1,000 in Ste Thérèse.

Coat theft

Two coats were stolen from Westmount homes over the New Year's holiday. A lambskin coat containing personal papers and keys disappeared from a house on Prince Albert avenue New Year's night when the front door was left unlocked. It belongs to a St Lambert resident. A green suede coat belonging to a 22-year-old Ottawa woman was stolen from a house on Summit Circle during a party of 250 guests on New Year's Eve.

A woman also had her purse stolen from her house on Metcalfe avenue Saturday evening when someone walked unseen in the front door. It was unlocked.

Car rams garage

A hit-and-run driver drove into the garage of a house at 60 Delavigne road Sunday Dec 29 damaging the door, police said. The home is located where Wood avenue ends. It is possible the driver thought the street continued. He or she hit the garage and then backed up, leaving behind pieces of chrome and yellow reflector plastic. The incident occurred between 2 and 11:30 am.

Man, 70, caught stealing wine

A 70-year-old man was charged with shoplifting four litres of wine and some sugar on New Year's Eve from the Steinberg store at Place Alexis Nihon, police said. The theft amounted to \$24.29. The man was retained on an arrest warrant for \$154 involving a previous theft. He lives on St Lawrence boulevard.

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WISHING YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

What to look for on stage in the new year

An evening of theatre in the new year ranges in price from free to \$27 (that for *Balconville*, and there are tickets available for \$16; seniors can attend for as little as \$9.50).

The first plays of the new year are not really new. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* is at Centaur until Jan 25.

Balconville, a Centaur Theatre production, opens tonight and runs until Feb 2.

Repercussion Theatre, the folks who bring us Shakespeare in the Park every summer, are restaging Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*, which they first performed at Maison de la Culture N.D.G., partly because they love the play and partly because they turned away 30 to 40 people a night for the first run, which could not be extended.

As with all rentals, evening performances are at 8:30 pm. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$8 for seniors, students and QDF members.

Centaur Theatre has lots of reasons for bringing back *Balconville* by Montrealer David Fennario, not the least of which is that it was the most successful play they ever staged. Tickets are \$16 to \$27; \$9.50 to \$27 for seniors; \$14.50 to \$27 for students; \$15.50 to \$27 for Quebec Drama Federation members.

Centaur Theatre will present *Carla and Griff*, *Rough Crossing* and

a revue by Westmount's Bowser & Blue during the rest of the season.

Other rentals at Centaur during the season are a National Theatre School presentation of *Vieux Carré* Feb 25 to 29; a group called The Irish Activities Montreal 1992 with *A Life by Hugh Leonard* June 4 to 14; and the musical *Oliver!* by Kids in Action, a West Island-based group of child and teenage performers, June 25 to 28.

Players' Theatre at McGill University is a venue where there is often interesting theatre, particularly in the case of co-productions with other companies. It is also a place where one frequently sees valiant failures, but if one watches for the spark rather than the smoke, it can be an exhilarating experience. Their first offering of the season is *Passion Play*, running Jan 21 to Feb 2. This play, by Straun Sinclair, tells of a gruesome murder, and is a psychological thriller. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 for QDF members, and \$6 for students.

Their next play will be Oscar Wilde's classic *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Another student club at McGill is Tuesday Night Café, which puts on excellent (usually) and adventurous (always) theatre at Morris Hall. They present an original musical, *Cleaning Up*, by student Nick Carpenter, Jan 28 to Feb 1.

Teesri Duniya is a gutsy little com-

pany of mostly immigrants, none of whom are theatre professionals. What this company lacks in training and development or even talent it makes up for in enthusiasm and energy. The company has been working on a play about domestic violence for some months, and will present a free workshop performance of *Simply A Crime*, followed by a discussion with the audience, at Maison de la Culture N.D.G. Jan 23 to 25.

Play sounds fun

On Jan 31, *Woman by a Window*, by Montrealer Marianne Ackermann, will open at Théâtre La Chapelle, and run until Feb 23. Ms Ackermann's play will be presented by her company, Theatre 1774. This play about the war within ("Why did I? How could I have?") sounds like fun. Three women play the inner voices of Emma: will, desire and soul. Tickets are \$15 and \$12.

Lakeshore Players is an amateur company with a number of professional members that often hires a professional director. They will present Bernard Slade's *Return Engagements* at John XXIII Theatre in Dorval Jan 29 to Feb 8. Tickets are \$8 to \$11.

Dawson College's Dome Theatre's graduating class will present Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* Feb 5 through 16 at 8 pm, with previews Feb 3 and 4. The play is set in Sicily in the 1930s, and is directed by Douglas Buchanan. Tickets are \$7.50 and \$6.

March 11 to 14 the second-year students will present a studio production of a contemporary Canadian comedy, Carol Shields' *Departures and Arrivals*. March 25 through 28 the first-year studio production will be a lighthearted look at love by the British playwright Terry Hands, *Pleasure and Repentance*. Both plays are free.



This production of *Balconville*, coming to Montreal again, toured the Old Vic Theatre in London.

The Dome season ends with 1949 by Canadian David French April 22 to May 3. Tickets are \$7.50 and \$6.

Foolhouse Theatre will present the musical *Cabaret* Feb 6 to 23.

Alliance Quebec will sponsor the Greenfield Park Players and Otoman Park Players in an all-day theatre festival on Feb 29.

The first week of March will see Spontaneous Combustion Productions present Leonard Bernstein's *Candide* at FACE Theatre. This company, which deserves to be better known, has been presenting challenging musicals for the past several years.

The sixth annual McGill Drama Festival takes place at Players' Theatre March 9 to 14.

Westmount-based Bulldog Productions will present Wendy Wasserstein's *The Heidi Chronicles*, directed by artistic director and founder Ilana Linden, at the Saidye Bronfman Centre March 19 to April 16. This contemporary American humorous look at the last four decades by a feminist art historian promises to be wonderful, based on the compa-

ny's track record and the cast of eight.

Also coming up at the SBC are a presentation of an operetta, *Shulamis*, by Young Actors for Young Audiences Feb 3 to 9; a puppet festival in March, *My Boyfriend's Back and There's Gonna Be Laundry* by Sandar Shamas, scheduled for April.

The jewel of their season may well be a presentation in Yiddish of Michel Tremblay's *Les Belles Soeurs* in May, directed by Dora Wasserman.

You can dial T-H-E-A-T-R-E on a regular basis for a recording that tells you what is happening in English theatre.

Box office numbers are: Centaur Theatre (including all rentals) 288-3161; McGill Players' Theatre, 398-6813; Saidye Bronfman Centre, 739-7944; Theatre Lac Brome, 1-243-0361; Theatre Lachapelle, 843-7738; Lakeshore Players, 631-8718; Fraser-Hickson Institute (Foolhouse) 369-2347; Dome 931-5000; Tuesday Night Café, 398-6600; Spontaneous Combustion Productions, 845-3910 or 695-7148; Playwrights Workshop, 843-3685.

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EPIPHANY I

Sermon:

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The Minister

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J.S.S. Armour, Minister
Director of Music, James W. Wells

L'orgue se détériore

L'orgue de l'église St-Léon de Westmount se détériore de plus en plus. Construit en 1942 en période de pénurie, il a souffert de la rareté des matériaux de qualité. Des matériaux de substitution ont alors été utilisés: tuyauterie de zinc et de plombe, contacts en phosphore-bronze.

L'état général de l'orgue donne aujourd'hui des signes évidents d'équipement et d'usure. Les problèmes se multiplient et, régulièrement, des tuyaux parlent seuls ou, à l'inverse,

demeurent muets: cuirs séchés, électrons-défaillants, contacts brisés, tuyauterie qui fausse anormalement.

Tous ces problèmes contribuent à rendre l'utilisation de l'orgue aléatoire et les réglages impossibles. L'entretien se limite à faire du dépannage au coup par coup.

Il s'est avéré nécessaire d'acquiescer un autre instrument et une campagne de financement est actuellement ouverte. Avis à tous nos généreux donateurs.

St A-D-D addresses AIDS and HIV in four lectures

AIDS and HIV virus is the subject of a Sunday study series in January at St Andrew's-Dominion-Douglas Church.

The sessions began last week and take place after Sunday services, from 12:30 to 1:30 pm in Goodwin Parlor. They are sponsored by the church's social outreach committee.

This Sunday Claire Duchesneau, a social worker at the Immuno Diagnostic Clinic of the Royal Victoria Hospital, will speak on *A Social Perspective: Family Life and AIDS*. She will be accompanied by a patient who will take part in the discus-

sions.

Rev Ruth A. Brown will deliver a sermon on *A New Beginning* at the worship service.

Next week, Jan 19, Sister Thérèse of Nazareth House, a hospice for AIDS victims, will speak on *A Volunteer's Perspective: Caring for People Dying from AIDS*.

On Jan 26, Rev Dr Philip Joudrey of the Royal Victoria Hospital will address *Theological Reflections: Who are God's People? Is There Purpose in our Suffering? What Meaning is There in our Response as a Faith Community?*

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THE WESTMOUNT
Examiner

13 - Thursday, January 9, 1992

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**Plan to convert fire station
to homes commended by city**
Trio of Westmount architects keeps main features

Plans to divide Westmount's No 2 fire station into three luxury dwellings have won glowing approval from the city's Architectural and Planning Commission but neighbors must now approve a zoning amendment.

The building is to have two-storey-high arched windows, 4.8-metre-high (almost 15 feet) living room ceilings, spectacular views and a glamorous top-floor condominium with a rooftop greenhouse, according to plans by architect Andrea Wolff.

Rezoning of the unused fire station as a residential building at the corner of Victoria avenue and The Boulevard is expected to go before city council next month. Details are now before lawyers and the zoning change must be approved by the planning services committee, "but we'll fast-track it," said city operations manager Bruce St Louis Monday. The process, including public consultation, then takes about three months.

"I'm prepared to pass it right now," said Mayor Peter Trent.

The heritage building must retain the aspect of a fire station under an agreement between the city and developer Ali Ettehadijah who will not officially own it until all designs and zoning changes are approved.

By **LAUREEN SWEENEY**

Mr Ettehadijah's bid to buy the 80-year-old building and property for \$450,500 was accepted conditionally by city council July 8 last year.

Ms Wolff, who released her drawings of the three dwellings to THE EXAMINER, says each home is designed with a different feature in mind.

Architectural challenge

The project is providing a "great, great challenge" for the Westmount woman and her two partners at Architem, which specializes in restoration and renovation work.

The concept which the group devised three months ago is to divide the building vertically as well as horizontally.

The three-storey dwelling fronting Victoria is for the person who wants to live in a fire station since the towers and other distinguishing features are largely concentrated there. Even the brass poles will be relocated and installed in this home.

The two-storey home that will occupy the back two-thirds of the building will have a side patio and a back garden overlooking the Villa Maria farm. It is ideal for a family with teenagers since the second floor

is designed almost as a separate living area, she says.

But for Ms Wolff, it's the third-storey condominium that's the glamorous unit — "a pied-à-terre for a top executive" who has a hankering for elegance and the unusual. This dwelling has a spectacular view of the city as well as a rooftop conservatory and garden.

It's to have a private elevator as well as a winterized conservatory on the roof of the fire station where one can entertain, read or simply contemplate the 360-degree vista.

Mark London, who chairs the city's A & P Commission, calls the unit a penthouse and says the greenhouse will make it unique.

"It's only once in a while that the commission gets a proposal that's particularly well thought out and not only approves it quickly but also adds commendation to the submission," he explains.

A letter on Oct 15 from the city said the commission "commends the architects for the sensitive approach and clear presentation."

**Modern midrash
explored during
bagel breakfast**

Midrash was originally a way of transmitting key Jewish values or lessons by means of a story or parable, usually based on a Biblical text. Contemporary midrash appears in magazines like *Moment*.

On Sunday at 10 am Edeet Ravel will speak on *Midrash for Today: Old Wine in New Bottles* at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke street. A bagel breakfast, costing \$3, will be served.

Ms Ravel teaches religion courses at McGill University, where she is completing her PhD on Jewish women and Jewish law. She recently won the Epstein Creative Writing Competition at McGill for *Midrash*, a work of experimental fiction.

Everyone is welcome to attend the breakfast.

**Free training
for volunteers**

West Island Citizen Advocacy is offering training sessions for all citizen advocacy volunteers and other interested individuals.

The training sessions will cover various topics such as communication/helping skills, crisis intervention, social systems, income tax, medication, pensions/investments, wills, estates and curatorship for seniors.

Each course is taught by a qualified professional. All sessions are free and are held on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 pm and Thursdays from 1 to 3 pm in Pointe Claire.

The first course begins Jan 28. Call 694-5850 to register.



Design of proposed changes to No 2 fire station features three two-storey high arched windows on the south face with French doors to garden.

Though the main exterior features of the building are to be preserved, Ms Wolff plans to increase the window surface by creating three tall arched windows on the south wall. Additional windows will be added to the north face and a large balcony will wrap around the southwest corner of the building leading off the third-storey penthouse.

The centre door area will be converted into the main entrance of the front dwelling, a recessed entry. A new elegant entrance, with a tower-like canopy, will be added off The Boulevard for the back unit and the elevator to the penthouse home.

Common basement

A common basement will be divided to provide three two-car gar-

ages accessible by the current driveway. Each will have its own storage area.

Renovation and revitalization of the fire station was a tailor-made project for Ms Wolff and her partners, she said.

"I love it. Our specialty is finding creative solutions to problems. Though I'm the project architect, it's a collaborative effort by the three of us."

Ms Wolff, Elizabeth Shapiro and Magda Kuskowski recently celebrated the fifth anniversary of their firm. They met while working at the architectural firm of Dimakopoulos and Associates.

The fire station project is expected to take six months to a year to complete once the working drawings are prepared.

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Art show at Westmount Square

There will be a vernissage in the mall level of Westmount Square on Wednesday from 5 to 7 pm for an exhibition of paintings by Laryssa Luhovy and Philippe Valois. Cocktails will be served. The exhibition will continue until Feb 7.

The exhibit is the first in a series of cultural events planned for Westmount Square this year and organizers hope to create a centre of cultural activity and exposition by the artistic community.

Ms Luhovy is a Montreal-based Ukrainian who graduated from

École des Beaux-Arts in Montreal and received her MFA degree from George Washington University. She has had a number of solo shows in Canada and the U.S., including one at the Barbara Walter Gallery in Manhattan.

The Westmount Square show is of acrylic abstracted images and figurative paintings.

Mr Valois was born in Montreal and graduated from UQAM. Last year he exhibited in the Tokyo International Art Show in Japan last January.



One of Jane Desjardins' landscapes gleaned from the lush gardens of Vancouver Island.

Desjardins' potpourri of paintings

Westmounter Jane Desjardins is showing her watercolors at the Westmount Library, 4574 Sherbrooke street, from Jan 13 to 26.

She began painting as a child, following in the footsteps of her Australian mother, who took the children along on her painting excursions. She earned her BA from Concordia and taught art for three years to children in the Roslyn after-school program.

Ms Desjardins then travelled, on boat, to the Canary Islands, the Mediterranean to Turkey, gathering impressions to paint later in her style of watercolor washes. These later became the focus of an exhibit at Westmount Library in October, 1990.

This newest show includes work from a recent visit to Vancouver Island; it is a potpourri of landscapes, flowers, some scenes from Spain and women in the market in Turkey. All

paintings at the library were done within the past month, she said. Nearly all of her work sold in the

previous show.

The show is open during regular library hours.

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Fire victims seek their cat

The people who lost their apartment when the Westmount Bar-B-Q burned down are hoping that some kindly Westmounter has taken in their pet cat.

If you have given a home to a champagne-colored queen with medium-length hair, who answers to Dude or Du-Du, please call her owners at 488-3598.

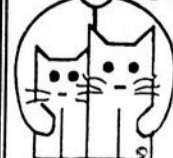
Nursing home theft

Someone stole a television set from a TV room at St Margaret nursing home on Hillside avenue overnight Christmas, police said. The theft was not reported until Jan 3.

Drunken driving

A 50-year-old St Laurent man was charged with impaired driving in Westmount Sunday night, police said. He was arrested at Côte St Anotone road and Metcalfe avenue about 11:22 pm.

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Chats Décarie**

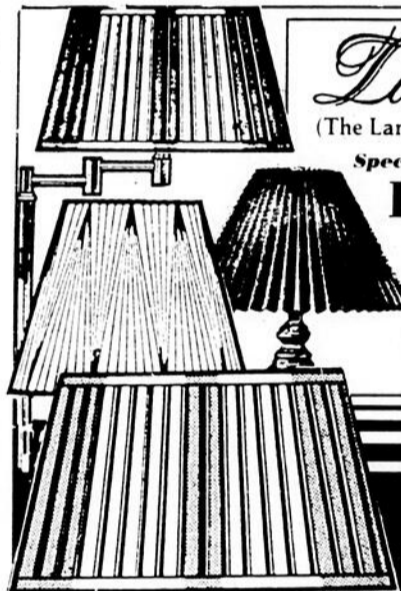


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Healthy eating habits encouraged by experts giving local lecture

Healthier eating habits is one of the most frequently cited New Year's resolutions that are made and broken.

To encourage perseverance of a healthier dietary lifestyle, optimal weight, health and energy level, Sandra Cohen-Rose and Dr Cohen Penfield Rose will give an evening of nutrition at St George's School on Wednesday.

During their lecture, *Bite Off As Much As You Can Chew*, parents will have the opportunity to learn about the independence of healthy food choices, the latest developments in cardio-vascular research and the lat-

est research and trends in low-fat eating.

Ms Cohen-Rose is one of North America's most respected consultant dietitian-nutritionists and Dr Cohen Penfield Rose is a staff cardiologist and associate professor of medicine at Montreal General Hospital and McGill University. Their book, *The New Canadian High Energy Diet* is said to be one of the most valuable texts on the subject to be published in Canada.

Following the discussion, healthy home baking and free recipes will be available to all.

The meeting is open to the public. Call 937-9289 to reserve a place.

Phone aid for cancer patients

Tele-Cancer is a free, bilingual support service offered by Fondation Québécoise du Cancer. Callers are matched as closely as possible with a volunteer with regard to sex, age and type of cancer.

Volunteers, all of whom have or have had cancer, are versed in the art of listening.

They offer no medical advice, but can refer to support groups if necessary. The principle behind Tele-Cancer is that these are former patients who understand the fear, pain and loneliness of other patients. Anonymity is guaranteed.

The telephone number is 522-6237, or 5-CANCER.

Support groups for spouses, kids of Alzheimer victims

Support groups for spouses and adult and teenage children of Alzheimer's victims begin Wednesday

from 7:30 to 9 pm and run eight consecutive weeks.

To register, call 485-7233. The

groups are run by the Alzheimer Society of Montreal, based on Cavendish boulevard in Côte St Luc.

YOU SAY...

Continued from page 4

from one of Quebec's MPs on the panel. He had to plug in his earphones and could only answer in English.

The one area where he should have been questioned, the absolute guarantee (1964) of the portability of pensions between the Pearson and LeSage Liberal regimes, was not even brought up. If Quebec did secede, more than \$10 billion of its \$36 billion pension fund would be liable for transfer to the Canada Pension Plan.

Who will have title to the name of Canada in the future? Can the present façade be extended by enshrining a completely disparate standard for the criminal law in Quebec? Or would the honest thing be to re-name this new asymmetrical economic union, the Federation of North American Provinces? This would allow the once proud name of Canada to be retired from the international scene with dignity, honor and respect.

W.A. Sullivan

4444 Sherbrooke street
WESTMOUNT PQ H3Z 1E4

Contest winners at library

Winners of the Christmas contest in the children's department of the Westmount Library are asked to come by and pick up their book prizes.

They are: Jill Osborne, Monica Flegel, Elizabeth Braoudakis, Erica Shadeed, Neda Dowlatshahi and Jason Domingo.

COMING EVENTS ÉVÉNEMENTS

Notices for this column should be sent in writing to: Coming Events, 155 Hillside Avenue, Westmount H3Z 2Y8. Text should be accompanied by payment of \$7.00 plus GST for maximum of 50 words. Only announcements of specific events sponsored by non-profit groups permitted in this column.

Sunday Evenings

Psychics! Mediums! Mystics! Spirit Communication! Channeling! Mediumship! Clairvoyance! Aura Sensing! Psychometry with famous medium Marilyn Rossner & her guests Sunday evenings. 7:30 pm, Ramada Inn, Guy & René Levesque. Admission: Free. 937-8359. Come & Bring a Friend!

Christian Meditation Centre

The Christian Meditation Centre of Montreal presents Anglican Bishop Henry Hill, Friday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 pm. Bishop Hill will address the question: "What an Anglican Bishop learned from Dom John Main." Those coming for Mass and meditation at 5:30 should bring a light supper. Christian Meditation Centre, 1475 Pine Ave. West. 281-0659. All Welcome.

Yale Glee Club

The Yale Club of Montreal and First Quebec Corporation are pleased to host the Yale Glee Club, under the directorship of Fenno Heath, at Pollack Concert Hall, McGill University, 555 Sherbrooke Street West on Saturday, January 11, 1992 at 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$8.00 and can be picked up at First Quebec Corporation's offices at 2000 McGill College Avenue, suite 1500 from January 6, or at the door one hour prior to the concert.

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**CITY OF WESTMOUNT
1992 BUDGET
PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL —
JANUARY 6, 1992**

**BY: Councillor David H. Laidley
Chairman
Finance and Administration Committee**

Mayor Trent, Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my pleasure, as Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee, to present the City's Budget for the year 1992.

Guidelines for the preparation of the 1992 budget by the Director General's Office called for a **spending freeze** in all departments, not even allowing for inflation increases. The only exceptions permitted were for uncontrollable expenses, such as financing charges, tax rebates to citizens who have successfully contested their valuations, and the cost of water billed to Westmount by the City of Montreal. No reduction in the overall level of services to the municipality was accepted, despite the severe budget restrictions.

I am pleased to report tonight that this guideline for zero increase in local spending has been met. Even with the uncontrollable cost factors referred to above, the total 1992 increase in the budget for City operations is only 1.1% over the total 1991 Forecast. Direct operating expenditures will actually decrease by 1.5%; the number of permanent personnel on the City's payroll has been reduced by eight from the 1991 year-end figure, to a projected total of 317 by December 1992.

Unfortunately, despite the successful efforts of Westmount's Mayor, Council and Administration to hold the line on local spending, the MUC has passed on to us a **gigantic 26% increase**, resulting in part — but not entirely — from Municipal Affairs Minister Claude Ryan's fiscal "reform". The MUC portion of Westmount's total operating budget now represents 46% of our aggregate expenditures, up from 41% in 1991 and 35% just 5 years ago.

The total Municipal Budget for 1992 is therefore \$51.3 million, which is an increase of 13% over the total 1991 budget of \$45.3 million. As

noted previously, this 1992 budget represents an actual **decrease** in controllable local expenditures. The lion's share of Westmount's budget increase is due to our higher share of MUC costs, as explained below.

MONTREAL URBAN COMMUNITY

The impact of Quebec's fiscal reform⁽¹⁾ on all municipalities, along with sharply increased costs at the MUC itself, have raised our share of MUC costs from a budgeted \$18.8 million in 1991 to \$23.6 million in 1992. The \$4.8 million increase, or 26% more than last year, is accounted for as follows:

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Ryan reform (Bill 145): net fiscal transfer to Westmount | \$3.7 million |
| Westmount share of MUCTC and MUC budget increases, in addition to Bill 145 burden | \$1.1 million |
| Total increase in MUC charges for 1992: | \$4.8 million |

(1) often referred to as the "Ryan Reform", and embodied in Québec Bill 145.

Mayor Peter Trent, and indeed his predecessor Mayor May Cutler, have both protested strongly at MUC Council meetings against these increases. The mayors of a growing number of other MUC municipalities have echoed the Westmount protests, and some cuts in proposed 1992 budgets were in fact achieved. However the struggle for greater fiscal restraint by the MUC, and recognition of Montreal's true economic reality, must be continued with even more vigour in the coming year.

MUNICIPAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES

Total Westmount operating costs are budgeted at \$27.6 million or 54% of total municipal expenditures for 1992 (the balance of 46% being the payment to the MUC). This percentage compares with 58% in 1991 and 62% in 1990. While the City continues to exercise tight restraint on its own budget growth, the huge increases passed on by the MUC absorb a steadily higher proportion of our citizens' tax dollars.

The uncontrollable items which have contributed to a minor 1.1% overall increase in local Westmount expenditures include Debt Service and Financing Costs (up \$120,000) and the cost of City water purchased from

Montreal (up \$100,000). Also included is a \$500,000 provision for refund of taxes to Westmount citizens whose property valuations are officially reduced.

Other increases which have been accepted because of a clear benefit to the City include \$122,000 for garbage collection, principally to cover the extension of the Blue Box recycling program to apartment buildings and condominiums not presently covered by this service. Several increases in expenditure will provide an offsetting benefit in the form of higher municipal revenue. A good example of this is a \$49,000 increase in Municipal Court operating costs, which will generate over twice that amount in increased collection of fines and overdue accounts.

The Fire Service shows a \$168,000 increase due to the signed collective labour agreement presently in force, which provides for a 4% higher wage level in 1992. All other departments have budgeted for only a 1.5% basic wage increase in 1992, following the example of restric-

tions established by Federal and Provincial governments in this regard.

REVENUE

Revenues derived from sources other than direct taxation obviously reduce the burden on Westmount taxpayers. In 1992, these other sources of revenue are budgeted to yield \$9.9 million, nearly 20% of total municipal income. This total is slightly less than that achieved in 1991, due mainly to lower interest rates which the City will earn on short-term investments, and to the lower volume of property sales, resulting in decreased "welcome tax" or transfer duties.

On the other hand, we anticipate gross revenue from the City's Electric Utility operations to increase by 7% to \$20.7 million, for a net contribution to the City of \$2.05 million, up substantially from the current year. Westmount Light and Power continues to benefit the citizens in both superior service (compared with Hydro Québec in surrounding municipalities) and in generation of substan-

Continued on next page

CITY OF WESTMOUNT STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

| | BUDGET 1991 | FORECAST 1991 | BUDGET 1992 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| EXPENDITURE | | | |
| GENERAL ADMINISTRATION | | | |
| Legislation — Council | \$309,100 | \$247,800 | \$302,000 |
| Law Enforcement — Municipal Court | 514,600 | 492,200 | 563,000 |
| Finance and General Administration | 1,709,600 | 1,745,100 | 1,718,700 |
| City Clerk | 709,400 | 732,600 | 630,900 |
| Human Resources | 524,700 | 546,100 | 557,300 |
| Administration Buildings | 277,400 | 314,800 | 280,200 |
| | <u>\$4,044,800</u> | <u>\$4,078,600</u> | <u>\$4,052,100</u> |
| PUBLIC SECURITY AND PUBLIC SAFETY | | | |
| Police Building | \$123,800 | \$116,900 | \$126,400 |
| Public Security | 1,495,700 | 1,474,200 | 1,527,700 |
| Fire and Civil Protection | 3,524,500 | 3,443,600 | 3,692,600 |
| | <u>\$5,144,000</u> | <u>\$5,034,700</u> | <u>\$5,346,700</u> |
| ROAD TRANSPORT | | | |
| Administration | \$582,800 | \$635,500 | \$646,600 |
| Streets and Sidewalks | 1,638,700 | 1,676,000 | 1,678,200 |
| Snow Removal and Disposal | 2,112,600 | 2,207,300 | 2,158,900 |
| Street Lighting | 623,900 | 656,800 | 669,700 |
| Traffic Control | 350,800 | 369,000 | 385,800 |
| Parking Lots | 128,200 | 133,800 | 121,000 |
| | <u>\$5,437,000</u> | <u>\$5,678,400</u> | <u>\$5,660,200</u> |
| WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES | | | |
| Water purchased from Montreal | \$1,600,000 | \$1,645,800 | \$1,700,000 |
| Sewer System Maintenance | 219,600 | 214,200 | 231,100 |
| Garbage Collection and Disposal | 1,153,500 | 1,151,100 | 1,275,500 |
| | <u>\$2,973,100</u> | <u>\$3,011,100</u> | <u>\$3,206,600</u> |
| ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES | | | |
| Urban Planning and Zoning | \$575,000 | \$593,500 | \$591,500 |
| Municipal Housing — Shared Costs | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| | <u>\$625,000</u> | <u>\$643,500</u> | <u>\$641,500</u> |
| RECREATION AND CULTURE | | | |
| Administration | \$344,100 | \$350,200 | \$382,000 |
| Victoria Hall | 254,000 | 232,000 | 229,900 |
| Arena | 400,100 | 403,700 | 404,700 |
| Swimming Pool | 180,400 | 179,000 | 183,300 |
| Recreation Programs | 226,300 | 224,700 | 235,000 |
| Parks, Playgrounds and Greenhouse | 1,893,800 | 1,938,000 | 1,958,600 |
| Library | 1,447,400 | 1,431,300 | 1,447,400 |
| Grants to Non-Profit Organizations | 75,000 | 114,500 | 100,000 |
| | <u>\$4,821,100</u> | <u>\$4,873,400</u> | <u>\$4,940,900</u> |
| OTHER EXPENDITURES | | | |
| Debt Service and Other Financing Costs | \$2,720,100 | \$2,593,900 | \$2,840,500 |
| Capital Expense Charged to Operating Fund | 333,000 | 580,100 | 155,000 |
| Recoverables, Contingency and Other | 401,900 | 352,000 | 306,300 |
| | <u>\$3,455,000</u> | <u>\$3,526,000</u> | <u>\$3,301,800</u> |
| PROVISION FOR TAX REFUNDS | | | |
| | \$ — | \$ — | \$500,000 |
| MUNICIPAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES | \$26,500,000 | \$26,845,700 | \$27,649,800 |
| MONTREAL URBAN COMMUNITY | | | |
| Transit Commission | 5,326,200 | 5,040,200 | 8,978,700 |
| Administration, Security and Other | 13,423,800 | 13,664,000 | 14,645,800 |
| | <u>\$18,750,000</u> | <u>\$18,704,200</u> | <u>\$23,624,500</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | \$45,250,000 | \$45,549,900 | \$51,274,300 |



CITY OF WESTMOUNT
VILLE DE WESTMOUNT
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TABLEAU D'AVIS PUBLICS

Continued from previous page

tial net profit for the benefit of Westmount taxpayers.

Council has also confirmed that \$1.4 million will be appropriated from the City's accumulated surplus, in order to soften the dramatic impact this year of higher MUC costs, including the "Ryan Reform". This is in line with the policy set last year, when a similar allocation of \$2.5 million was made from surplus in order to alleviate citizens' tax burden. The surplus has also been used to avoid borrowing costs on certain approved capital projects in 1991, but in 1992 all capital projects will be financed through the Working Fund (to be charged to revenue over a three to five-year period) or directly by long-term municipal debt issues. By December 1992, therefore, a surplus just below \$1 million is projected to remain. This level is deemed by Council to be consistent with prudent fiscal management.

Total revenue required in 1992 to cover budgeted expenditures is \$51.3 million. To arrive at total municipal tax required to run the City for 1992, we subtract from \$51.3 million the \$9.9 million in projected non-tax revenues, the \$1.4 million to be appropriated from surplus, and finally deduct the net compensation of \$1.4 million received in lieu of taxes from Federal and Provincial Governments. This leaves **\$38.6 million** as the actual amount that must be collected by the City from its

property owners and/or commercial enterprises in fiscal 1992.

TAXATION

Prior to adopting the budget there have been several important new issues for 1992 which Council has had to address.

On September 12, 1991, the MUC deposited its new valuation roll. This is a triennial roll that covers the years 1992, 1993 and 1994. In adopting a budget, Council has the option to exercise new provisions of Québec municipal taxation law (principally Bill 145) pertaining to "étalement" of the valuation roll. This is a "phasing-in" of the

new role by averaging the increase equally over three years.

Having examined both options, Council has decided not to resort to étalement or phasing-in of the new roll. While phasing-in would have the advantage of helping to redress the shift of tax burden over many years from the commercial to the residential sector, this can be better accomplished through the use of the non-residential surtax introduced in Bill 145. Phasing-in or étalement also has the significant drawback of being complex and costly to administer.

Retroactive to January 1, 1992, Council will abolish the present business tax, achieving further savings in billing and collection costs. It should be noted that unlike the business tax, which is assessed to the occupant of the place of business, the surtax is assessed to the owner of the property. The maximum rate of surtax on commercial property is established by Bill 145 at **1.24 times** the municipal mill rate.

Conscious of the difficult times for the commercial sector, Council has fixed the Westmount surtax for 1992 at 1.16 times the mill rate, a level **6.5% below the maximum** allowed by law. No adjustment or reduction will be made for vacant or unrented commercial space within the boundaries of the municipality. We note that even with the new surtax, Westmount's commercial sector continues to enjoy one of the lowest overall tax rates in the MUC.

The 1992 mill rate will be established at \$1.07 per \$100 of valuation for taxable properties, as compared to a mill rate of \$1.28 in 1991. The average valuation of the typical Westmount single-family dwelling increased from \$377,500 to \$521,300, an increase of 38.0%. The tax bill for the average single-family dwelling will therefore increase by \$746 over 1991, yet only \$142 over the taxes paid in 1990 — **an average increase of only 1.3% per year.**

The total taxes to be paid in 1992 by the commercial sector will increase by 32% over 1991, yet by only 15% over the amount paid in 1990 for an equivalent increase of 7.5% over each of the last two years. The 1992 surtax rate will be 1.16 times the municipal mill rate of \$1.07, yielding \$1.2412 per \$100 of valuation.

We intend to mail the municipal tax bills by the end of January and provide for payment in two instalments, the first due on March 1, and the second due on July 1, 1992. However, if the first tax instalment is not paid in full by March 1, the taxpayer forfeits the privilege of paying by instalment, and both instalments become due on the earlier date, with interest of 1% per month compounded (12.68% per annum) being charged on the unpaid balance.

With the above comments, I hereby table the 1992 budget for Council's adoption.

Councillor David H. Laidley
Chairman
Finance & Administration Committee

WESTMOUNT COMMENTS ON CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME 1992 TO 1994

BY: Councillor David H. Laidley
Chairman
Finance and Administration Committee

Essential to sound financial planning is the projection of capital expenditures. I present to you tonight a brief description of the capital projects planned for 1992. The total of these items for the Municipal and Utility operations is **\$7,430,000**. While this estimate may seem high, it must be noted that: 1) there are some \$2.0 million of projects carried forward from 1991, and 2) the City historically underspends the capital budget, as a number of proposed projects fail to get Council approval, or are delayed for various reasons. The programmes for 1993 and 1994 indicate expenditure levels of **\$6,820,000** and **\$6,597,000** respectively. These latter two years are only indicators of potential levels of expenditures, and will be

Continued on next page

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME YEARS 1992 - 1993 - 1994

| | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| GENERAL ADMINISTRATION | \$ 820,000 | \$ 397,000 | \$ 190,000 |
| PROTECTIVE SERVICES | 85,000 | 40,000 | — |
| PUBLIC WORKS — ROADS | 2,640,000 | 2,490,000 | 2,945,000 |
| LIGHT & POWER — MUNICIPAL | 795,000 | 410,000 | 360,000 |
| PARKS | 605,000 | 50,000 | 30,000 |
| RECREATION AND CULTURE | 485,000 | — | — |
| VEHICLE REPLACEMENT | 1,095,000 | 1,113,000 | 982,000 |
| LIGHT AND POWER — UTILITY | 905,000 | 2,320,000 | 2,090,000 |
| TOTAL | \$7,430,000 | \$6,820,000 | \$6,597,000 |

CITY OF WESTMOUNT STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

| REVENUE | BUDGET 1991 | FORECAST 1991 | BUDGET 1992 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| TAXATION | | | |
| General Property Tax | | | |
| Single Family Dwelling | \$16,702,100 | | \$18,949,600 |
| Condominia | 2,185,500 | | 2,436,900 |
| Apartments | 2,586,500 | | 3,011,400 |
| Other Residential | 1,576,600 | | 2,026,800 |
| Commercial/Industrial | 5,155,300 | | 5,559,200 |
| Total Property Tax | \$28,206,000 | \$28,471,800 | \$31,983,900 |
| Business Tax | \$ 3,195,000 | \$3,587,300 | \$ — |
| Surtax on Non-Residential | | | |
| Commercial/Industrial | \$ — | \$ — | \$ 6,141,000 |
| Govts of Canada/Québec | — | — | 430,700 |
| Total Surtax | \$ — | \$ — | \$ 6,571,700 |
| Total Taxation Revenue | \$31,401,000 | \$32,059,100 | \$38,555,600 |
| COMPENSATION IN LIEU OF TAXES | | | |
| Government of Canada | \$297,000 | \$297,000 | \$314,200 |
| Government of Quebec | 1,563,000 | 1,675,000 | 1,404,900 |
| Other (Service Taxes) | 149,800 | 146,600 | 131,500 |
| | \$2,009,800 | \$2,118,600 | \$1,850,600 |
| SERVICES TO OTHER MUNICIPALITIES | | | |
| Fire Protection | \$3,000 | \$11,000 | \$3,000 |
| Montreal Urban Community | 145,900 | 189,200 | 194,600 |
| | \$148,900 | \$200,200 | \$197,600 |
| OTHER SERVICES | | | |
| Victoria Hall | \$58,000 | \$32,000 | \$30,000 |
| Arena, Playgrounds and Swimming Pool | 106,800 | 124,000 | 151,300 |
| Library | 64,500 | 77,500 | 82,700 |
| Parking Lots | 900,000 | 900,000 | 1,000,000 |
| Recoverable and Other Revenues | 254,500 | 272,300 | 269,500 |
| Rental of City Owned Properties | 11,700 | 11,700 | 11,000 |
| | \$1,395,500 | \$1,417,500 | \$1,544,500 |
| OTHER REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES | | | |
| Duty on Transfer of Immoveables | \$1,000,000 | \$562,400 | \$850,000 |
| Amusement Tax | 258,000 | 180,000 | 210,000 |
| Court Fines | 2,200,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,200,000 |
| Interest on Short-Term Deposits | 1,800,000 | 1,300,000 | 1,300,000 |
| Interest on Tax Arrears | 250,000 | 308,000 | 280,000 |
| Sale of Capital Assets | 40,700 | 58,500 | 490,700 |
| Net Revenue from Utility Operations | 1,757,600 | 2,075,100 | 2,049,700 |
| Other Revenues | 294,200 | 274,300 | 168,900 |
| Appropriation from Surplus | 2,500,000 | 2,814,000 | 1,400,000 |
| | \$10,100,500 | \$9,572,300 | \$8,949,300 |
| CONDITIONAL TRANSFERS | | | |
| Quebec Library Grant | \$194,300 | \$182,200 | \$176,700 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$45,250,000 | \$45,549,900 | \$51,274,300 |



Continued from previous page

subject to detailed review and study before being incorporated as firm programmes in subsequent budgets.

These amounts do not include any provision for the proposed Library expansion and renovation project. Any costs related to this project, if it proceeds, will be adopted under a supplemental capital expenditure budget at a later date.

With particular reference to 1992, a provision of \$340,000 has been made at the Municipal Library to implement the automated catalogue system with integrated acquisition and circulation management. This project has an attractive 15% rate of return through labour savings and better control of book movements.

In **Public Security**, an amount of \$85,000 has been provided for the acquisition of hand-held ticket printers. This cost-saving expenditure will increase the productivity of parking inspectors and collection personnel. Continuing our renovation to the City Hall Annex will require \$370,000 and improvements to other City buildings will require some \$200,000.

In **Public Works**, our ongoing programme of reconstruction of roads and sidewalks is anticipated to require \$1,890,000. The two major reconstruction projects in 1992 will be for de Maisonneuve Boulevard from Greene Avenue to the City's western limit, and for Surrey Gardens throughout its length. An additional amount of \$375,000 will be required for sidewalks and lane repairs at various locations throughout the City and \$130,000 for sewer repairs and replacement of catchbasins. Additional parking meters for \$10,000 will be required to continue our programme of controlled parking. Improvements and essential repairs at the Summit Lookout will require \$200,000 and an additional \$85,000 is provided for street and park furniture.

As for **City vehicles**, an amount of \$1,095,000 is provided to maintain our fleet of equipment. Some units are up to 20 years old and/or have maintenance costs which now exceed the financial charges for new vehicles.

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Public Security | 40,000 |
| Fire Protection | 690,000 |
| Public Works | 161,000 |
| Parks | 66,000 |
| Parking Meters | 18,000 |
| Recreation & Culture | 20,000 |
| Light & Power — Utility | 100,000 |

\$1,095,000

Relighting on de Maisonneuve and Surrey Gardens will require \$300,000 and the continuation of Phase III of our on-going street lighting programme will require a further \$300,000. Provisions have been made for the installation of several additional traffic signals and an additional \$50,000 has been provided for extending the electric no-parking signals (used during snow removal) to some residential streets.

For the **Electric Utility** operations, a total amount of \$905,000 is provided. Of this amount, the repair of underground conduits, mostly in coordination with street reconstruction, will require \$200,000. Major improvements to the electricity supply and distribution networks are expected to cost a total of \$705,000. These expenditures include the purchase and installation of new distribution circuits, of transformers, conduits and cables and the implementation of our program of block balancing.

In **summary**, the total amount budgeted for capital expenditures in 1992 is \$7,430,000.

Of this amount, \$3,180,000 — just under one-half the proposed total — will be financed by long-term debt issues. A further \$3,955,000 will be financed from the Working Fund, to be charged to revenue over a three to five-year period. The small remainder is provided for directly in the 1992 operating budget.

It is Council's policy that before any capital expenditure is undertaken, a detailed submission must be presented to and approved by the appropriate Standing Committee and by Council, before commencing the project in question. A close watch on the money market, balanced with our informed opinion as to the priority of each project will be the backdrop against which each expenditure will be examined before proceeding throughout 1992 and succeeding years.

With these brief remarks, I hereby table the "Three-Year Capital Expenditure Programme" for the years 1992-1993-1994, for your adoption.

Councillor David H. Laidley
Chairman
Finance & Administration Committee

BUDGET 1992 DE LA VILLE DE WESTMOUNT PRÉSENTATION AU CONSEIL — LE 6 JANVIER 1992

PAR : Le conseiller David H. Laidley
Président
Comité des finances et de
l'administration

Monsieur le maire Trent, membres du Conseil, mesdames et messieurs,

A titre de président du Comité des finances et de l'administration, il me fait plaisir de vous présenter le budget de la Ville pour l'année 1992.

Les directives suivies par le bureau du directeur général dans l'établissement du budget 1992 exigeaient que tous les services municipaux gèrent leurs dépenses et ne permettaient même pas d'augmentation pour refléter l'inflation. Les seules exceptions autorisées se rapportaient aux dépenses incontrôlables telles que les

frais de financement, les réductions de taxes consenties aux citoyens et le coût de l'eau achetée par Westmount à la ville de Montréal. Aucune réduction des services offerts par la municipalité n'a été acceptée, malgré ces rigoureuses compressions budgétaires.

Je suis heureux de déclarer ce soir que nous avons respecté cette directive de ne pas augmenter du tout le budget des dépenses locales. Malgré les augmentations incontrôlables énumérées ci-dessus, la croissance totale du budget d'exploitation de la Ville en 1992 n'est que de 1,1 % par rapport aux dépenses totales estimées pour 1991. En fait, les dépenses directes de fonctionnement figurant aux effectifs de la Ville sera réduit de huit par rapport au total de décembre 1991, et se situera donc à 317 employés en décembre 1992.

Malheureusement, malgré les efforts du maire, du Conseil et de l'administration de Westmount visant à restreindre les dépenses locales, la CUM nous a refilé une énorme augmentation de 26 % découlant largement — mais pas entièrement — de la «réforme» fiscale du ministre des Affaires municipales, Monsieur Claude Ryan. La part de la CUM dans le budget total de fonctionnement

Suite à la page prochaine

VILLE DE WESTMOUNT ÉTAT DES REVENUS ET DÉPENSES

| DÉPENSES | BUDGET 1991 | PRÉVISIONS 1991 | BUDGET 1992 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| ADMINISTRATION GÉNÉRALE | | | |
| Législation — conseil | 309 100 \$ | 247 800 \$ | 302 000 \$ |
| Application de la loi — cour municipale | 514 600 | 492 200 | 563 000 |
| Gestion financière et administrative | 1 709 600 | 1 745 100 | 1 718 700 |
| Greffes | 709 400 | 732 600 | 630 900 |
| Ressources humaines | 524 700 | 546 100 | 557 300 |
| Édifices administratifs | 277 400 | 314 800 | 280 200 |
| | <u>4 044 800 \$</u> | <u>4 078 600 \$</u> | <u>4 052 100 \$</u> |
| SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE | | | |
| Édifice de la police | 123 800 \$ | 116 900 \$ | 126 400 \$ |
| Sécurité publique | 1 495 700 | 1 474 200 | 1 527 700 |
| Protection civile et contre l'incendie | 3 524 500 | 3 443 600 | 3 692 600 |
| | <u>5 144 000 \$</u> | <u>5 034 700 \$</u> | <u>5 346 700 \$</u> |
| VOIRIE | | | |
| Administration | 582 800 \$ | 635 500 \$ | 646 600 \$ |
| Voirie municipale | 1 638 700 | 1 676 000 | 1 678 200 |
| Enlèvement de la neige | 2 112 600 | 2 207 300 | 2 158 900 |
| Éclairage des rues | 623 900 | 656 800 | 669 700 |
| Circulation | 350 800 | 369 000 | 385 800 |
| Stationnement | 128 200 | 133 800 | 121 000 |
| | <u>5 437 000 \$</u> | <u>5 678 400 \$</u> | <u>5 660 200 \$</u> |
| HYGIÈNE DU MILIEU | | | |
| Coût d'approvisionnement d'eau de la Ville de Montréal | 1 600 000 \$ | 1 645 800 \$ | 1 700 000 \$ |
| Entretien des réseaux d'égoûts | 219 600 | 214 200 | 231 100 |
| Enlèvement et destruction des ordures | 1 153 500 | 1 151 100 | 1 275 500 |
| | <u>2 973 100 \$</u> | <u>3 011 100 \$</u> | <u>3 206 600 \$</u> |
| ZONAGE ET MISE EN VALEUR DU TERRITOIRE | | | |
| Urbanisme et zonage | 575 000 \$ | 593 500 \$ | 591 500 \$ |
| Office municipal d'habitation — quote-part des dépenses | 50 000 | 50 000 | 50 000 |
| | <u>625 000 \$</u> | <u>643 500 \$</u> | <u>641 500 \$</u> |
| LOISIRS ET CULTURE | | | |
| Administration | 344 100 \$ | 350 200 \$ | 382 000 \$ |
| Centre communautaire — Victoria Hall | 254 000 | 232 000 | 229 900 |
| Aréna | 400 100 | 403 700 | 404 700 |
| Piscine | 180 400 | 179 000 | 183 300 |
| Programmes de récréation | 226 300 | 224 700 | 235 000 |
| Parcs, terrains de jeux et serres | 1 893 800 | 1 938 000 | 1 958 600 |
| Bibliothèque | 1 447 400 | 1 431 300 | 1 447 400 |
| Contributions aux organismes sans buts lucratifs | 75 000 | 114 500 | 100 000 |
| | <u>4 821 100 \$</u> | <u>4 873 400 \$</u> | <u>4 940 900 \$</u> |
| AUTRES DÉPENSES | | | |
| Frais de financement | 2 720 100 \$ | 2 593 900 \$ | 2 840 500 \$ |
| Immobilisations imputées au fonds d'exploitation | 333 000 | 580 100 | 155 000 |
| Autres dépenses | 401 900 | 352 000 | 306 300 |
| | <u>3 455 000 \$</u> | <u>3 526 000 \$</u> | <u>3 301 800 \$</u> |
| PROVISION POUR REMBOURSEMENT DE TAXES | — \$ | — \$ | 500 000 \$ |
| DÉPENSES D'OPÉRATION MUNICIPALE | 26 500 000 \$ | 26 845 700 \$ | 27 649 800 \$ |
| COMMUNAUTÉ URBAINE DE MONTRÉAL | | | |
| S.T.C.U.M. | 5 326 200 | 5 040 200 | 8 978 700 |
| Administration, sécurité et autres | 13 423 800 | 13 664 000 | 14 645 800 |
| | <u>18 750 000 \$</u> | <u>18 704 200 \$</u> | <u>23 624 500 \$</u> |
| TOTAL DES DÉPENSES | 45 250 000 \$ | 45 549 900 \$ | 51 274 300 \$ |



Suite de la page précédente

de la Ville de Westmount représente désormais 46 % de nos dépenses globales, par rapport à 41 % en 1991 et à 35 % il n'y a que cinq ans.

Le budget municipal total pour 1992 s'élève donc à 51,3 millions de dollars, soit une augmentation de 13 % comparativement au budget total de 1991 qui s'établissait à 45,3 millions de dollars. Comme je l'ai mentionné plus tôt, ce budget de 1992 représente, en fait, une réduction des dépenses locales contrôlables. La majeure partie de l'augmentation du budget de Westmount est attribuable à notre contribution toujours plus grande au budget de la CUM, tel que démontré ci-dessous.

LA COMMUNAUTÉ URBAINE DE MONTRÉAL

En raison de l'incidence de la réforme fiscale du gouvernement du Québec⁽¹⁾ sur toutes les municipalités ainsi que de l'augmentation drastique des coûts de la CUM elle-même, notre part des coûts de la CUM est passée du montant estimé de 18,8 millions en 1991 à 23,6 millions en 1992. L'augmentation de 4,8 millions de dollars, ou de 26 % par rapport à l'année dernière, s'explique de la façon suivante :

Réforme Ryan (projet de loi 145) :
transfert fiscal net imputé à Westmount 3,7 millions de \$

Part de l'augmentation des dépenses de la STCUM et de la CUM absorbée par Westmount 1,1 million de \$

Augmentation totale de notre contribution à la CUM en 1992 4,8 millions de \$

(1) Communément appelée "Réforme Ryan", projet de loi 145

Monsieur le maire Peter Trent, de même que son prédécesseur Madame le maire May Cutler, ont tous deux protesté fortement contre ces augmentations lors des réunions du Conseil de la CUM. Parmi les maires des

autres municipalités de la CUM, un nombre croissant a appuyé les protestations de Westmount, et certaines compressions budgétaires ont, de fait, été obtenues pour l'année fiscale 1992. Toutefois, au cours de l'année qui s'amorce, nous devons déployer encore plus d'efforts dans la lutte visant une plus importante restriction fiscale par la CUM ainsi qu'une reconnaissance de la véritable réalité économique de Montréal.

LES DÉPENSES D'EXPLOITATION MUNICIPALE

Les coûts d'exploitation totaux de Westmount ont été établis dans le budget à 27,6 millions de dollars ou 54 % des dépenses municipales totales de l'année 1992 (le résidu de 46 % étant le paiement à la CUM.) À titre de comparaison, ce pourcentage s'établissait à 58 % en 1991 et à 62 % en 1990. Même si la Ville maintient des contraintes rigoureuses sur la croissance de son propre budget, l'énorme augmentation transmise par la CUM exige une part toujours plus grande de nos taxes.

Les postes incontrôlables — qui dans leur ensemble ont contribué à une augmentation globale mineure de 1,1 % dans les dépenses locales de Westmount — comprennent le service de la dette et les frais financiers (en hausse de 120 000 \$) de même que le coût de l'eau achetée auprès de la Ville de Montréal (en hausse de 100 000 \$). Il faut aussi inclure une provision de 500 000 \$ visant le remboursement de taxes aux citoyens dont la propriété a officiellement été réévaluée à la baisse.

D'autres augmentations ont été retenues à cause des bénéfices manifestes qui en découlent pour la Ville. Ainsi, un montant de 122 000 \$ est ajouté pour l'enlèvement des déchets, afin d'offrir le programme de recyclage («boîtes bleues») dans les immeubles d'appartements et les condominiums qui n'en bénéficient pas présentement. Plusieurs augmentations dans les dépenses seront compensées par la hausse des revenus encaissés par la Ville. À titre d'exemple, l'augmentation de 49 000 \$ dans les coûts d'exploitation de la Cour municipale entraînera plus de deux fois ce montant grâce au recouvrement d'amendes et de comptes en souffrance.

Un montant additionnel de 168 000 \$ figurant au budget du service des incendies est attribuable à la convention collective présentement en vigueur qui prévoit une hausse salariale de 4 % en 1992. Quant aux autres services municipaux, une hausse salariale générale de 1,5 % a été inscrite au budget, conformément aux restrictions qu'entendent appliquer les gouvernements provincial et fédéral.

LES REVENUS

Comme vous le savez, les revenus issus de sources autres que les taxes directes constituent une réduction du fardeau fiscal des contribuables de Westmount. Le budget de 1992 prévoit que ces autres sources de revenus produiront un montant de 9,9 millions de dollars, soit près de 20 % des revenus totaux de la Ville. Ce montant est légèrement inférieur à celui atteint en 1991, principalement en raison de la baisse des intérêts perçus par la Ville sur ses placements à court terme et du nombre réduit de ventes immobilières résultant en une diminution de la «taxe de bienvenue», ou droits de mutation.

Par ailleurs, nous prévoyons que les revenus bruts provenant de l'exploitation de l'énergie électrique augmenteront de 7 %, pour se fixer à 20,7 millions de dollars, gonflant les bénéfices nets pour 1992 à 2,05 millions de dollars. Le service de l'énergie électrique de Westmount continue à offrir aux citoyens un double avantage : un service supérieure (comparativement à celui d'Hydro-Québec dans les municipalités environnantes) et une contribution fiscale importante.

Le Conseil a aussi confirmé qu'une somme de 1,4 million de dollars du surplus accumulé de la Ville sera utilisée afin d'atténuer l'importante incidence fiscale des coûts majorés de la CUM, y compris les effets de la «Réforme Ryan». Cette attribution du surplus s'inscrit dans la politique établie l'année dernière lorsqu'une

Suite à la page 25

BUDGET D'INVESTISSEMENT CAPITAL EXERCICES 1992 - 1993 - 1994

| | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| ADMINISTRATION GÉNÉRALE | 820 000 \$ | 397 000 \$ | 190 000 \$ |
| SERVICES DE PROTECTION | 85 000 | 40 000 | — |
| TRAVAUX PUBLICS — CHAUSSÉE | 2 640 000 | 2 490 000 | 2 945 000 |
| ÉLECTRICITÉ — SECTEUR MUNICIPAL | 795 000 | 410 000 | 360 000 |
| PARCS | 605 000 | 50 000 | 30 000 |
| LOISIRS ET CULTURE | 485 000 | — | — |
| REMPLACEMENT DE VÉHICULES | 1 095 000 | 1 113 000 | 982 000 |
| ÉNERGIE ÉLECTRIQUE — SERVICE | 905 000 | 2 320 000 | 2 090 000 |
| TOTAL | 7 430 000 \$ | 6 820 000 \$ | 6 597 000 \$ |

VILLE DE WESTMOUNT ÉTAT DES REVENUS ET DÉPENSES

| REVENUS | BUDGET 1991 | PRÉVISIONS 1991 | BUDGET 1992 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| TAXES | | | |
| Foncière générale | | | |
| Unifamilial | 16 702 100 \$ | | 18 949 600 \$ |
| Condominium | 2 185 500 | | 2 436 900 |
| Conciergerie | 2 586 500 | | 3 011 400 |
| Autre Résidentiel | 1 576 600 | | 2 026 800 |
| Commercial/Industriel | 5 155 300 | | 5 559 200 |
| Total Taxe Foncière | 28 206 000 \$ | 28 471 800 \$ | 31 983 900 \$ |
| Affaires | 3 195 000 \$ | 3 587 300 \$ | — \$ |
| Surtaxe sur Non-Résidentiel | | | |
| Commercial/Industriel | — \$ | — \$ | 6 141 000 \$ |
| Gouvernement du Canada/Québec | — | — | 430 700 |
| Total Surtaxe | — \$ | — \$ | 6 571 700 \$ |
| Total des revenus de taxes | 31 401 000 \$ | 32 059 100 \$ | 38 555 600 \$ |
| COMPENSATIONS TENANT LIEU DE TAXES | | | |
| Gouvernement du Canada | 297 000 \$ | 297 000 \$ | 314 200 \$ |
| Gouvernement du Québec | 1 563 000 | 1 675 000 | 1 404 900 |
| Autres | 149 800 | 146 600 | 131 500 |
| | 2 009 800 \$ | 2 118 600 \$ | 1 850 600 \$ |
| SERVICES RENDUS À D'AUTRES MUNICIPALITÉS | | | |
| Protection contre l'incendie | 3 000 \$ | 11 000 \$ | 3 000 \$ |
| Communauté urbaine de Montréal | 145 900 | 189 200 | 194 600 |
| | 148 900 \$ | 200 200 \$ | 197 600 \$ |
| AUTRES SERVICES RENDUS | | | |
| Centre communautaire — Victoria Hall | 58 000 \$ | 32 000 \$ | 30 000 \$ |
| Aréna, terrains de jeux et piscine | 106 800 | 124 000 | 151 300 |
| Bibliothèque | 64 500 | 77 500 | 82 700 |
| Stationnement | 900 000 | 900 000 | 1 000 000 |
| Autres | 254 500 | 272 300 | 269 500 |
| Loyers | 11 700 | 11 700 | 11 000 |
| | 1 395 500 \$ | 1 417 500 \$ | 1 544 500 \$ |
| AUTRES REVENUS DE SOURCES LOCALES | | | |
| Droits de mutations immobilières | 1 000 000 \$ | 562 400 \$ | 850 000 \$ |
| Droits sur les divertissements | 258 000 | 180 000 | 210 000 |
| Amendes | 2 200 000 | 2 000 000 | 2 200 000 |
| Intérêts sur dépôts à court terme | 1 800 000 | 1 300 000 | 1 300 000 |
| Intérêts sur arrrages de taxes | 250 000 | 308 000 | 280 000 |
| Disposition d'actifs immobilisés | 40 700 | 58 500 | 490 700 |
| Revenu net, section de distribution d'électricité | 1 757 600 | 2 075 100 | 2 049 700 |
| Autres revenus | 294 200 | 274 300 | 168 900 |
| Appropriation du surplus | 2 500 000 | 2 814 000 | 1 400 000 |
| | 10 100 500 \$ | 9 572 300 \$ | 8 949 300 \$ |
| TRANSFERTS CONDITIONNELS | | | |
| Subventions du gouvernement du Québec Bibliothèque | 194 300 \$ | 182 200 \$ | 176 700 \$ |
| TOTAL DES REVENUS | 45 250 000 \$ | 45 549 900 \$ | 51 274 300 \$ |

Where were they going?



The following calls were answered by the Westmount Fire Brigade during the past week:

Dec 27
3:39 pm: 397 Côte St Antoine, service call, defective chimney (see story page 27);

Dec 28
4:40 am: 29 Ramezay, defective fire alarm;
11:06 am: 1343 Greene, first responder unit for medical assistance;

Dec 29
10:11 am: 388 Olivier, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc cancelled at 10:16 am, burning food in oven;
9:35 pm: Outside 4500 de Maisonneuve, strange odor, gas fumes from east end refineries;
9:50 pm: Outside 1248 Greene, odor of gas from east end refineries;

Dec 30
10:38 am: 140 Hillside, alarm activated by water leaking into heat detector;
11:12 pm: 5500 Borden, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 11:23 pm;

Dec 31
3:41 am: 4000 de Maisonneuve, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 3:54 am, sprinkler alarm activated by defective motor in air compressor for garbage chute;
10:34 am: 5783 Côte St Luc, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 10:38 am;
9:44 pm: Rear of 4470 St Catherine, switch sparking on electrical transformer;

Jan 1
9:15 am: 336 Olivier, first responder unit for medical assistance;
10:07 am: 400 Lansdowne, first responder unit for medical assistance;
8:44 pm: 50 Academy, apt 11, mutual aid fire (see story page 3);

Jan 2
10:09 am: 4383 Westmount, for smoke from heat pump, steam from evaporating snow on top of unit;
12:09 pm: 383 Olivier, steam from dryer vent;
2:18 pm: 4010 Montrose, smoke detector set off by smoke from fireplace lighted when damper closed;
6:37 pm: 225 Olivier, first responder unit for medical assistance;

Jan 3
4:20 pm: 396 Grosvenor, first responder unit for medical assistance;
9:33 pm: 2 Ramezay, defective alarm;

Jan 4
12:20 am: 5673 Merrimac, code 2 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 12:29 am;
7:52 am: 776 Upper Belmont, smoke detector activated by defective light fixture in kitchen;
11:44 am: Opposite 4000 de Maisonneuve, first responder unit for medical assistance to woman (see story page 21);
1:36 pm: 616 Victoria, broken exterior water pipe on house;
3:39 pm: Claremont and Winchester, car fire (see story page 21);

Jan 5
10:26 am: 331 Clarke, code 2 automatic mutual aid cancelled at 10:31 am, for smoke in building, steam from dryer;
11:12 am: 644 Belmont, fire alarm activated for unknown reason;
4:00 pm: 232 Redfern, first responder unit for medical assistance;
5:16 pm: 3603 Cedar, burglar alarm;
10:21 pm: 592 Côte St Antoine, first responder unit for medical assistance;

Jan 6
2:09 pm: Roof of 4300 de Maisonneuve, smoke scare, water blowing off southwest corner of roof in high winds;
2:43 pm: Clarke and St Catherine, first responder unit for medical assistance, not required.

Man robbed after walking out of bank

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A Westmount man was held up at gunpoint on the street Sunday in one of three local holdups reported recently by police. The Central Guaranty Trust was also robbed and a teenager was beaten up in the Métro for his jacket.

The man, a 64-year-old resident of 4000 de Maisonneuve boulevard, was suddenly surrounded by three men Sunday afternoon at Wood avenue and St Catherine street as he was leaving the Royal Bank in Westmount Square, police said.

One pointed a revolver at him saying, "Give me your money. Don't play games with me. Is this all your money?"

They left with an undisclosed amount. All were described as black men in their early 20s.

At Central Guaranty Trust on Sherbrooke street west of Grosvenor avenue, a gun-toting man held up a cashier the previous Monday, Dec 30.

The man entered the bank about 10:44 am and told the teller, "I'm sorry, I'm in a hurry. I want the cash. Fast. Fast. Fast. Get the money fast or I'll shoot you."

He went behind the counter,

helped himself to an undisclosed amount of cash and then demanded that the safe be opened. When his request was foiled by a time delay on the opening mechanism, he began opening drawers in the bank. Finding no more money, he left. He was understood to have obtained less than \$1,000.

The bandit was described as a 30-year-old white man who spoke English, measured about five feet six and wore beige clothing. He had a crooked mouth, rough skin and appeared nervous.

A 15-year-old boy was attacked by a skinhead and robbed of his bomber jacket Dec 27 in the Atwater Métro station, police said. The victim, a resident of Verdun, was standing on the station platform about 3:30 pm with a group of about eight friends when the robber approached him, asked what size the jacket was, kicked him in the groin and pushed him to the ground. He stole the jacket and fled.

The stranger was described as a white man aged about 18 wearing a dark red bomber jacket and black Doc Marten boots and black jeans.

Meet Tomorrow's Women of Distinction



The Study is a school committed to preparing girls to succeed in whatever they undertake in life.

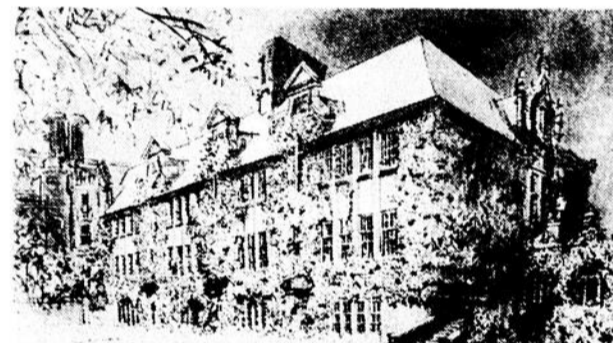
Kindergarten to Secondary V, college preparatory courses, bilingual programme, scholarships and financial aid.



The Study Put Our Experience in Her Future

Mrs. Eve Marshall, Headmistress
3233 The Boulevard, Westmount Tel: 935-9352
Permit No. 749796

Loyola High School



ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

for all levels (Sec. I-V)

Saturday, January 18, 1992

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ALL LEVELS

Wednesday, January 15, 1992

All examinations will be held at:

Loyola High School Building
7141 Sherbrooke St. West

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PHONE: 486-1101

MARIANOPOLIS

SWIM Adult Recreational Swim
Masters Swim Team
Youth Swim
Adult Learn To Swim
Stroke Improvement
"Pool Running" Workouts
Aqua Fitness

\$240 Annually (free visit)
\$399 / Couple
\$499 / Family
Senior's Discount
3 & 6 Month Memberships Available

TRAIN Aerobics - High & Low Impact
Circuit Training
Weights
Step Workouts

25 m Waveless Pool
Aerobic Studio
Squash Courts
Weight Room
2 Gyms
Free Parking
Tennis Courts

SPORT Kendo Club
Basketball
Badminton
Squash
Open Gym
Kayaking

ATHLETIC COMPLEX

3880 Côte des Neiges 937-0265 (between Cedar and Atwater)



Dave Reynolds and Eramelinda of 990 Hits raced through the Faubourg just before Christmas, in an eight-minute, second annual Oldies 990 holiday food collection. Last year, the grub was grabbed in a mere three minutes. In the eight minutes, Dave, who was doing most of the grabbing, managed to reap \$1,274 worth of food. The collection went to Sun Youth. The station also had a collection box at its location on Greene avenue and at the Faubourg. Photo by OWEN EGAN

Resident takes ads to regulatory body

Wedge petitions for waste management board to change ads before re-using

Quebec's advertising council received a formal complaint over the holidays charging that the advertising campaign waged by the Montreal suburbs' waste management board contained factual errors.

Westmount Municipal Association member Don Wedge wrote the letter to the Conseil des normes de la publicité on his own behalf, pending its ratification by the association.

"The complaint centres on inaccuracies," he says. "The advertisements imply that 752,753 people agree with the Régie's (intermunicipale de gestion des déchets) plan, but clearly a lot of people don't know what the plan is, which is to burn garbage, or what problems that will create. Of those that do know what the plan entails, a substantial number object."

Mr Wedge says the population figure is questionable as well since Montreal North is listed on the ad but it is not a Régie member. That would make 662,753 a more likely figure since Montreal North has a population of about 90,000.

"As far as we're concerned," says Mr Wedge, "this is another example of the Régie being careless with the truth. They think approximate truth is okay. Are they going to be equally careless with emission controls or toxic ash controls?"

The Régie's publicity campaign consisted of newspaper and radio ads in English and French listing municipalities which are members and using the slogan: "Our island, clean and clear — 27 suburbs say yes, lead and clear." The idea, says Mr Wedge, is to tout the Régie's plan to build a \$270-million garbage inciner-

By J. MARION FEINBERG
ator in Montreal East.

Régie not informed

Régie official Guy Racine says he has not been informed of the complaint.

"I presume I will be hearing about it," he says.

Two documents will be used to evaluate Mr Wedge's complaint, according to the conseil's executive director Niquette Delage. The first is the Canadian Code of Advertising Standards. The second is a new code called Guiding Principles for Environmental Labelling and Advertising.

"When we receive a written com-

plaint, we evaluate it to see what the complaint is," said Ms Delage. "In this case it is several complaints within one complaint. If we find contraventions to the codes, we would then let the advertiser know and ask that they adhere to the codes."

The conseil, set up 25 years ago to be a self-regulatory body for the advertising industry, has the power to stop an ad from running if it contravenes the existing codes, or correct factual errors before the ad is run again.

Mr Wedge is requesting that the Régie make appropriate corrections and that it not repeat publication of the offending ads should the council decide that the campaign contained errors.



ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL OF MONTREAL

Over 60 Years of Academic Excellence
from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 11



OPEN HOUSE

High School: January 16, 8:15 am to 3 pm
and 6:30 to 9 pm

Science Fair: 1 to 3 pm, 6:30 to 9 pm

Elementary School: January 21, 9 am to 12 pm

Visit our facilities. View classes in progress and discuss our program with educators, students and current parents.

For information please call:

Elementary School
3685 The Boulevard
Montreal, Quebec
486-5214

High School
3100 The Boulevard
Montreal, Quebec
937-9289

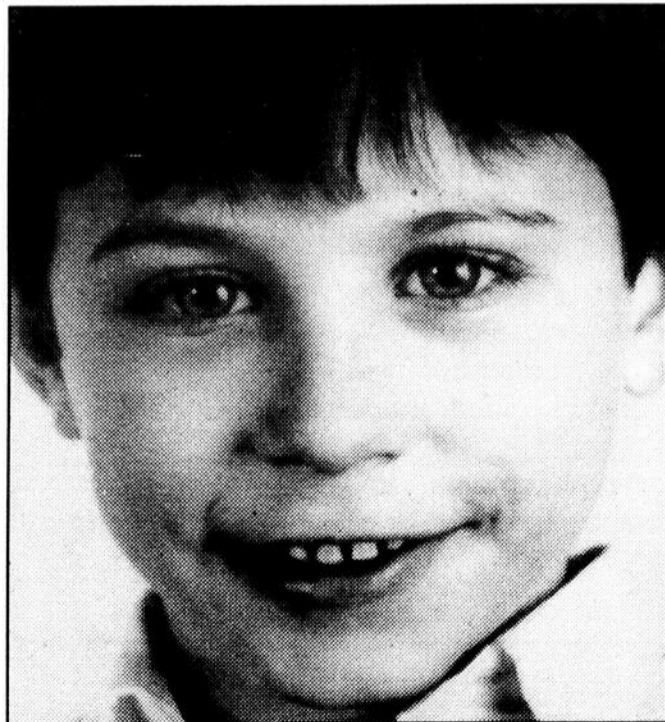
Financial aid available for qualified students.
Ministry of Education Permit No. 749792

Binge cripples walking woman

A woman was taken to hospital Friday when a public security patrol saw she was unable to walk. She was spotted at 11:42 am at Atwater avenue and de Maisonneuve boulevard, officials said. Both she and a male companion appeared intoxicated.

The man was reported as saying the couple was just "coming off a cocaine binge."

Details concerning the woman's identity and condition were recorded. The 39-year-old woman was known to Urgences Santé personnel, according to firefighters who described her as incoherent.



AGIR
POUR L'AVENIR
DES JEUNES

CÉCM



LA COMMISSION
DES ÉCOLES CATHOLIQUES
DE MONTRÉAL

Portes ouvertes à la CÉCM

- Vous cherchez une école primaire qui réponde à vos besoins?
- Vous voulez opter pour une école alternative?
- Vous recherchez une école axée sur les sciences, les arts ou l'éducation physique?
- Vous seriez intéressé par des cours d'anglais intensifs?
- Vous cherchez une école spéciale pour votre enfant handicapé?

Ne manquez pas ce rendez-vous dans toutes nos écoles primaires **le jeudi 16 janvier 1992** aux heures normales d'ouverture.

Des écoles qui préparent à des études supérieures et à des emplois de qualité.

A Christmas of candles, hay, fruit and nuts

At your leisure

by Alison Ramsey



**FOCUS ON
YOUR FUTURE
AT
CENTENNIAL
ACADEMY**



Centennial Academy is a quality, co-educational High School with a superb teaching staff. In a structured setting with excellent facilities, we provide a caring family atmosphere, where students can reach their full potential.

ENTRANCE EXAM

Saturday, February 1st at 9:00 am

Call or write for applications:

Centennial Academy

3641 Prud'homme Ave.

Montreal, Quebec

H4A 3H6

486-5533

An independent co-educational day school for
Grades 7-11 and College I and II.

Permit 749-701

Hundreds of candles burned at the altar, those for the living in elaborate circular candle holders, those for the dead in trays of sand, at the Serbian Orthodox Church in Westmount Monday evening.

Like many church-goers, Serbians come out in record numbers for special occasions and, as the Melville avenue church is the only Serbian Orthodox one in or near Montreal, they came from as far as Hawkesbury and Cornwall for Epiphany — their celebration of Christmas.

Latecomers trooped in for 45 minutes after the service began, rustling through the hay strewn at their feet to reach the altar, where they kissed a picture, lit and placed their candles.

Depending on the occasion, the picture is of Jesus or a saint.

"Today, it's probably the infant Jesus," said the rector's wife, Andja Rikic. "I kissed it but I didn't realize what picture it was," she added, laughing at herself.

Congregants tried to stay bunched up at the front, for the best view, to be close to the melodious ceremony sung in Church Slavonic, but were ushered to seats. Which are not used.

"You can give one hour a week to God, you can suffer a little," said Mrs Rikic of the tradition Serbs keep to stand during church services.

Traditionally, women stand to the left (and place their candles to the left) and men to the right.

Serbs purify themselves for their Jan 6 Christmas by not eating meat or dairy products for seven weeks prior to Christmas, she said.



Andja Rikic with traditional symbols, the hay surrounding a bowl of nuts and fruit. The table is placed below a picture of the family's patron saint.

"In the old country" of Yugoslavia which she emigrated from with her family in 1969, "you roast a whole pig or whole lamb" for Christmas dinner. But "the kids don't like pork,

my husband doesn't like lamb... I make turkey."

They stock up on nuts and dried fruit and place hay in the house. Traditionally, the hay, imitating the condition in the manger, should be throughout the home. At the Rikics, it is in a neat pile on a small table, surrounding a bowl of fruit, nuts and a ceremonial candle to one side.

Hay throughout or not, Serbs do not clean house for the three days of Christmas, sweeping it clean at the end.

Presents are sometimes, not regularly, exchanged. They are not elaborate and are not for the immediate family.

In Yugoslavia, said Mrs Rikic, candy, nuts and money would be thrown into the hay, and the children, pretending to be animals, would root through the hay for the treats.

If there is a tree in the house, it is not an evergreen, but is hard wood, likely oak. Sometimes it is bare, with persistent dry leaves hanging limply from branches, sometimes it is decorated with nuts, fruit and the Serbian flag.

Such a tree was brought into the church Monday evening during the hour-and-a-half long service, propped at the altar, in danger of leaning into a large chandelier at the centre, one of three.

All received hay

At the end of the service, each congregant lined up to receive a small bundle of hay, with a twig broken off from the tree, a symbol of bounty to be brought into their homes.

During the service, Rev Krsto Rikic threw four walnuts at the four corners of the church, representing the four corners of the world. Corn and wheat were tossed, to thank God for the harvest and provide for a good harvest the coming year.

On Christmas day, Jan 7, the family is expected to stay home, but the Rikics spend their afternoon, and sometimes the following day, visiting the sick and the lonely in Montreal. Traditionally, Serbs are also supposed to start a new project over Christmas.

"If you do needlepoint, you start, do a little bit," said Mrs Rikic.

"It's a commencement," added her daughter, Nada, "like the birth of Christ."

"I've not done it yet," said Mrs Rikic, adding with a chuckle, "But I did sew my turkey this morning."

The Pint-Sized Pianist



A piano and music program for children (ages 3 & up)

WINTER SESSION

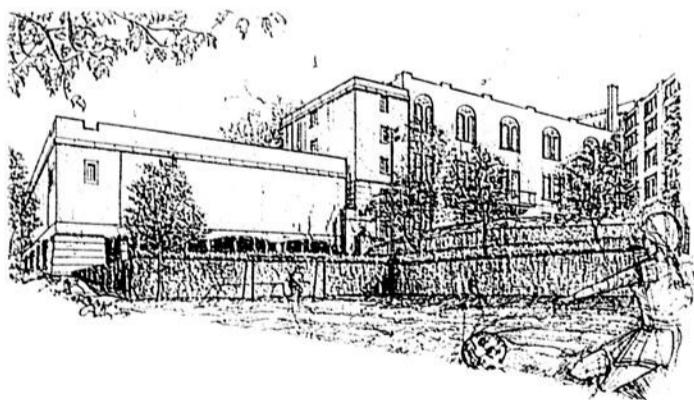
Developing the young person's unique musical talent

4720 The Boulevard, Westmount Tel: 489-9068

THE SACRED HEART SCHOOL OF MONTREAL



A TRADITION OF
EXCELLENCE



*New Sports Complex
opening January 1992*

A girls' high school founded in the Catholic tradition welcomes students from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds and offers:

- College preparatory programme
- Optional weekly boarding
- Emphasis on personal growth and achievement
- Dynamic, creative environment
- French mother tongue and second language programmes
- Networked IBM computer lab
- Extensive programme of extracurricular activities
- Financial assistance according to need

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

SECONDARY I

Monday, January 13, 1992 at 9:00 a.m.

SECONDARY II-IV

Monday, February 10, 1992 at 9:00 a.m.

3635 Atwater Avenue

Montreal, Quebec H3H 1Y4

Tel: 937-8214

Application forms are available
by calling the Admissions Secretary.

Library renovation primary topic at special closed-door meeting of council

By ALISON RAMSEY

Mayor Peter Trent and city council met yesterday behind closed doors to discuss their priorities and the possibility of fulfilling campaign promises. The reconstruction of Westmount Public Library was to figure prominently in the discussion, said Mr Trent on Monday.

Council visited four libraries, including its own, in November and December. Armed with the latest report by architect Peter Rose, chosen for the project, and documents measuring about three inches thick, council has enough information to make a decision, said Mr Trent.

"Do we go public? Do we scale it down first? We have to decide what to go to the public with," said Mr Trent. "I expect by March, we should be able to send out information... If it takes long, it takes longer. I refuse to speed this up."

After the first public meeting on the plans to reconstruct the library last spring, Mr Trent promised, if not another public meeting, then an information package to residents. He also promised to take a poll, asking

residents if they are willing to pay for the proposed work.

Though yesterday's meeting was the first time the new council has convened to discuss the library, Mr Trent has been gathering opinions from council.

"My feeling is there's a lot of common ground," he said, admitting there is debate among councillors whether to scale down the project.

There is no provision to begin the reconstruction and renovation in the 1992 budget.

"If we go ahead," said Mr Trent, "we will have a supplement to the budget."

In October, it was revealed that a fundraising chairman, Jonathan Deitcher, was working to garner \$3 million from private donors. He said he was seeking \$300,000 from each of seven people.

For now, said Mr Trent, that fundraising effort has been put on hold, until a decision is made as to how much will be spent on the library. The fundraising effort assumed a final cost of \$10 million.

Open houses at St George's

St George's School will hold high school and elementary school open houses Jan 16 and 21 respectively.

At the high school, visitors will be escorted by parents or student guides. Students will present dramatization of poems and adaptations of plays and visitors may attend rehearsals of *Volpone*, which will go on tour to Texas this spring. A science fair will exhibit student displays. Hours are 8:15 am to 3 pm and 6 to 9

pm. The science fair is open from 1:10 to 3 pm and during the evening hours.

The elementary school open house, from 9 am to noon, will allow visitors to observe classes in session, tour the school, meet the teachers and speak with parent guides.

The high school is at 3100 The Boulevard and the elementary school at 3685 The Boulevard. For further information call 937-9289.

Heart month at YM-YWHA

February is Health & Heart Month at the YM-YWHAs in the Montreal area. Activities at the Snowdon Y, 5500 Westbury avenue, will include a blood donor clinic, a vegetarian cooking demonstration, Laps for Life (swim-a-thon), a day-long wellness fair, a teddy bear clinic and

splash parties for youngsters, human sexuality and eating disorder discussions for teens, Maccabi Athlete's Day, guest speakers and a workshop on stress management.

Complete schedules will be available soon at all branches of the YM-YWHA.

Robbie Burns dinner at Vic Hall

The Sons of Scotland, St Andrew's Camp, will hold a Robbie Burns dinner and dance in Victoria Hall on Sunday, Jan 25 at 7:30 pm.

Dance music is by The Avalons and there will be entertainment by pipers, drummers and highland dancers. Door prizes will be offered.

Tickets will be sold up to one week before the event. Call 766-1367 to reserve.

Book sale at library

Due to the closing of its Snowdon branch, the N.D.G. Library for Boys and Girls will stage a used book sale at the library, 6065 Queen Mary road.

Prices will start at 50 cents, and both English and French books will be offered for sale.

Sale hours are this Friday and next from 1:30 to 8 pm; this Saturday and next from 10 am to 4 pm.

Easygoing seniors courses

The McGill Institute for Learning in Retirement will launch its third winter semester on Feb 3 with 25 study groups. Registration is Thursday, Jan 16, from 1 to 3 pm in the Leacock Building, corner of McTavish street and Dr Penfield avenue, room 232.

The institute offers a program of peer learning, self-directed learning in small groups that meet weekly, in the daytime, for two hours over a nine-week semester. There are no age limitations or formal education requirements. A membership fee of \$40 entitles members to participate in up to three classes, space permitting.

Areas of study include art, archeology, communication skills, ecology, economics, geography, history, literature, music, mythology, politics, psychology, religion and sci-

ence. The course of study is determined by members of each group through their research, presentations and discussions, accompanied by some direction from the moderator.

To register call 398-8234 or 937-3221.

Study Old Girls' annual meeting

The Study Old Girls' Association will hold its annual meeting at 7:30 pm on Jan 16 at the school, 3233 The Boulevard.

Those planning to attend are asked to confirm at 932-9352.

The discussion will include such topics as reunions, a new directory and setting up a SOGA bursary.

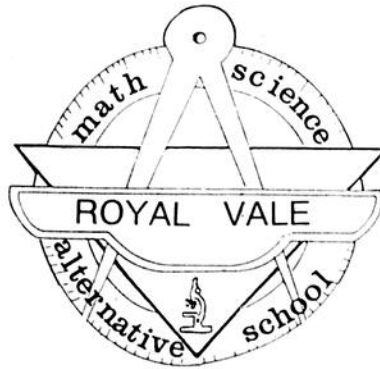
Courses at the Y

A fitness instructor course will start up at the Westmount YMCA on Jan 23. The course will run from 6 to 9 pm every Thursday evening for 13 weeks.

The nationally certified course is for those interested in becoming fitness instructors.

The cost is \$190 for non-members and \$130 for Y members.

The Westmount Y is also continuing with its Sunday family swim from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. The family swim is free for all Westmount residents who hold a recreation pass. Bring a bathing cap. Seniors swim is held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 to 3 pm with a tea social to follow. For information 931-8046.



ROYAL VALE

5530 Dupuis Avenue
Montreal, Quebec
H3X 1N8

Come visit us to learn about our:

- Kindergarten through Grade 6
- Enriched Math/Science focus
- French Immersion
- Renzulli Schoolwide Enrichment Model
- Compulsory Supplemental Curriculum including Integrated Jewish Heritage Studies OR Language Arts Enrichment (Parent Sponsored Programmes)

OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY - JANUARY 16, 1992

7:30 p.m.: PROGRAMME PRESENTATION

Followed by a tour of the premises and a chance to meet our teachers



Commission des écoles protestantes du Grand Montréal
The Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal



LOWER CANADA COLLEGE

YOU'RE LOOKING AT A VETERINARIAN



Or a surgeon... or a writer, or a company director. He doesn't have to make up his mind just yet. But the educational foundation he receives this year will be there for the rest of his academic career and professional life.

Most of us will never have to make a more important parental decision than the selection of a school.

LCC wants you to have all the information you need to make that crucial choice.

Come to our Open House, from 9 a.m. to Noon on Thursday, January 16 and Friday, January 17.

4090 Royal Avenue
Montreal, Quebec
H4A 2M5

- Testing for Grade 1 and 2 Bilingual Programme - Every Tuesday in January
- Testing for Grades 3-10, February 14

To register, call Gordon C. Allan, Director of Admissions, at 482-0951

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PETITES ANNONCES

931-7511

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5 pm / lundi-vendredi 8h30-17h

Phone in your ads early. **Deadline:** Box ads 4 pm Tuesday, liners 10 am Wednesday.

Veillez ne pas tarder à placer votre annonce.

Date de tombée: Annonces encadrées: les mardis à 16h00, Petites annonces: les mercredis à 10h00.

Classified ads may be placed in weekly newspapers across Canada. Call for details.
Une annonce classée peut être placée dans les hebdomadaires à travers le Canada. Appelez pour informations.

Accounts may be paid by telephone by Visa or MasterCard or by cash or cheque at the Westmount Examiner office, 155 Hillside Avenue, Westmount, the Town of Mount Royal Weekly Post office, 233 Dunbar Avenue, Town of Mount Royal, or at any branch on the Island of Montreal of The Royal Bank of Canada or the Bank of Montreal. Advertising not paid in advance of publication is subject to a \$2.00 billing charge. Advance payments without invoice cannot be accepted by banks but may be paid at either of the above newspaper offices.



Les comptes peuvent se régler par téléphone grâce aux cartes Visa et MasterCard, ainsi que par chèque ou en argent comptant aux bureaux du Westmount Examiner: 155, avenue Hillside, Westmount, ou du Courrier de Ville Mont-Royal: 233, avenue Dunbar, Ville Mont-Royal; ou encore à n'importe quelle branche de la Banque Royale du Canada ou de la Banque de Montréal de l'île de Montréal. Toute annonce qui n'est pas acquittée avant la date de parution est sujette à des frais de facturation de 2,00\$. Les paiements réglés à l'avance mais sans facture ne seront pas acceptés à la banque. Ils pourront, par contre, être effectués à l'un des bureaux ci-haut mentionnés.



104
COUNTRY PROPERTY TO LET
MAISONS DE CAMPAGNE À LOUER

BROME Lake/Iron Hill, near Bromont. Charming, bright, completely renovated furnished country home with view; 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage, large deck, washer, dryer, etc. Minutes to Bromont and Knowlton. \$700.00 monthly plus utilities: 932-7651 or 1-263-9858 (leave message).

111
OFFICES TO LET
BUREAUX À LOUER

175 sq.ft. - \$214/monthly
Small office
360 Victoria
WESTMOUNT
488-4885

115
APARTMENTS TO LET
APPARTEMENTS À LOUER

Westmount
Luxurious 2 + 3 bedrooms, 2 bath. Next to Westmount Park. Doorman service, swimming pool, all amenities.
932-9424
Mon-Fri 9 am-7 pm Sat 10 am-3 pm

134
SENIOR CITIZENS' RESIDENCES
RÉSIDENCE POUR PERSONNES AGÉES

INFO Residences: over 367 residences. Free service. Centre Visavie, 383-6826.

201
HELP WANTED
PERSONNEL DEMANDÉ

ULTIMATE money making machine. Be part of Canada's fastest growing independent distributor of music. Full-time, part-time. Protected territories available. Call 1-800-263-1900. Federal Music.

LADY required to stay with elderly gentleman, 2 mornings a week. Adjacent Westmount. References essential. 486-3193.

SEAMSTRESS/KNITTERS wanted, full/part-time home-work!! Up to 400 weekly! Send self-addressed/stamped envelope: HCH Enterprises, PO Square one, Box 2011, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C6.

DO you like to travel? Between the ages of 18-30? Have experience in farming? Contact the International Agricultural Exchange Association, 1501 - 17 Ave. S.W., Calgary, AB, T2T 0E2.

FUND raising can make you rich. Marketing breakthrough in \$18 billion book publishing business is creating new wealth. Earn huge profits. Protected territories. 1-800-465-5400. Readers Club.

205
DOMESTIC WORK WANTED
TRAVAIL DOMESTIQUE DEMANDÉ

Home Cleaning!

We professionally clean houses, apartments, duplexes, and condominiums. As we only clean homes, we clean better than anyone.
Guaranteed!

Call: **486-4770**

For the Shine in You!

201
HELP WANTED
PERSONNEL DEMANDÉ

RELIABLE mature driver needed, 4 evenings a week (approx. 3 hrs each). Non-smoker. References essential. \$250. 933-2383.

202
WORK WANTED
ON DEMANDE EMPLOI

MALE, 51, available full/part-time as driver, personal assistant for elderly person. Hours and days to suit. Free to travel. Responsible & reliable, with references. Private. Last position over 3 years with senior in Westmount. Tel. 933-8487.

300
ARTICLES FOR SALE
À VENDRE

4 oil paintings - 2 John Little, 2 Bruce LeDain. 342-4436.

FIREWOOD
Maple
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Fast Delivery
NITTOLO INC.
484-7819

308
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ON DEMANDE

BOOKS TO SELL?
We will come to see your hardcover books and offer best possible price.
Westmount Phoenix Books
320 Victoria (upstairs)
Ruth Portner 481-6942
Robert North
STORE HOURS:
Wed. 11-2, Thurs. 4-7,
Fri. 7:30-9, Sat. 11-5
Tel: 484-4428

402
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LEÇONS PARTICULIÈRES

NEED help in Math? I can help you get those high marks you've dreamed about. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics, and will tutor High School & Cégep students. \$20/hr. Call 482-1695, 488-4402.

500
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SERVICES PERSONNELS

WORD-PROCESSING/TYPING. Professional, fast, accurate service. Resumes, term papers, manuscripts, correspondence, documents. Reasonable. 485-4780.

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Dictate your letters over the phone, pick up later

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509
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SPECTACLES/DIVERTISSEMENTS

ORPHEUS Singers Choir looking for singers to expand its membership for exciting spring programme. 489-3739.

Add a new twist to your next party or convention
Westmount Examiner
CARTOONIST
available to do caricatures of your guests.
Call **Ferg:**
842-1553

315
CARS WANTED
AUTOS DEMANDÉES

ACHAT D'AUTO, CAMION, USAGÉ OU POUR PIÈCE (SCRAP)
PAYONS COMPTANT
BUY CARS, TRUCKS, USED OR FOR PARTS (SCRAP)
PAY CASH
7 DAYS/JOURS
747-6144

401
EDUCATIONAL
ÉDUCATION

COME & practice your French with francophones. Club Half & Half. 465-9128.

402
TUTORING
LEÇONS PARTICULIÈRES

EXPERT private teaching. Canadian Geography, History, English. Reasonable rates. 739-5744.

WILL tutor math and physics. All levels, high school through university. Experienced teacher. 488-3391.

308
WANTED TO PURCHASE
ON DEMANDE

CASH
Antiques & used furniture, paintings & pictures, bronzes, clocks, objets d'arts, etc.
complete estates.
V.G.C. Inc.
735-4286
4056 Jean Talon West

401 EDUCATIONAL EDUCATION

Due to the increased demand for Nursing Aides in hospitals, convalescent homes and geriatric centres, L'Académie Brunet has expanded its Nursing Aide Course. Classes (and related field work) are now being offered at Julius Richardson Convalescent Hospital in the Côte St Luc area.
For more information, please call:
630-7450
from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday.
ENROLMENT IS LIMITED,
SO PLEASE REGISTER EARLY.

607 HOUSEHOLD SERVICES SERVICES DOMESTIQUES

G.O. Renovations Reg.
Specializing in basement excavation & finishing
bathrooms • kitchens extensions
aluminum D. & W. plaster, gyproc, painting, ceramics, etc.
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Free estimates - References
CUSTOM built kitchen and bathroom cabinets. Save up to 50%! Free estimate. 8990 L'Acadie, Mirage Designs, 381-7477.

607 HOUSEHOLD SERVICES SERVICES DOMESTIQUES

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"Specializing in Victorian Style Homes"

- Asphalt shingles
- Tar & Gravel
- Metal work
- Skylights

Slate repair & replacement
Large selection of new and used slate

597-8454
24-hr. Emergency Service

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QUALIFIED ROOFER

THOM-LAR

Building Services Inc.

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- TUCK POINTING
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- WATERPROOFING
- PAINTING
- BALCONY REPAIRS
- ROOFING & SHEET METAL WORK

30 years of experience
484-9795
Free estimate - All work guaranteed
24 HOUR SERVICE

608 APPLIANCE SERVICE SERVICES ÉLECTROMÉNAGERS

REPAIR
ELECTRIC APPLIANCES
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT
Free estimate within 24 hrs.
Guaranteed Service
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Residential & commercial
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JAAP BREUNESSE
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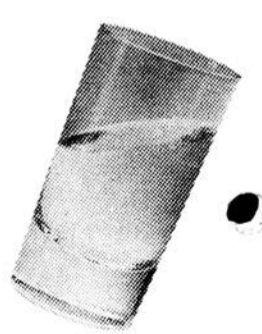
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Suite de la page 19

semblable affectation de 2,5 millions de dollars servait à alléger le fardeau fiscal des citoyens. Le surplus a aussi servi en 1991 à éviter certains coûts d'emprunt sur des projets d'investissement. Par contre, les projets nouveaux inscrits au budget pour 1992 seront financés par l'entremise d'emprunts municipaux directs ou par voie de charges au Fonds de roulement, échelonnés sur 3 à 5 ans. Le surplus accumulé de la Ville devrait donc se situer tout juste sous la barre du million de dollars en décembre 1992. Le Conseil estime que ce niveau reflète une gestion fiscale prudente.

En 1992, les revenus totaux requis afin de couvrir les dépenses globales du budget s'élèvent à 51,3 millions de dollars. Pour calculer le montant des taxes municipales nécessaire pour l'année 1992, nous devons soustraire des 51,3 millions de dollars: 1) les revenus issus de sources autres que fiscales estimés à 9,9 millions; 2) le montant de 1,4 million provenant du surplus et; 3) le montant compensatoire net de 1,4 million de dollars reçu des gouvernements fédéral et provincial. La différence de 38,6 millions de dollars constitue le montant réel que la Ville doit recouvrer auprès de ses propriétaires immobiliers et(ou) de ses entreprises commerciales au cours de la période fiscale de 1992.

LES TAXES

Avant l'adoption du budget 1992, le Conseil a dû régler plusieurs questions importantes.

Le 12 septembre 1991, la CUM a déposé son nouveau rôle d'évaluation. Il s'agit d'un rôle triennal couvrant les années 1992, 1993 et 1994. En adoptant son budget, le Conseil a la possibilité de se prévaloir des nouvelles dispositions de la Loi sur la fiscalité municipale du Québec (notamment celles du projet de loi 145) concernant l'étalement du rôle d'évaluation. Il s'agit d'une atténuation de l'augmentation du nouveau rôle par le biais d'une répartition en parts égales sur trois ans.

Après avoir examiné les options, le Conseil a décidé de ne pas appliquer le principe d'étalement du nouveau rôle. Bien que l'étalement présente l'avantage de redresser le déséquilibre fiscal historique favorisant le secteur commercial, ce redressement est mieux accompli par l'entremise de la nouvelle surtaxe non-résidentielle introduite dans le projet de loi 145. Autre désavantage majeur, l'étalement est un procédé dont l'administration s'avère complexe et coûteuse.

Le Conseil abolira l'actuelle taxe d'affaires rétroactivement au 1er janvier 1992, ce qui permettra de réaliser des économies administratives supplémentaires. Il faut noter que contrairement à la taxe d'affaires, qui est perçue auprès de l'occupant du lieu d'affaires, la surtaxe est perçue auprès du propriétaire de l'immeuble. Le taux maximal de la surtaxe perçue sur une propriété non-résidentielle est établi, en vertu du projet de loi 145, à 1,24 fois le taux de taxe municipale.

Compte tenu de la conjoncture difficile que connaît le secteur commercial, le Conseil a fixé la surtaxe de Westmount à 1,16 fois le taux de taxe municipale, ce facteur étant de 6,5 % inférieur au taux maximal autorisé par la loi. Aucune réduction de surtaxe ne sera appliquée en conséquence du taux d'occupation d'un immeuble donné. Mentionnons que malgré cette nouvelle surtaxe, le secteur commercial de Westmount continue à bénéficier d'un des taux de taxe les plus bas en vigueur dans la CUM.

En 1992, le taux de taxe municipale perçu sur l'ensemble des propriétés imposables sera de 1,07 \$ par 100 \$ d'évaluation, comparativement au taux de 1,28 \$ en vigueur en 1991. L'évaluation moyenne à Westmount d'une maison unifamiliale type passera de 377 500 \$ à 521 300 \$, soit une augmentation de 38,0 %. Le compte de taxe pour une maison unifamiliale type sera donc

haussé de 746 \$ par rapport à 1991, mais de seulement 142 \$ comparativement à 1990, ce qui représente une augmentation moyenne de seulement 1,3 % par année.

En 1992, le montant total des taxes exigibles dans le secteur commercial grimpera de 32 % par rapport à 1991, mais de seulement 15 % par rapport à 1990, l'augmentation moyenne au cours des deux dernières années s'établissant à 7,5 %. Le taux de la nouvelle surtaxe sera de 1.16 fois le taux municipal de 1,07 \$, soit 1,2412 \$ par 100 \$ d'évaluation.

Nous entendons poster les comptes de taxe d'ici la fin de janvier et offrir la possibilité d'un paiement en deux versements, le premier devenant exigible le 1er mars et le second, le 1er juillet 1992. Toutefois, si la totalité du premier versement n'est pas acquittée au plus tard le 1er mars, le contribuable perdra son privilège de paiement par versements, les deux versements devenant exigibles le 1er mars avec des intérêts composés de 1 % par mois (12.68 % per annum) perçus sur le solde en souffrance à compter de cette date.

À la lumière des commentaires susmentionnés, je dépose donc le budget de l'année 1992 en vue de son adoption par le Conseil.

Le conseiller David H. Laidley
Président

Comité des finances et de l'administration

COMMENTAIRES SUR LE BUDGET D'INVESTISSEMENT CAPITAL DE WESTMOUNT ANNEES 1992-93-94

PAR : **Le conseiller David H. Laidley**
Président
Comité des finances et de l'administration

Je vous présente ce soir une brève description du budget d'immobilisations prévu pour la ville de Westmount en 1992. Evidemment, un budget d'investissement capital bien établi — normalement pour une période de trois ans dans le cas d'immobilisations municipales au Québec — est essentiel à une saine planification financière. A Westmount en 1992, le coût total des projets capitaux inclus au budget, tant du côté de l'infrastructure municipale qu'au réseau de distribution d'énergie électrique, représente un montant global de 7 430 000 \$. Bien que ce chiffre budgétaire puisse paraître élevé, il faut remarquer que, premièrement, quelque 2 millions de dollars seront consacrés à la poursuite de projets déjà amorcés en 1991 et que, deuxièmement, la Ville a une tendance systématique à ne pas dépenser la totalité de son budget d'investissement capital, puisque certains projets proposés ne sont pas approuvés par le Conseil ou sont reportés pour diverses raisons. Les programmes d'investissement prévus pour 1993 et 1994 se situent, respectivement, à 6 820 000 \$ et à 6 597 000 \$. Ces chiffres ne sont qu'indicatifs du niveau potentiel de dépenses, et les projets en question feront l'objet d'études détaillées avant d'être incorporés de façon ferme dans les budgets ultérieurs.

Aucun des montants prévus aux budgets d'investissement capital pour les années 1992-93-94 ne comportent de provision pour le projet d'agrandissement et de rénovation de la bibliothèque municipale. Si ce projet est approuvé par le Conseil, les dépenses nécessaires à sa réalisation seront comprises dans le cadre d'un budget d'investissement capital supplémentaire.

Pour l'année 1992, un montant budgétaire de 340 000 \$ a été prévu à l'intention de la bibliothèque municipale en vue de l'implantation du système intégré de gestion documentaire. Ce projet présente un intéressant taux de rendement de 15 % grâce aux économies qui seront réalisées sur les salaires, et au contrôle informatisé des livres et des données de base.

En matière de sécurité publique, nous avons prévu un montant de 85 000 \$ en vue de l'acquisition de mini-imprimantes de contraventions. Visant la réduction des coûts, cette dépense augmentera la productivité des inspecteurs du stationnement et minimisera les pertes de

revenus dues aux erreurs. La poursuite des travaux de rénovation de l'annexe de l'Hôtel de Ville exigera 370 000 \$, tandis que les améliorations aux autres édifices municipaux coûteront quelque 200 000 \$.

Dans le cas des travaux publics, il est prévu que la poursuite de notre programme de reconstruction des rues et des trottoirs exigera 1 890 000 \$. En 1992, les deux plus importants projets viseront la réfection du boulevard de Maisonneuve, de la rue Greene à l'extrémité ouest de la Ville ainsi que la reconstruction complète du boulevard Surrey Gardens. Un montant additionnel de 375 000 \$ sera affecté à la réparation des trottoirs et des ruelles, un peu partout dans la Ville, et 130 000 \$ serviront à la réparation du réseau d'égouts, et au remplacement des puisards. La poursuite de notre programme de stationnement contrôlé prévoit l'acquisition de nouveaux parcomètres au coût de 10 000 \$. Un montant de 200 000 \$ sera appliqué aux réparations essentielles du belvédère Summit ainsi qu'un montant de 85 000 \$ pour le mobilier de rues et de parcs.

Quant aux véhicules de la Ville, un montant de 1 095 000 \$ est prévu aux fins de l'entretien de notre équipement. Certains d'entre eux ont jusqu'à 20 ans et(ou) engendrent des frais d'entretien dépassant les charges financières de nouveaux véhicules.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Sécurité publique | 40 000 \$ |
| Service des incendies | 690 000 \$ |
| Travaux publics | 161 000 \$ |
| Parcs | 66 000 \$ |
| Parcomètres | 18 000 \$ |
| Loisirs et culture | 20 000 \$ |
| Énergie électrique — services publics | 100 000 \$ |
| | 1 095 000 \$ |

L'amélioration du système d'éclairage des boulevards de Maisonneuve et Surrey Gardens exigent un montant de 300 000 \$ et la poursuite de la phase III de notre programme de mise à jour de l'éclairage des rues, un autre montant de 300 000 \$. Le budget comprend aussi l'installation de plusieurs nouveaux feux de circulation, et un montant additionnel de 150 000 \$ a été affecté à l'installation de sémaphores d'interdiction de stationner (utilisés lors du déneigement) dans certaines rues résidentielles.

On a attribué un montant total de 905 000 \$ au service municipal de l'énergie électrique. De ce montant, 200 000 \$ serviront à la réparation du réseau de câbles souterrains, celle-ci étant généralement effectuée lors de la reconstruction des rues. Afin d'augmenter la fiabilité de nos réseaux d'alimentation et de distribution, des améliorations majeures seront apportées à ceux-ci, au coût total de 705 000 \$. Ces dépenses comprennent l'installation de nouveaux circuits de distribution, de transformateurs, de conduits et de câbles souterrains, ainsi que la poursuite de notre programme d'équilibrage des blocs.

En résumé, le montant total du budget d'investissement capital prévu pour l'année fiscale 1992 s'établit à 7 430 000 \$.

De ce montant, 3 180 000 \$ — presque la moitié du total proposé — seront financés par l'émission d'instruments de dette à long terme. Un montant additionnel de 3 955 000 \$ sera financé à même le Fonds de roulement municipal, celui-ci étant alimenté par les revenus généraux sur une période de trois à cinq ans. Un petit résidu provient directement du budget opérationnel de 1992.

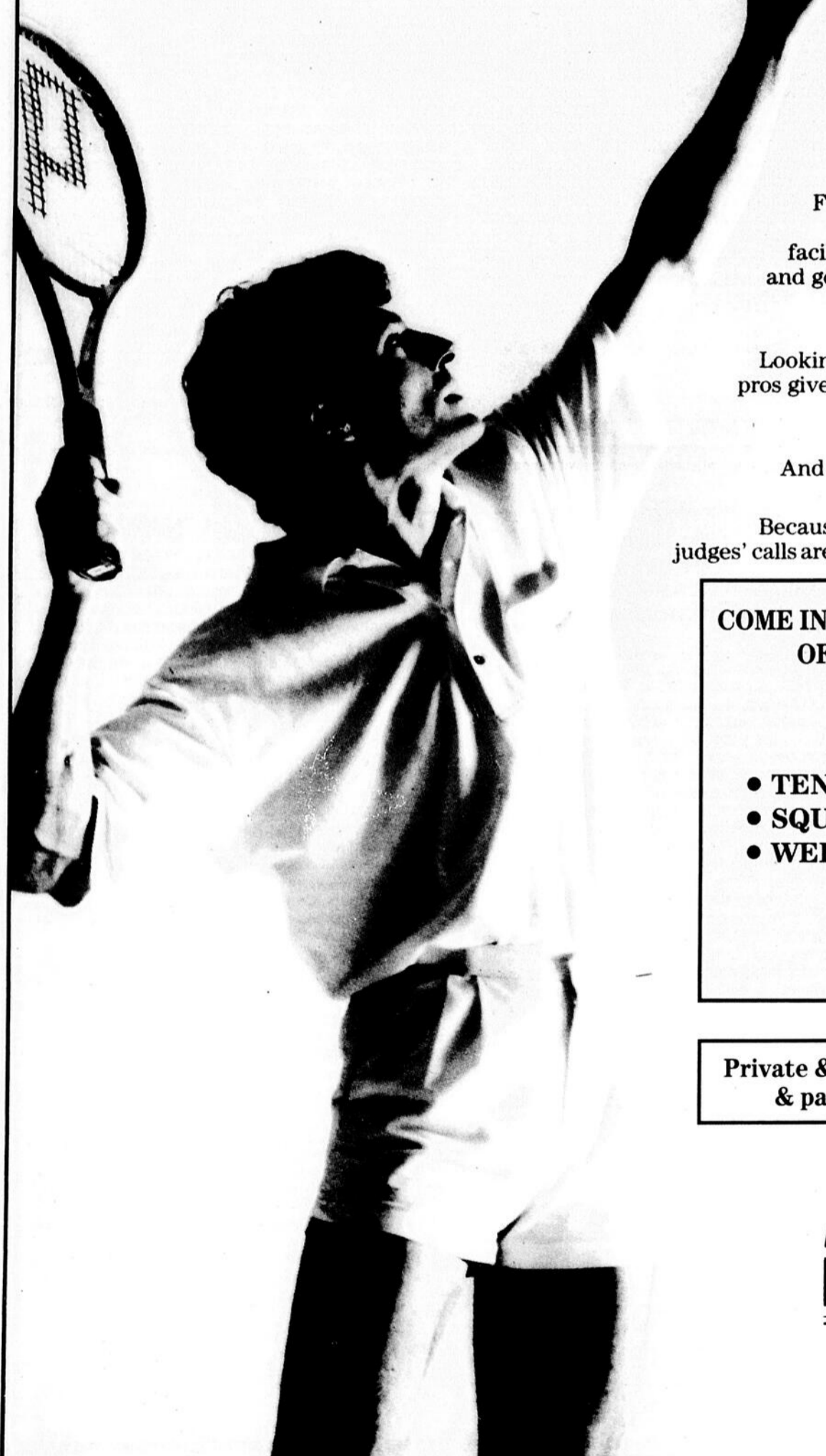
Selon la politique bien établie du Conseil, toute dépense de projet majeur est soumise à une analyse détaillée avant d'être approuvée, à la fois par le Comité permanent concerné et par le Conseil. Les renseignements pertinents sur le marché monétaire ainsi qu'une opinion informée sur le caractère prioritaire des différents projets constituent la toile de fond sur laquelle se fera l'étude de chaque dépense d'immobilisation, avant qu'elle ne soit engagée au cours de l'année 1992 et des années suivantes.

Ces brèves remarques étant faites, je dépose donc le «Budget triennal d'investissement capital» pour les années 1992, 1993 et 1994 en vue de son adoption.

Le conseiller David H. Laidley
Président

Comité des finances et de l'administration

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Westmount's first baby of 1992 being sought

THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER is looking for Westmount's first baby of 1992. For the 10th consecutive year, THE EXAMINER and local merchants and businesses have combined to offer the first baby of the year an array of gifts worth several hundred dollars.

The prizes will go to the baby born earliest in 1992 to parents living in the City of Westmount. As of yesterday, no word of any local blessed event had reached us.

Anyone wishing to report a new 1992 arrival and enter the contest is asked to contact THE EXAMINER by calling 932-3157.

Chimney of recalcitrant homeowner condemned

A chimney in a Westmount home was condemned by firefighters after Christmas when the homeowner allegedly refused to comply with a warning from a chimney sweep not to use it until repairs were made, fire officials said.

The sweep advised the fire department that he had discovered loose bricks in the fireplace at 367 Côte St Antoine road. The resident reportedly stated he intended to use it anyway.

Firefighters made 11 phone calls to the home before reaching the resident and then visited the house on Dec 27 to check out the problem again, Fire Chief Adams explained. They reinforced the caution.

Similar chimney and fireplace problems were encountered last summer by former councillor Sally

Aitken who also had her chimneys condemned. Mrs Aitken said at the time she wanted other Westmount residents to be aware that their chimneys might also be in unsafe condition. The Aitken chimneys were subsequently repaired.

Dance programs available at Y

The Westmount YMCA still has places available in the à la carte dance programs, which start this week.

Ballet jazz started on Tuesday at 8 pm and CardioFunk starts Saturday at 10 am.

Call the Y at 932-5700 for information on tuition and to register.

Mini survey focus of WMA meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Westmount Municipal Association is scheduled for Monday, Jan 13, at 7:30 pm at Victoria Hall.

Discussion will focus on a mini survey that the WMA will circulate to its 750 to 800 members during the month of January. Members will be quizzed about their opinions of the postal service, police and public security services, garbage collection and apartment dwelling.

WMA president Tom Thompson says the purpose of the survey is to

give council feedback and should not be confused with their annual survey that will be more extensive and circulated at the end of April. Also coming up is the draft document of "How to Contest Evaluation."

"We believe the system of evaluation is flawed," says Mr Thompson, "and made of inaccuracies built upon inaccuracies."

Other topics under new business include plans for ward committees, the annual survey and the annual meeting of the WMA.

Ski club for seniors

The Golden Age Association, 5700 Westbury avenue, has organized a cross-country ski club for seniors. An excursion is planned for Satur-

day at Beaver Lake. Equipment rental can be arranged through the association. Interested seniors are asked to call 739-4731.

Where's the driveway?



These four and five-year-olds from Garderie Narnia think it's a real treat to go outside and shovel things. Due to a lack of snow on Tuesday, they satisfied themselves with unearthing chunks of ice. Photo by ALISON RAMSEY

Recreation budget brings back sleigh

The sleigh ride is back by popular demand for the 1992 Westmount Winter Carnival, according to recreation and culture director Robert Aiken.

"It was originally cut for budgetary reasons," says Mr Aiken, "but we've had so many requests for it that we put a little bit more into the budget for it. We just didn't want to have that one disappointed child who couldn't afford the ride sitting off by the side."

The 1992 budget for the recreation and culture department is up 2.1 percent over last year at \$1.4 million.

"We were given the directive to hold the line on any expenses," says Mr Aiken. "We tried to keep the budget within the four percent guideline, but we didn't have to cut too much."

By J. MARION FEINBERG

This year Mr Aiken says he wants to put some emphasis on a teen group.

"Traditionally across Canada teens drop out of recreation programs when they turn 15," he says. "We're going to work with a teen council to see what they want to do. Last year's events ranged from a trip to a Montreal Machine football game to a car wash."

On the subject of Victoria Hall, Mr Aiken says they get by "on a wing and a prayer."

"Luckily we haven't had to spend any money on major repairs," he says. "We've just been keeping up with the maintenance and roof-patching."

One area that is going to require attention this year, according to Mr

Aiken, is the arena's heating system. He says the existing fan-forced heat system makes the hockey players boil and the ice melt.

"We're actually fighting our refrigeration system with our heating system," he says.

Winter birding meeting topic

Winter Birding in the Montreal Area is Pierre Bannon's subject at the Monday meeting of the Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds at 8 pm in the Fraser Hickson Institute, 4855 Kensington avenue.

Mr Bannon is a director of the PQSPB and author of the site guide *Birding in the Montreal Area*.

Tomorrow is last chance for winter registration

IF you haven't already registered for Westmount recreation and culture department's winter program, run, don't walk, to the arena at 4675 St Catherine street. The deadline is tomorrow, Jan 10, at 4:30 pm.

Registration for courses at the Greene Avenue Community Centre will take place at 1090 Greene avenue until tomorrow at 8 pm. Most programs will begin the week of Jan 20.

For further information consult your fall and winter 1991-92 recreational and cultural activities booklet or call 935-8531 (local 220 or 321).

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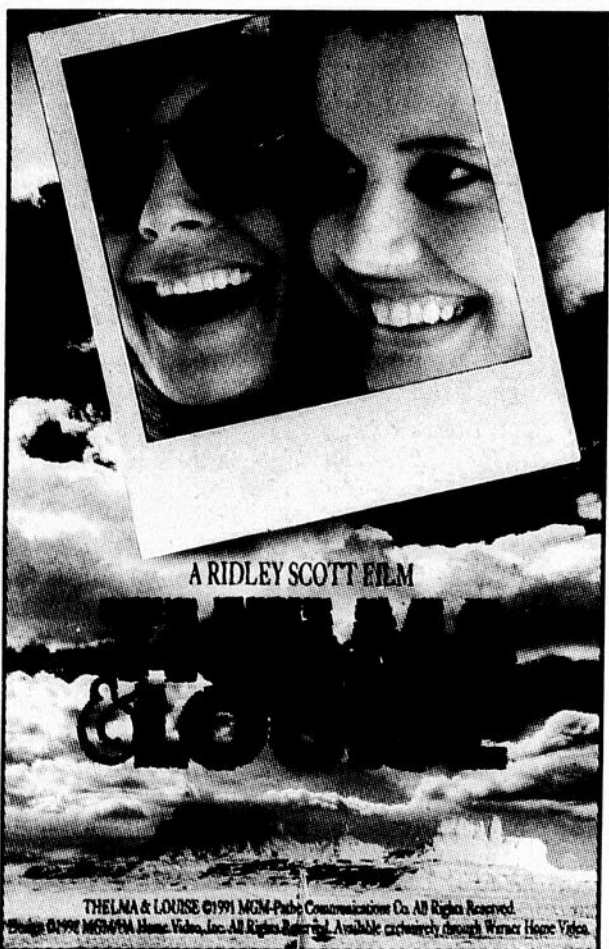
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