

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 7 No. 11d

We are Westmount

November 26, 2013

Worksite management cited as challenge

Samiotis confronts coordination early in Planning commissionership

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Ways to better coordinate worksites and reduce congestion are being looked at by the city's Urban Planning department and are a concern, its new commissioner Theodora Samiotis told the city council meeting November 18.

The issue of worksite management is a complicated one involving the issuing of building permits by Urban Planning, the decision of contractors as to when they start the work, the subsequent granting by Public Works of permits allowing them to use public land for equipment and construction material – and then the enforce-

ment of it all by Public Security.

"I think there could be a bit better coordination," Samiotis said in response to concerns raised by Bronwen Mantel, a resident of Bruce Ave.

Mantel explained how large projects in the neighbourhood last summer – and several on her street at the same time in addition to major work on the water main on Dorchester at Bruce – had turned the street into a construction zone, limiting access to the street and the small playground at its foot.

"Does Urban Planning take into consideration when granting permits on a very small

continued on p. 8

Door has been Open for 25 years



Caleb Clark, director of the Open Door drop-in centre on Dorchester Blvd. at Atwater Ave., speaks during a gathering held on November 23 in the Batshaw Family Services auditorium to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Open Door. It is the only drop-in centre near the western downtown area of Montreal that welcomes people who are down on their luck regardless of their state.

Jason Baxendale, chairman of the Open Door board, said the centre is especially grateful for contributions that have been made by the city of Westmount and Westmount residents.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Don't Miss It: City's Hanukah (Nov. 27) & Christmas (Dec. 2) ceremonies. See p. 20

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City aims to re-charge Hydro Westmount, restructuring possible

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Charging that Hydro Westmount has had management problems and equipment "more appropriate in a museum," Mayor Peter Trent announced November 18 that the city will be looking at ways to re-energize the utility, possibly by restructuring it as a more autonomous \$30-million-a-year business.

Long regarded as a source of pride for the control it provides the city over how electricity is distributed as well as the

profit it has historically generated, the utility has slowly become more of a city department than an arms-length business.

"We've got a lot of problems with Hydro Westmount," Trent explained. "It has suffered tremendous management problems in the last little while," before current director Benoit Hurtubise took over.

As a first step, the utility has been placed under the direction of council's newly reinstituted Finance and Administration

continued on p. 23

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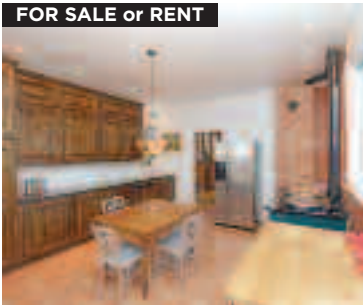
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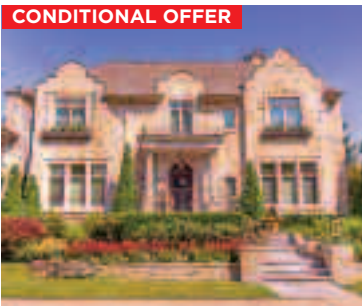
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Dawson EWeek promotes entrepreneurialism



Jason Della Rocca, the president of the International Game Developer Association, addressed students at Dawson College on November 19 during the college's second annual EWeek. Della Rocca was one of 20 speakers who delivered presentations from November 18 to 21. The event promoted entrepreneurship initiatives by young people through conferences, workshops and Dragons' Den-type sessions.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Complaint to press council not 'recevable'

The Quebec Press Council has come back with a "décision de non-recevabilité" dated November 21 regarding the complaint filed against the *Westmount Independent* over campaign and post-campaign coverage of a candidate for city council

defeated in the November 3 election (see November 12, p. 3).

"We are not members of this voluntary organization, but agree with them on this matter," said *Independent* publisher David Price.

Wind on Wood (and Sherbrooke)



A tree fell onto Sherbrooke St. near Wood Ave on November 18 at around 9:30 pm. It was quickly removed, according to a witness.

Photo courtesy of Claire Desjardins.

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Vic village meeting set for Nov. 28 to limit medical offices

A public meeting takes place this Thursday, November 28 at city hall at 7 pm on restricting the number and size of medical offices and clinics in the Victoria village.

The proposed rezoning, subject to a referendum register, is a measure that the

city hopes will reduce the impact on the southwest sector of Westmount from the new MUHC super-hospital (see October 1, p. 1). Medical offices typically generate additional traffic and the need for parking.

A resulting freeze on the current status has been in force since the draft by-law was introduced September 3 (see September 10, p. 9).

The affected zones are in the commercial stretch along Sherbrooke between the west city limits and Grosvenor, and south on Victoria. These are numbered C5-20-01, C5-20-02, C5-20-03, C5-20-04, C5-20-05 and C17-20-06.

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Safdie's plays come home

Oren Safdie has written "at least 10" plays, but they have never been performed in his hometown.

That is changing, though, as his most recent play, *Boycott This!*, is being staged on December 7 as a reading as part of Infinithéâtre's Pipeline series. The play was the runner-up for this year's Write-On-Q! prize. It is about a Jewish tourist in present-day Mexico, whose actions spiral out of control when he sees a "Boycott Israel" poster.

Another play by him, *Unseamly*, is being performed in February, also at Infinithéâtre.

Safdie, the son of architect Moshe Safdie, divides his time between Westmount and Los Angeles. How does he decide? "Wherever I get more work," he told the *Independent* on November 21.

He works more in film when in Montreal. In addition to creative writing, he works as a journalist and is starting a theatre company in LA.

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Donovan claims megacity breached merger provision

Former Westmount prosecutor sues Montreal for \$300,000

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The prosecutor of the now defunct Westmount Municipal Court is taking the city of Montreal to court over what he contends is a breach of contract related to a condition of the forced mergers when he and other suburban prosecutors were taken on by the megacity.

John Donovan, who had worked 25 years for Westmount, is claiming slightly over \$300,000 after being let go in 2010. The court system, like the fire department, was not returned to the suburbs after the demerger in early 2006.

No court date has been set to hear the case.

Donovan contends his dismissal was a violation of Montreal's own city charter.

"At the time of the merger [in late 2001]," he explains, an appendix was added to the Montreal charter through a provincial statute stating that all prior city council resolutions of the suburbs had to



John Donovan

be respected. The last of Donovan's appointments as Westmount prosecutor was made by resolution of council June 1, 1992.

In the defence already filed, Montreal argues that basically one can hire or fire any attorney one wants, he said. "I would agree. But in this case you can't undo a resolution except by another resolution or a by-law."

Filed in April

The legal action in which Donovan is the plaintiff was filed April 24, 2013 in Quebec Superior Court by Pierre Fréreau, the lawyer with whom Donovan shares office space in his private practice on Victoria Ave.

At the time Donovan left his position with Montreal, some four years after the demerger, there were only about 10 of the suburban prosecutors – private contractors – left in the Montreal court system, he said. Others had already left or were about to go, he said. He did not know why the

"suburbans" were let go, other than it may have been considered to be a cost-saving move given Montreal's more junior hires, he said.

Donovan said he had enjoyed working with the Montreal prosecutors and had turned to court action only as a last resort to recover damages and "because it was a legal point worth questioning."

"The two things they could have done is dismiss me for cause or buy me out," he said, "and they did neither."

Donovan told the *Independent* he had offered Montreal an opportunity to present a declaratory motion asking Superior Court to rule on the issue of his contract with Montreal based on his appointment resolution from Westmount, "but they refused and didn't want to submit it to judicial opinion."

The Montreal charter appendix in question is referred to as Article 6 of Section 1, Chapter 56 of the Quebec Statutes 2000 in which the city of Montreal was "obliged to give effect to the resolutions of suburban municipalities."

"As far as I know, it's still in effect," Donovan said. He did not know what broader effect the obligation might have.



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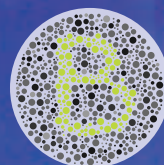
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CLEAR SIGNALS, CLEAR STREETS

The *Westmount Independent* of November 5 featured photos by Ralph Thompson (“On Westmount’s Streets: Westmount’s wild west”) that emphasize bad pedestrian behaviour at Claremont and Sherbrooke. (These incidents occur at all busy intersections.)

Many of these scofflaw actions can be eliminated by proper traffic lighting and clearly painted, striped crossing paths. I have witnessed other municipalities properly displaying distinct pedestrian lighting.

In all cases, the lights are purposely separated from the automobile lights and are coordinated with the crossing stripes. In all cases, the “stop” hand pictogram is filled (not outlined like ours). The same pattern exists for the walk signal.

We should consider safer crossings on busy thoroughfares where traffic lights are non-existent. In many areas around our island, crossings are delineated and enhanced with yellow coloured reflecting standards to alert car drivers. In fact, on des Seigneurs, these standards display signage that warn heavy fines will be enacted if the pedestrian is not given the right of passage.

What is holding Westmount back from putting in these common-sense solutions?

In order to encourage more walking, especially among the golden agers, why

not consider placing more benches along our streets?

I do not think the fulfilment of the aforementioned proposals would cause too big a dent in the city’s treasury.

It is not necessary to contract expensive urban planners to brighten our pathways. STAN GROSSMAN, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

CROSSWALKS NEED BETTER PAINT

As winter arrives upon us, once again Westmount pedestrians will have to guess where the dedicated crosswalk lines are. A quick look at the intersection of Victoria and Sherbrooke shows the paint already faded out.

Westmount (like many other municipalities) has the lines marked once a year in the spring with water-based paint. Due to our harsh winter conditions, and the use of abrasives, the lines are visible for less than six months each year.

Other municipalities are taking different approaches. In Montreal proper, main streets such as Sherbrooke have their crosswalk lines marked twice a year, increasing their visibility.

In the Ville Marie borough, thermoplastic long-term paint with grooves graded into the asphalt is now visible near many schools.

Several years ago, at the corner of Atwater and de Maisonneuve, the road was grooved with an application of a long-term

thermoplastic that is still visible.

Other municipalities such as Outremont, Verdun, and Côte St. Luc have experimented with epoxy paint, which lasts up to five years.

There must be a better solution to increase visibility of crosswalks. It’s a matter of safety.

BRIAN TAYLOR,
ST. CATHERINE (SOUTH SHORE)

HELMETS PROTECT VULNERABLE PARTS

Re: “No Helmet? No problem” by Stephen Chin (Nov. 19, p. 6).

I would respectfully suggest that Mr. Chin has fallen on his head one time too many *sans* helmet to proclaim that the face is the “most important and vulnerable part of the head.” Football players, hockey players and pretty much anyone at the Neuro can attest that the temple and other parts of the cranium are more prone to serious injury. Football players break their noses, but that doesn’t curtail their careers. See Anthony Calvillo.

Here’s hoping you see the light, Mr. Chin, and strap on. Oh, and I hope you buckle up in the car as well.

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THANKS FOR BILLY GRAHAM SPECIAL

No joy can compare in knowing that you have been used by God to help someone. Thank you, Fox News, for the one-hour program (no commercials) last week on Billy Graham.

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MOVE THE MUD MOUNTAINS

This is to request your opinion about the mountains of mud at the west side of the new outdoor pool. According to the original plan, those mountains are not part of the landscape. [WI: See photos below.]

Do you believe someone is trying to discourage the dog owners from the very much needed dog run that was originally placed in that spot?

Whatever the reason, those mountains of mud are not part of the original landscape, please take a look at the proposed project.

DIANA HERNANDEZ, ST. CATHERINE ST.



The area on November 20, looking southeast towards St. Catherine from the Lansdowne entrance of the arena.

Photo: Independent.



An arena/pool plan photographed on March 22 of this year. It was the latest at the time.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

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CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

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We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. E-mail any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHEN WILL 215 REDFERN'S DISREGARD STOP?

On November 22 at around 12 noon as I tried to enter Redfern Ave. via St. Catherine St., there was a 215 Redfern condo complex construction-use bobcat vehicle up on – and totally blocking – the sidewalk.

As well, 215 Redfern's construction trucks and equipment were completely blocking the lane behind the Kensington Apartments (see photo at right).

There were, besides myself, at least six witness walking the sidewalk who had to navigate around these vehicles to pass by. This dangerous scene is all too familiar to we Redfern Ave. residents – especially when there is no one from our police department or Westmount Public Security around to discourage these ongoing practices.

Though our councillor and other officials at Westmount city hall have issued warnings and levied fines against the 215 Redfern site, we are left to wonder as to when, exactly, will this type of disregard for our safety and for our city by-laws by this particular project end?

RICHARD M. DUMONT, REDFERN AVE.



Photo courtesy of R. Dumont.

WEAR A HELMET FOR WHEN YOU CRASH

On p. 7 of the November 19 issue, there is a nice profile of a cyclist, Tobias Garrett, who mentions proudly that he wears a helmet. On p. 6, in a letter, Stephen Chin declares unequivocally that the claim of helmets providing a degree of safety "is a myth."

There are quite a few cyclists who subscribe to that theory, but it is reprehensible for the *Independent* to publish that claim without comment.

Experienced cyclists know that there are only two types of riders: those who have crashed and those who have not crashed yet. I personally have destroyed no fewer than four helmets when impacting pavement or windshield, and I can state assuredly that my ability to write this letter has been preserved by the helmet that gave its integrity to protect my skull.

Granted, I bike much more than the average rider, and try to ride faster as well, but I have found that many serious crashes seem to come at relatively slow speeds.

Mr. Chin feels he would go faster and less carefully with the "illusory" protection of a helmet. If he is poking along through fear of hurting himself and is more safety conscious without one, he is certainly unusual. But I can say from broad experience that accidents are rarely caused solely by the rider.

When your head smacks the asphalt, you had better be wearing a compressible protection around it or you are going to be riding in a wheelchair, if at all.

ROGER JAY
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Current year's spending forecast approaches \$97M Tax rates unknown till January as city delays 2014 budget

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount property owners won't know before the new year what kind of tax hikes they may face for 2014. Presentation of the new budget and tax rates have been deferred until probably January 13, Mayor Peter Trent announced last week.

The reason, he told the November 18 council meeting, is that Westmount's budget is dependent on the agglomeration budget set by Montreal that its new council is not likely to adopt by the end of this year.

"If we don't know where 60 percent of our taxes go, it's hard for us to prepare a budget," he said.

Trent's announcement was followed later in the meeting by the presentation of the city's financial forecast for this year based on revenues and expenditures to August 31.

These show expenditures of \$96.5 million reduced by an infusion of \$2.2 million from accumulated surplus to equal forecasted revenues of \$94.3 million. The city is required by law not to run a deficit.

Samiotis, cont'd. from p. 1

street how much it can bear?" she said, calling it "an assault."

"It would be great if we could," Samiotis said. Once a building permit is issued, however, the city "can't control" when the contractor will start work within the permit's 18-month duration. Better work site management is an issue Urban Planning is working on, however.

Use of the street

She later emphasized that more of a coordinated approach was required so that Urban Planning inspectors know when Public Works has issued a permit for

'Confrontational' teen hit for \$219

A 19-year-old Westmounter was ticketed \$219 November 15 when a public safety officer in Westmount Park came across a noisy group of six in the playground, Public Security officials said. The other five identified themselves on request but police had to be called when the sixth refused. He was described as becoming confrontational while standing on top of the play equipment. He was ticketed for being in the park after the midnight curfew.

Council's new Finance commissioner Victor Drury said higher than projected expenditures relate to several factors.

These include increased snow removal costs, provisions for soil decontamination related the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) and the former Glen bus terminal site as well as more pay-as-you-go allocated to major projects. This includes \$1 million for extension of the second WRC rink to be repaid over the next five years from fundraising totals. Together, these provisions total some \$2 million previously approved by council.

City revenues are expected to benefit from building permits and other revenue from major construction sites, such as approved and billed use of the public domain.

Income is projected to be lower than expected though from the welcome tax owing to a slower real estate market.

"Things can change by the end the year, however," city director general Duncan Campbell later explained. Among unknown factors would be a major snow storm.

heavy equipment or material to use part of the street, for example.

On the other hand, according to Public Security officials, instructions on those permits should be more clearly outlined for enforcement.

Among the problems, Samiotis said, is the aging of much the city's housing stock, now 100 years old, as well as century-old water mains and sewers.

While Samiotis, who lives at the corner of Bruce and Dorchester where a water main project lasted almost all summer and whose own daughter plays in the Bruce park, said she understood what residents had to bear. "I was not happy with the way the work on Dorchester was being done," she said.

"This is going to happen again next year," noted Mantel referring to replacement of sidewalks on Bruce planned for the end of the summer after water main work.

She had complained to the council at its September 3 meeting about the state of the crumbling sidewalks, which she wanted replaced rather than patched. But because of so much disruption already borne by residents, Samiotis said soon after that she had asked the city to postpone the work until after the water main was replaced to better coordinate the work and minimize disruption (see September 10, p. 11).

Council asked to install automated pedestrian lights at fatal corner

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Dan Lambert, president of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association (WWCA), asked city council November 18 to install automated pedestrian lights at Wood and de Maisonneuve where a woman was fatally hit October 24 by a left-turning truck. He also requested advance green arrows for cyclists.

The intersection at the bike path is too busy for pedestrian lights to be manually operated by pressing the button, he said. "The signals, in our view, are inappropriate."

A WWCA survey at the intersection found most pedestrians were not aware of the "on-demand" lights, he said. As well, fewer than 10 percent of pedestrians observed actually activated them. "Over 90 percent simply crossed with the green light for cars like the lady who was killed."

Mayor Peter Trent said he would like the city's administrative traffic committee to comment on the whole issue of pedestrian lights.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham, the new commissioner of the Environment and

Parks, said the problem with the on-demand lights was that pedestrians don't see the buttons. It was not environmentally friendly to have cars idling "for nothing" at times when there were no pedestrians. "It needs to be looked at."



Dan Lambert questions council November 18.

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Outgoing chair Martin votes against committee appointment

Demo committee could be rolled into PAC, meeting learns

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Changes may be under way for the city's Demolition committee, it was revealed at the city council meeting November 18. Its purpose and configuration may no longer be needed in the current form, Mayor Peter Trent said.

The committee could be "subsumed" under the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), he said, or perhaps a local heritage preservation committee the city is planning to create under enabling provincial government legislation.

While the Demolition committee had been created in the 1980s when no other

means existed of protecting Westmount's heritage buildings from destruction, most of its more recent public hearings have heard from residents voicing more concern over the replacement project or construction issues.

Later in the meeting, Councillor Patrick Martin, the outgoing Demolition committee chair, voted against a resolution to appoint three council members to the committee on a one-year term. They are councillors Cynthia Lulham (chair), Victory Drury and Theodora Samiotis (commissioner of Urban Planning and chair of PAC).

He said he had "the highest regard" for

Samiotis. But since the Demolition committee receives recommendations from both Urban Planning and PAC, he did not believe it was also correct for her to sit on the other side of the table by being on a committee called on to render judgment on those same recommendations after hearing citizen interventions.

"We would like to see more transparency in the process and this is going in the wrong direction," he later explained.

"This might give the impression the conclusion is a *fait accompli*."

The Westmount Historical Society and the Westmount Municipal Association have been asking the city to create a local heritage committee that would allow structures other than buildings to benefit from heritage protection.

Maureen Kiely, of The Boulevard, said she was pleased the council was considering the move.

New HR head comes from varied management career

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's newly appointed director of Human Resources, Jocelyne Dragon, was to start work at city hall November 25 after a career in HR and finance management from which she had retired early from the city of Montreal.

She replaces Alan Kulaga, who retired last June to start up his own law practice after working his entire career in Westmount.

"I'm particularly pleased to have someone from a significant number of management positions at this time when we are trying to attract people and keep them in the municipal field," said city director general Duncan Campbell.

It's a challenge not confined to Westmount, which he calls "a national crisis."

Dragon served as HR director in St. Laurent before the merger and, after a stint on the transition team, was its borough administrator in charge of HR and finance during the fusion years. She later became the borough manager (the top unelected position) in Lachine.

Retiring from Finance in Montreal, Dragon applied for the HR position in Westmount when it was first posted, Campbell said.

Her appointment was made as a new business item at the city council meeting November 18, in a resolution moved by Councillor Christina Smith, the new commissioner of Administration.

Dragon replied saying she was very pleased to be joining the city of Westmount, which Mayor Peter Trent described as "a family."



Jocelyne Dragon is welcomed to Westmount at the November 18 council meeting as the city's new Human Resources director.

Dog owner fined on second complaint

A dog owner living in an apartment building on Stanton St. was issued a \$76 ticket November 17 when another resident complained about barking, Public Security officials said. There was no answer at the door when a patroller arrived just after 9:20 pm so officers returned later to speak with the dog owner who had been the subject of a previous complaint.

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EMPLOIS D'ÉTÉ 2014

Soyez avisés que les formulaires pour les emplois d'été 2014 seront disponibles à la réception de l'hôtel de Ville de Westmount à compter du lundi 2 décembre 2013, du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30, à l'adresse suivante :

Hôtel de Ville de Westmount, a/s Service des ressources humaines
4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1E2

Veillez noter que la date limite pour soumettre votre candidature est le vendredi 31 janvier 2014.

Les postes seront octroyés selon les qualifications et l'expérience de travail et seules les personnes retenues seront rencontrées pour une entrevue.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT 2014

Please be advised that the 2014 Summer Employment forms will be available at the reception desk of Westmount City Hall starting Monday, December 2nd, 2013, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, at the following address:

Human Resources Department, **Westmount City Hall**
4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Quebec, H3Z 1E2

Please note that the deadline to submit your application is Friday, January 31st, 2014.

The positions will be awarded to candidates with the appropriate qualifications and experience and only those selected will be interviewed.

ON THE SHELVES

Among recent reading and audio-visual material at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

Magazines

“The Next Steve Jobs” by Joshua Davis in *Wired*, November 2013, pp. 154-163, 198. Students in Matamoros, Mexico, weren’t getting much out of school – until a radical new teaching method unlocked their potential.

“Mon école est pourrie” de Marine Corniou dans *Québec science*, novembre, 2013, pp.7-10. Faut-il démolir toutes les écoles aux prises avec les moisissures? La commission scolaire de Montréal et le ministère de l’Éducation se renvoient la balle.

“The Man Who Saves You From Yourself” by Nathaniel Rich in *Harper’s*, November 2013, pp. 35-44. Going undercover with a cult infiltrator.

E-books – From the pages of American history

Last of the Blue and Gray: Old Men, Stolen Glory, and the Mystery That Outlived the Civil War by Richard A. Serrano

A story of two veterans in the late 1950s gearing up for the Civil War centennial – one claiming to be the last Confederate soldier and one claiming to be the last Union soldier – and one of them a fraud.

The Men Who United the States: America’s Explorers, Inventors, Eccentrics and Mavericks, and the Creation of One Nation, Indivisible by Simon Winchester

The author follows in the footsteps of America’s most essential explorers, thinkers, and innovators to offer a new perspective on how the most powerful nation on Earth came together.

Adult English – From the music world...

Benjamin Britten: A Life for Music by Neil Powell

Documents the life of the famous British composer, focusing on his relationship with tenor Peter Pears, who became the inspirational center of his emotional and musical life.

Johnny Cash: The Life by Robert Hilburn

A noted music critic who knew him tells the unvarnished truth about Cash, whose personal life was far more troubled and his artistry much more profound than

even his most devoted fans have realized.

Adult French – Books on the Prix Goncourt shortlist

Au revoir là-haut by Pierre Lemaitre

Albert and Édouard are survivors of the Great War and realize that they are unwanted in their own country. Condemned to exclusion, they mount a vast scam that will put their homeland on edge.

L’invention de nos vies by Karine Tuil

Sam Tahar is a fearsome and rich lawyer. It turns out that to build himself a new identity in America he had borrowed the Jewish origins of his friend Samuel, a failed writer. At mid-life, Sam’s murky past will come back to haunt him.

DVDs

My Mother, the Nazi Midwife, and Me

Gina Roitman’s parents met and married in the Pocking-Waldstadt Displaced Persons Camp just outside Passau, Germany. In this documentary, Roitman starts out on a journey to learn more about her parents’ history, and unearths a chilling story about the systematic murder of Jewish infants in the camp during 1946 and 1947.

The Fruit Hunters

This riveting documentary travels across culture, history and geography to show how intertwined people are with the fruits they eat. The ranks of the fruit-obsessed include adventurers, scientists, fruit detectives and even movie star Bill Pullman, fruit hunters dedicating themselves to searching for and saving rare and exotic fruit, and to creating a Garden of Eden in a world increasingly dominated by industrialized monoculture.

Children’s – Fun things to do for children:

Mes premiers pas en origami by Susan Akass

Simple origami projects for children 7 years and up.

Fashion Designer Workshop by Stephanie Corfee

Step-by-step projects and drawing tips for up-and-coming designers!

Reference

Kovels’ Antiques & Collectibles Price Guide 2014

Mon auto 2014: guide d’achat.

Micro event



Employees return to work at 4200 Dorchester Blvd. after a microwave oven reportedly exploded November 22 around noon when an employee attempted to heat up her lunch. The entire building was evacuated while firefighters checked to make sure it was safe for the employees to return.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

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WESTMOUNT | FULLY DETACHED
Superb 3 level house across from the park. 5 bdrms, high ceilings, open floor plan. Double parking. mls 10607878



WESTMOUNT | ROSLYN FLATS
Large renovated 7 bdrm home on 3 floors with designer kitchen & det. garage in fabulous location. mls 18829699



WESTMOUNT | DELIGHTFUL DETACHED
Gracious 3+1 bdrm renovated home with lge kitchen, sun-room, above ground basement & 1.5 garage. mls 10820331



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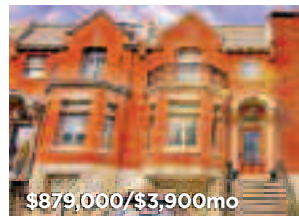
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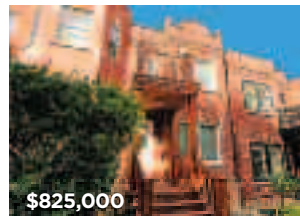
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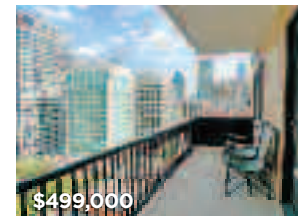
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Book sale raises \$16k

The Friends of the Westmount Public Library book sale, held at Victoria Hall on November 23 and 24, raised "just shy" of \$16,400, according to organizer Carolyn O'Neill.

"Many thanks for all your help and support," she wrote to volunteers. "We did it! Now rest up... preparations for the Spring Sale start next week!"

3 cars collide at Roslyn/Sherbrooke

The driver of an eastbound car on Sherbrooke suffered minor head injuries November 18 when her car was hit by one turning left off Roslyn about 12:30 pm, according to Public Security officials.

The impact pushed the woman's car into a parked one. The driver of the turning car was reported to be a Westmount resident.

Three teens arrested for vehicle vandalising spree

By MICHAEL MOORE

Three teenagers, including one Westmounter, were arrested in the early morning of November 17 after leaving a trail of vehicular vandalism along Côte St. Antoine.

The trio, all aged 16, broke the side mirrors on three cars, cut off a Mercedes logo and pushed over a motorcycle before being arrested by police officers near Roslyn, according to Station 12 constable Adalbert Pimentel.

One of the suspects was also found in possession of a bag of marijuana, said Pimentel.

Tristan Pungartnik first spotted the teenagers from his bedroom window as they turned off of Grosvenor onto Côte St. Antoine and says he witnessed them vandalising both his sister's and neighbour's cars.

"One of them took lockcutters out of his jacket and fully baseball swung at my sister's side mirrors. Then he opened the cutters, walked up to my neighbour's car and cut off the Mercedes emblem on the

hood," he said.

Pungartnik jumped into his car to follow the trio from a distance while he spoke to police on the phone.

"It took a while for the cops to get there, so for the last two minutes they transferred me to the police radio so I was calling out what I was seeing," said Pungartnik.

Station 12 officers finally caught up with the three teenagers, who still had the lockcutters and Mercedes emblem in their pockets, and arrested them at gunpoint, according to Pungartnik.

Pungartnik says he then escorted the officers back along the path the three teenagers had taken and found a Range Rover with both rear lights smashed and a motorcycle that had been pushed over onto its side.

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What to do

The random nature of vandalism limits what residents can do to ensure their vehicles aren't damaged, according to Station 12 constable Adalbert Pimentel.

"There's not really much you can do to prevent these types of crimes. It's not like a theft inside vehicle when you can keep objects out of view and make sure the doors are locked," he said.

However, Pimentel stressed the importance of immediately reporting it to police to ensure the damage is limited.

"If nobody had gotten involved [in the November 17 incident], there's a high probability that many more vehicles would've been damaged," he said.

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Police Report

Teenager assaulted, robbed in Westmount Park

BY MICHAEL MOORE

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

A 17-year-old woman was robbed by five male suspects as she walked alone through Westmount Park on the evening of November 15, according to Station 12 constable Adelbert Pimentel.

The English-speaking suspects, all believed to be around 18 years old, approached the woman from behind as she walked through the park between 7 and 8 pm, said Pimentel. One of them reportedly delivered a blow to her head before stealing her Samsung smartphone and her wallet, which contained \$100 in cash, before fleeing towards Sherbrooke.

The victim suffered swelling on her cheeks from the blow, but was otherwise unharmed, said Pimentel.

As the days grow shorter, Pimentel recommends pedestrians avoid potentially dangerous unlit areas in the evening and after dark, especially when walking alone.

"In the evening you should always stick to well-lit areas. Stick to busier streets and use the sidewalks instead of crossing through a park," he said.

The victim had been writing a text on her phone at the time of the attack, said Pimentel, making her an even more vulnerable target.

"These phones are targeted often when people are walking around not paying attention, so we tell people to be aware of their environment," he explained.

To help combat cell phone theft, Pimentel also recommends owners take note of their device's International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number. The number can be used to add lost or stolen phones to a new country-wide "blacklist," preventing them from connecting to Canadian service providers.

"If you lose your phone or it's stolen, deactivate it and put it on the blacklist," he said. "If enough people do that, eventually those sorts of crimes will be useless because they wouldn't be able to do anything with [the phone]."

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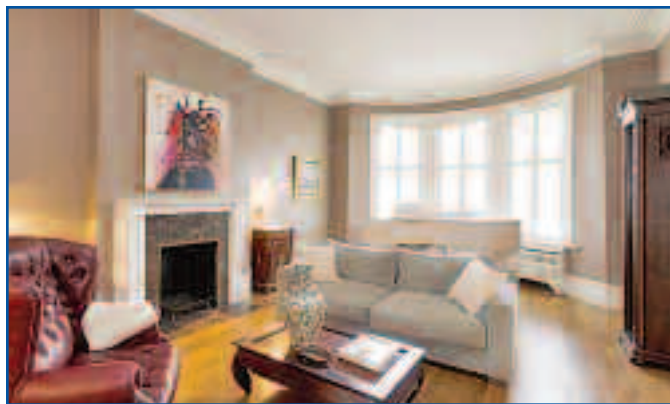
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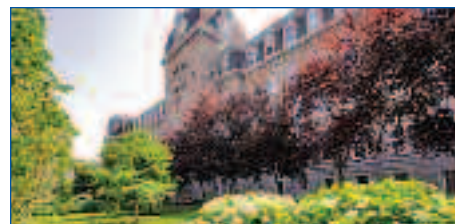
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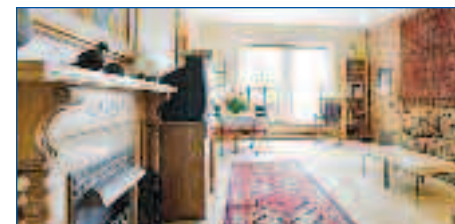


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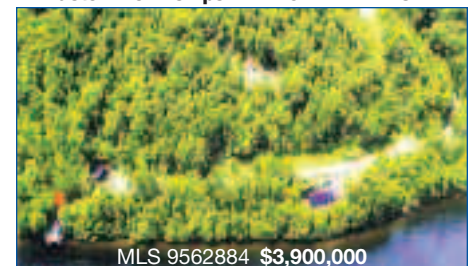
Downtown 230 Sherbrooke E. MLS 13605312
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Going squirrely over hot chocolate



While most squirrels are out gathering nuts and building winter nests, this maverick gray squirrel took a pause in its daily routine November 21 to sweeten up with a little taste of hot chocolate on Academy Rd.

Robert J. Galbraith



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First Santa brunch for complex care at Children's



From left, in back: Jenn Ruvo and Dr. Catherine Henin; with, in front, young Westmounters Sophie Henin-Levine and friend Fran Stephens, who hope to attend the brunch, other activities permitting.

Photo: Independent.

The complex care unit of the Montreal Children's Hospital and the SVR Children's Foundation are hosting their first-ever Brunch with Santa fundraiser on Sunday, December 1 from noon to 4:40 pm.

The unit, whose director is Westmounter Dr. Hema Patel, takes care of children like Stephano Vito Ruzo, whose initials gave the sponsoring foundation its name.

He suffers from central congenital hypoventilation syndrome, as well as having lost most of his colon at birth. Prior to the recent installation of breathing pacers in his chest, he slept and spent most of the day attached to a breathing tube and ventilator.

Now, he should be able to spend most of the day unattached to a machine, but will likely sleep attached to a ventilator for the rest of his life.

His cousin, Jenn Ruvo, told the *Independent* he is "a [medically] complicated kid, but full of energy."

One of his doctors, Westmounter Dr. Catherine Henin, was careful to point out that he is not bed ridden or housebound in any way, "He goes to daycare and swims. He is intellectually perfect and a funny, funny kid." He turns 4 in December.

Tickets are \$100 (\$40 for children) and can be reserved by calling 514.862.6764 or emailing svrchildrensfoundation@gmail.com.

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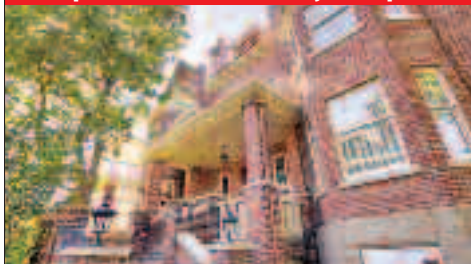
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From design to psychotherapy (Greater) Vic village retail news round-up

BY STEPHANIE O'HANLEY

RobitailleCurtis design (318 Victoria)

A design firm specializing in building and landscape architecture, and urban design – RobitailleCurtis – is moving into the space at 318 Victoria, next door to Newsam Construction.

Newsam owns the structure, the former Brickpoint location, and building a design centre has long been a goal for the company.

Architect Andrew Curtis, co-owner of RobitailleCurtis, has worked with Newsam on a number of projects.

"We look forward to this continued synergy by being in adjacent offices," Curtis said in an email, adding there's a possibility that other complementary design professionals, for instance, a structural engineer, may also share the space.

"We anticipate this proximity between building and design professionals will be helpful for clients whatever their construction needs may be, whether it be floor plans, small renovations, additions, ground-up construction, or simply helping the residents of Westmount in obtaining construction permits," Curtis said.

New Owner at Art Rebel (318B Victoria)

Matt Wetmore took ownership of the Victoria village custom framing store in October.

"It's been great," said Heather Ryan, Art Rebel's manager. "I love that we're in this little village. I get to meet a lot of people passing by. I'm meeting a lot of (previous owner Wayne Hemsworth's) regular clients."

The House of the Seven Moons (320A Victoria)

From November 16 to December 22, this basement space is serving as the locale for an exhibition and sale of hand-woven Iranian (Persian) carpets and kilims (flat-woven carpets), as well as Quebec-made pottery, woodworking and jewelry.

Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am to 6 pm, and Thursdays and Fridays from 10 am to 8 pm.

Joolz Bar à Bijoux (4916 Sherbrooke St.)

Offering a vast selection of trendy, of-the-moment, current and exclusive jewelry at affordable prices, Joolz opened November 21 in the space above Campbell's

Gallery. The jewelry bar is holding an official grand opening party with cocktails and food on Thursday, December 5 from 12 noon to 9 pm.

Chou Chou on the move

Chou Chou Shoes, currently at 4886 Sherbrooke St., expects by February 2014 to be set up across the street at 4875 Sherbrooke, the former location of Woven Gardens.

Medipsy

(4610 St. Catherine, near Lewis Ave.)

Co-founders Dr. Marilyn Fitzpatrick and Dr. Martin Drapeau are both professors and researchers at McGill University and Dr. Fitzpatrick is the program director and director of clinical training of its Counseling Psychology Program.

Dr. Fitzpatrick said their new clinic, Medipsy, not only offers psychological services for adults, adolescents and children, but services are evidence based.

"We both do research in psychotherapy change processes," said Dr. Fitzpatrick, adding that psychotherapy works best when "it's personalized to the needs of a particular clientele."

Dr. Fitzpatrick said the clinic's holistic approach includes using a system of reporting to physicians what's happening with their patients. That way if physicians prescribe a medication, they will quickly know if their patients have any problems with the response, she said.

Medipsy also offers training and supervision to professionals, including psychotherapists who may be seeking such services now that the Quebec government regulates psychotherapy and the practice of psychotherapy, she said.

Roofers block lanes, had no permit

A roofing truck in front of 4460 Sherbrooke was found blocking one eastbound lane and a parking lane from Metcalfe to Melville at 7:35 am November 14, Public Security officials said. No permit to occupy the street had been obtained.

The eastbound lane is also a no-stopping lane until 9 am so the vehicles were moved off the street until a permit could be obtained. A follow-up at 2:49 pm showed the permit had been obtained, but officers reminded the workers they would still not be able to park there before 9 o'clock the next morning.

Pampered Pets awards a 'McGwire' to Humane Society



From left, Ashley Caya and Ewa Demianowicz of the Humane Society International were presented with the \$1,000 McGwire's Grant by Anna Maria Ranieri of the Pampered Pets grooming boutique on Victoria Ave. during the Guardian's Best Animal Rescue Foundation's awards gala held on November 9 in NDG. Ranieri named the award after her own dog, McGwire, who died in October.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Westmount Dental Care
 Dr. Douglas E. Hamilton
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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Nouveau conseil municipal

Voici la composition du nouveau conseil suite aux élections tenues le 3 novembre à Westmount :

Maire : Peter F. Trent *

District 1 : conseiller Patrick Martin

District 2 : conseiller Philip A. Cutler

District 3 : conseiller Victor M. Drury *

District 4 : conseillère Rosalind Davis

District 5 : conseillère Christina Smith

District 6 : conseillère Nicole Forbes *

District 7 : conseillère Cynthia Lulham

District 8 : conseillère Theodora Samiotis

*Élu(e) par acclamation.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

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annuelle de la Sécurité publique au profit des plus démunis en déposant des denrées non périssables dans les bacs prévus à cette fin dans les édifices municipaux. Info : 514 989-5309.

Stationnement : restrictions hivernales en vigueur à compter du 1^{er} décembre

À compter du 1^{er} décembre, des restrictions sont en vigueur dans certaines rues de Westmount pendant la période hivernale. Assurez-vous de vérifier la signalisation en stationnant votre véhicule. Info : 514 989-5222.

SPORTS ET LOISIRS

Carte d'accès 2014 disponible

En cours au Victoria Hall. Procurez-vous la **carte d'accès - installations sportives 2014** au bureau des Sports et loisirs (individus 25 \$; familles 50 \$). Deux preuves de résidence sont nécessaires. Info : 989-5353.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Personnages de contes au rendez-vous

Le dimanche 1^{er} décembre à 14 h. Pour les jeunes de 3 à 12 ans : viens passer un après-midi de plaisir avec Plume, le petit ours polaire des contes de Hans de Beer. Inscription requise. Info : 514 989-5229.

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Le mercredi 4 décembre à 10 h 15. Cet atelier vous permettra de vous exprimer en vers et de libérer votre créativité dans une ambiance décontractée. Info : 514 989-5299.

Conférences de 14 heures : *The Galapagos Islands*

Le mercredi 11 décembre à 14 h. Venez rencontrer Virginia Elliott qui partagera son aventure aux Îles Galapagos et ses randonnées parmi les animaux indigènes en suivant les traces de Charles Darwin, 175 ans après son fameux voyage. Info : 514 989-5299.

Prochaine séance du conseil :

le lundi 2 décembre

Club de lecture en anglais : *Jane Eyre*

Le mardi 11 décembre à 19 h. Joignez-vous au club de lecture en anglais pour discuter du roman *Jane Eyre* de Charlotte Brontë. Info : 514 989-5299.

Cercle de lecture

Le mardi 17 décembre à 10 h 15. Pas de liste de lecture imposée, ni de date limite, seulement des discussions au sujet des livres que vous avez lus ! Info : 514 989-5299.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

La galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

Jusqu'au 14 décembre. La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter l'exposition « *Exile and attachment: a refugee journal* » de l'artiste Jaswant Guzder. Info : 514 989-5521 ou victoriahall@westmount.org.

Fête de la Hannoukah

Le mercredi 27 novembre de 17 h à 18 h 30 à l'hôtel de Ville. La ville, en collaboration avec la congrégation Shaar Hashomayim et le Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, invite la communauté à participer à la fête des lumières, incluant l'illumination de la première chandelle, de la musique et des délices traditionnels. Bienvenue à tous. Info : 514 989-5226.

Dramatis Personnae : *Not As It Seems*

Du samedi 30 novembre au lundi 2 décembre au Victoria Hall. La troupe de théâtre communautaire présente cinq courtes pièces le samedi à 19 h 30, le dimanche à 15 h et à 19 h 30 et le lundi à 20 h. Mise en scène : Jacqueline Van de Geer. Gratuit; dons très appréciés. Info : www.theatrewestmount.com.

Illumination du sapin de Noël

Le lundi 2 décembre à 18 h 30 à l'hôtel de Ville. Venez en famille pour écouter des contes et des cantiques interprétés par l'ensemble *Burton Street Singers*. Chocolat chaud et friandises des fêtes au menu. Entrée gratuite. N'oubliez pas d'apporter vos denrées non-périssables pour la collecte des fêtes de la Sécurité publique. Info : 514 989-5226.

Chœur d'hommes gallois de Montréal

Le samedi 7 décembre à 19 h au Victoria Hall. Un concert de chansons traditionnelles et la lecture du conte classique *A Child's Christmas in Wales* de Dylan Thomas par Brian Llewellyn-ap-Dafydd. Invités : Le Chœur de cloches. Billets : 20 \$ et 15 \$, à la porte, ou en appelant au 450 465-2092.

Chœur *People's Gospel Choir of Montreal*

Le samedi 14 décembre à 19 h au Victoria Hall. Présenté en collaboration avec le Club Rotary de Westmount. Billets : 20 \$ au Victoria Hall ou au 514 935-3344.

CITY HALL

New City Council

Following Westmount's municipal elections held on November 3rd, the members of the new City Council are:

Mayor: Peter F. Trent *

District 1: Councillor Patrick Martin

District 2: Councillor Philip A. Cutler

District 3: Councillor Victor M. Drury *

District 4: Councillor Rosalind Davis

District 5: Councillor Christina Smith

District 6: Councillor Nicole Forbes *

District 7: Councillor Cynthia Lulham

District 8: Councillor Theodora Samiotis

*Elected by acclamation.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Holiday Food Drive in Westmount

Until mid-December. Support Public Security's annual food drive by donating non-perishable food items for the needy. Collection bins can be found in City buildings. Info : 514 989-5309.

Winter parking restrictions in effect beginning December 1st

Winter parking restrictions are in effect on certain Westmount streets starting December 1st. Make sure to double-check the signs when parking your vehicle. Info : 514 989-5222.

SPORTS & RECREATION

2014 Facility Card available

Ongoing at Victoria Hall. Residents can purchase the **2014 Facility Membership Card** at the Sports & Recreation office (individual \$25, family \$50); Two proofs of residence are required. Info : 514 989-5353.

LIBRARY

Storybook Character Event

Sunday, December 1st at 2 p.m. For children from 3 to 12 years of age: join Lars the Polar Bear from the Hans De Beer books for an afternoon of fun! Info : 514 989-5229.

Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Wednesday, December 4 at 10:15 a.m. Get creative in these monthly, light-hearted workshops that get you to express yourself in verse. Info : 514 989-5299.

2 O'Clock Series: *The Galapagos Islands*

Wednesday, December 11 at 2 p.m. Join Virginia Elliott as she shares her Galapagos adventure of trekking amongst the indigenous animals in the footsteps of Charles Darwin nearly 175 years after his famous voyage. Info : 514 989-5299.

English Book Club : *Jane Eyre*

Tuesday, November 26 at 7 p.m. Join the English Book Club as they discuss *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë. Info : 514 989-5299.

Next Council Meeting:

Monday, December 2

Readers to Readers Book Club

Tuesday, December 17 at 10:15 a.m. Join our morning book club to talk about great books recently read. Info : 514 989-5299.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Gallery at Victoria Hall: Exhibition

Until December 14. The Gallery at Victoria Hall

is pleased to feature *Exile and attachment: a refugee journal*, an exhibition by artist Jaswant Guzder. Info: victoriahall@westmount.org or 514 989-5521.

Community Chanukah celebration

Wednesday November 27, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

The City, in collaboration with Congregation Shaar Hashomayim and Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, invites the community to celebrate the Festival of Lights with the lighting of the first candle, music and traditional food. Everyone welcome. Info : 514 989-5226.

Dramatis Personnae : *Not As It Seems*

Saturday, November 30 through Monday, December 2

at Victoria Hall. Westmount's community theatre troupe presents five short plays on Saturday at 7:30 p.m., on Sunday at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Monday at 8 p.m. Directed by Jacqueline Van de Geer. Free; donations welcome. Info : www.theatrewestmount.com.

Christmas Tree Lighting Party

Monday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. at

City Hall. Bring the family to enjoy Christmas stories, carols sung by the Burton Street Singers, hot chocolate and holiday treats. Free. Don't forget to bring your contributions of non-perishable food items for public Security's food drive. Info : 514 989-5226.

Montreal Welsh Male Choir

Saturday, December 7 at 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall. A concert of traditional carols along with the reading of the classic Dylan Thomas story *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, read by Brian Llewellyn-ap-Dafydd. Special musical guests: The Village Ringers. Tickets: \$20 and \$15, available at the door or by phoning 450 465-2092.

People's Gospel Choir of Montreal

Saturday, December 14 at 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall.

Presented in collaboration with the Westmount Rotary Club. Tickets: \$20 at Victoria Hall or 514 935-3344.



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Boy soup at Akiva



Author Loris Lesynski and illustrator Michael Martchenko visited Akiva School on November 20 to talk about their book *Boy Soup*. Their visit marked the Montreal stop of their cross-Canada book tour as part of the annual TD Grade One Book Giveaway.

Photo courtesy of Akiva.

Bricks fall, work stopped

Work on the façade of a building at 4548 St. Catherine at Irving was stopped November 14 after bricks were found falling to the sidewalk at about 8:30 am, Public Security officials said. While workers had put danger tape around the area, it was deemed insufficient and the risk of hitting pedestrians too great. Urban Planning inspectors were called to the scene and the matter was left in their hands at 10:36 am.

Patrollers had been at the scene the previous morning for a complaint of a lift occupying the street without a permit to do so. When the workers stated they needed

space to park the cherry picker, they were told they should have obtained a permit the day before so they could have reserved the space. The permit they obtained for two days was described as being not clear enough.

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Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

The Cummings Centre's presents "I'm a Believer," a performance of 60s and 70s music. \$5. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 395 Elm Ave. 7 pm.

Hanukkah celebration. Westmount city hall, 4333 Sherbrooke St. 5 pm to 6:30 pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

"Life after work, are you ready?" by Sonja Mitchell. Westmount YMCA, 4585 Sherbrooke St. Free. 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

Public consultation on proposed medical offices by-law for Victoria village. City hall. 7 pm.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Dramatis Personae is performing five short plays under the title *Not as it Seems*. Lodge Room of Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. 7:30 pm. Also Sunday, December 1 at 3 pm and 7:30 pm and Monday,

December 2, at 8 pm.

Westmount resident and author Michelle Franklin is signing copies of her newest book, *Tales from Frewyn*. Babar en Ville, 1235 Greene. 4 pm to 6 pm.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

Christmas tree lighting. Westmount city hall, 4333 Sherbrooke St. and lawn bowling club house. 6:30 pm.

City council meeting. City hall. 8 pm.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

Fall flower show opens to the public. Westmount conservatory. 10 am to 5 pm.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

Wine and cheese open house to benefit the animal rescue Au Repit De La Montagne. Little Bear Animal Supplies, 4152 St. Catherine St. 5 pm to 7 pm. Also Saturday, December 7 from noon to 5 pm.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Blood drive. Victoria Hall. 2 pm to 7:30 pm.

ONGOING:

Tumbling Tots. Centre Greene. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 am to 11 am. Indoor/park playground for parents and children under 5 years. \$3.50/morning drop-in. Coffee and cookies provided.

Montreal Children's Library would like the help of bilingual volunteers at one of the library's three branches to help children between the ages of 5 and 14 with reading and to perform other duties. Please call Helen Kyne: 514.931.2304 or email at info@mcl-bjm.ca.

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Study hosts community fair for students



From left, grade 9 Study students Sarah Iacobacci and Tiffany Assaly with Westmount Public Library children's librarian Wendy Wayling.

Photo courtesy of The Study.

The Study recently hosted 22 organizations at its third community service fair. Each organization had a chance to showcase volunteer opportunities available to girls in grades 9 to 11. Jteens, the Westmount Public Library, Westmount's Sport and Recreation department, the Friend-

ship Circle and the Union United Church After-School Program were among many returning organizations.

Community service is a requirement at the school. Beginning in grade 9, each student does a minimum of 20 hours per year.

86-year-old bumps head in fall

An 86-year-old Westmount woman was transported to the Montreal General Hospital by Urgences Santé October 12 after falling on the sidewalk at St. Catherine and Park Place, according to Public Security. She was found to have hit her head, sustaining a cut and bump above one eye, but was coherent when first noticed by a passing motorist around 2 pm.

Hose can't reach sewer

Water flowing onto the road near 36 Summit Circle October 24 was found to come from the emptying of a pool about 1:50 pm, Public Security officials said. While the contractor had previously been warned to drain the water directly into a sewer, it turned out in this case that the nearest sewer outlet was at Upper Bellevue, too far for a hose to reach. Leaves were cleared from sewer to prevent the water from pooling.

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In the fall of 2010, Federation CJA's Women's Philanthropy embarked on a project to engage women, educate donors and encourage volunteerism. Understanding the critical role of food preparation and service in family memory and community tradition, we created *Mosaic*, a legacy cookbook that explores the relationship between women and the evolution of Jewish culture, tradition and family through food preparation. The result is an incredible volume of recipes that are absolutely delicious, easy to follow and representative of the richness and diversity of our community. The project has been generously sponsored so that all proceeds from every book sold will be used to fund programs and services for vulnerable women and their families. To purchase *Mosaic*, please visit our website, www.mosaiccookbook.com.



Pappardelle with Tunisian Short Rib Ragout

Slow-braised flanken, a strip of beef from the chuck end of the short ribs, was characteristic of eastern European food preparation. Inexpensive and easy to prepare, it was a favourite Jewish holiday dish. This recipe for slow-cooked short ribs takes its inspiration from this classic and adds a Tunisian flavour with the addition of figs.

Ingredients:

3 tbsp (45 mL) vegetable oil, divided
4 lbs (2 kg) beef short ribs,
cut between the bones
2 tsp (10 mL) salt
1 tsp (5 mL) pepper
1 large onion, diced
2 medium carrots, peeled and diced

3 garlic cloves, minced
1 (1-inch/2.5 cm) piece ginger,
grated
1 cinnamon stick
cup (150 mL) cubed dried figs
2 cups (500 mL) dry red wine
2 cups (500 mL) chicken broth
¼ cup (60 mL) soy sauce

Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C).

Heat 2 tbsp (30 mL) of the olive oil in an 8-quart (8 L) Dutch oven. Season the ribs with the salt and pepper. Place as many ribs as will fit in the Dutch oven without overlap. Sear until browned, turning with tongs, 3 to 4 minutes per side. Transfer the seared ribs to a plate and repeat with the remaining ribs. Pour off all but a thin layer of fat from the pan.

Add the remaining 1 tbsp (15 mL) of the olive oil to the Dutch oven and sauté the onions and carrots until the onions are translucent, stirring and scraping up any browned bits on the bottom of the pan. Add the garlic, ginger, cinnamon stick, and figs and sauté for 2 minutes.

Add the wine and cook for an additional 5 minutes.

Transfer all the ribs and any accumulat-

1 (14 oz/398 mL) can fire-roasted
tomatoes
¾ cup (185 mL) tomato purée

ed liquid back into the Dutch oven. Add the broth, soy sauce, tomatoes, and tomato purée. Bring the liquid to a simmer, cover, and place in the oven.

Cook the ribs, turning them every 40 minutes, for about 3 hours. Allow the ribs to cool, remove the meat from the bones, discard the bones, and shred the meat. Refrigerate overnight.

Take the rib ragout out of the

1 lb (500 g) pappardelle pasta
4 cups (1 L) arugula
½ cup (125 mL) pine nuts, toasted

refrigerator and remove the fat.

Cook the pappardelle according to the package instructions. Heat the rib ragout in a saucepan on medium heat, stirring gently. Add the cooked pappardelle and arugula to the ragout and toss to coat the pasta evenly. Garnish with the toasted pine nuts and serve.

Yield: 8 to 10 servings. Best served with: Wild Mushrooms on Polenta pg 24



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Samedi, le 30 novembre, 2013 • Saturday, November 30, 2013



Volunteers will be collecting healthy, non-perishable, non-expired food in NDG and Montreal West after game on Saturday, November 30th, 2013.

We will also be stationed outside of Westmount Metro (4840 Sherbrooke St W, Westmount, QC H3Z 1G8) between 10am - 2pm on November 30th to collect food and monetary donations!

For more information please contact Katie @ 514.483.4680 x201

On the Lighter Side

INGRID KOVITCH-DANNENBAUM



Phew! November 11 come and gone. And with it, the guilty skulk that has become my permanent posture for the past few weeks.

One might understandably surmise that this is due to a profound contrition over being alive and well, when so many have made the ultimate sacrifice. Or a shameful remorse that we are spurred to ponder this reality for but a single day each year.

In truth, self-reproach aside, it's all

Where have all the poppies gone?

about the poppies.

Yes, those innocent-looking but bedeviled wee blossoms!

No matter how carefully affixed to one's lapel – in spite of how diligently they are pinned, wired or even sutured – they are destined, invariably, to poppy off. And the startling rate at which they do so defies all known laws of physics.

For they do not so much become lost, as *vanish*. Entirely. And without a trace. Neither are they converted to a variant form of energy, nor do they reappear in an alternate dimension (so far as I, muggle, can tell).

Of 12 ladies in our hockey locker room the other day, we calculated that among us, we had bought – and lost – a total of 27

poppies in the preceding 24 hours. And how many had we found? Nil! Nada! Zilch!

Instantly lost

Just the previous day, I had bought a poppy upon entering the grocery store (my fourteenth this season), only to have it disappear somewhere between the green beans and the cereal aisle. Thus did I buy another upon leaving the store, permitting me to walk upright, dignity restored, for the better part of a block. Until, well... you know...

In the past, I have tried reinforcing the pin with bits of eraser or gobs of tape. I have meticulously bent the stickpins, and woven them through alternating layers of fabric and plastic. Yet despite all efforts, my poppies have continued to go AWOL.

In a fruitless attempt to repatriate them back to their rightful collars, I have scoured the house, the car, the produce section and the garden. I have rifled through leaf piles, speculating, in a fit of delusional logic, that perhaps they had sought refuge amongst their "own kind." All to no avail.

Like most of us, I am not unaccustomed to losing things. There are those items which we lose frequently, but which generally surface after some often-protracted period of time (TV remotes, sun-

glasses, USB keys, nail clippers). Then there are others which we lose less often, though thankfully more transiently (cats in drawers, cars in parking garages, our nerve, our minds).

But poppies appear to constitute a unique category: wayward sundries irretrievably gone astray. And at this point, the mystery of their disappearance is so compelling that I no longer care if I ever get one back. I just need to know – with mounting desperation – *where do they go?*

Five stages

I fear that my compulsive ruminations surrounding this conundrum have grown to resemble the five stages of grief:

Denial: What?!? There is no way I lost another one! This cannot be happening!

Anger: Who stole my poppy?? Heaven help them – my wrath knows no bounds!

Bargaining: Please, please let this one stay on. I'll do whatever it takes. I will even vote in the next municipal election.

Depression: I give up. All hope is lost. I will hide in the house until November 12.

Acceptance: Okay, I will just buy another dozen. After all, it's for a good cause. Besides, I can always wear them again next year.

As if!

Hydro Westmount, cont'd. from p. 1

standing committee. "That group, with help (input) from Councillor Patrick Martin, will look into Hydro Westmount."

Martin, who has been commissioner of Public Works and Utilities for the past eight years, is relinquishing the electrical component to concentrate on infrastructure renewal on the Public Works side of things. In 2013, this department oversaw a \$20-million budget.

In looking at what sort of model should be used for Hydro Westmount, Trent later

suggested one option is to put the utility under a small board of directors.

The fact that Hydro Westmount traditionally had its own commissioner of Light and Power (as it was called until 2000) "showed how important it was," he pointed out.

Only municipal utility in region

Westmount is the only city in the metropolitan region that has its own electrical distribution system, Trent noted. It owns and operates its own four sub-stations and network. It buys electricity from Hydro Quebec to distribute within the city's territory.

As a smaller operation, it has the flexibility to concentrate personnel on repairs and restoration of power to specific areas in times of outages.

During the ice storm of 1998, Hydro Westmount's power as a single large customer of Hydro Quebec enabled it to broker a deal with the provincial utility to buy a reduced amount of electricity in bulk, which it then provided within Westmount on a rotating basis to residential customers. This led to less hardship than what was experienced in other areas of the island and province.

Landscaper's block Redfern parking

A palette containing remnants of cut sod was found to have been left in the reserved parking zone for residents outside 234 Redfern October 10, Public Security officials said.

It belonged to landscapers working at the large apartment complex at 4300 de Maisonneuve. It was removed after the arrival of officers just after the complaint at 2:23 pm.

The Musical Ensembles of Église Mountainside United Church

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avec / with *Rafael de Castro*, orgue / organ
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Club

KRISTIN McNEILL

Being a homebody is not everyone's cup of tea. But after a life of wandering the streets, it could be just the thing.

Our featured underdog Tony doesn't know the first thing about being a homebody – he's never had a home.

This golden retriever-Lab mix was one of two dogs brought to Frontier Animal Shelter, saved from a life of roaming around a remote northern Quebec community.

Though his canine companion was adopted out quickly, young Tony remains. Perhaps used to a more untethered way of life and fending for himself, the two-year-old has not adapted well to a shelter environment. He is intelligent and learns quickly, but he is anxious: when he is in his kennel he wants to be out; when he is out, he wants to be in.

A committed adopter would be ideal, but even a chance to spend some time in a foster home would benefit Tony. The shelter is looking for someone who can spend one-on-one time with this bright dog and provide some structure. He gets along with people and other dogs, though he is mostly interested in playing fetch and has become quite good at it.

Shelter volunteers have eased him out of his state of frantic barking and have taught him to wait somewhat patiently for the ball to be thrown. He will fetch a ball for as many hours as someone will throw it.

This guy would like the chance to retire the memories of a life of roaming and become a homebody.

If you would like to know more about Tony and meet him, contact 819.876.7747



or frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com.


Underdog update

Betsy, also from Frontier Animal Shelter, was returned to the shelter by her adopter, who had allergies. This basset mix is a real cuddly gal and is back looking for a home.

Ticket for parking in handicapped space

A ticket for \$116 was issued to a car parked illegally in a spot reserved for handicap drivers October 28, according to Public Security officials. The driver, a man described as aged about 35, had refused to comply with a request to yield the space to a person requiring it outside 4014 St. Catherine at 5:43 pm. He also became "upset" when officers asked him to move his car.

6-week-olds saved from the pound



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

How can anyone leave a six-week-old kitten at a kill pound, let alone three of them? I will never understand.

Yet, we all do our part in rescuing them, offering them safe haven, ensuring they are healthy, then finding them the best of families.

So, please consider adopting these wee cuties: a silky short-haired grey male with blue eyes, a stunning long-haired grey female with blue eyes and a petite tortoise-shell female with yellow-green eyes.

They do not have names yet, but they are ready for their new families to name them.

For more information on these affectionate kittens, please do not hesitate to contact Anouk on her cellular at 514.234.2668 or by email at anouklecomptereamax@sympatico.ca. The rescue's website is www.aurepitolamontagne.com.

Call for towels

The extraordinary staff and volunteers from Humane Society International accompany the SPCA to puppy mill seizures across Quebec and take care of the pets until they are adoptable.

At their last seizure, they saved a number of young mother dogs with young pups and pregnant dogs who have now given birth in their maternity section.



They have a need for sheets, blankets, towels and doggy beds that are no longer new and are ready to be used in their puppy maternity ward.

They have reached out to ask if the community could donate fleece and bedding, as they have mothers and pups for some time until they are ready for new homes.

All items can be dropped off at the HSI offices located at 460 St. Catherine St. W., Suite 506, between 9 am and 5 pm.

You can email Ewa Demianowicz at edemianowicz@hsi.org or Chris Paré at cpare@his.org, or you can also call them at 514.395.2914 for more information.

Benefit

I am very pleased to again present an invitation from everyone at Little Bear Animal Supplies to a neighborhood open house wine & cheese benefit on the evening of Friday, December 6 from 5 pm to 7 pm and on Saturday, December 7 from 12 noon to 5 pm, at the Little Bear store, located at 4152 St. Catherine St.

Your neighbour, LYSANNE

Saputo supports JDRF



Westmounter Joey Saputo (fourth from right), honorary president of the JDRF Gala held on November 7 at L'Arsenal, presents a cheque for \$740,000 to the group. He was joined on stage by co-presidents Cathy Manticcolo and Errold Jean, as well as young diabetics Jonathan, AudreyAnn, Ingrid, Rosalie, Anthony, Liana and Annaïs. JDRF is a global organization focused on type 1 diabetes research.

Photo courtesy of JDRF.



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Shaar lunch celebrates Bell's *Danusia*

Social Notes

from Westmount
and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

A perfect early autumn afternoon brought out perfect fall fashions when a luncheon was held at the Shaar Hashomayim on September 23 in honour of local resident **Dana Bell's** book *Danusia*, an account of her early life during World War II.

Dana, dressed in black Chanel, attended with her husband **William**. On the cover, the charming picture of Dana (Danusia) as a young girl with a large bow in her hair, contrasts sharply with the trials that she lived through in eastern Europe during the war.

The event was organized by the Sisterhood of the Shaar and was co-chaired by Westmount residents and outgoing presidents **Nicole Kremer** and **Selina Eisenberg Smith**, who welcomed the incoming pres, Westmounter **Lilliana Azoulay Schwartz**.

The sit-down lunch
was held under a canopy *continued on p. 26*



Karys Marcus and Felicity Blatt.



Lilliana Azoulay Schwartz



William and Dana Bell.

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Social Notes, cont'd. from p. 25

delightfully decorated with cut-out hanging objects and lovely little paintings created by students of the Akiva School for Sukkot, the seven-day Jewish harvest festival. Table settings were colourfully cheerful, with fuchsia serviettes enlivening tablecloths showing different market produce.

As a refreshing change from a massive floral centrepiece, one simple yellow flower floated Zen-like in a bowl.

Guests included Westmounters Ruth Smiley, Dana's sister, and niece Joanna Shafter, Rhoda Vineberg, Karys Marcus, Lenore Harris, Ronnie Kolber, Stephanie Azrieli, Hannah Franklin, Hainya Wiseman, Felicity Blatt, Diane Cohen, Brenda Blatt, Vicki Feil, Lise Gallant, as well as Emmelle Segal, Beverly Hamburg, Nina

The Rotary Club of Westmount is ready to pickup reuseable household items for our sale. Rotary

We need useful, quality, working items: antiques, small furniture, paintings, lamps, housewares, toys, etc... Funds raised will go to community & international projects...as we have been doing for more than 80 years. Help Rotary help others. For a local pickup 514.935-3344 or info@rotarywestmount.org Our helpful sponsor: Dépôt-Clé Need storage space? www.depotcle.com



Karen Fried, Marlene Dick and former city councillor Rhoda Vineberg.

Berkson, Karen Fried, Marlene Dick and Cheryl Goffman.

Proceeds from the sale of Bell's book go to the Holocaust Centre.

Treasure for My Daughter in 14th printing

The Montreal Center of Canadian Hadassah WIZO (CHW Montreal) recently announced that the 14th printing of A Treasure for My Daughter is available.

CHW Montreal has been promoting the cookbook/reference book of Jewish festivals for over 63 years.

Conceived in the 1940s by the members of the Ethel Epstein Ein Chapter, the book was first published in 1950.

Copies are \$36 each. Contact CHW Montreal at 514.933.8461 or emailing alanna@montreal.chw.ca. Sales of the book will help fund CHW's projects and programs dedicated to the support of children, healthcare and women in Israel and Canada.

Arena from above



The arena/pool from above, taken by unmanned aerial vehicle on November 23.

Photo: Ralph Thompsen.

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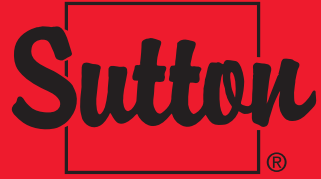
Westmount Adj: 3035 Cedar Modern and contemporary style home, completely renovated with high quality finishings. 3+1 bdrm, 3+1 bath, open concept floor plan, fireplace, finished basement + garage.
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Montreal West: 57 Wolseley N. Perfect 5 bedroom family home located on a quiet street in a great neighborhood. Bright and spacious with hardwood floors, large bay windows, renovated kitchen, and a finished basement
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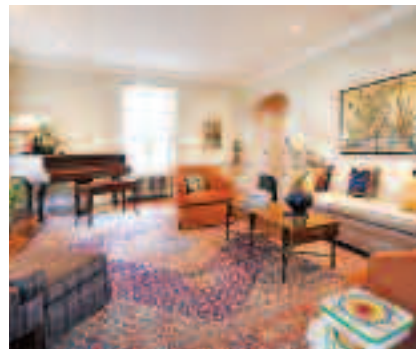
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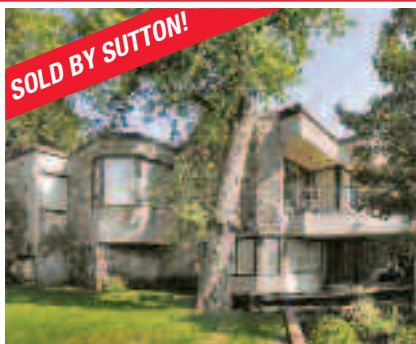
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