WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount Weekly, Vol. 5 No. 1b

City chooses first hometown Public Security director

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Native Westmounter David Sedgwick was expected to be named Monday, after press time, as director of the Public Security Unit, establishing a first in the 30-year-

Sedgwick, 53, was raised and educated in Westmount, continuing to live here through most of his 25-year career with the department. He has long been viewed by many of his peers as a well-respected sergeant and future director.

His selection marks the start of a new

era of the municipal force that has been led for five years by retired Montreal police officers. Other positions are also expected to be filled in-house starting with a second-in-command.

Choosing a candidate from within will help enhance the unit's responsiveness to the expectations of the community, explained Public Security commissioner Gary Ikeman. The unit, he noted, "has a great deal of interface with the public."

Moving forward, he told the Independent, the mission of the department will be refined once the new director is installed and has met with city management "to set priorities and a vision for the future."

The change of command takes effect immediately as interim director Richard Bourdon concludes a three-year contract with the city. He took over the helm temporarily last February following the sudden departure of the former director, Richard Blondin (see February 16, p. 1) and was seen by Ikeman and others as fulfilling a stabilizing role until a new director was chosen.

Sedgwick grew up on Prince Albert Ave., at- continued on p. 3



David Sedgwick, expected to be named January 10 as director of the Public Security Unit.

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BMO Bank of Montreal

Arena/pool to dominate city resources, details show

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City operations and Westmount residents alike will probably be impacted one way or another in 2011 by the launch of construction for the city's largest-ever building project: the new arena/pool com-

The undertaking is expected to dominate planning and coordination roles in many areas as city resources are deployed as required, explained by city director general Duncan Campbell in a presentation of the city's reduced capital works budget (see December 23, p. 6). As well, traffic, parking and facility use will affect resi-

Bids for a general contractor will be one of the next major steps.

"We're still furiously working on costs to ensure that when we go to tender, the bids won't exceed the budget we promised Westmounters," explained Mayor Peter Trent last week.

Once details are fine-tuned, the date for a public information meeting will be announced, he said. This was initially scheduled for last September.

The intention remains to get the shovel in the ground in the late spring, according to Councillor Patrick Martin, who chairs the arena committee.

Meanwhile, many decisions and components will be required to reach that

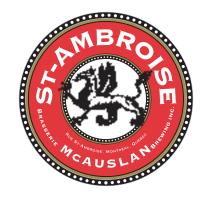
Just as in other projects, the city will have to apply for work and building permits. The Urban Planning department will be called on to ensure that plans meet all applicable codes and that architectural integration guidelines are met.

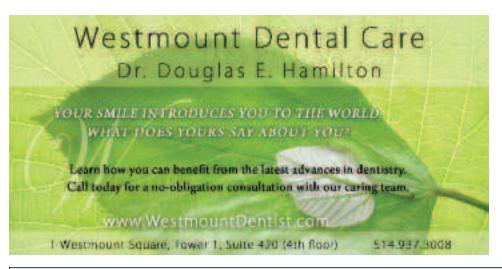
The call for tenders will involve the City Clerk's office, while a committee will be chosen continued on p. 3





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Sedgwick rose through the ranks

tending the former King's School, Westmount Park and Westmount High schools as well as Dawson. He began working with Public Works after obtaining a BA from Concordia in 1983 and joined Public Security in 1986 where he rose through the ranks from parking inspector to sergeant.

He is described in a 30th anniversary publication by the unit as considered by peers to be "one of the most professional and well-rounded officers" in the force.

"Having been a resident of Westmount

for over 45 years," it states, "Dave takes great pride in helping people and making his former hometown a safe place to live. His most memorable work experience was assisting people during the 1998 ice

Sedgwick and his wife now live on Nuns' Island.

The decision to fill the top position from within was made with the departure of Blondin when four of the sergeants were identified as candidates for the leadership and evaluated extensively, Ikeman

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Arena process

continued from p. 1

to evaluate the bids. Meanwhile, the city's Finance department will be called upon to provide cash flow.

Only after the general contractor is selected can details of scheduling, logistics and construction be determined, Martin said. A project manager from outside city hall will also be hired.

Pool will be closed

What is known is that the pool will not open this summer, he explained. During the work this year, however, "The intention is to leave the Sports and Recreation office as is and keep the existing large hockey rink open next winter. We're hoping to phase the work so the hockey program can continue."

Meanwhile, Public Works will be called on for a variety of related road, water and sewer issues. These include the possible need to relocate or rebuild a sewer that runs diagonally beneath the existing arena from Academy Rd. to the Glen, Martin

Construction of the new underground rinks might also provide an opportunity to replace, if needed, an old Montreal water pipe that runs under the portion of de Maisonneuve at the west end of the park.

In addition, some reconfiguring of streets might be required if the northsouth arm of Academy Rd. is eliminated, as currently planned.

Hydro Westmount will also be involved to provide temporary power supply for the work site as well as for the permanent network to service the recreation complex.

And throughout the process, while efforts are made to reduce disruption from the work for residents, Martin said, Public Security will play a key role in alternative arrangements for traffic and parking.

Stemming from forced merger experience, 2011 issues rooted in the past

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As 2011 unfolds, the building of the new arena/pool complex and budget challenges have been singled out by Mayor Peter Trent as the key issues for this year – and next.

The start of arena construction will bring to fruition plans that date back more than a decade, put on hold with the forced mergers and resurrected in earnest after the demergers.

The budget challenges again stem mainly from the merger experience that left Westmount with debt incurred by Montreal on the city's behalf and a share of agglomeration expenses that this year will consume 54 percent of the Westmount budget.

While the city held the line on spending for local services in the 2011 budget, it managed to offset some of the agglo tax hikes by boosting parking meter rates and fines as a short-term solution (see December 23, p. 1).

But the challenge for the future will come during the year with preparation of the 2012 budget when some hard choices regarding local services may have to be made, according to Finance commissioner

In the longer term, and starting with this year, Trent said, he plans to take action to persuade the Quebec government to develop strategies to help municipalities rein in costs associated with employee definedbenefit pension plans.

These costs were the main reason for soaring agglomeration expenses facing the demerged municipalities.

"I've asked [Montreal mayor Gérald] Tremblay to go to Quebec City with me," Trent said last week, repeating his challenge to the big city mayor made initially at the budget presentation (see December 7, p. 18).

Trent subsequently boycotted year-end meetings of the agglo finance/budget committee in protest against the 7-percent increase in the agglo's 2011 budget, fuelled largely by the pension-plan deficits (see December 14, p. 10).

This increase was double the budget guidelines that had been adopted by the agglo on recommendations from Trent on behalf of the Association of Suburban Municipalities (ASM). These called for limiting the increase to one percent more than cost of living of 2.5 percent.

Please write to us!

For consideration, letters to the editor must be under 300 words and have authors' first and last names, and street names, all of which will be published. Please also include contact information (for follow-up purposes only). We do not publish letters regarding consumer complaints or inter-neighbour disputes. Letters will be edited for length, content and style. Please check your letter carefully. We may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please "redline" them instead of resending the whole letter. We look forward to hearing from you!

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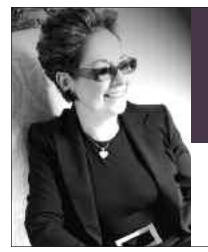
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IS CITY COUNCIL RELIGIOUS **OR SECULAR?**

An open letter to Mayor Peter Trent: Je viens exprimer ici mon indignation de constater que les marches de l'hôtel de ville sont ornées du chandelier de la Han-

Je n'ai pas vu à la porte de l'hôtel de ville un brave Petit Jésus de la même importance volumétrique.

J'ai quand même vu un arbre, planté à une certaine distance de l'entrée de l'Hôtel de ville, décorés de minuscules lumières. La tradition de l'arbre de Noël remonte à 2000 ans avant Jésus-Christ.

Que les juifs célèbrent une fête religieuse dans l'intimité de leur maison ainsi que dans leurs synagogues, cela est du domaine privé, et la liberté de religion est une de nos valeurs canadiennes garanties.

Je lis dans le Independent que cette illumination est organisée avec l'appui du Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, la Congrégation Shaar Hashomayim et... la ville

Nous avons déjà hérité de Karin Marks la présence d'un « érouv » qui ceint la ville, et qui dérange beaucoup de citoyens, même si la Mairesse affirma le contraire dans Le Devoir, des 21 et 22 juin 2008.

Cet érouv a été approuvé et adoptée le 26 mai 2008, sans référendum, mais en

catimini et à l'unanimité (bizarre!) des membres du Conseil municipal.

Êtes-vous une assemblée communale de laïcs ou une succursale d'une congrégation religieuse?

L'administration civile de la ville de Westmount se doit de respecter toutes les valeurs religieuses qui composent la mosaïque de la ville. Mais pourquoi les juifs d'abord? Ils n'ont ni la priorité de l'ordre alphabétique ni même le poids démographique!

Qui se lèvera pour dénoncer cet état de chose?

Westmount est une ville autonome pas un ghetto! Ou suis-je dans l'erreur depuis près de quarante années?

René le Clère, Claremont Ave.

NO RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS ON **PUBLIC PROPERTY**

Regarding the Christmas tree/menorah storm-in-a-teacup, I'll add my two bits: the religious symbols of other people do not offend me. Quite the contrary, I welcome them as a healthy sign of a multicultural society.

However, if you absolutely feel inclined to display religious symbols don't forget Westmount's Hindus, Moslems, Baha'is, Buddhists, pagans and many more. But please do not do so on public property and at the expense of Westmount taxpayers.

As a secularist, I strongly believe in sep-

aration of church and state but respect for all faiths. Even Prince Charles recognizes the importance of this principle. When he becomes a monarch he plans to title himself "Defender of Faith" and not "Defender of the Faith". Of course, that will require an act of parliament. Fortunately Westmount city hall can join the 21st century more expeditiously.

PS: Then again, Freud might have said that a Christmas tree is just a spruce and a menorah is just a candelabrum!

MAYA KHANKHOJE, KENSINGTON AVE.

PIT BULLS DON'T BITE PEOPLE, OWNERS BITE PEOPLE

In response to "Join other communities in banning pit bulls" (December 7, p. 5), I'd like point out that banning entire breeds is not the way to keep our pets safe.

I have always owned small dogs, and over the years we have been involved in several altercations with larger breeds. The offending dogs have included German shepherds, huskies, Labs and chows. Should all of these breeds be banned? When does it end?

It's not specific breeds themselves that are dangerous, it is the irresponsible owners who are at fault. I would hate to see responsible owners and sweet pit bulls be punished for the actions of a few.

Instead, I encourage everyone to call the SPCA* or Westmount security should you see a dog exhibiting aggressive behaviour, or an owner acting irresponsibly. The SPCA should then be able to investigate

and determine if a dog is a danger to the rest of us.

If we all take it upon ourselves to report aggressive behaviour before it escalates, hopefully serious dog attacks can be avoided.

ISABEL TESSIER, MELVILLE AVE.

* Ed's note: The SPCA's mandate is to advocate on behalf of animals, and therefore a call to the organization should be made if cruelty or mistreatment towards an animal is witnessed. If an animal attack is witnessed, Public Security should be called. Contact information for reporting animal mistreatment inspection@spcamontreal.com 514.735.2711, ext. 2230. -KM

KEEP SOME FREEDOM FOR THE DOGS

It has been many years that I took my dogs for walks on the summit. The joy for the animals to run off leash is wonderful to see, and I have not seen one incident or accident.

Many times when I meet people without a dog, they ask me if they could touch my dog, what kind of dog is he, etc.

I agree professional dog walkers should not walk more than three dogs at a time.

Winter regulations help dog owners. As I am quite old and walk with a cane. It is difficult to hold the leash as well.

Most of us respect people who walk without a dog, and we curb our animals.

Please do not take this little bit of freedom for the animals away.

> MARGARET CARTON, MOUNT PLEASANT AVE.

Correction

In the story on the Montreal Children's Library (December 14, p. 14), the name of the fundraising event organizer and board director should have been Julie Blake. Also, the spelling of the raffle prize donator should have been Evenko.

THE CASE OF THE **ABDUCTED BENCH**

The more letters I wrote to this paper, the harder life came down upon me. I was first singled out, then friends of mine were hurt and now I have been abducted!

The grass is always greener in Westmount continued on p. 5

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Letters

continued from p. 4

Park - even under a foot of snow. All I wanted for Christmas was to be returned to my spot on the northeast corner of Sherbrooke and Strathcona with a view of Westmount Park.

I have no idea where I am now. My abductors are keeping me in the dark. Thankfully, I was able to keep my iPhone hidden under one of my wooden slats.

I've heard the sounds of tools being used. I don't know if my abductors are going to give me a spiffy fresh coat of paint

I promise I will be a good bench from now on!

> BENJAMIN BENCH, SHERBROOKE ST. (OR...WESTMOUNT PARK?)

RELEASE THE MUHC **SCAPEGOAT**

In reference to "Montreal demands Westmount share MUHC 'irritants' or cede land" (December 14, p. 7), and based on past articles in the Gazette, the Suburban and probably other papers as well, Westmount has been firmly established as the scapegoat for all and everything that will go wrong with this project. To name a few obvious ones: schedule overrun (probably two to three years); budget overrun (at least double the original estimate); plus any and all of the lesser issues, such as traffic, dirt, noise, pollution and so on.

Therefore, it is my fervent hope that Mayor Trent and our city councillors stand firm on all items that are legally right and tell these @#%\$#!@ to stuff it! Politely, of course.

There is no compromising or reasoning with people that only see one side – theirs. The only thing they will eventually understand is a firm, unbending, uncompromising and resolved stance!

Please keep up the good work. ALFRED EDEL, VICTORIA AVE.

Late night hockey stopped due to noise

A Westmount resident and his friend were asked to leave the hockey rink at Prince Albert Park December 27 when Public Security received a noise complaint from nearby residents just after 2 am. The pair, playing hockey on the darkened rink, were informed of the midnight parks cur-

Mayor's Column

Casting resolutions far and wide



BY MAYOR PETER F. TRENT

Completely prompted and out of a deep sense of public duty, I have come up with New Year's resolutions for an

assortment of people living in the city of Westmount, its suburbs and beyond:

For Westmount real estate agents: to stop referring to Murray Hill Park - it's called Murray Park; that is, unless you feel sovereignist - then it's King George Park.

For my stockbroker: to stop using the term "correction" in the same way a dog owner uses the word "accident."

For Dr. Arthur Porter: to ensure the MUHC is not too MUCH to bear, to be a CHUM: think of the patient suffering during construction, not just the suffering patient after.

For Serge Losique: to stop wearing your baseball cap with a black-tie dinner jacket - it makes you look absentminded, not cool.

For verbicides: to say "I feel bad," not "I feel badly" - unless someone has sanded off your fingertips, that is. And say "I'm well," not "I'm good" when greeted – unless while entering a seminary. And, please, why have you let a For Westmount recyclers: To avoid uningrammatical term - "gender" - replace "sex"? Moreover, "kudos" is singular, "grow" is intransitive, and I'm losing patience.

For my wife: to deal with the seemingly spontaneous propagation of jars of hand cream on the nightstand, pillows on the bed and candles around the bathtub.

For me: to make younger acquaintances; I get more news of my friends in the obituary column than in the social col-

For drivers on cell phones: to realize you do a patently miserable job of monotasking; multi-tasking is clearly beyond your ability.

For diners on cell phones: to understand that the people at the table next to you want you to eat your words. And choke.

For advertisers: to realize that "classic" refers to antiquity. The word has nothing to do with credit cards, soft drinks and dental floss.

For Louise Harel: to admit that "amalgummation" was a mistake. Forced city hall marriages did not result in welded bliss.

For Premier Jean Charest: to admit the demergers amounted to one massive suburban maul. In fact, they're still a work in egress.

tended airborne distribution of the contents of your blue box. Unlike at the grocery shop, put the heavy stuff on

For the AMT's Joël Gauthier: to continue to come up with imaginative explanations why suburban trains are late. A city de-icing truck threw sand into a switch? Du sable dans l'engrenage? Right.

For Westmount contract gardeners: To get rid of your polluting, noisy leaf-blowers and bring back the naked besom. (A besom, I quickly add, is a broom made with twigs.)

For students in the Metro: to unsling your backpacks. The nubby fabric scratches, the buckles catch, and their weight can pack the wallop of a punching bag.

For Marc Garneau and Jacques Chagnon: to realize that at least some of us know how much time you guys put in. Westmounters are well represented in both Ottawa and Quebec City.

Foursome arrested

An alert public safety officer became suspicious of four teenagers loitering on Murray Hill Ave. after spotting one exiting a driveway at number 638 after 2 am on December 30.

Public Security officials said the officer kept them under surveillance as they proceeded down Strathcona to Westmount Park, watching one entering and searching a Mazda Protégé along the way.

Police were called and arrested the group at Lansdowne and St. Catherine close to 3 am. One was found in possession of three cell phone chargers. They were aged 16 and 17.

The public safety officer retraced their route, checking cars along the way. Five appeared to have been searched on Murray Hill, Strathcona and Lansdowne.

Supporters of the Open Door drop-in centre at St. Stephen's Church on Dorchester Blvd. participate in prayer, surrounding Ramon Harrera (centre of photo with eyes shut). Harrera was the community

drop-in centre's director for the past five years. He is leaving to start a new evangelical Anglican mission in Italy. During a send-off held at St. Stephen's on January 8, which included testimonials, refreshments and prayer, Harrera was praised for working tirelessly to make the Open Door viable, following a period when it was questionable it would continue to operate. Caleb Clark (in photo, in red shirt) replaces him as the new director. Photo: Martin C. Barry

Open Door bids farewell to Ramon Harrera



Liberals focus on financial help for home care, supplementary pension plan



Our Man in Ottawa

Marc Garneau, MP FOR WESTMOUNT-VILLE MARIE

As your member of parliament, let me begin by wishing *Westmount Independent* readers the very best for 2011.

Reviewing federal politics in 2010, it is clear to me that none of the federal parties met the expectations of Canadians. Let me be the first to say that my party and I must do a better job of earning your confidence.

Having said that, I believe that the Liberal Party of Canada made important progress in 2010. Our many public roundtables and conferences, the leader's bus tour and "open mike" sessions allowed us to identify the main concerns of Canadians and to begin crafting policy that addresses those concerns.

Canadians have clearly stated that they are very preoccupied with family issues such as jobs, financial security, the adequacy of retirement savings and pensions and the cost of healthcare. Canadians also care about the environment, our mounting debt and Canada's reputation abroad.

These are the priorities we must address, and the Liberal Party is proposing a number of measures, such as financial relief for those providing homecare to a

loved one, the creation of a Supplementary Canada (Quebec) Pension Plan and incentives to make our businesses more competitive.

I am personally very concerned with the direction Canada is taking. The authority of parliament is being eroded by the arbitrary use of prorogation and the government's habit of announcing, without proper debate, major policy decisions during the dead of summer when parliament is not sitting.

I am also disappointed that Canada did not win a seat on the United Nations Security Council.

Mourning the long form census

I believe the decision to do away with the compulsory long form census questionnaire was a step backwards for science and common sense – with important consequences.

I believe the decision to build more prisons when the crime rate is decreasing is misguided and will cost us billions of dollars better spent on crime prevention.

I believe the decision to purchase the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and other military equipment without a proper competition or guaranteed industrial benefits is also irresponsible use of the taxpayers' money. Again, the impact will be in the billions.

To summarize, it is clear to me that Canada's political parties have different visions of the future, and that this is reflected in the policies they promote. I therefore believe Canadians will have a clear choice at the ballot box when the next election comes. It will be up to us to choose the Canada we want based on the policies each party articulates.

Is spring just around the corner?

Earth Hour event shifts to Vic Hall

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As days grow increasingly longer, new plans for the celebration of Earth Hour on March 26 were rolled out last week, shifting events from Summit lookout to Victoria Hall.

"A lot of people froze last year," explained Tony Moffat, who chairs the Earth Hour subcommittee of the Healthy City's environmental committee.

Starting at 6 pm, the new venue will provide an inside forum for exhibits related to energy and climate change, multitheme activities, films, musical

entertainment and refreshments.

Later outside, members of the Royal Astronomical Society will aim their telescopes skyward, allowing people to observe Saturn, the Orion nebula and "other celestial delights," according to a draft program.

The actual observance of Earth Hour from 8:30 to 9:30 pm will be rung in by church bells. Street lights near Victoria Hall and in Westmount Park will be turned off.

Along with Moffat, organizers include Eve Aspinall, Patricia Dumais and Paul Marriott.

Selwyn House alumni invited to Tuesday night basketball

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Calling all "Old Boys" from Selwyn House School who might be interested in shooting a few hoops every Tuesday evening this winter.

For the 10th year, the Selwyn House Old Boy's Association is organizing a Tuesday night basketball match, to which former faculty and current staff are also invited. Starting on Tuesday, January 18 from 6 to 8 pm, players will be gathering at the school.

"This is a good way for a lot of the alumni to stay in touch," says Masaud Kakkar, a class of '93 graduate, who is helping organize the evening games.

"When it first started, it was mostly younger guys showing up," he says, "but over the years it's become very popular with the older alumni – older guys who graduated maybe 10 years before you. It's a mix of different ages, and you get to

know the Selwyn House crowd from different decades."

At the same time, Kakkar adds, Tuesday night basketball is a great way to stay in shape.

Kakkar thinks that the school's new gym – created a few years back during a major expansion—is probably encouraging alumni to return for the basketball sessions. "The gym's free for us to use," he says.

"You just show up with a pair of running shoes and away you go. For most of the people who play it's competitive, but at the same time there are those who want to get some exercise. It's a great way to meet and stay in touch with alumni." Participants are asked to wear proper gym shoes on the court.

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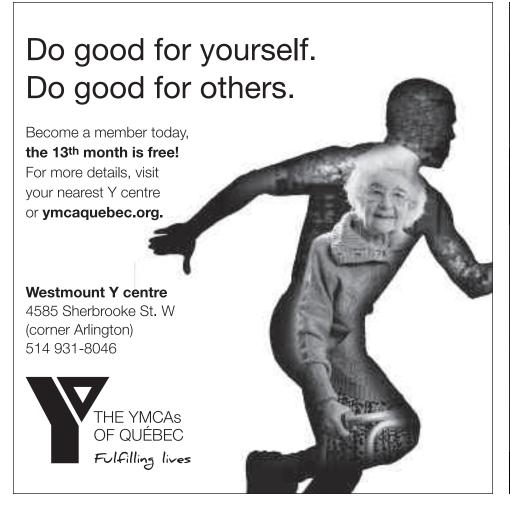
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Westmount bridge club celebrates the holidays, now ready for new year



Shown above, members of the Westmount bridge club at its yearly Christmas party on December 13 at Victoria Hall. First organized by former mayor May Cutler, the club has been active during the last 20 to 25 years, according to member Don Huffman. Westmount's club plays a game of bridge called "tally bridge" that has the scoring of Chicago and rules that demand a play of four hands then a change in partners, which is a more sociable game than duplicate, played by most other clubs in Montreal, he explained. The club accepts a maximum of 50 people, which is dictated by the room size, and experience level should be "average," Huffman said. The Westmount bridge club is looking for new members. Registration takes place three times a year with the Sports and Recreation department. For more information, call 514.989.5353, or consult the "Culture, Sports and Recreation Activities" catalogue. The current session started January 10 and runs until March 28.





Small turnout at Centre Greene's quick AGM

Treasurer reports costly building maintenance, some concern for overall finances

By Joanne Penhale

Centre's Greene's December 9 AGM was over in 35 minutes, with a new slate of directors unanimously elected and no hint of controversy on any agenda items.

Treasurer Michael Harrison, however, reported that financially it was a difficult year with operating loss of \$27,000 for 2010. He cited higher than anticipated building maintenance costs – including roof repair – increased heating, increased minimum wage and decreased donations as contributing to the centre's woes. Despite this, Harrison said, the bills are paid and the centre's staff has been maintained.

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At the table, from left are coordinator Wesley McCoy and treasurer Michael Harrison who goes over Centre Greene's financial situation with an audience that included city councillor Theodora Samiotis, seen in the front row.

Outgoing president Peter Marcovitz said the low turnout – 11 participants –

was an indication people are satisfied with the centre's operations.

Centre Greene's new president is Westmounter Malcolm McCrae, who runs a ballroom dancing program for people with Parkinson's with his wife, fellow board member Ellen Rubin.

Marcowitz credited McCrae for taking the initiative on the centre's leaking roof, which will soon be replaced.

"He'll be able to stare down the city bet-

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Newly elected vice president, Westmounter Celia Lang, who has been on the board of directors for more than 10 years, poses with Centre Greene coordinator Wesley McCoy at the December AGM

ter than I can as a non-resident [of Westmount]," said Marcovitz of McCrae.

The city of Westmount will be matching funding for the roof repairs, dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000. The city also normally contributes \$2,000 annually to the centre's summer camps.

At the AGM, the centre's coordinator Wesley McCoy reviewed Centre Greene's activities, which include social, recreational and cultural activities for a wide variety of *continued on p. 19*

WINTER 2011 Registration Online Available DAWSON Column Le Green Description Centre for Training & Development

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Morning has broken



MUHC construction site as seen through the lens of Abbott Ave. resident Sam Beitel.

Left to imagination

The new city surveillance camera in the comfort station in Westmount Park caught a man and woman in the act of what was reported as "indecent exposure," Public Security officials said.

When officers arrived on the scene, the couple had already emerged from under a blanket they had used to hide them themselves but were cautioned. The incident was recorded at 3:15 pm December 27.

Graffiti evidence mounting

A group of five young people at the rear of 5 Park Place were followed by public safety officers at 12:34 am, January 2, after they quickly left the area on spotting the Public Security patrol. Freshly painted graffiti was discovered on their departure.

The group was later observed at Lewis and St. Catherine and seen entering an apartment building nearby.

At least two other incidents of graffiti in the area of Park Place have led to recent arrests. Public Security officials said that 13 reports of graffiti were recorded on January 2 and six more the next day. Most involved the same two tags.

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Man burns Koran

A man calling himself a newly arrived immigrant from Morocco was found burning a Koran New Year's Day behind 369 Olivier Ave. Public Security officials said he claimed to be a university student, but was taken into custody by police for further investigation.







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Six ticketed for curfew violation

Six Ontario residents received \$214 tickets January 2 when they were found in Westmount Park at 1:40 am by public safety officers. The tickets were issued for violating the midnight park curfew, but officers said a strong odour of marijuana pervaded the area.

Loud music costs \$144

A resident of York St. is being ticketed \$144 for loud stereo music that annoyed neighbours at 12:34 am New Year's Day, Public Security officials said. The music was reported to have been playing for more than half an hour, but when officers showed up at the home, there was no response at the door. The resident was later contacted by phone and informed a ticket would be issued by mail.

BUILDING PERMITS

What's permitted

The following permits for exterior construction, alterations and renovation were approved at the December 20 meeting of city council. These are the last permits issued in 2010.

- **4925 de Maisonneuve**: to replace the front door, and a rear window and windows;
- 21 Barat: to replace some windows;
- 220 Prince Albert: to replace the garage
- 369 Elm: at a Category I house, to replace the front windows;
- 1 Rosemount: at a Category I apartment building, to replace five exterior exit doors and five basement windows.



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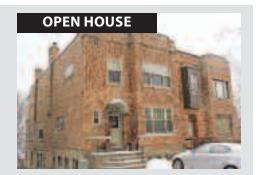


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Westmount	497 Victoria Ave	Asked \$1,095,000

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Cocktail raised money for Bach Festival



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

"Bach to the Garden," the fourth annual Bach Festival fundraiser, was held mid-November. The cocktail took place in an industrial space at the Université du

Québec à Montréal (UQAM), where a contemporary landscape exhibit honoured the internationally-renown Reford Gardens in Métis, Quebec.

Large leafless trees with their roots bound in bags lay on their sides near empty pots in the avant-garde décor called "Minding the Garden". The music of J.S. Bach entertained the guests as did a live performance by guitarist **Davis Joachim**. The party continued into the night with DJ O.A.P.





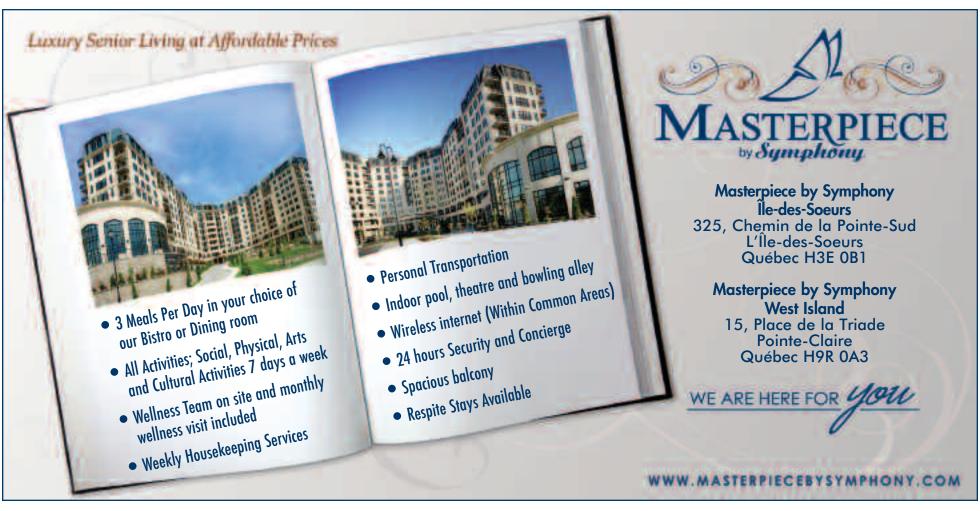
Giancarlo Salvo, Matthew MacDonald, Ana Desmaison and Westmounter Arabella Decker.

Champagne and wine, donated by the SAQ, complemented food from Westmount's Simply Wonderful catering. "Pink Vase with Blue," an oil painting by Westmount artist Jennifer Hornyak, inspired by the blue poppies at the Reford Gardens, was offered in the silent auction.

Committee members at the event in-

cluded Westmount resident Arabella Decker (with husband Gil Michel-Garcia), Melanie Faber-Brabander, Elisabeth von Geldern Hoyos (with Max Hoyos), and Alexandra Heidemann (with Frank Heidemann).

Westmounters notedin the crowd included fes-continued on p. 15



and Montreal Children's Hospital music program



Westmounters Pierre Boudrault and Jennifer Hornyak.



Westmounters Ronald and Dagmar Guttmann, with Tom and Caroline Gillespie.



Richard Brabander and Westmounter Hans Scheibler.



Bart Murnion, Elisabeth von Geldern Hoyos, John Caccia, Alexander Reford.

continued from p. 14

tival founder Alexandra Scheibler, with husband Hans; festival board member Martin Valasek, with wife Lisa Rambert; Dagmar and Ronald Guttmann, Topsi and Tom Gillespie, Elin and Chris Oland, Theodora Samiotis and Michael McAdoo, Angela Nguyen and Jean Sébastien Lebon, and Connie and Chris Dingle. Also seen were Alexander Reford, president and director of the Jardins de Métis/Reford Gardens, Angela Grauerholz with husband Tim Clark; the festival's Sabine Pletat (general manager) and Stéphanie Miron (president of the board).

Monies raised go to the annual Bach Festival, and 10 percent of ticket sales were donated to the Montreal Children's Hospital Music Therapy Program.

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New rules for NDG Soccer: bring your kids to registration

BY NOAH SIDEL

Due to new rules set out by the Quebec Soccer Federation, the days of registering your kids for soccer while they stay home and do their homework – or play Wii – are over. With the growing number of Westmounters signing up for NDG Soccer, according to NDG Soccer Association administrator, Cate Gregory, this new rule will affect soccer-going families in this community.

"In the past, because parents were bringing photos of their children, they could leave their children at home. [Now] we will not accept any registration for players who are not present to have their photos taken," explained Gregory.

In this way, junior players will have to

register every year but need only have their photos taken once every three years (once every five years for senior players). For the following two years after the photo is taken, parents can register without them.

"We also still require the other documents as we have in the past – the player's Medicare card and a proof of residence, such as a 2011 phone or electricity bill with the player's family name and address on it."

Concordia Regional Soccer Association director Stéphane Clémentoni explained the changes.

"Following pilot tests across the province, I'd say that this process will actually make registration easier in the longer term for both parents and volunteers. Yes, continued on p. 19



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AUTHOR OF THE DAY THE FALLS STOOD STILL



Westmount Today, Yesterday and Before



Photo of the original door to the original children's library designed by Robert Findlay. The door remains today but cannot be entered.

Question: When was the Westmount Children's Library opened?

For the answer, see p. 20.

Han Art's Andrew Lui on the power of lines



In Conversation

Westmount resident and gallery owner Andrew Lui is also a painter with a unique and distinctive style. Following a recent exhibit of his colourful and dynamic compositions, I spoke to the artist at his gallery Han Art on St. Catherine St.

East plus west

What is most evident in Lui's work is the blend of eastern calligraphic style with western pictorial tradition. Creating a novel abstracted form, this art is energetic and lyrical. Lke the title of the series "Cantabile", it sings in tones of vibrant mauve, turquoise and magenta.

When asked about the unusual palette, Lui replied that "these are the colours of Chinese folkloric art." Indeed, although some compositions are a dramatic black and white, it is these hues that energize the complex compositions of line and shape.

Painting spontaneously until a figure appears within the calligraphic strokes, Lui admits that he sometimes works on a composition for weeks. From time to time, he adds a line here, a shape there until the composition is balanced and to his satisfaction.

Recurring themes

For this artist, the image dictates the title. Frequently referencing literature, history or religion, the names "Helen of Troy" or "The Arrival of The Queen of Sheba" add to the pomp and ceremony of vibrant colour. A monochromatic and more sober series "Marching Prophet" is painted in black and white.

NDG SOCCER ASSOCIATION 2011 REGISTRATION

WHEN: **SATURDAY JANUARY 22 & 29, 2011** – Competitive & Recreational **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 19 & 26, 2011** – Competitive (last chance) & Recreational **SATURDAY MARCH 19 & 26, 2011** – Recreational (last chance)

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

TIMES: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m

REQUIREMENTS: NEW FOR 2011 - PLASTIC PLAYER ID CARDS

As required by the Quebec Soccer Federation (FSQ). all soccer clubs in Quebec now require plastic player ID cards where player photos are printed directly onto plastic cards. **ALL PLAYERS MUST COME TO REGISTRATION TO HAVE THEIR PHOTO TAKEN.**

NDG Soccer Association <u>cannot</u> process the registration of any player who does not come to registration to have their photo taken. As well, we require copies of a medicare card and a 2011 proof of residence (Bell, Videotron or Hydro Quebec bill) with the player's family name on it.

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

COME AND PLAY THE BIGGEST GAME IN THE WORLD WITH THE NDG SOCCER ASSOCIATION!



DATES D'INSCRIPTION DE L'ASSOCIATION DE SOCCER DE NDG POUR LA SAISON D'ÉTÉ 2011

Samedi 22 & 29 JANVIER, 2011 – Liques Compétitives et Récréatives

Samedi 19 & 26 FÉVRIER, 2011 – Ligues Compétitives (dernière chance) et Récréatives

Samedi 19 & 26 MARS, 2011 – Ligues Récréatives (dernière chance)

Les inscriptions auront lieu au gymnase du Manoir, situé au 5319, avenue Notre-Dame-de-Grace Ave (intersection du boul. Décarie).

Heures: de 10h à 14h.

ASNDG NOUVEAUTÉ EN 2011 – CARTES PLASTIFIÉES – TOUS LES JOUEURS DEVRONT SE PRÉSENTER À L'INSCRIPTION POUR QUE NOUS PUISSIONS PRENDRE LEUR

PHOTO. Toutes les associations de soccer du Québec utiliseront des cartes d'identification plastifiées. Les photos des joueurs sont imprimées directement sur les cartes. L'Association de soccer de NDG <u>NE POURRA PAS</u> procéder à l'inscription de votre enfant si celui-ci ne se présente pas pour la prise de photo.

Nous devrons prendre une photocopie de la carte d'assurance maladie de votre enfant ainsi qu'une preuve de résidence valide pour 2011 (facture de 2011 de Bell, Vidéotron ou Hydro-Québec bill) sur laquelle est

inscrite le nom de famille du joueur.

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

VENEZ JOUER AU SPORT LE PLUS POPULAIRE AU MODE AVEC L'ASSOCIATION DE SOCCER DE NDG!

514-488-7784 – www.ndgsa.com

Centre Greene a distribution point for Moisson Montreal

continued from p. 16

area residents. McCoy began managing the day-to-day operations in August 2010, when past-executive director Anna Johansson moved to the Northwest Territories.

He has since made the centre a distribution point for Moisson Montreal's Good Food Box program, and is piloting a weekly dodge ball game.

McCoy's goals for 2011, he said, are to attract more people from the local community to the centre, to encourage use of all its rooms during the day, and to fully populate existing programs.

Treasurer Harrison estimated that the roof replacement will cost \$30,000. The tar and gravel roof was leaking water into the second floor daycare and causing water damage. Repairs to some large cracks in the building's brick exterior have already been done.

The annual operating budget for Centre Greene is about \$200,000. Roughly \$22,000 is from its annual donation campaign, \$10,000 each from provincial and federal grants, \$50,000 in rent from the Terre des Enfants daycare, \$10,000 from fundraising, and the rest comes from rent-

ing other spaces in the centre, like the gym. The centre had an operating loss of \$27,000 for 2010

The next Centre Greene AGM will be in January 2012. The change from December was done to accommodate the people who are busy or on holidays in December, McCoy said.

Electronic Independents available

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

NDG Soccer

continued from p. 16

this year it'll be a little more difficult, but the cards are good for three years for kids and five for adults, so it'll lighten the load moving forward," Clémentoni said.

"Because this is a new situation and we are not certain how quickly we will be able to process each photo, we are asking our soccer families to be patient and thank them in advance for their cooperation," said Gregory.

For more on the NDGSA, please visit www.ndgsa.com or call 514.488.7784.



Ville de Westmount City of Westmount

AVIS PUBLIC DE VENTE D'IMMEUBLES POUR DÉFAUT DE PAIEMENT DES TAXES

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné, par le soussigné, greffier de la Ville de Westmount, que lors de sa séance ordinaire tenue le 6 décembre 2010, le conseil a adopté une résolution ordonnant au soussigné de vendre à l'enchère publique les immeubles décrits ci-dessous conformément à la *Loi sur les cités et villes*.

Cette vente aura lieu le vendredi 28 janvier 2011, à 10 h, à la salle du conseil de l'hôtel de Ville situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount.

Les immeubles seront toutefois exclus de la vente si les taxes ainsi que les intérêts et les frais sont payés avant le moment prévu pour la vente.

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Ces immeubles seront vendus avec et sujet à toutes les servitudes actives et passives, apparentes ou occultes, les affectant ou pouvant les affecter, ainsi qu'à toutes déclarations de copropriété pouvant les affecter.

DESCRIPTION DES IMMEUBLES:

Description : lots nos 1580052, 1580116 et 1580163 du cadastre

du Québec, circonscription foncière de Montréal

Adresse de l'immeuble : 1, avenue Wood app. 408 à Westmount, Québec

Propriétaire : Djamila DIAWARA

Nº de matricule : 9738-96-9490-8-001-0043

Description : lots n°s 1580052, 1580116 et 1580470 du cadastre

du Québec, circonscription foncière de Montréal

Adresse de l'immeuble : 1, avenue Wood app. C056 à Westmount, Québec

Propriétaire : Djamila DIAWARA

N° de matricule : 9738-96-9490-8-001-0228

Description : lots nºs 1580052, 1580116 et 1580402 du cadastre du Québec, circonscription foncière de Montréal

Adresse de l'immeuble : 1, avenue Wood app. B120 à Westmount, Québec

Co-propriétaires: Norman BRUDNEY et Doris BENSON

N° de matricule : 9738-96-9490-8-001-0303 DONNÉ à Westmount, le 11 janvier 2011.

Mario GERBEAU Greffier de la ville



PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE OF IMMOVABLES FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Westmount, that at its regular sitting held on December 6, 2010, Council adopted a resolution ordering the undersigned, in accordance with the *Cities and Towns Act*, to sell by public auction the immovables described hereunder.

This sale will take place on Friday, January 28, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber of the City Hall located at 4333 Sherbrooke West Street, Westmount.

However, should the said taxes, interest and costs be paid before the scheduled time for the sale, the immovables will be excluded from the sale.

The sale price of the immovables shall be payable immediately in cash or by certified cheque made to the product of the payable immediately in cash or by certified cheque made to the payable immediately in cash or by ce

on the board of directors for more than ten years, poses with Centre These immovables will be sold dogether with, and subject a all active or passive servitudes, apparent or not, which exist or may exist on these immovables, and all declarations of co-ownership that may affect them.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLES:

Description: Lot Nos. 1580052, 1580116 and 1580163 Quebec cadastre,

registration division of Montreal

Address of Immovable: 1 Wood Avenue apt. 408, Westmount, Quebec

Owner: Djamila DIAWARA

Matricule No.: 9738-96-9490-8-001-0043

Description: Lot Nos. 1580052, 1580116 and 1580470 Quebec cadastre,

registration division of Montreal

Address of Immovable: 1 Wood Avenue apt. C056, Westmount, Quebec

Owner: Djamila DIAWARA

Matricule No.: 9738-96-9490-8-001-0228

Description: Lot Nos. 1580052, 1580116 and 1580402 Quebec cadastre,

registration division of Montreal

Address of Immovable: 1 Wood Avenue apt. B120, Westmount, Quebec

Co-owners: Norman BRUDNEY and Doris BENSON

Matricule No.: 9738-96-9490-8-001-0303

ISSUED in Westmount, on January 11, 2011. Mario Gerbeau

City Clerk

Among some materials at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff in mid December are:

Magazines

"Limited War: How the age of austerity will remake American politics" by Thomas Edsall in The New Republic, November 11, 2010, p. 13.

"Generation War: What the boomers are leaving their children: Fewer jobs, lower pay, higher taxes, bleaker futures. Now the Screwed Generation is starting to push back" by Jonathon Gatehouse in Maclean's, December 6, 2010, p. 54.

"L'école avant tout: Pour rebâtir Haïti, il faut instruire ses enfants, dit Michaëlle Jean. Mais l'ex-gouverneure générale du Canada peut-elle faire avancer sa cause sous les couleurs de l'Unesco, un organisme connu pour son inefficacité et sa lenteur bureaucratique?" by Guillaume Bourgault-Côté in L'Actualité, December 15, 2010, p. 22.

Adult books - Short reading

The Best Spiritual Writing 2010, edited by Philip Zaleski - The finest essays and poetry on the themes of faith, spirituality and religion.

The Collected Stories of Deborah Eisenberg by Deborah Eisenberg - With subtle humour and compassion, Eisenberg's beautifully crafted stories reflect contemporary American life.

Adult French - It's only rock 'n' roll

John Lennon, une vie by Philip Nor-

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man - This biography has been described as a mine of information about the legendary member of the Beatles, much of it in writing for the first time. Lennon's beginnings in music as well as his phenomenal career are recounted, but this is also the portrait of a tormented man.

Life: ma vie avec les Stones by Keith Richards with James Fox - English titles for French books are in fashion these days, but this is indeed the French version of the new best-selling memoir by the Rolling Stones' guitarist. Richards writes about his devotion to music and how some of the band's most famous songs were composed, but also talks candidly about his tumultuous personal life.

Picture books for children

Dewey le petit chat de la bibliothèque by Vicki Myron and Bret Witter - This is the heartwarming and true story of Dewey, an abandoned kitten who was rescued from the library book drop one cold winter morning by Vicky, the librarian. It's hard not to fall in love with the adorable cat that touched the lives of so many people.

Dewey's Christmas at the Library by Vicki Myron and Bret Witter - After finding a red ball of yarn, Dewey the cat, who lives in a public library, finds a way to help decorate the library's Christmas tree.

Reference

Constitutional Law of Canada, 5th edition Lemon-Aid New Cars & Trucks 2011 L'État du monde: annuaire économique et

géopolitique mondial



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History quiz: Westmount Children's Library

BY DOREEN LINDSAY

Question: When was the Westmount Children's Library opened? Answer: January 13, 1911.

On the evening of January 13, 1911, all citizens of Westmount were invited to the opening of the children's library. A special invitation was sent to all the schools of Westmount, the librarians of McGill College, the Toronto Public Library and the Ottawa Library. Guests were served refreshments and entertained by an orchestra. Speeches were given by Mr. Rutherford, the new mayor and Mr. Trenholme, the retiring mayor, as well as F. S. Maclennan, chairman of the board, Fred Evans, a trustee, C. H. Gould and W. D. Lighthall.

The children's library was designed by the respected local architect Robert Findlay, who was also the creative mind behind the Westmount Public Library eleven years earlier. It was a separate building with its own librarian, Miss Scarff, who was chosen for her special aptitude in dealing with children.

It was a single room - 37 by 24 feet having a similar elaborate design as the adult library.

Two large leaded bay windows included the names of famous authors of children's books. A decorated wall frieze ran along

the top of the walls just under the hardwood ceiling. The large fireplace featured coloured tiles with characters from Alice in Wonderland and the words "There's no frigate like a book to bear us leagues away" from an Emily Dickinson poem. Books were on low shelves around the base of the room and an independent card catalogue was set up. Tables and chairs were provided for comfortable reading. One table was reserved for 14 to 18 year old adolescents.

Westmount children loved their new library: 400 children joined between January and November of the first year. Two hundred children registered in each of the next two years. By 1918, there were 2,147 books in the collection.

A children's reading room had been part of the initial plans for the library when it was proposed as a lasting celebration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee of 1897. Unfortunately, it was eliminated when the plans had to be reduced to lower the cost of building. Librarian Mary Saxe proceeded to ask city council for a children's reading room every year. When the room was finally built eleven years later, Miss Saxe, the Library committee and the city of Westmount found it to be the "the greatest event in the library's history since it was established."

Anne Renaud launches at Babar en Ville



Anne Renaud, author of the recently published historical book Into the Mist, recounting the story of the passenger ship Empress of Ireland, autographed copies and spoke to children December 11 at Babar en Ville children's bookstore on Greene Ave. Photo: Martin C. Barry

Comin' Up

Thursday, January 13

- · Peter Trepanier, from the National Gallery Library and Archives, gives an illustrated talk on his library's collection of Canadian and international artists' books, 12:30 pm, Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. Free admission; donations invited.
- · Vernissage of Sheryl Constantine's artwork at 4300 de Maisonneuve, 6 pm. Refreshments. Info: www.sherylconstantine.
- · Artwork of Lindsey Fryett, Bram Rub**inger and Christine Stonehewer** at The Gallery at Victoria Hall, from Jan. 13 to February 5. Info: 514.989.5521.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

The Westmount Public Library's children's department celebrates 100 years with a tea party featuring storyteller Stéphanie Bénéteau, and a special guest appearance by Peter Rabbit. Refreshments. 2 pm in the Westmount Room. Centennial display on main floor. Info: 514.989.5357.

Monday, January 17

First lecture for 2011 of The Women's Canadian Club of Montreal: Wendy Wray. nurse director of the Women's Healthy Heart Initiative (WHHI) at the Royal Vic-

toria Hospital who will speak to members and guests at 12:30 pm at The Unitarian Church, 5035 de Maisonneuve (cross street Claremont Ave.).Guest fee: \$10. Men are welcome.

Tuesday, January 18

- George Wall Shakespeare lecture on Richard II, 11 am at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. Cost: \$20. Plays again January 19 at 7 pm. Info: 514.935.7344; www.starofengland.blogspot.com/. Also on January 19 at 7 pm.
- "Great Trials" lecture series by McGill's Institure for the Public Life of Art and Ideas begins with "The Trial of Socrates" with law professor Mark Antaki. Cost: \$60 for full series of six lectures, or \$15 per lecture. Registration available with credit card: www.mcgill.ca/iplai/greattrials or at the door with personal cheques only. Info: 514.398.6154 or iplai@mcgill.ca.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

- Westmount Public Library's 2 O'Clock Series presents "Discovering the Czech Republic" with Fred Hore, 2 pm. Register at the circulation desk 514.989.5299.
- · George Wall Shakespeare Lecture on Richard II, 7 pm at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. Cost: \$20 Info: 514.935.7344.

• Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom's Dine and Discover Series 2011 begins with "Fostering Jewish Identity" with Saul Carliner. Reserve: Rosie at 514.937.3575, ext. 213 or info@templemontreal.ca.

Tuesday, January 25

Public consultation on inclusion of sustainable initiatives in Urban Planning legislation, 7 pm, city hall.

January at the art galleries

The Gallery at Victoria Hall - Lindsey Fryett, Bram Rubinger, Christine Stonehewer: January 13 to February 5. 4626 Sherbrooke, 514.989.5226.

McClure Gallery - Visual Arts Centre - Andréanne Fournier "Chi & Chi": Exhibit: January 7 to 29. 350 Victoria. 514.488.9558.

Parisian Laundry - Valérie Blass & Susi Brister Exhibit: January 13 to February 19. 3550 St. Antoine. 514.989.1056.

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Painter Andrew Lui

continued from p. 18

Other titles reflect life. As Lui's artistic voyage also took him to schools in Florence and then London where he studied the history of art criticism, it is not surprising that one series is entitled "Woven Journey". Here the artist has added a new element – parallel lines. The effect is one of energy, yet harmony.

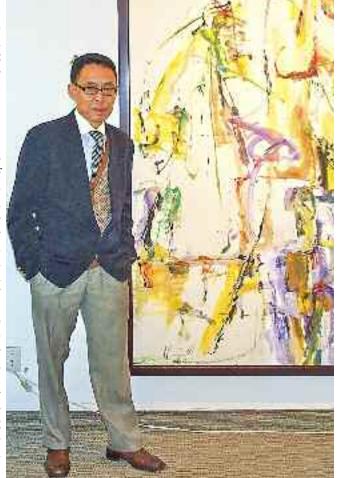
Revolution and evolution

When asked when he first painted, Lui spoke of learning the woodcut technique in Canton. As a youth during the Chinese Cultural Revolution, he first created art for political posters. Continuing with this print medium well into the '80s, his early work is similarly dynamic.

But now Lui's goal is to share "the joy of contemporary art." Although he curates both here and abroad – most recently arranging a show for painter Louis Boudreault at the French Embassy in Hong Kong – he is happy to "concentrate on his own paintings."

Mature style

His current and mature style – he confessed that it took years to develop – is both original and authentic. A frequent exhibiter, his work has been shown in galleries around the world, including New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Brussels, Tokyo and Seoul.



Andrew Lui "The Arrival of The Queen of Sheba II"

Lui has found his voice within two cultural traditions. Yet within the eloquent lines and dramatic shapes of a "Cantabile IV" or a "Helen of Troy II", the viewer can find their own story. And that is their charm.



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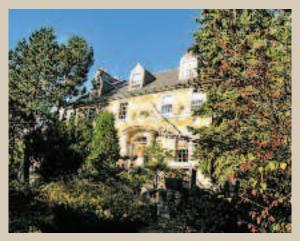
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