

A 'first' for public libraries in Quebec

New film streaming service to offer 30,000 titles Feb. 20

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount Public Library is trailblazing again. After many "firsts" over the years, this time it's by launching a film streaming service to members February 20 that provides access to some 30,000 films described as providing "thoughtful" entertainment.

"We are the first public library in Quebec to be offering this service, so we're very excited," said Lora Baiocco, online services and archives librarian.

The Kanopy video streaming service that the library is using allows members holding adult cards to sign up through the library's website to start viewing up to four films per month. While there is children's content, she says, it requires the adult card for access. Children's cards are issued up

to age 13 or grade 7.

The films can be streamed from any computer, television, mobile device or platform and, if required, by downloading the Kanopy app for iOS, Android, AppleTV, chromecast or Roku.

"Our experience with ebooks and emagazines has shown that people love to take their library with them wherever they go and it means the library is always open," Baiocco said.

Hard to access elsewhere

The Kanopy service, she explains, provides access to films of "high quality, unique social and cultural value. These are films that are often difficult or impossible to access elsewhere." They include Academy Award winners, international film festival

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Valentine's Day at the library



Westmount Public Library's official mascot, Findlay Featherton, joined around two dozen children four years of age and older in the children's section of the library on February 11 for a pre-Valentine's Day event that included crafts. The children spent their time making Valentine's Day cards featuring owls and hot-air balloons with Valentine's messages attached to present to family members or friends. Seen in the photo, from left, are Yixuan Miao, Kim Jun, Carolina and Vanessa Mendez, Findlay Featherton, Eloise Henrich, Stella Caissie and Ruchong Han. PHOTO: MARTIN C. BARRY

Deterioration notice for 4030 Dorchester Blvd.'s façade

City deploys new legal tool to encourage repairs

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council February 4 approved a notice of deterioration to be registered against a property at 4030 Dorchester where pieces of the masonry façade have needed securing since 2016.

Repair work ordered by Urban Planning under the city's permits and certificates by-law has not been carried out.

This notice of deterioration will be registered and added to the property's valuation roll and transferred to persons with specific interests such as banks or mortgage holders, said Urban Planning director Tom Flies.

The action was taken under a new provision in 2017 of Quebec's *Act respecting Land Use Planning and Development* that gives mu-

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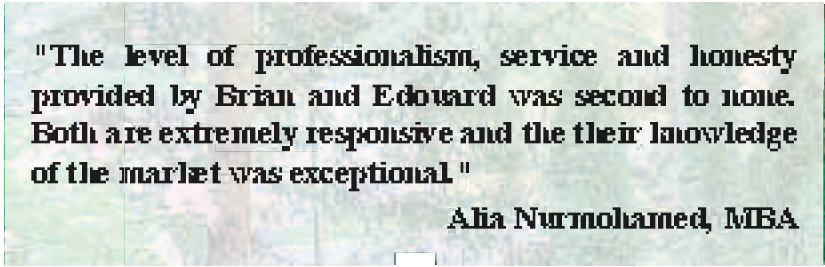
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More safety sought for Tupper/Atwater

Honor Robertson of Clandeboye asked city council February 4 to address the issue of public safety at Tupper and Atwater after a pedestrian was fatally hit while crossing there December 12.

The accident occurred as the truck was reported to have left the work site at the former Children's Hospital.

Mayor Christina Smith said she had already told Montreal mayor Valérie Plante that alleviation of the traffic congestion "cannot wait another year." The "massive" construction project "is completely controlled by Montreal," she explained.

Police confirmed February 12 that recent traffic changes include traffic limited to one-way west-bound traffic only on Tupper meaning that cars and trucks on Atwater cannot go east onto the congested street. The lane on the south side of Tupper has been sectioned off for occupancy by trucks only.

This was decided to be the "best option" after consultation with Montreal inspectors and project officials, said community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel. It had initially been understood that Tupper had been made one-way east but he confirmed the street is now one-way west.



Honor Robertson addresses city council February 4.

Irvine Ave. donates to The Depot

As previously reported, the residents of Irvine Ave., inspired by snow-shovellers-

for-charity Leff Page and Hans Whitelaw, have begun a monthly donation to The Depot (formerly the NDG Food Depot).

Organizer Kate Sutherland Marien told the *Independent* by email on February 17 that the first donation, \$170, has been delivered.

"So far, we are a small group of 10, and everyone has agreed to a monthly donation. They are free to donate whatever amount they can spare that month – it can change depending on each person's circumstances. I collect the actual money, with my actual hands (no "virtual" activity here), and take it to the Depot myself."

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Police seek crossing guards on call

Local police Station 12 has issued a call for crossing guards to work on call at designated crossings in Westmount. These schools are St. Léon's, Roslyn, Selwyn House and The Priory.

The job pays \$17.89 an hour and the application deadline is April 30. Further information is available at the station (514.280.0312) as well as from 514.280.3210 and the website at SPVM-19-BPRE-900340.



The crossing guard at Clarke and de Maisonneuve on February 14, a day with an uncharacteristic amount of snow.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



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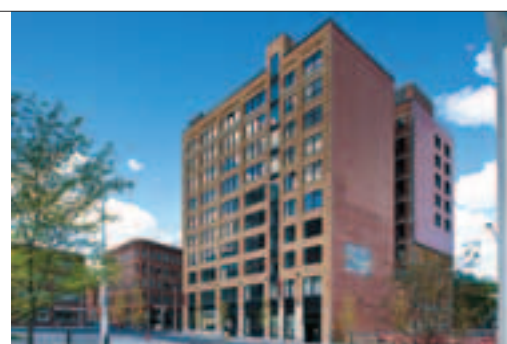
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Seen here on Feb. 6 surrounding their beloved Scarfy are senior citizens and staff from Contactivity Centre as well as children and staff from Fun Academy daycare shortly after wrapping the sculpted dog with a 23-foot scarf.

Westmount Park dog 'Scarfy' will be warm this winter

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A well-loved dog that sits at the Lansdowne Ave./de Maisonneuve Blvd. entrance to Westmount Park will be a little less cold over the remainder of this winter now that there's a very long hand-knitted scarf wrapped around its neck.

While the canine is a sculpture, seniors and children who are regulars at the Contactivity Centre and the Fun Academy daycare (both based at Westmount Park United Church) have become attached to the dog since it was first installed two summers ago.

So much, in fact, that they decided to name it "Scarfy" shortly after wrapping their 23-foot scarf around the dog's neck on February 6.

The scarf was an intergenerational arts project. Seniors from Contactivity spent two to three weeks knitting it, while the children from the daycare helped out with some pom-pom attachments. In all, the project took a few weeks.

"Last week, the seniors were together with the children when they put the pom-poms on the scarf," said Contactivity Centre's media coordinator Angelina Hum.

Paul Bode from Westmount's Public Works department was on hand to help the team of toddlers and seniors place their collective creation on the sculpture.

The intergenerational art program was made possible through funding and support provided by the federal New Horizons for Seniors Project. At times over the course of the past year, the funding allowed Contactivity Centre to have an art teacher and art therapist, while also paying for the purchase of art supplies.

Library, cont'd. from p. 1

favourites, a wide collection of foreign language films, current documentaries and the Criterion Collection of older and modern classics.

"I think people will be delighted by options not seen in other popular streaming services," she adds.

This is the only one being offered by the library and was selected after consultation with libraries in other provinces and the United States that cater to similar populations as Westmount, she said.

Drop-in demonstration sessions will take place at the library February 27 from 2 to 4 pm and March 7 from 10 am to noon. "For anyone unable to attend at those times, we're always here to help, the reference desk being the first step for inquiries."

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Replica additions: ‘streetscape coherent’ or misleading?

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

How do “replica” extensions to Westmount buildings – or even new homes built to replicate others – fit in to the heritage preservation of historic or older neighbourhoods?

That was a question asked to city council February 4 by Fred Girvin, a resident of Victoria Ave., who said “When you try to make an extension look historic, there’s no distinction between the old and new.”

He suggested this was “deceitful” and could be misleading to an observer.

“We’re looking for some coherence on the streetscape,” explained Councillor Conrad Peart, urban planning commissioner for permits and architecture. The city is nearly fully built, he pointed out, and when a new house is being considered, “we look at it very carefully. We want it to be the Category I home of tomorrow.”

Girvin also asked if the city had looked into the use of modern building materials rather than building “faux châteaux.”

Mayor Christina Smith said, “I don’t think we have any faux châteaux.” Peart noted there was a distinction between building materials and style. When it comes to stone, for example, the city has a masonry requirement.



This building at 50 Academy Rd., centre, was built after a fire on April 17, 2000 and was designed to fit into the streetscape. It opened in June 2003. The photograph was taken on February 15.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham, urban planning commissioner for zoning, economic development and parks, added that the difference between an original building and a replicated new addition is usually “subtle,” to which Girvin said it needed to be “radical.”

He said that replica additions were not

permitted in at least one jurisdiction he knew of.

Among some of the notable additions in Westmount that blend into the original and provide “coherence” in the neighbourhood are the Gallery at Victoria Hall and the 2002 Stanton St. extension to Selwyn House School, the Speirs building.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CITY WORKER TAKES TIME TO DIG OUT DRIVER

This morning [February 13], I took a few photographs of the effects of the overnight snowstorm. A woman across the street was digging out her car on de Maisonneuve Blvd. She had been digging for about 30 minutes when a city snow plow appeared, of course, concentrating snow away from the centre to the side of the street. I thought, “Uh oh. More snow for her to shovel.”

But no, the snowplow slowed and stopped, then the operator manoeuvred his vehicle (no easy feat given its size and the tight space he had to work with) and in two or three gentle sweeps, cleared the huge snow bank in front of her car (see photo). She still had a lot of shoveling to do, but significantly less than before the snowplow operator came along. When I looked out again 20 minutes later, she had gone.

I was overwhelmed and delighted by such kindness and thoughtfulness, and hope that you will share this good news story with your other readers. I will pass on my appreciation to the city, which I trust will pass it on to its work crews. They deserve our thanks.

CATHERINE DUFF-CARON,
DE MAISONNEUVE

INDEPENDENT GOOD, BUT DOES NOT PUBLISH ENOUGH LEVINE

I read with sadness your editorial regarding Bill 122 (February 12, p. 8), your



request that people take action, and the end of the *Free Press*.

As an activist of 31 years’ standing, I can testify that the public is fantastic when it comes to “talking the talk,” but absolutely terrible with “walking the walk.”

The replacement of community newspapers by community Facebook groups leaves much to be desired.

Subjective views being expressed by individuals being given as much credence as fact is the norm and hideous to see.

While the *Independent* does not publish my letters often enough concerning the inability of most politicians to do, fully, what is in the obvious best interest of humanity, it’s a very small price to pay for a good community newspaper that the *Independent* is, and hopefully will always be.

MURRAY LEVINE, DORVAL

Editor’s reply: Our decision not to publish your letters is not personal. Much of your ire in recent years has been directed at the Tour de l’île and, whenever I have checked recently, it does not go through Westmount, which is our focus. Thank you for the kind words. – DP.

CLEAR SNOW – AND ICE

Clearing of snow from the city’s sidewalks and streets is one challenge for the administration. However, this accomplishment is only half the job. I have noticed icy patches that stretch from one to six feet running from the curbside into the street on many roads. This has the effect of limiting car traffic to one lane and making parking very tricky. More importantly, these icy formations cause untold hardship to pedestrians trying to cross the road without falling and injuring themselves. After cleaning the roads and the sidewalks, these dangerous icy obstacles should also be removed from the street to afford safe conduct to cars and pedestrians alike.

TIM CARSLEY, BARAT RD.

Editor’s note: In three cases in the last two or three weeks, I have seen workers doing

exactly what you are asking them to do: using a plough to scrape the ice bed that forms in the “L” where the vertical wall of the sidewalk meets the road surface. – DP.

ON SCHOOL BOARDS, COMBINE IDEAS OF CAQ AND LIBERALS

As a supporter of the Coalition Avenir Québec’s (CAQ’s) education plan, permit me to take issue with some of the comments made by Liberal MNA Jennifer Maccarone in an interview with CTV Montreal on January 17, “MNA and former QESBA chief on EMSB inquiry.”

In her criticism of the CAQ, which [at the time] had only sat in the National Assembly for two weeks, she strongly hints that the call for an inquiry into the English Montreal School Board by Education minister Jean-François Roberge, a former teacher, is “self-serving.”

That is not so. Somebody has to clean up the mess in some of the English school boards, which she overlooked as president of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA).

Consider last year’s warnings by QESBA former president, and then executive-director, Marcus Tabachnick in three English newspapers: *Montreal Gazette* (Opinion, April 23), and letters in the *Sherbrooke Record* (April 18) and the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* (April 25).

“Some of the English school boards have suffered through several years of political unrest, internal turmoil and disruptive squabbles with employees, the public and the media. There seems to be a lack of clear, coherent leadership. Boards, individually and through their collective association, have been unable to achieve very much since they were able to put down Bill 86.”

Education is a serious matter. MNA Maccarone should know when to stop playing politics.

That said, Education minister Roberge has said he’s willing to listen to suggestions concerning the CAQ school governance plan.

Rather than fight, why not expend our energy, save time and money, and take advantage of the offer?

Let’s pick the better features of Bill 86 of the Couillard government, which was voted in by 1.7 million voters in 2014, and combine them with what the Legault government is proposing.

After all, more than 3.2 million Quebecers cast their ballots for the aforementioned majority governments with clear mandates to deal with much-needed school board reform.

CHRIS EUSTACE, PIERREFONDS

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McEntyre's 2019 theme: 'It's Okay to be Different'

Contest also open to local residents at other schools

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Of the record-setting 1,812 participants from kindergarten through high school who entered last year's rendition of the city's McEntyre Writing Competition, most were submitted by students under the banner of Westmount schools. Only nine came from local residents attending schools elsewhere.

"This year we're trying to make all children living in Westmount aware that they are eligible to participate regardless of where they go to school," said chief judge Rosalind Davis in providing the figures.

"The city reaches out to individual schools within the community but the competition is also open to residents who, like one of last year's top winners from LCC, may attend a school in a neighbouring municipality." Members of a Westmount library are also eligible.

With March break approaching, she said, this is an ideal time for children – and their parents – to start thinking about the theme of this year's competition: "It's Okay to be Different." The deadline for

submissions at the Westmount Public Library is April 5.

The competition was established through a trust fund set up more than 45 years ago by the late Peter McEntyre, mayor from 1969 to 1971. His aim was to help generate interest in the community.

But after organization of the competition was taken over directly as a program of the children's department of the library in 2001, the number of entries has more than tripled from 568 that year, according to children's librarian Wendy Wayling.

The many cash awards, along with the purchase of books for the library in each winner's name, are now funded by the city since depletion of the original trust fund.

McEntyre launched the competition by donating his own mayoral salary after he refused to accept it after the Quebec government required municipal mayors and councillors to be compensated financially. Until that time, it had been a tradition in Westmount for council members to serve as part of civic duty.

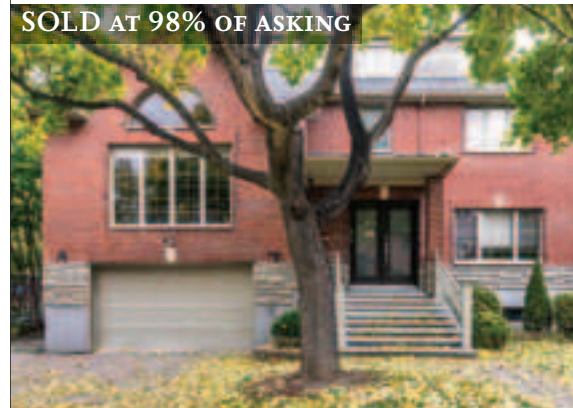
More information on participation is available at the library or on its website.

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Roberts' Valentine show *Danse/Romance* opens at Bilboquet



From left, Westmounters Bruce Roberts and Anna Gedalof with Bilboquet owner Yann Perez at his ice cream shop and deli on February 14. The occasion was a vernissage for Roberts' tango paintings.

PHOTO: HEATHER BLACK.

BY HEATHER BLACK

A Valentine vernissage of Bruce Roberts' colourful paintings of tango dancers took place at Bilboquet Westmount on February 14.

Painted canvases of dramatic dancers in red attire and eight posters – many from his 2009 Hotel Meridien exhibition – warmed the interior of the Sherbrooke St. ice-cream parlour and lent a festive air to the day.

Known for horses

Although the artist is known for elegant equine paintings and drawings – he was awarded the 2001 Governor General's Award for his illustrations in *Fidèles éléphants* – two recently painted canvases of dancers were displayed.

"What I paint is movement – horses, bi-

cycles or people," Roberts said. "The continuity in my work comes from drawing live that conveys intimacy."

This is not the artist's first Valentine exhibition and he has held past holiday shows in laundromats as well as galleries. His life partner, artist Anna Gedalof added, "The theme of dancers is romantic and fun, and opening the show on Valentine's Day fits with falling in love in an ice-cream parlour."

Bilboquet Westmount's proprietor, Yann Perez, is also a painter. Since taking possession last May, he has displayed not only his own lively abstracts but also artists from the Westmount community.

Noting Roberts' fluid sketch style, he commented, "Each artist has their specialty!" *Danse/Romance* continues until March 14 at Le Glacier Bilboquet Westmount, 4864 Sherbrooke St.

Police Report

Police investigating upper Westmount 'party theft'

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Police at Station 12 on Stanton St. have launched an investigation following an alleged theft incident during a party thrown at an upper Westmount home on the evening of February 9 when property worth more than \$5,000 was allegedly stolen.

"There was an event that took place at a household," said Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel. "The resident had a party at their house with guests."

Although Pimentel said the police have the name of a suspect, he added that he was not in a position to release more information as it is still under investigation.

Break-in on Clarke Ave.?

Police from Station 12 found signs of a break-in and burglary after they responded to an alarm that was set off on an upper level of an apartment building on Clarke Ave. near St. Catherine St. during the mid-afternoon of February 10.

According to Pimentel, the officers met the building's administrator who informed them that the building maintains a high level of security, including restricted access to an elevator by electronic entry cards.

"There was an alarm that was detected by movement at the level of the roof," said Pimentel.

The administrator told the police that

after the alarm was triggered, he noticed that a drawer inside a lobby-level security office had been damaged and broken into and a set of keys normally in the drawer were not in their usual place.

A computer and monitor were also reported missing from the security office. The incident remains under investigation.

Robbery by movers?

A cautionary tale for those who may be caught up in the hectic process of moving.

A woman who was moving out of a de Maisonneuve Blvd. dwelling between January 29 and February 1 filed a complaint with police at Station 12 in which she alleged she was robbed by members of the moving company staff.

The moving company had sent six male employees to move furniture and other belongings belonging to the complainant.

When the move was completed, the woman gave them a tip of \$100, according to the police report.

As she told police, however, she later noticed that a wallet containing additional cash that she had left out in the open while dealing with an issue elsewhere in her home was no longer in the same place when she returned.

"With hustle and bustle of moving, she didn't make an issue of it at the time," said Pimentel. It was only a few days later that she noticed the money was missing from the wallet.





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Garson hopes to be the next Miss Québec

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A 21-year-old resident of Westmount's Grosvenor Ave. with a talent for gymnastics and cheerleading is one of 12 finalists hoping to be chosen as the next Miss Québec during a pageant being held in early March.

Born and raised in Westmount, Hannah Garson is currently an undergraduate student of psychology at Concordia University. A longtime devotee of cheerleading and gymnastics, she also works part-time as a coach for a gymnastics club in LaSalle.

Hannah decided to sign up as a Miss Québec contestant for a \$250 registration fee, after learning about the contest during a cheerleading event where a Miss Québec representative was sitting at a kiosk.

"I wanted a new experience, I wanted to try something new – make friends and see what opportunities it might bring me," she said, explaining what motivated her. "I just want to show everyone who I am and be myself. I want to be calm, be confident and just do my best."

Based out of offices in Longueuil on Montreal's South Shore, the Miss Québec contest organization offers three titles in all, the other two being Miss Pre-Teen Québec and Miss Teen Québec.

While the days of women's competitions as beauty contests are for the most part over, Miss Québec has retained some of the traditional elements, says Garson, including point-scoring for things like posture and poise.

While Miss Québec will ultimately be chosen by a panel of judges, members of the public will also get a chance to vote for their favourite candidate through the Miss Québec website. Fifteen percent of each candidate's total score will be



◀ Seen here on February 18 with the many awards and medals she's won competing in cheerleading and gymnastics, Hannah Garson of Grosvenor Ave. is hoping to become the next Miss Québec.

determined this way. Although the pageant organizers charge a fee to vote (ranging from \$2 per vote to \$20 for 100), a significant portion is donated to the Operation Enfant Soleil children's charity.

Hannah's interest in cheerleading has resulted in her attending the World Cheerleading Championships for the past three years. Her team, the Ace Athletics Ignites, finished fourth in the world on one occasion. In gymnastics, Hannah considers her biggest accomplishment was competing in the 2012 Eastern Canadian Gymnastics Championships.

Westmounters who might want to vote for Hannah or read an online profile about her can do so at the following website: www.missquebec.ca/hannah-g. A gala evening event during which Miss Québec will be chosen will be taking place at the Sheraton Hotel in Laval on March 2. Voting online will be taking place until March 2 at noon.

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49 Oakland Ave.: Back of the mountain



*History by
the House*

ANDY DODGE

One of Westmount's most remote areas, apparently left almost completely fallow until the 1930s despite various efforts to build it up, is Oakland Ave.

Originally known simply as "Concession 622C," it seems the top of Westmount's mountain was originally a land grant to Jean Cousineau, one of the first *habitants* to venture west from the settlement of Ville Marie, who seemed more interested in developing the "Coste Notre Dame des Vertus," what we know now as Ville St. Laurent. In 1713, he sold the mountain land to Paul Decarie, son of Jean Descaries dit Lehoux, the patriarch of the Decarie family; the land passed through four more generations of Decaries until finally arriving with Julie Decarie, wed to Jean-Baptiste Monarque, by about 1857.

(These transfers were described in Janet MacKinnon's University of Montreal master's thesis "The Settlement and Rural Domestic Architecture of Côte Saint-Antoine, 1675-1874.")

The strip of land – eventually renumbered 282 – led north from what is now The Boulevard and included what was then Montarville Ave. (now Aberdeen) and the site of the old St. George's Snowshoe Club, one of Montreal's original athletic clubs (which has now become the elementary section of St. George's School). That club attracted Montreal's famous photographer, William Notman; since the mountain area was now becoming the municipality of Notre Dame de Grâce (1874) and attracting the interest of Montreal's English-speaking establishment. Notman purchased from Julie Decarie the



area north of the club headquarters, reaching up the mountain along the edges of a substantial cliff overlooking Côte des Neiges.

By 1887, Notman and his friends William Angus, John MacFarlane, Alexander Ramsay and others formed a company called Westmount Homestead Company Ltd., comprising all of their land holdings, which basically included most of the mountaintop area, stretching north from what is now The Boulevard. It was clear that the view of the river was what attracted them, so in 1892 they sold off the wooded area and cliffside to Joshua Bell, a butter and cheese merchant, for \$20,000.

Bell sells land, height restriction to McGill's observatory

According to a brief biography in *Men of Canada* (1893), it was more Bell's son, John W. Bell, who had an interest in developing the area, but the Lovell's Directory listing for Joshua shows he lived in Westmount (with his son) starting in 1894 and his residence held the name "Crag-

holme," though without a further address.

McGill University – The Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning – was granted a large part of the forest at the top of the mountain in 1895 and began plans to develop an observatory there, but needed some extra land, which they purchased from Bell in addition to a height restriction on the rest of the property, to ensure the visibility of the stars from the observatory. This was readily granted and has been referenced in all of the title deeds ever since.

Joshua Bell's name, and that of his firm, Bell, Simpson & Co. (provisions, produce and commission merchants), disappeared from Lovell's Directory in 1902, about the time the Merchant's Bank won a major lawsuit against him and seized his property. It took exactly three years for the Royal Bank of Canada – which Merchant's

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Don Sancton and David Price on "The role of Westmount's newspapers in shaping the community" for the Westmount Historical Society. Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke St. West. 7 to 9 pm.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 28

Marianopolis College launches *Yasodhara: A Novel about the Buddha's Wife* by Professor Vanessa R. Sasson. 4873 Westmount Ave. 6:15-7:30 pm.

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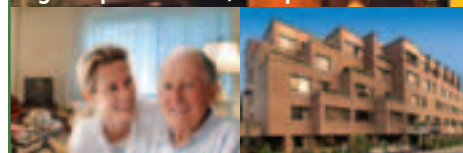
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selling to Patrick Bavière and Christine Delorme. They paid \$118,000 in a year when top-of-the-mountain homes were selling for an average \$188,000. Much of this had to do with the construction, in 1964, of the huge 3620 Ridgewood Ave. apartment building directly behind the houses, an example of zoning conflicts along municipal borders. (Two other houses on that side of Oakland Ave. sold that year for \$115,000 and \$138,000.)

Still, that impediment did not stop buyers from choosing this property; it has sold five times since then (plus a guaranteed-price takeover) for prices up to \$1,735,000, the

most recent sale in 2015. The current municipal valuation of the property is \$1,825,400.

HISTORY OF 49 OAKLAND AVE.

(since construction)

Date	Buyer	Price
27 Apr 1938	William Rothweil McMaster	\$1
15 May 1975	Joachim E. Hunger & Ute Szigetter	\$1
23 Sep 1976	Dr. José A. Adura Miranda	\$1
28 May 1979	Patrick Bavière & Christine Delorme	\$118,000
15 Jul 1985	Axel Conradi & Mildred Steel	\$225,000
11 Aug 1989	Royal LePage Real Estate Services	\$496,500
20 Sep 1989	Gad Shaanan & Suzan Gillick	\$490,000
04 Jul 2001	Ian Thornton Clark	\$1,000,000
17 Nov 2003	Hassan Halabian & Tayeb Amiri Moradi	\$1,080,000
29 May 2015	ShanLin Zhu & RuiFang Li	\$1,735,000



Goad's Atlas of 1912 shows neatly subdivided lots throughout the back side of Westmount mountain (but no houses) with the names Hillcrest, Park Crescent and Bellevue applied to what we know as Roxborough, Surrey Gardens and Oakland Ave. Shornccliffe is named Holt Crescent elsewhere on the map. Another street, Normont Ave., was supposed to connect to the planned Ridgewood Ave. area, with a small cul-de-sac called Eastmont Ave. None of that ever came to pass.

Bank had become – to actually carry out the seizure of 59 subdivisions, then only two months before they sold six of those, along what they called Bellevue Ave. (which is now Oakland Ave.), to Elvira Webber, wife of Allan R. Oughtred, QC. Nothing was built on the lots for the next five years until it was purchased in 1911 by Edward Norman Lewis, former mayor of Goodrich, Ontario, and then the member of parliament for Huron West. Apparently he never moved east before selling a year later to a Westmouter, Frederick G. Tester, from 369 Prince Albert Ave., described by Lovell's simply as an employee of the *Montreal Gazette*. Tester then sold to a building contractor, Stephen Whitaker of Addington Ave., who made plans for construction of a house on 1½ lots.

John W. Bell, Joshua's son, was still determined to develop the land, however, and formed a company called Residue Investment, which bought back all six of the lots in 1923. Still, not until 1936 – when

the name of Oakland Ave. was finally established – did Charles Shaw Bradeen, secretary of Canadian Fairbanks Morse Co. Ltd., buy the 1½ lots where Whitaker had planned to build, and construct what today is 49 Oakland Ave.

\$1 plus consideration

Once built, Bradeen sold the house to William Rothwell McMaster, an auditor with Rutherford, Molson, Williamson & Cushing. He lived there for almost four decades before selling to Joachim Hunger, a financial advisor, and his wife, Ute Szigetter. Perhaps because of their involvement in the accounting world, three consecutive sales were registered at "\$1 and other good and valuable considerations," with no indication of the market value of the property.

In 1976, the Hungers sold to Dr. José A. Adura-Miranda, a family medicine specialist at University of Montreal and McGill, who lived on Oakland for three years before



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4030 Dorchester on October 26, 2016 (left) and February 14 (right).

Dorchester, *cont'd. from p. 1*

municipalities more powers in the event a building is “decrepit or dilapidated” and requires maintenance attached to public safety.

“It’s the first time we have used this tool,” Flies explained. “It gives municipalities new powers to put pressure on a property owner without having to obtain

an injunction in Quebec Superior Court, an expensive procedure.”

Pilot project

He said the Westmount action “is a pilot project and we’ll see how it stands the test.”

This case involves a castle-like house at the west outlet of Weredale Park where some 15 stones were reported falling from

the façade October 26, 2016 (see story November 1, 2016, p. 6). At that time, tarpaulins were used to prevent more from falling and the sidewalk was barricaded to protect pedestrians.

Since then, “we have exhausted our (other) tools to ensure the repairs are made,” Flies said.

Following the recommendations of a

third-party engineer hired by the city to assess the risks, fences have been installed at the front and back of the property to provide a safety perimeter. While there is no immediate danger, Flies said, the situation cannot be allowed to go on.

“It’s an underlying issue of what happens when a building is not maintained,” he explained.



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View from the private beach.

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Social Notes

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Mark Caplan and Barry Pascal.

The ORT Montreal Ted Wise Montreal Benefit Gala for Jewish Education attracted a sold-out audience.

After 35 years, the ORT Montreal Gala was renamed in honour of **Ted Wise**, whose family endowed the gala so that all the funds raised could be used for education. ORT Montreal partnered with Akiva School, Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa, Congregation Beth Tikvah, École Maimonide, Hebrew Academy, Hebrew Foundation School, JPPS/Bialik High School, JPPS Children's Center, Rohr Chabad of NDG, United Talmud Torah/Herzliah High School and the Donald Berman Yaldei Developmental Centre.

Guests – actually a crowd of 1,500 – arrived eagerly early and then waited patiently for the doors of Place des Arts to finally open. Buffets were displayed beautifully – but only for a nanosecond. Hungry arrivals quickly ravaged the sushi and ribs tables in the shoulder-squeezing space. The evening's entertainment was the famed Magical Mystery Tour, a Beatles tribute band. They performed live with an orchestra from McGill's Schulich School of Music. Completing the mood, they

wore marvelous colourful costumes with gilded epaulets, referencing the psychedelic feeling of the 1960s. And, of course, their hair was Beatles shaggy.

Gala chair was **Dr. Lorne Wiseman**, co-president of ORT Montreal, attending

with his wife **Gale Wiseman**. Other co-pres-es were ORT grad **Jacob Kincler** (attending with **Dida Berku**), and **Arthur Silber**. Noted in the crowd were West-mounters **Francine and Robert Wiseman**, **Susan Libman** and **Barry Pascal**, **Judy and**

Mark Caplan, **Marlene and Joel King**, as well as **Jill Chandler** and **Jeffery Climan**, **Barry Kotler**, **Josh Ostrega** and **Chelsea Dalfen**, **Brian Pinchuk**, **Dana and Jonathan Goodman** with son **Noah**, **Lillian Vineberg** *continued on p. 14*



Adelia and David Bensoussan, Jacob Kincler and Mayer Ghoddoussi.



Jeff and Geraldine Hart.

Social notes, cont'd. from p. 13

Goodman and Morris Goodman, Anne and Mayer Ghoddoussi (ORT graduate and board vp), Adelia and David Bensoussan, Selina and Ross Paperman (fabulous auctioneer!), Debra Margles and Pino Forgione, Eleanor Wiseman-Berenbaum, Mayer Ghoddoussi, Brenda and Sam Guwerz, Larry and Rina Fisher, Rachel Cohen and Martin Lucht, Geraldine and Jeff Hart, and Emmanuel Kalles, ORT executive director.

Event sponsors were Arlene Wise, Cheri, Jeff, Greg and Lucas Wise, Jessica and David Baazov, and Dana and Jonathan



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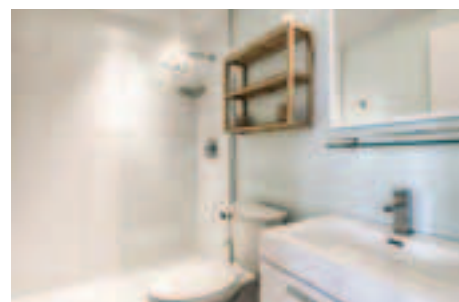


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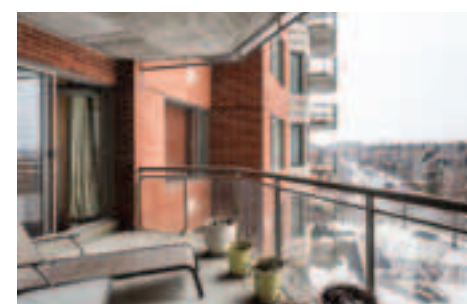
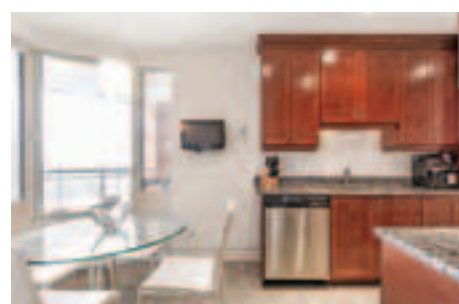
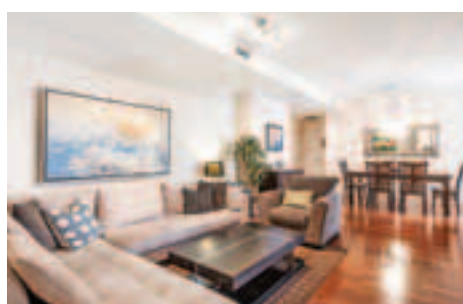
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