

Too many stop signs, 30 km/h zones

Traffic plan tabled for citizen reaction before adoption

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount has become a hodge-podge of inconsistent, confusing and outdated traffic regulations that pose important safety deficiencies, according to the long-awaited master traffic plan tabled by city council March 4.

Most traffic signals and calming devices do not conform to current best practices, ministry of Transport (MTQ) standards or even the city's own by-laws, states the report from Genivar consultants commissioned by the city some 18 months ago.

Among them are unwarranted mid-block stop signs and high-profile speed bumps used as calming devices, as well as the proliferation of all-way stop signs and 30 km/h speed zones.

The report recommends a uniform 40

km/h speed limit throughout Westmount except for streets around parks and schools and on some arterials, as well as the removal of outmoded or non-conforming calming devices.

Other highlights include the creation of diagonal pedestrian crossings, raised cross-walks, additional bike routes, on-street parking management options and on-street delivery zones for Greene and Victoria to prevent double parking.

The report advises the city to move quickly on pre-emptive measures to manage parking near the MUHC super-hospital, though details are noticeably absent. "This needs to be done before the opening of the hospital complex (in 2015) to avoid creating any habits by future users of the com-

continued on p. 3

Strange parking



This photo was e-mailed to the newspaper by a passer-by on March 3. The incident took place at the corner of Claremont and Lorraine. For story, see p. 6.

Photo courtesy of Flora Lee-Wagner

Deliver pool on time: City tells Pomerleau, Genivar

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The date for this summer's opening of the city's new pool remained clouded in "confusion and uncertainty" to members of the swimming community late last week after they had pressed city council March 4 about a rumoured delay.

This could leave residents without a pool for a second summer, jeopardize lifeguard jobs and, they suggested, cause irreparable harm to the Dolphins swim team, and even hobble pool fundraising

activities.

The pool opening issue was addressed at the start of the council meeting by Mayor Peter Trent saying the city was trying to confirm rumours that contractor Pomerleau was "not sure" the contracted delivery date of May 31 could be met. "A certain number" of lifeguards would be hired, however.

"We, the city, want Pomerleau to hold to the original schedule," he said. "We're looking at the legal side."

Councillor Patrick continued on p. 5

N° 3 in Québec

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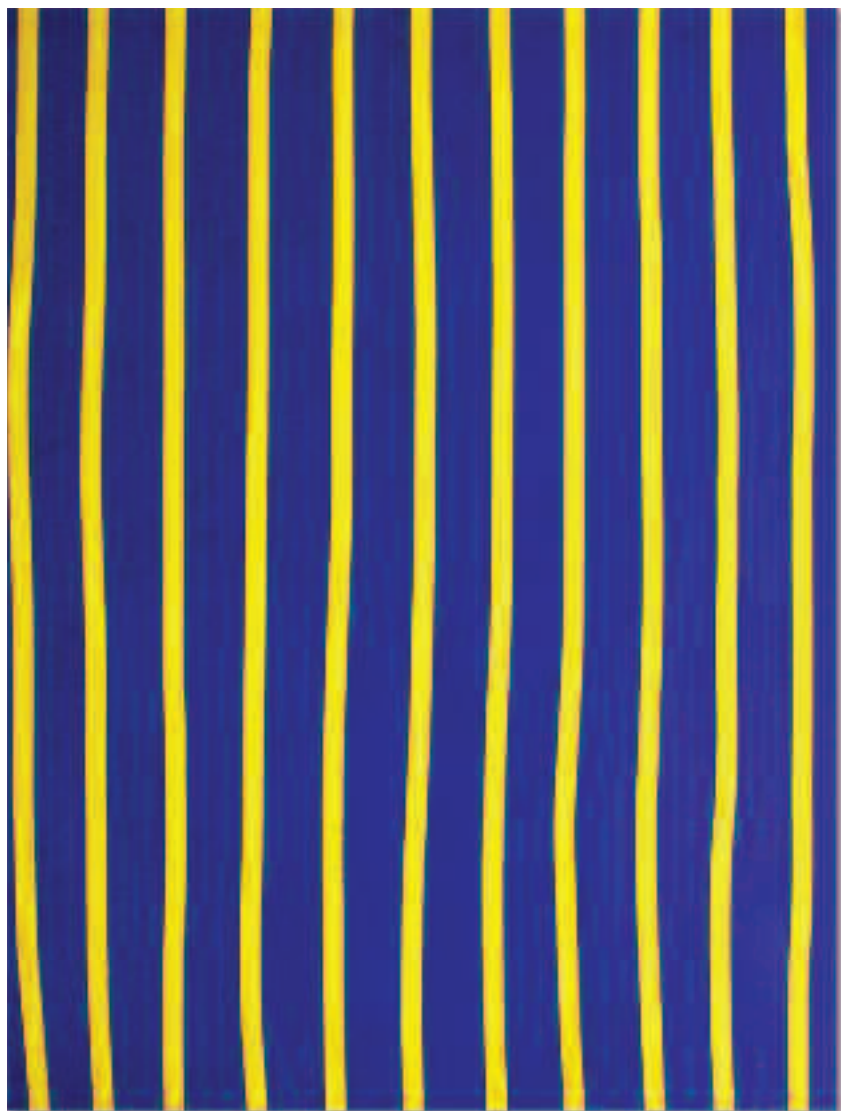
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Façade removed from former St. Catherine St. garage building

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The stone façade of a three-storey building on St. Catherine St. classified by Westmount as a Category 1 (heritage) building has been removed and placed in storage as a precaution against pieces falling off.

The building at 4032 St. Catherine St. served as an automotive sales and service centre for decades, until early December 2011 when a Subaru dealership, which had been there many years, moved out.

In 2010, the building caught the attention of the Régie du Bâtiment du Québec (RBQ), which is mandated to evaluate the structural soundness of buildings across the province.

The RBQ had asked the building's owner to produce an engineer's report, which recommended that the upper storeys no longer be used for their original purpose as a garage, although the lower floors could continue to be occupied by other types of businesses.

"The city issued a permit for the removal of the stone veneer last June," Joanne Poirier, director of the city of Westmount's Urban Planning department, told the *Independent*. "They removed it, and it has been stored in the garage on the ground floor."

According to Poirier, the building, whose construction dates back to the early 20th century, has a problem with its load-bearing capacity. "It was a structural problem that the RBQ identified, so they asked that no more cars be parked in that building because of the load," she said.

"In addition to that, the building has been deteriorating and there

was weaknesses with the anchoring of the stone veneer," she continued. "So the stone veneer was removed and piled up and stored at the ground-floor level of the building."

She said a netting that can now be seen covering the building's façade was probably put up to prevent the mortar, which was under the removed stone, from falling to the ground.

While certain elements of the building, including a columned front entrance, suggest it has a storied past, Poirier said there is only so much the city can do to make sure certain buildings are preserved when they have heritage value.

"The city can intervene for safety concerns, but we can't force an owner to rebuild," she said. "Obviously we are trying to preserve buildings. But when there is a dangerous situation, we cannot refuse the owner the right to dismantle the façade."

She said a requirement the city imposed is that the owner must be able to re-assemble and put the façade back when a decision is eventually made to rehabilitate the building.



Photo: Westmount Independent

The building at 4032 St. Catherine St. March 11. A green construction material covers its facade.

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Traffic blueprint proposed

cont'd. from p. 1

plex,” it explains.

Also missing are recommendations related to the de Maisonneuve bike path, which the report states does not conform to standards, as well as other cycling routes.

Two separate reports related to the super-hospital and bike paths have to be undertaken, Mayor Peter Trent told the council meeting.

City council is expected to adopt the Genivar report in a final version later this spring after citizens have had “a couple of months” to comment, he said. It is needed in time for inclusion of the some recommendations in the city’s 2014 budget.

Paul Marriott of Grosvenor Ave. said he was surprised to hear the traffic plan was still open for comment. Trent replied “We

didn’t want to hold it back,” pending “a great deal more work” on the cycling and MUHC plans.

All traffic measures should be undertaken, where topography permits, to allow for “universal accessibility” two words used extensively throughout the report.

While some changes can be implemented in the short-term at relatively little cost, others are proposed for policy-setting as a road map for the future when streets are rebuilt or “according to available funds.”

The report called *Westmount Traffic and Active Transportation Master Plan* consists of 100 pages of analysis and recommendations accompanied by an illustrated *Westmount Traffic Calming Guide* and other guidelines comprising another 50 pages.

It was developed to alleviate residents’ main concerns to reduce speed, and through-traffic on local [residential] streets and was one of the city council’s four priorities on taking office in 2009, explained Councillor Theodora Samiotis in tabling the document.

During its preparation, many citizen requests for traffic changes have been deferred unless they were considered to warrant immediate safety measures.

Resident Jerry Miller asked Trent to what extent the plan met council’s expectations and had it

provided a traffic vision.

“This is Genivar’s recommendation to us,” Trent replied. “We need to appropriate this ourselves. But to do that we wanted to get back to you all,” so it would be a process and not a plan created from the top down. He pointed out that citizens had identified their priorities to help set the objectives.

Problems would not be solved overnight, he said. Over the years when someone requested a stop sign to slow

down traffic, up went another. “Well, that’s not traffic planning.”

The report’s findings were to be posted in English and French on the city’s website. Copies are also available for consultation at city hall and the Westmount Public Library.

For traffic plan “Highlights at a glance,” see p. 6.



Jerry Miller asks about the master traffic plan during question period March 4 while Kenneth Near, rector of St. Matthias’ Church, waits his turn to speak.

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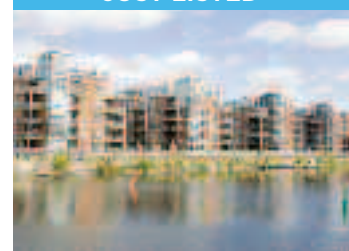
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NEWS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Roads not crumbling because of new recreation centre: Trent tells Fretz

The Westmount recreation centre has consumed "a huge amount of time" that might have been devoted to other projects by Councillor Patrick Martin, director general Duncan Campbell and himself, Trent acknowledged March 4 at the city council meeting.

"So in that sense it has hobbled us," he said.

But the "\$40-million" below-ground was not responsible for the deterioration of city infrastructure, either through money allocated to the project or time allegedly spent on it by Public Works personnel, he said.

Replying to suggestions from Lansdowne resident John Fretz that it had,

Trent insisted that neglect of the city's infrastructure was caused during the merger years when Montreal did not provide Westmount with the required level of capital works budget.

The reason the city had hired a project manager for the arena/pool project as well as other "outside people," he said, was to ensure Public Works personnel would not be drawn away from their own annual \$10-million of work.

Noting the city's fundraising for the new complex and allocations, Fretz suggested that "If we really wanted to, we could raise the money for a sound wall."

"If the rest of the citizens would pay for it," Trent replied.

Miss Vicky's deal under review

A tentative agreement between St. Matthias' Church and the city remains under legal review regarding the zoning of Miss Vicky's preschool at the church, director general Duncan Campbell reported at the city council meeting March 4.

An arrangement between the church and Miss Vicky's had been sent to the city by the church more than a month ago. It was reported at the time to have stated the church had set up a committee related to the school, which it considers to be an outreach program (see February 19, p. 8).

The ongoing issue of a for-profit school operating in a residential zone on Church Hill has been simmering for more than 15 months though the school has been in the church some 20 years.

Kenneth Near, the church rector, attended the council meeting and spoke to

the church's "desire to serve this community."

While he did not speak directly to specifics of the issue or the proposed arrangement with the city, he mentioned safety measures the church took to accommodate the children and said, "We're doing the best we can to ensure we're in compliance."

Once again, however, the issue, which includes traffic congestion, was raised by residents of the street Shelley Kerman and Bertha Dawang.

Kerman suggested that the city readjust timing of the no-right-turn off Côte St. Antoine onto Church Hill to after children were being delivered at 9 am. "We're looking into changing that to 9:30 am," Mayor Peter Trent said.

How about garbage pick-ups on same day?

Fed up with hauling out garbage, recycling and organics for collection on different days?

Maureen Kiely, a resident of The Boulevard, told council March 4 that she was. And Mayor Peter Trent agreed.

"Is it possible to have it all done on one day?" she asked. "It's so confusing," added

Trent.

Kiely said she was bringing it up now as the city was awarding collection contracts at the council meeting and she hoped because they weren't yet signed the city might be able to rearrange the pick-up schedules.

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MEETING, MARCH 4

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Pool, cont'd. from p. 1

Martin, who chairs the Westmount recreation centre's steering committee, told the *Independent* later last week, that the city "will be advising Pomerleau and Genivar (project managers) of the importance of respecting the project schedule."

At the meeting, Martin assured questioners that, "We'll use every tool at our disposal," to get the pool open.

Trent also reported he had met earlier with two representatives of Westmount swimmers – Nancy Nelson and Catherine

Bond – suggesting they were free to write directly to company president Pierre Pomerleau, a Westmount resident, to add pressure to the city's efforts "so we won't lose another summer."

Nelson later said they had decided to write to Pomerleau but that "There's a certain area of responsibility that seems unclear."

Bond, acting as unofficial secretary for the swimmers' group, told the *Independent* March 8 the letter had been delivered to Pomerleau that day (see story below).

She and Bond were among some seven residents expressing concerns about the pool opening at the council session.

A priority decision?

Among them, Richard Bond of Lansdowne Ave. said it seemed "strange" that the overall project with two rinks was reported to be on schedule for delivery in October, but that the pool might be behind schedule. It appeared someone, he suggested – Pomerleau, Genivar or within the "camp" – "has made a priority decision."

Would the city leverage its 10-percent holdback on regular

payments if the pool were not delivered on time, he asked. Trent said the city would do "more than that," but that financial restitution would not give residents a pool for the summer.

Cost 'prohibitive' to offer programs elsewhere

Pool user Caroline Palmer asked if the city might offer its swimming programs at an alternative site. Trent said it had been suggested that the city set up a temporary pool (as the city had done with a skating rink this winter at the Westmount Athletic Grounds), but the cost would be "prohibitive."

Robert McCulloch, of Greene, asked how a pool fundraiser on August 24 would attract volunteers to participate "if we don't have a pool?" Trent agreed saying "Our fundraising very much depends on the pool being open."

Skyler Wittman, of Abbott, who had applied for his fifth year as a lifeguard, said he was one of only a few who had received any response from their applications, and that he, as the others, had been told to be available for other work.

A first-time applicant and Westmount resident Hannah Trineer-Roberts questioned how the city planned to get a crew together when applicants had "moved on."

Martin said he was personally satisfied that Pomerleau had the capacity to deliver on time (see March 5, p. 10). But he added, "we're a little concerned" the pool area was still being used as a construction staging ground for the arena.



Richard Bond questions council March 4 on the pool opening date. Seated at left is Nancy Nelson, who met with Mayor Peter Trent earlier on the subject.

Bond appeals to Pomerleau to deliver pool on time

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount pool-user Catherine Bond took to heart an invitation from Mayor Peter Trent March 4 to relay concerns of Westmount swimmers to the arena/pool contractor that the new pool might not open on time this summer.

In a letter to Westmount resident Pierre Pomerleau – president of the company bearing his name – Bond writes of her "great disappointment" at learning of a possible delay in the scheduled opening of May 31, which she noted was "only a rumour," according to Trent.

While Pomerleau was out of the country and unavailable for comment March 11, according to a representative in his office, she confirmed that the Bond letter had been received. At press time Monday,

Marcel Dubé, construction company project director, told the *Independent* that he would have more information after a

meeting that afternoon with the city.

"How is it not possible to build a pool for this continued on p. 17

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NO BIKE-RIDING ON CITY PARK PATHS, SAYS BY-LAW

I would like to address two things. The first would be to applaud city workers for how well kept the paths in Westmount Park have been this winter. It cannot have been easy with all the snowfall we had. They did a wonderful job of plowing.

The second is to say “Well said, Johnny Davidson” (“The start of a ‘bikee’ cult,” March 5, p. 6). For those cyclists who think we are fanatics, please read the city by-law which states: No vehicles or bicycles shall be driven or ridden in any city park, except city vehicles, invalids’ chairs and infants’ carriages, provided that nothing in this section or in Sections Two or Three shall prevent the use of any driveway in the parks by vehicles or bicycles approaching or leaving any private property to which such driveway is the ordinary means of approach (By-Law 69, section 4).

People have the right to walk the paths of the park without having to scoot out of the way of bicycles coming through.

BELINDA BOWES, ACADEMY RD.

CANADIAN FLAGS NOT FOR SALE AT DOWNTOWN \$ STORE

Our country’s flag not available? How very sad I was to learn there were no Canadian flags for sale in the dollar store on St. Catherine St. at Fort – only Quebec flags.

Is this what our province has succumbed to? I was looking for a Canadian flag to cheer our country on at the world figure skating championships in London, Ontario. No doubt, there will be an abundance of Canadian flags available in Ontario!

BEVERLEY HUTCHISON, KITCHENER AVE.

GOOD TO LIVE IN WESTMOUNT

I moved to Westmount six months ago and am living in what I would call a cozy spot on Mount Stephen. My experience is exactly the opposite of what I heard growing up in Dollard des Ormeaux. Besides all of the politics in Quebec, Westmount seems to have its fair share of politics, which satisfies me greatly because it means the community is engaged. Thank you!

To some surprise I imagine, you may not believe I am a 22-year-old, raving about Westmount, but after living out west (Edmonton and Vancouver) for two years and having driven across Canada twice, there is no doubt in my mind that Westmount is the best community in Canada, barring no one in North Vancouver or Toronto reads this letter, of course.

I would like to encourage the community of Westmount to keep pushing forward and striving for quality and firmness.

KEVIN SAVARD, MOUNT STEPHEN

Highlights at a glance

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The following changes are among many recommendations contained in the city’s master traffic plan in the following areas of concern (see main story, p. 1).

Cycling

Creation of east-west bike lanes on Côte St. Antoine, Westmount Ave. and potentially a north-south one on Victoria; winterizing of the network including the de Maisonneuve route and adjusting its strip between Atwater and Greene to accommodate increasing bike use in the future; expand Bixi network; install more bike racks and covered parking areas.

Pedestrian improvements

Replace current “undulating” sidewalks that dip at every driveway and street corner by level ones and raised crosswalks such as those recently installed on Greene Ave.; widen sidewalks where possible and remove any obstruction; slopes should minimize the pooling of water; provide adequate crossing times at lights.

Public transit

Review locations of taxi stands; install benches at all bus stops; increase the number of car-sharing stations.

Traffic flow

Set the speed limit at 40 km/h; reduce number of lower limits to simplify com-

pliance and enforcement; use “road diets” to narrow wider streets (sections of Westmount Ave., Dorchester, The Boulevard, de Maisonneuve, St. Catherine) and relocate street space to other users (cyclists, pedestrians); implement accepted calming devices, neighbourhood “gateways” to reduce speed entering residential areas; narrow visual corridors; adjust traffic lights on arterials to manage speed and flow of through traffic.

Parking

Review on-street parking regulations; establish zonal system for permits; install meters that provide for variable pricing, use of credit cards; ensure enforcement that is not overly aggressive but ensures adherence to regulations.

Street redesign

When rebuilding streets, incorporate calming devices where warranted and incorporate “universal access.”

External projects

In coordination with the provincial Transport ministry, city of Montreal, transit authorities or other stakeholders as required: plan for traffic and parking impact from projects such as the super-hospital, Turcot reconstruction, residential building along St. Catherine St. from Atwater to Guy, re-use of the Montreal Children’s Hospital building and regional changes.

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Accident on Lorraine

No one was injured in a freak accident March 3 when a car shot up onto a pile of hard snow where it remained completely suspended at the northeast corner of Claremont and Lorraine, Public Security officials report. Two tow trucks were needed to finally dislodge it.

The car was reported to have catapulted onto the snow when the driver, a Claremont woman, appeared to have hit the accelerator accidentally while parking northbound just south of Lorraine shortly before 11:30 am.

The house was not damaged and it was fortunate no one had been in the car’s path at the time, said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain.

— LS

See photo, p. 1.

Follow-up finds man needed more help

A 71-year-old man who fell at Lansdowne and Côte St. Antoine February 28 at 2:18 pm was helped to his house nearby by Public Works personnel, who had seen the incident, Public Security officials said. While the man had refused medical attention, public safety officers were informed and visited the home to check on his condition. Just as they arrived, he was reported to have “collapsed” again for what they discovered was the third time within the hour. He had sustained head injuries and was taken to the Montreal General Hospital by Urgences Santé.

Correction

The photo story “‘Rink 2’ covered by acre of concrete” (March 5, p. 11) incorrectly stated that “close to an acre of concrete” was used for the roof of the arena project’s east rink. In fact, a slab for each of the east and west rinks has an area of about half an acre each.

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LEED features outlined in Trent's latest arena report

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Mayor Peter Trent's third progress report on the Westmount recreation centre that was to be sent to all households this week highlights an array of features aimed at certifying the arena/pool project to the gold level of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

The project's underground design will provide an acre of green space and will result in energy conservation, he writes.

In addition to the fundraising pledges that have reached \$4.5 million of the \$6-million target, "we are currently negotiating with various Westmount schools for ice time rentals" in order to control operating costs once the complex is built.

"Because they use the rinks only during the day," he explains, "schools do not interfere with citizen demand."

Describes LEED features

Describing some of the LEED features, Trent reports that at 10 metres under-

ground, where the temperature is a constant 15°C year-round, heating and air conditioning costs will be "drastically reduced." Heat is to be extracted from water to make ice and used to warm dressing rooms and common spaces, shower water and outdoors pools.

"Ecologically, the Westmount Recreational Centre is exceptional," he says.

The complex will also be "universally accessible" including ramps into the swimming pool. Natural light will be supplied underground to the agora – or common assembly space – via a large light well, while a large retention basin will capture storm water run-off, he states.

In addition, 90 percent of the demolition materials from old arena have been recycled.

The project, he says, "is just about on time and on budget," within one percent of the budget "except for the decontamination costs." While these were greater than expected, the soil is being "permanently removed from Westmount."

Stern steps down at Jewish General

Westmounter Dr. Hartley Stern, executive director of the Jewish General Hospital since 2008, has announced he will step down, effective October 2013.

In 2012, Stern suffered a serious heart attack, but has since fully recovered. Nevertheless, he is calling it quits as executive director, writing to the hospital's employees: "As I will now be focusing on my own transition, to each and every one of you I extend my personal gratitude and admiration. I know that I am leaving the hospital in a very strong position."

In a March 8 press release, the hospital singled out "significant advancements in safety and quality" as "bedrocks of his

tenure," and pointed out progress during his term on the Pavilion K critical care wing.

"Dr. Stern brought a new management style to the hospital and vision for public healthcare to Quebec," said Westmounter Rick Dubrovsky, president of the Jewish General. "He worked collaboratively with elected officials at all levels of government and with colleagues in the Health ministry, the Montreal health agency and other institutions to build a stronger system."

Stern is a colorectal cancer surgeon. The hospital had no information on his future career plans.

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CRITIQ is not a political party. CRITIQ stands in opposition to all Quebec-based, discriminatory legislation violating the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (the "Charter"). As such, CRITIQ views The Quebec Charter of the French Language ("Bill 101"), as socially regressive, economically damaging and fundamentally in breach of the Charter. CRITIQ seeks to actively and formally support litigation seeking the invalidation of those portions of Bill 101 that violate the fundamental rights and freedoms of Quebecers, and seeks to rally all Canadians in support of this cause.

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Photos: Westmount Independent

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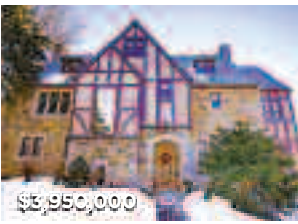


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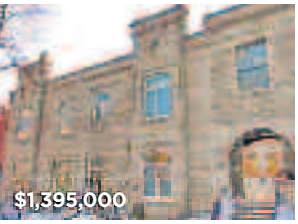
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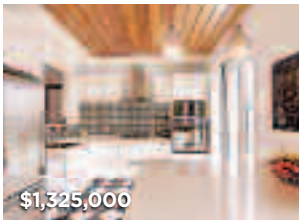
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Councillor wants Montreal to follow Westmount

Excluding contingencies a ‘best practice’: Martin

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The Westmount recreation centre (WRC) appears to have brought forth a “best practice” in the control of contract “extras” and their subsequent transparency.

Without any contingency built into the project’s initial \$38.3-million budget, any extra costs along the way have to come back to a city council meeting for approval, as previously reported by city council (see December 4, 2012, p. 10).

Expenditures to be voted on for Public Works and Hydro Westmount

But now, the same policy is being extended to the city’s overall tendering and contractual process, Councillor Patrick Martin announced at the March 4 city council meeting in which a number of expenditures were voted on for Public Works and Hydro Westmount.

“You will note that throughout there’s no mention of contingencies,” he said. “Henceforth all contracts will be awarded without a contingency.”

That doesn’t mean the city won’t re-

serve funds in the event of unforeseen events causing cost overruns on a contract, he explained. But rather that the administration won’t have the authority to proceed without “coming to this room for discussion and a vote.”

This will provide an additional measure of control over extras, according to Martin. It is such extras that are being shown before the Charbonneau commission to have been ripe for collusion.

“But we’re actually ahead of the curve on this because long before the hearings began, we initiated the contract for the WRC,” he later told the *Independent*.

“It also sends a message to contractors working in Westmount that if they have extras in mind they have hoops to jump through to try to obtain them.”

Martin, who is council’s commissioner of Utilities and Public Works as well as vice chair of the Montreal/agglo contracts review commission, said he had already recommended a similar change for implementation in Montreal, “but it takes much longer to change procedures in a big city.”



Students from Concordia’s school of journalism attending the city council meeting March 4, gather around Councillor Patrick Martin afterward to learn more about the city’s move to exclude contingencies from all expenditure contracts. He called it his “first media scrum.”



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Hotel union protests on Edgehill



Denis Martel with the Conseil central du Montréal métropolitain speaks with police, flanked by a Westmount Public Security van, on the corner of Edgehill and The Boulevard March 8.

BY RALPH THOMPSON

A small protest took place around noon on March 8 at corner of The Boulevard and Edgehill by a group of L'Hotel Maritime employees. They were protesting outside what they said was the home of Jack Sofer, who is a co-owner of Tidan Group, the owner of the downtown hotel.

The police refused to comment on the situation saying it was a private matter, but

a translator for the Syndicat des travailleuses et des travailleurs de l'hôtel Maritime CSN said that "employees have been locked out of the [Guy St.] hotel since August 30, 2012, and we were exercising our right to make our voices heard. We were protesting peacefully, and we are leaving voluntarily."

A person answering the reporter's call into the hotel said that the hotel was closed permanently due to a labour dispute.

Night work permitted at Château Maisonneuve

Public safety officers were called to the apartment building at 4998 de Maisonneuve for a complaint of heavy machinery in operation at 9 pm on February 27. They reported finding heavy vibration coming from work in the underground garage. Public Security officials said the work was deemed urgent and that it would continue for several months. Officers remained on the site until 10 pm to ensure it stopped at that time as specified on a permit. The matter was referred to Urban Planning for attention.

Trucks had permit to occupy sidewalk

Public safety officers were called to the construction site at 215 Redfern February 28 by a resident of the street for a cement truck parked on the sidewalk at 7:42 am. Public Security officials said that trucks involved in the pouring of concrete were found on the east sidewalk directly in front

Crane operator driven for permit

The operator of a crane at Victoria and Somerville February 26 was driven to Public Works by a public safety officer just after 8:15 am to pick up a permit for the machine to occupy the sidewalk, Public Security officials said. The operator told officers he had tried to obtain a permit but was told it wasn't needed. It turned out he had mistakenly gone to Hydro Westmount, so he was taken to the correct office. The work involved installing a ventilation unit on the roof of the building at the southwest corner.

of the site. The sidewalk on the west side was clear, however, and accessible to pedestrians and two flagmen were on duty. Permits had been issued for the work, the site was securely set up, monitored and considered to be in order.



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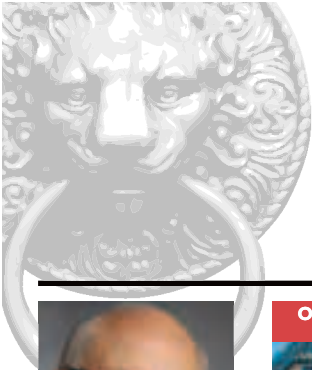
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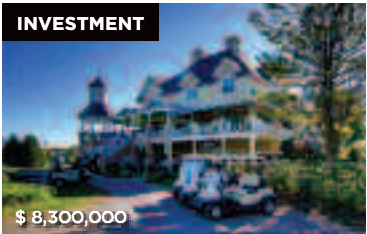
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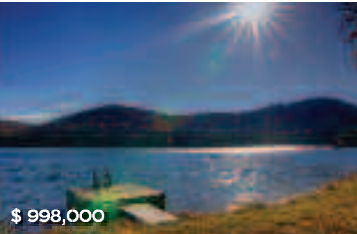
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64 Columbia: Rapid-fire transactions



History by the house

ANDY DODGE, CRA

One of Westmount’s earliest land speculators was Edwin Atwater, a Vermont native who moved to Montreal in 1830 and married American Lucy Huntington Greene in 1833. Together, they had eight children, and he started the Montreal City and District Savings Bank, among other ventures. In 1872, along with two of Greene’s brothers, they purchased a significant tract of land from the estate of Thomas Allen Stayner in what was to become, two years later, southeastern Notre Dame de Grâce.

Originally the land had been granted to the Religious Ladies of Hôtel Dieu in the seignory of the Fief St. Augustin and sold in 1853 as the growing city began to look westward.

By the time Notre Dame de Grâce was divided and the Village of Côte St. Antoine had turned into a town (1890), streets were laid out and subdivisions created for a burgeoning population. Though it appears on an 1897 map that an extension of Olivier Ave. was to stretch south from Dorchester, the name given was in fact Columbia Ave., on which lots of 25 by 92 feet were laid out

on the west side, and 25 by 102 feet on the east side (except for the lowest lot on each side bordering the CPR right-of-way, which had recently been established).

These lots were sold to Claveriny Thomas Swindburne Armstrong Peverley, said to be an “agent” with no further distinction, for 35 cents per square foot. He set about finding contractors to build houses, and sold 40 feet of land on the west side to Gardiner Gilday, a builder, who designed two 20-foot width houses next door to a lot owned by Mrs. Thomas Gilday, whose husband was a roofer.

The land, which Peverley sold for 50 cents per square foot, stipulated that Gilday was “to erect on said property only a first-class building of stone or brick to set back eight feet from the line of the street and in any subsequent deed of mutation to bind the purchaser to fulfil this condition.”

The houses apparently were built on or around 1898 and may have been rented for a couple of years until February 1901, when 64 Columbia – the first time we see that street name – was sold to John Glegg, a commercial traveller, for \$4,000. This began a series of rapid-fire sales of this property: in February 1903, Elizabeth Collin-White, the wife of William Baird, purchased the property and leased it back to Glegg for at least two months at \$27.50 per month. She sold it in April 1905 to Catherine *continued on p. 15*



64 Columbia (middle).

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House history, 64 Columbia, cont'd. from p. 14

McMullin, the wife of Peter McGoldrick, for \$4,300, taking over a loan, which was originally issued to Gardiner Gilday.

On June 28, 1912, George Hartnett, an immigration inspector, put down \$6,000 to purchase the house, but on August 30 of the same year he sold it back to McMullin for the same \$6,000. At the time she took out a loan with the Protestant Infants House, repayable in five years with an interest rate of six percent. Then in April 1913, Dame Vaughan Earle, wife of John Walsh, a miner, purchased the property for \$7,500, taking over the loan and adding another to McMullin for \$2,500. For whatever reason that loan was abruptly cancelled on October 31, and the house was purchased by John Walsh himself five days later.

Complicated will

The next sale, on May 25, 1917, turned the house over to Colin McPhee, a financier who had a taste for buying real estate; he also purchased 380 Grosvenor Ave. and various land lots in Notre Dame de Grâce and Côte des Neiges. McPhee paid \$7,277.30 for the Columbia property, slightly less than Walsh had paid for it in 1913. But, in 1920 McPhee died and left a long and complicated will. Suffice to say

that Alexandre McPhee and John Ross purchased the house from the estate for \$7,005 that year, turning it over to Edward Turley, a mechanical engineer, for \$7,000 in May 1922. The loan to the Protestant Infants House – extended by McPhee in 1917 – was still in force and was transferred to the new owner.

Turley ownership

Thus began a long stretch of ownership in one family, punctuated by the death of Turley in August 1936, after which Mary Turley, wife of Ivor Roche, took ownership for a declared price of only \$3,000.

Apparently the Roches lived there happily until she died in July 1970. The house was picked up by John Claus, who lived at 57 Columbia, for \$18,000. After successfully renting to James Garnett for \$250 a month, he turned over the title to Janina van Herbstreit in December 1971 for \$20,500. Eventually she made improvements while the market blossomed in the 1970s, and finally she sold to J. Jacques Morneau in August 1979 for \$72,000.

The 1980s saw continued growth in the market. Marie Delorme purchased the house in July 1982, for \$105,000. Three years later that price had grown to \$135,000, paid by Paul Cohen, a sales rep-

resentative, and then in 1989 as the market peaked he was able to obtain \$257,500 from George Kubac Professional Corporation, of which George Kubac was the only

History of 64 Columbia

| Date | Buyer | Price \$ |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 14 June, 1893 | Claveriny Peverley | 35¢/ft. |
| 3 May, 1898 | Gardiner Gilday | \$1,840 |
| 1 Feb., 1901 | John Glegg, | 4,000 |
| 2 Feb., 1903 | Elizabeth Collin-White | 4,000 |
| 20 Apr., 1905 | Catherine McMullin | 4,300 |
| 28 June, 1912 | George Hartnett | 6,000 |
| 30 Aug., 1912 | Catherine McMullin | 6,000 |
| 25 Apr, 1913 | Vaughan Earle | 7,500 |
| 5 Nov., 1913 | John Walsh | 7,500 |
| 25 May, 1917 | Colin McPhee | 7,277 |
| 30 Oct., 1920 | Alexandre McPhee and John Ross | 7,005 |
| 23 May, 1922 | Edward Turley | 7,000 |
| 10 Feb., 1940 | Mary Turley | 3,000 |
| 21 Sep., 1971 | John Claus | 18,000 |
| 14 Dec., 1971 | Janina van Herbstreit | 20,500 |
| 17 Aug., 1979 | J. Jacques Morneau | 72,000 |
| 23 July, 1982 | Marie Delorme | 105,000 |
| 12 Aug., 1985 | Paul Cohen | 135,000 (\$1) |
| 26 July, 1989 | George Kubac Professional Corp. | 257,500 |
| 12 June, 1992 | Diana Kuilman | 205,000 |
| 2 Apr., 2002 | Michèle Rivet | 290,000 |
| 1 June, 2006 | Susana Hinojosa | 583,000 |

shareholder.

As the market turned down, Diana Kuilman was able to buy the property for \$205,000 in June 1992, but after Quebec's second referendum and the upturn of the market in the late 1990s, she was able to sell it in April 2002 for \$290,000.

Michèle Rivet began extensive renovations and was able to double her initial outlay by selling to Susana Hinojosa, the current owner, in June 2006 for \$583,000.

The most recent sale of a house on Columbia in August 2011 involved 92 Columbia for \$895,000, so it can be safely assumed that the modest rowhouse has a stronger value today.



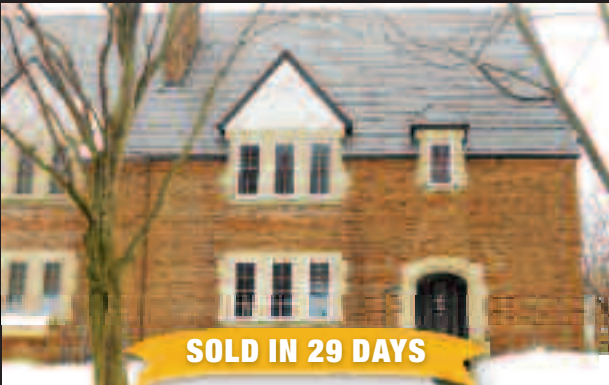
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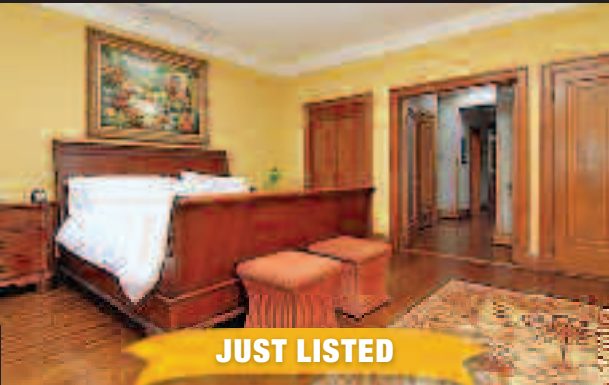
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infoWestmount

SPORTS ET LOISIRS

Activités printemps et été 2013

L'édition printemps et été 2013 du Guide des activités communautaires et culturelles, sportives et de loisirs de Westmount vous parviendra sous peu ! Les inscriptions débutent le **lundi 18 mars**. Info: 514 989-5353.

CENTRE DES LOISIRS DE WESTMOUNT

Suivez l'avancement du CLW

Suivez l'avancement du projet; envoyez un message à centredesloisirswestmount@westmount.org, suivez-nous sur Twitter [@constructionalert](https://twitter.com/constructionalert) et aimez-nous sur Facebook au [westmountrecreationcentre](https://www.facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre). De plus, vous trouverez des photos sur le site web www.westmount.org. Les résidents recevront sous peu par courrier un nouveau rapport du Maire Peter F. Trent.



Campagne de financement du CLW

Préparez-vous pour la phase communautaire de la campagne CLW, qui sera dévoilé bientôt. Parmi les événements de levée de fonds proposés : un tournoi de hockey de rue durant la Journée familiale, la fabuleuse soirée printanière au Victoria Hall, un tournoi de tennis de 3 jours et un festival aquatique et rodéo de camions-restaurateurs. Consultez le guide d'activités printemps/été, ou suivez les médias pour en savoir plus.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

L'heure du conte : *The Lost Art of Listening*

Le jeudi 14 mars à 19 h. Le conteur Brad Woods puise son inspiration de faits réels, de contes traditionnels et de sa propre expérience de vie pour approfondir l'art du conte. Venez prêter une oreille attentive à ses histoires tantôt passionnantes, tantôt humoristiques. Info : 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture anglaise

Le mardi 19 mars à 19 h. Joignez-vous au club pour discuter du roman *Half-Blood Blues* d'Esi Edugyan. Info : 514 989-5299.

Rencontre d'auteure

Le mercredi 27 mars à 19 h. Venez rencontrer Deirdre Kelly, auteure de *Ballerina: Sex, Scandal and Suffering Behind the Symbol of Perfection*. Info: 514 989-5299.

Prochaine séance du conseil :
le mardi 2 avril

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Killer Beauty avec Adria Vasil

Le mercredi 13 mars à 19 h au Victoria Hall. Les ingrédients de vos produits cosmétiques et produits domestiques vous inquiètent? Renseignez-vous sur les alternatives écologiques lors de cette conférence annuelle à la mémoire de Lanie Melamed, présentée par l'Action cancer du sein de Montréal et l'Institut Simone de Beauvoir. Présentation en anglais avec traduction simultanée. Gratuit. Info : 514 483-1846.

Défilé de la Saint-Patrick

Le dimanche 17 mars à midi. Centre-ville de Montréal. Participez au défilé ! L'équipe Westmount vous attend à l'intersection du boulevard René-Lévesque et la rue Crescent. Info : 514 989-5226.

Les Baccantes : interprétation théâtrale et discussion

Le mercredi 20 mars à 19 h au Victoria Hall. Joignez-vous aux étudiants et professeurs de McGill en études classiques et littéraires pour une présentation avec discussion des scènes de la tragédie d'Euripide. Info : lynn.kozak@mcgill.ca.

Association historique de Westmount

Le jeudi 21 mars à 19 h à la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount. Conférencier : Dr Edwin Coffey, Église unie Mountainside. Info: 514 989-5510.

Une heure pour la terre 2013

Le samedi 23 mars à 18 h au Victoria Hall. Films, kiosques d'information, musique, invités et observation d'étoiles et de planètes (20 h 15 à 21 h 30). Info: 514 989-5265 ou www.westmount.org.

Galerie : appel de dossiers

La galerie du Victoria Hall lance un appel de dossiers pour sa programmation de la saison 2013-2014 (septembre 2013 à août 2014). Ce concours s'adresse aux artistes professionnels ou émergents qui habitent Westmount. Les propositions doivent inclure 10 photographies ou images électroniques d'œuvres récentes (programmation générale) ou 5 photographies (volet groupe); une liste des œuvres présentées et les renseignements s'y rattachant (titre, dimensions, année, etc.), Svp indiquer si vous posez votre candidature pour la programmation générale ou le volet exposition de groupe, ou pour les deux.

Période d'inscription annuelle : du 15 février au 15 avril. Les dossiers doivent être envoyés au soin du Comité de sélection, Victoria Hall, 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, H3Z 1E2 ou déposés au Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest. Info : 514 989-5521 ou victoriahall@westmount.org.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Spring and summer 2013 activities

Watch your mailbox this week for the spring and summer 2013 edition of the *Westmount Community and Cultural Events, Sports and Recreation Activities Guide*. Registration begins on **Monday, March 18**. Info: 514 989-5353.

WESTMOUNT RECREATION CENTRE

Follow the progress of the WRC

Receive updates on the construction. Mail us at westmountrecreationcentre@westmount.org, follow us on Twitter : [@constructionalert](https://twitter.com/constructionalert) and like us on Facebook at [westmountrecreationcentre](https://www.facebook.com/westmountrecreationcentre). Check out the most recent photos of the construction at www.westmount.org. Residents will also soon receive a progress report by mail from Mayor Peter F. Trent.

WRC Fundraising Campaign

Stay tuned for more information about the community phase of the WRC Campaign! Fundraising events will include a Street Hockey Tournament on Family Day, this year's glamorous Spring Soirée at Victoria Hall, a 3-day Tennis Tournament and an Aquatics Festival and Food Truck Rodeo. Watch for details in the spring/summer activities guide and in the media.

LIBRARY

Storytelling Event: The Lost Art of Listening
Thursday, March 14 at 7 p.m. Join storyteller Brad



Woods as he uses traditional tales, original stories and personal stories to explore the power and art of storytelling. Come prepared to learn, to laugh and most importantly, to listen. Info: 514 989-5299.

English Book Club

Tuesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. Join the Club to discuss *Half-Blood Blues* by Esi Edugyan. Info: 514 989-5299.

Author Event

Wednesday, March 27 at 7 p.m. Meet Deirdre Kelly, author of *Ballerina: Sex, Scandal and Suffering Behind the Symbol of Perfection* on Info: 514 989-5299.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Killer Beauty with Adria Vasil

Wednesday, March 13, 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Worried about the ingredients in your cosmetics and other personal products? Find out about green alternatives at the 9th annual Lanie Melamed Memorial Event presented by Breast Cancer Action Montreal and the Simone de Beauvoir Institute. In English with translation. Admission free. Info: 514 483-1846.

Next Council Meeting:
Tuesday, April 2

St. Patrick's Parade
Sunday, March 17 at noon.

Downtown Montreal. Join the Westmount contingent! Meet us at the corner of Crescent Street and René-Lévesque Boulevard. Info: 514 989-5226.



Baccae: performance and discussion

Wednesday, March 20 at 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Join McGill students and teachers of English and Classics in a presentation of scenes from the tragic play by Euripides and a discussion. Info: lynn.kozak@mcgill.ca.

Westmount Historical Association

Thursday, March 21 at 7 p.m. at the Westmount Public Library. Guest presenter: Dr. Edwin Coffey, Mountainside United Church. Info: 514 989-5510.



Earth Hour 2013

Saturday, March 23 at 6 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Information exhibits, Films, music, special guests and stargazing (8:15 to 9:30 p.m.). Info: 514 989-5265 or www.westmount.org.

Gallery: Call for projects

The Gallery at Victoria Hall announces its Call for projects for the 2013-2014 exhibition season (September 2013 to August 2014). Emerging or professional artists residing in Westmount are invited to apply.



Please include ten photographs or electronic images of recent works for a season exhibition or five photographs for the group exhibition category, a descriptive list of the photographs submitted (title, size,

year completed, etc.); a short résumé and an artist's statement and indicate whether you are applying for a season exhibition, a group show, or for both.

Annual registration period: February 15 to April 15.

Please forward your project to the Gallery Selection Committee, Victoria Hall, 4333 Sherbrooke St. W., H3Z 1E2 or deliver it to Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W. Info: 514 989-5521 or victoriahall@westmount.org.



Station 12 Reports

Second Lexus stolen from Westmount home

BY ISAAC OLSON

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

For the second time in just over a month, a Lexus was stolen from a home on Argyle Ave. sometime in the night between March 5 and 6.

As reported in the February 5 edition of

Pool letter, cont'd. from p. 5

summer when the two rinks will open in time for the hockey season?" she asks in French in the letter delivered March 8.

"With three months remaining until the expected opening date, I appeal to your expertise and consideration so we may have our pool back again in time for the summer," she writes.

Bond notes that Westmount was "a community of swimmers composed of young and old, of families, single persons, and children enrolled in day camps." They include young people who take lessons at the pool and members of the Dolphins swim team who train there.

"For all these people, the Westmount pool is essential: it is at the heart of summer activities for a large part of the population." More than a public pool, it is a meeting place," she points out. "If people hear that for a second consecutive year they won't have the pool, I am afraid the damage will be irreversible."

While Bond signs it personally, she is in fact writing with the support of a group from the swimming community as their "unofficial secretary," according to Nancy Nelson who, with Bond, met Trent on the issue before the city council meeting (see story p. 5).

the *Independent*, a 2010 Lexus sedan was stolen from the Argyle Ave. property in late January, vanishing without a trace. Also around that time, a 2010 Lexus SUV, with its doors locked and the alarm set, was stolen from a driveway on Kitchener Ave.

Most recently, said Station 12 constable Adalbert Pimentel, a Lexus SUV, which had an alarm and an anti-start device, was silently stolen in the night from the driveway of the same Argyle Ave. home. Noting the report doesn't indicate whether the car's alarm was set, Pimentel said the thieves managed to take the vehicle without breaking any glass sometime between 9 pm and 7:30 am. There were no witnesses.

In the February 5 report, Constable Caroline Gauthier said when cars of the same make are stolen back-to-back, there is reason to believe the crimes are related and that the skilled thieves could be part of an organized group.

Pimentel said there was nothing in the police report that indicated it is organized crime, but the possibility existed as there

are organized criminal groups who, working as a team, target specific vehicles to be shipped overseas. He, emphasized that he has not heard of any connections being made between the crimes.

The Montreal police, he added, does have a unit dedicated to tracking down these types of criminal gangs.

Two break-ins

On March 1 at around 3 am, a thief smashed the front door glass of Premium Boutique on Greene Ave., Station 12 constable Adalbert Pimentel said, referring to a police report. Undeterred by the alarm, the burglar went straight for the cash register and cleaned it out. Pimentel declined to say how much cash was stolen, according to policy. As of last week, police had no camera footage or witnesses, and the case was still under investigation.

Pimentel said it is important that store owners empty their cash drawers every night and, ideally, they should display the empty cash drawer to the window so potential burglars can see there is nothing to steal.

On March 2, just before midnight, a burglar broke a Sunnyside Ave. home's backdoor window, reached in and unlocked the door. There was nobody home at the time, but the alarm was set off as soon as the thief entered the home, said Pimentel.

With the alarm blaring, the suspect worked fast in a frenzied, five-minute search for valuables. The constable said the thief made off with jewelry and cash, leaving behind no fingerprints. There were no witnesses. Police are still investigating.

Pimentel said this is where a double deadbolt comes in handy. A lock that requires a key on both sides leaves residents with the option of taking the interior key out of the lock for security and, even if the window gets broken, the thief won't be able to unlock the door.

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To reserve:

catherinemckenzieauthor@gmail.com

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Great dialogue brings life to fiction, but how is it written? Join author Catherine McKenzie for a workshop on crafting tight, narrative-propelling dialogue. Participants are welcomed (but not required) to submit up to five pages for possible discussion.

Saturday, April 27 2-3:30 PM
GOETHE INSTITUTE

1626 St. Lawrence Blvd., #100 – \$25

To reserve:

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Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

Adria Vasil speaks on “Killer Beauty” at this year’s annual Lanie Melamed Memorial event, 7 pm at Victoria Hall. Free.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Marianopolis College’s annual **free concert series** continues with the “Prix d’expression musicale,” 7:30 pm in the college’s auditorium, 4873 Westmount Ave. “Rain date” is March 18.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

The Women’s Canadian Club of Montreal presents **Gillian Bartlett** on “Health Care: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly,” 12:30 pm at the Unitarian Church, 5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd. Free for members, \$10 for guests. Info: Carolyn Roper 514.932.4005.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

MUHC construction **Good Neighbourly Relations Committee** meeting, 7 pm to 8:30 pm at 5100 de Maisonneuve Blvd. in the Glen room.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

Paola Ridolfi’s “Dispersions” exhibition runs until Saturday, April 13 at the Gallery at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

- **Earth Hour activities**, 6 to 10 pm at Victoria Hall. Storytelling and exhibits related to energy and climate change, food and drink. Bring your own cup. The actual Earth hour is between 8:30 pm and 9:30 pm.
- Atwater Library’s “**books roadshow**,” 1 to 4 pm at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. Antiquarian booksellers Wilfrid de Freitas and Susan Ravdin to provide opinion on the value of special books. Fee is \$2 per book for library members; \$3 per book for others.

Glass puts music on hold to tell about Shaar history

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Although Stephen Glass promised not to dwell overly on music during a lecture February 21 on the history of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim to the Westmount Historical Association (WHA), it was difficult for him to stay completely off the topic.

“Of course, what I’d really like to be doing is talking about our music,” said Glass, who for the past 23 years has been the Shaar’s director of music. “But I made two decisions: don’t talk about the music, don’t talk about the religion, because this is about the history of the congregation.”

Even so, according to Glass, music was one of the main reasons why the Shaar was founded in 1846 by English, German and Polish Jews who had come from Europe to settle in Montreal, but who found the musical traditions of the Jews who were already here not entirely to their liking.

In 1851, there were only 181 Jewish people living in Montreal. However, by 1886 the persecution of Jews in Russia triggered an enormous migration, resulting in the Jewish population of Montreal reaching the tens of thousands by the middle of the twentieth century.

Synagogue’s name based on dream

The synagogue’s name is based on a

dream that Jacob of the Old Testament had about a ladder ascending to heaven. Shaar Hashomayim literally means “The Gate of Heaven.”

Before coming to Westmount, Shaar Hashomayim was first located at 59 McGill College Ave. downtown.

Once owned old Forum land

Glass noted that the congregation once owned the land where the old Montreal Forum (now the AMC Forum) stood on



Stephen Glass, Congregation Shaar Hashomayim’s director of music, delivered a lecture on the history of the synagogue to the Westmount Historical Association February 21.

Atwater Ave. and contemplated at one time relocating there. A new synagogue building at the corner of Kensington Ave. and Côte St. Antoine Rd. in Westmount was dedicated in September 1922.

While the building had originally been designed to serve 300 families, by the mid-1960s Shaar Hashomayim had a membership of 1,750 families. A \$2.5-million expansion project was undertaken in 1967, which added a modern extension to the front of the building.

Inside, a balcony was built, raising the seating capacity to 1,891. The expansion also included a chapel with seating for 300, banquet halls, an interior reception area, an underground garage with space for 55 cars, a new boardroom, a gift shop, a cloakroom with room for 1,400 coats and two kitchens equipped to serve 1,000 meals at a time.



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CYNTHIA LEE

Sherlock's gorgeous face may belong in a high fashion magazine, but likely not the rest of him. If you get up close to this 8-month-old pit bull mix, you'll notice he has a very distinct deformity. It's not life-threatening, but let's tell it like it is: Upon inspection, Sherlock is a dog with two front paws that turn inward. If he were a biped, he might be teased in the school yard and called "pigeon-toed" or "limp biscuit," but in the canine realm, for people concerned about aesthetics, they will look right past him. Not us – that's why we are bringing him to your attention today.

Those problem paws originated from being born into a home of dog abusers, or the kind of people who think it's fine to keep dogs confined in cages preventing them from stretching their limbs. What happens next is that certain growing body parts, such as paws, become misshapen – not to mention the setting in of mental misery.

The hope by the vets who assessed Sherlock is that with some long walks and consistent exercise, his legs will straighten out. Kinda' like a a relaxant perm at the hair salon – it can do wonders.

After his rocky start in life during

which Sherlock spent six months of his puppy days locked in a cage, he was mercifully given up by his degenerate owners because of a pregnancy, he was sent to the SPCA Annexe. Turns out it was one of the best days of his life.

Sherlock may have a way to go with his social graces, but he has a vibrant irrepressible personality that wins people over. Not bad for a young boy who wasn't given



Sherlock

the chance to socialize or roam. The volunteers at the Annexe also report that Sherlock is good with other dogs and is learning to accept treats and share toys. Ideally, he would like to find a stable home with good people who might consider obedience classes. Sherlock would do well in a family with older children or living with

A message was found spray painted on the east side of the TD Bank, located on Claremont and Sherbrooke, on March 7. The "Vive le Québec Libre" wording was first noticed by a bank employee on March 4.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith

someone single.

If you think imperfection makes life interesting, contact the SPCA Annexe to meet Sherlock at adoptions.sPCA@gmail.com or 514.735.2711, ext.0.

To reach the Underdog Club: contact@underdogclub.org.

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No love between doggie neighbours

Two leashed dogs living near each other were involved in an altercation February 28 at Stayner Park, according to public safety officers. One of the dogs was reported to have jumped on the other, biting it on the throat.

Similar incidents had apparently occurred before and officers reported providing several solutions to avoid future occurrences. Public Security officials said they also helped the owners work out an arrangement whereby one agreed to pay the other's veterinarian fees and to take his dog to obedience training. He was also told to obtain dog licence which had expired.

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Holden to sing in one-woman opera

Westmounter Caroline Holden is producing and starring in Poulenc's one-woman opera *La Voix Humaine* on March 23, 27, and 30 at Infinithéâtre. Though the theatre "is devoted exclusively to English theatre," she said artistic director Guy Sprung, "specifically requested that I perform the opera in French." Holden will be directed by her brother, playwright and Westmounter Arthur Holden.

The classically trained soprano and voice teacher, Holden is the daughter of former Westmount provincial legislator Richard Holden and Helene Holden, one of the founders of the Double Hook bookstore.

Local classifieds

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Tuques bleues snowshoe for mountain conservation



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

One way to beat the chill of a cold night is to snowshoe at top speed. Many of the 600 enthusiasts who gathered at sundown on February 21 at Maison Smith on Mount Royal stayed warm this way. The evening (tickets were \$250) was co-chaired by **Cyril Bendahan**, regional vice president, group benefits, Manulife Financial; and **Michel Leblanc**, president and CEO, Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal.

Guests were greeted by Westmounter

Peter Howlett, president of Les amis de la montagne, which organized the event with principal partner Manulife Financial, as well as other sponsors.

Guest of honour was Montreal mayor **Michael Applebaum**.

The annual nighttime snowshoeing adventure is a modern take on the sporting tradition of the 1840s Montreal Snowshoe Club whose members ascended Mount Royal by torchlight for an evening of friendly competition. To-



Jeffrey Drummond and Sylvie Guilbault.

wards the 1870s, they began wearing blue tuques to show a competitive experience. The 2.5-km trail leading around the mountain cross was lit by lanterns and the glimmer of a pale moon.

Red-cheeked competitors arrived at the chalet on Mount Royal to dig into a gastronomic buffet prepared by La Guilde Culinaire. Parkas finally discarded,

partygoers enjoyed entertainment by MAZ and Musion Canada. Tubbs Snowshoes and Atlas Snowshoes provided snowshoes.

Winners of the race were: **Mélanie Nadeau** (gold), **Élise Gelle** (silver) and **Claire Doule** (bronze) in the women's category.

In the men's category, **David Le Proho** won gold, **Pierre-Olivier Boily** silver and **Philippe Viau-Dupuis** bronze.

Noted in the night were Les amis execs, Westmount residents **Jeffrey Drummond**, co-chair annual campaign; **Carole Labelle Molson**, governor; and **Mary Creighton**, member of the campaign cabinet; as well as **Rick Hart**, Howlett's wife **Morag**, and daughter **Jane**; and former Westmount res **Katie Whitehead**, director of major and planned gifts.

Handing out the fun blue tuques was a



Gabrielle Korn, left, and Julie Yacoub.



Peter Howlett and his daughter Jane Howlett.



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Indie spring social calendar

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Dancing with the Docs annual fundraiser. Ten MUHC doctors (who did not dance in last year's event) have been paired with professional dancers from the Arthur Murray Dance schools. Tickets: Reserved table for four \$600. VIP table for four, which includes a bottle of champagne and table service. \$1,000. Cocktail dinatoire, open wine bar and live music by Montreal Rhapsody. 6:30 pm. La TOHU, 2345 Jarry St. E. Tickets: 514.934.1934, ext. 23622. www.dancingwiththedocs.ca.

MAY

SUNDAY, MAY 5

Vintage Recall II. Designer clothing and accessories re-sale to benefit the Alzheimer Groupe Inc. Open to the public. No charge. 10 am to 5 pm. L'Atelier, 5500 Ferrier St. Free parking. Information 514.485.7233. admin@agiteam.org.

MONDAY, MAY 6

Bridge and Mah Jong Luncheon and Tournament at Westmount's Shaar Hashomayim. 11 am to 4 pm. 425 Metcalfe, Westmount. Information: 514.340.8216.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

- **Cocktail and Auction to benefit Giant Steps Foundation.** Hosted by Charles Lafortune. 6:30 pm. Le Windsor, 1170 Peel. Tickets \$200. Information: Lynda Roy 514.935.1911, ext. 238. lroy@giantstepsmontreal.com.
- **World première of Sherlock Holmes.** Proceeds benefit Anna and Louis Goldfarb JGH / McGill Memory Clinic. Benefit performance stars Hollywood actor Jay Baruchel. 8 pm. Segal Centre for the Per-

forming Arts, 5170 Côte St. Catherine. Tickets 514.340.8216.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

- **Generations Foundation evening.** Segal Theatre production of *Sherlock Holmes*, by Greg Kramer, directed by Andrew Shaver and starring Jay Baruchel. Regular or Patron tickets: Adrian 514.933.8585. www.generationsfoundation.com
- **Half The Sky:** Cocktails and Art evening at Westmount's Mod's Paris. Fundraiser for Oxfam. Inspired by *Half the Sky*, written by Pulitzer Prize-winning authors Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. DVD narrated by George Clooney. Featuring artist Leilah Labelle. 6 to 8 pm. 4201 St. Catherine St. (corner Greene). Donation of \$20 is requested. Information and RSVP: 514.938.2489.

THURSDAY, MAY 9

- **Heart and Stroke Foundation's California Wine Festival gala dinner.** Restaurant Europea serves a 5-course gastronomic dinner. Auction of rare wines. 6 pm. Arsenal, 2020 William. Tickets \$500. Julie Charest-Déry 514.871.8038, ext. 254. julie.charest.dery@fmcoeur.qc.ca.
- **McCord Museum Sugar Ball.** Entrepôts Dominion, 3968 St. Ambroise. Tickets \$120. VIP \$160. Information: 514.398.7100, ext. 237. www.mccord-museum.qc.ca/sugarball.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Moments to Remember. Music from the 60s. Benefit for Donald Berman UP House. Theatre Outremont, 1248 Bernard. Ticket choices. VIP \$250 at 5 pm. Includes cocktail dinatoire, valet parking, good seating and show. Floor tickets \$150 at 7:15 pm. Front balcony tickets \$75. Back balcony tickets \$25. Contact: 514.798.0791 service@urbanpardes.org.

WEDNESDAY MAY 15

Icons, Legends and Legacies, celebrating Trafalgar School for Girls 125 years. Cocktail dinatoire and photography auction supports Trafalgar's bursary program and Camp Cayuga, improving lives of adolescents and young adults with cancer. Honorary chair Westmounter Gwen Nacos. Tickets \$125. Information: Marilyn Meikle. 514.935.2644, ext. 225. mmeikle@trafalgar.qc.ca.

THURSDAY, MAY 16

Roaring 20's Dinner Auction celebrating Tyndale St. Georges Community Centre's 85th anniversary. Cocktail dinner. 6:30 pm. Live and silent auction. Chairs: Betty Infilise and Westmounter Brian Dunn. Rialto Theatre, 5723 Park Ave. Tickets: \$150. Contact: Westmounter Susan McKinnon Bell 514.931.6265, ext. 25. susanbell@tyndalestgeorges.com.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Be the Spark! Third annual Montreal Community Cares Awards, presented by CN. Guest of honour, Mary DeRose, executive committee member, Ville de Montreal, responsible for Cultural Communities. Emcees are Chantal Lacroix and Chantal Desjardins. 7 pm. Corona Theatre, 2490 Notre Dame St. W. Cocktail attire. Nominations and tickets (\$125) Denburk Reid 514.861.6232. info@MontrealCommunityCares.com.

TUESDAY, MAY 21

A Vision to Remember. Alzheimer Groupe Inc. presents a gala cocktail- dinatoire evening, and guided tour of the exhibit "Peru: Kingdoms of the Sun and the Moon." Westmounters on the committee: Lynn Cochrane, Carole Arbess, Esther Landsman, Marilyn Rosenbloom and Susan Varadi. Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, 1380 Sherbrooke St. W. 6:30 pm.

Valet parking. Tickets \$190 or \$375 a pair. 514.485.7233. Admin@agiteam.org.

THURSDAY, MAY 23

- **Under the Tuscan Sun** to benefit Queen Elizabeth (QE) Health Complex. Chairs Christine Pickrell and Robert Fagnoli. Honouring Domenico D'Alesio and Gino Berretta. Tickets \$150. Available as of April 1 at Tony's Shoes, 1346 Greene Ave.; Westmount Florist, 360 Victoria Ave. and the QE Complex. Featuring a wine tasting sponsored by Berretta Wines. Tickets Sarah Malka 514.485.5023. Talia Noya 514.485.5018. www.qehc.org.
- **An Enchanted Journey – Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation ball.** Cocktails 6:30 pm. Black tie optional. Windsor Station, 1100 de la Gauchetière St. W. Tickets \$500. Margaux Watine 514.934.4846. Local 29204. Mwat@cfh.com.

MONDAY, MAY 27

Table of Hope gastronomic evening to benefit Share the Warmth, L'Arsenal, 2020 William St. Co-presidents Westmounter Mila Mulroney and Michael Novak. Emcee Ben Mulroney, E Talk Daily. Tickets: \$200 Patrons' cocktail-dinatoire at 5 pm. General admission at 6:30 p.m. \$125. Tickets and info: 514.933.5599. Media: Veronica@redgravepr.com.

More spring events to be published soon.

Correction

The Thursday, May 2 "Vintage Recall II" event raises money for Alzheimer Groupe Inc. and not the "Alzheimers Society," as published in the March 5 issue, p. 20.

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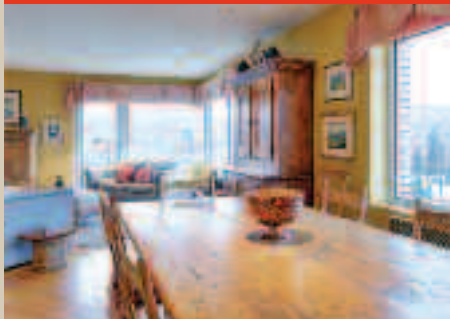
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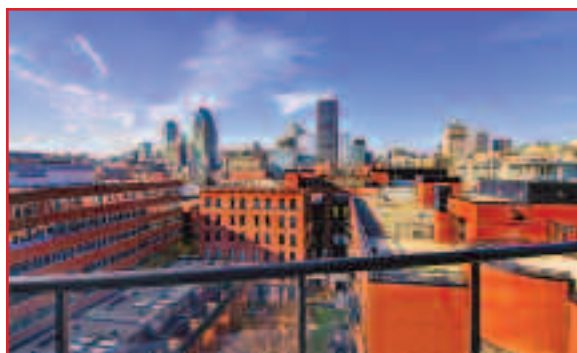
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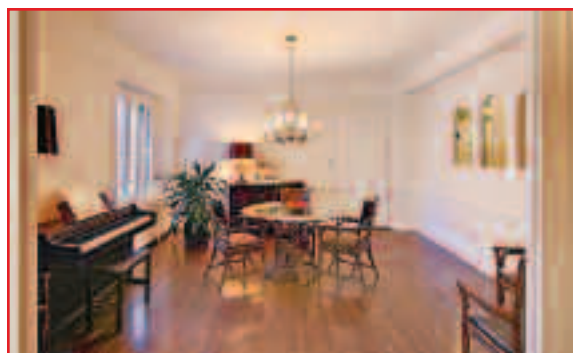
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