

City starts the holiday season



After a short countdown shortly after 7 pm on December 7, Mayor Peter Trent flicked the switch, and the tree in front of city hall lit up. See p. 24.

Photo: Ralph Thompson



Rabbi Lisa Grushcow of Temple Emanu-El-Beth-Sholom, left, watches as Rabbi Adam Scheier of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim assists Noya Etzion in lighting the menorah during a Hanukah blessings and songs event held at Westmount city hall December 10. See p. 24.

Photo: Martin C. Barry



Westmount Page p. 18

Budget adopted at \$101M

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

An operating budget of \$101.5 million was presented and adopted for Westmount in 2016 at a special council meeting December 14.

Slightly more than half the budget will go to the agglomeration council to pay Westmount's share of island-wide services, while another \$9 million will go for capital works infrastructure spending to help prevent the need to borrow.

This is "absolutely" a milestone, said Mayor Peter Trent. "It's probably the first time we won't have to go out to borrow for our capital works."

Other highlights include a general tax bill freeze as previously announced and a slight increase in local spending offset in part by tax revenue from a number of new construction projects adding to the tax base. As a result, there will be no injection of accumulated surplus to balance the budget.

The city's mil rate (per \$100 of evaluation) has been set at \$0.8507 for single family dwellings and housing containing five units or less; \$0.9278 for apartment buildings of six units or more; and \$3.3564 for non-residential properties.

The operating budget will be covered without in- *continued on p. 17*

This is the last issue of 2015.
The next issue is January 12, 2016.



Welcome to the right address



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Westmount, 646 Lansdowne Ave.
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Westmount, 557 Lansdowne Ave.
RARELY available. PRIME mid-level location! Remarkably spacious, extensively renovated 4 + 1 bdr. Large garden. 2 car garage. Close to King George Park + the best schools. **\$1,595,000**



Downtown, Le Chateau
SPECTACULAR! The ULTIMATE in high end luxury living at Downtown's premier address. TOTALLY renovated 1,550 sq ft 1 bdr co-op apt. Truly breathtaking. **\$1,095,000**



Westmount, 4444 Sherbrooke W. #106
Rarely available + desirable! Spacious, fully reno'd 3 bdrm, 2 bath co-op. Well run door-man bldg, roof pool, views. Impeccable! Garage, locker. Washer/dryer. **\$550,000**



NDG, 5310 O'Bryan Ave.
Exceptional find! Sun filled, FULLY renovated, enlarged with a 3 storey extension. Stunning bathrooms, kitchen, new windows, halogen lighting, newly built garage... **\$659,000**



Westmount, 11 Parkman Place
SPACIOUS 4 bdrm upper duplex. Oak floors, leaded windows. New roof, plumbing, furnace. A LARGE unfinished basement. Competitively priced! **\$2,500/month**



INCREDIBLE RESULTS in 2 DAYS!

419 Victoria Ave.
Victoria Village: Rarely available, TOTALLY charming 4 bedrm,, 2½ bath Victorian townhouse. LOADED with charm Private garden + parking for 1-2 cars. **\$878,000**



SUCCESSFULLY SOLD in 4 DAYS!

Westmount, 22 Renfrew Ave.
Exquisite, QUALITY home with exceptional curb appeal. Prestigious location. AMAZING value! Beautiful leaded windows, oak floors + woodwork. Possible 2 car garage. **\$1,325,000**



Brian MADE IT HAPPEN in 8 DAYS!

Westmount adj., 4855 Roslyn Ave.
BREATHTAKING spacious 4 bdr, 3½ bath S/D. French doors to a STUNNING garden w/ intimate patio + spa. A/C, Pella windows, new kitchen. Garage + 2 car pkg. **\$1,300,000**

CONSISTENT RESULTS! SOLD!



Westmount, 707 Victoria Ave.
Delightful property offering EXQUISITE architectural details, beautifully spacious rooms, numerous upgrades. 3+1 bdrms, 3½ bathrooms, garage + parking. **\$1,098,000**

Brian DID IT AGAIN in 5 DAYS!



NDG, 5568 Notre Dame de Grace Ave.
PRIME Monkland Village! Opportunity for value. Requires renovations. Garage + parking. Loads of original character. Priced to sell, and it WILL at this price! **\$649,000**

EXCEPTIONAL DEDICATION > Brian DELIVERED!



Westmount, 234 Metcalfe Ave.
STUNNING, architectural marvel blending 21st c. cutting edge design with Victorian elegance. Renov. from top to bottom. 5 bdrm, 4½ baths. 2 car garage + pkg. **\$1,399,000**

HARD WORK PAYS OFF! DONE!



Westmount, 7 Douglas Ave.
Fully renovated, "John Hand" built home. Exceptional woodwork/stained glass. Peaceful, family friendly location. 4 bdrms, 3½ bathrooms. Garage and garden. **\$1,259,000**

HAPPY buyers! SATISFIED sellers!



Westmount, 20 Thornhill Ave.
Impeccable 3+1 bdrm 1923 home. City views, + sunny SW exposure, large garden. Reno'd kitchen + bathrooms. Oak woodwork, leaded windows. 2 car prkg. **\$1,198,000**

ANOTHER ACCOMPLISHMENT! WELL SOLD!



NDG, 4196 Beaconsfield Ave.
One of the prettiest homes in NDG. MOVE-IN condition. 4+1 bdrs. Beautifully renov. kitchen + bathrms. Ideal Monkland Village location. Original wdwrk + charm. **\$818,000**

ANOTHER OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT!



Westmount, 25 Burton Ave.
Spacious, well loved 1905 townhouse. **\$798,000**

GREAT SALE by Brian in 2 DAYS!



Westmount, 611 Roslyn Ave.
Elegantly spacious home! **\$1,395,000**

CONSISTENTLY DELIVERING RESULTS!



Westmount, 765 Upper-Belmont Ave.
IMPECCABLY maintained. 5 bdrs. **\$1,498,000**

LISTED & SOLD by Brian in 19 DAYS!



Ville Marie, 28 Place de Richelieu
Downtown living combining the luxury of strolling to the finest stores + restaurants, inner court location. TOTALLY + EXQUISITELY redone, sparing NO expense! **\$1,695,000**

#5 in Quebec for Re/Max 2014*

#7 in Quebec for Re/Max 2013**

City calls public meeting on need to comply

Tighter tree rules part of new agglo requirements

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council December 7 tabled changes in four by-laws to comply with the Land Use Planning and Development Plan (PMAD) of the agglomeration of Montreal as required for island-wide uniformity.

Among many changes facing Westmount is the requirement of a city permit to remove any tree anywhere on either private or public property whose trunk diameter is at least four inches when measured at about four feet from the ground (see story October 21, 2014, p. 1). And permits may only be issued under certain conditions such as disease or hazardous situations.

A public meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 25 at 7 pm at city hall on the

changes to the relevant by-laws. These involve zoning, the planning program, permits and certificates and the Site Planning and Architectural Integration program (PIIA).

“It’s a huge undertaking,” explained Councillor Theodora Samiotis even though the city has a structure for a tree registry in place.

Other modifications required include measures related to the minimum parking requirements in new buildings, bicycle parking, locations of handicap parking and the protection of Mount Royal, Summit Woods and “defining elements” of houses of worship.

While the PMAD also covers access to, and densification of, transit hubs, Westmount is not as impacted by this provision

since it is already a built-community, Samiotis said.

One welcomed addition, according to Councillor Cynthia Lulham, is a long list of invasive plant species that may not be used within 100 meters of woods and parks. These include goutweed, the Manitoba and Norway maples as well as the common periwinkle.

Guidelines for the building of New Developments in Proximity to Railway Operations are also to play a role in Westmount in the event a new building were to be built within a prescribed distance of the commuter line.

The content of the agglomeration’s land-use plan incorporates a vision and principles of the regional plan from the Montreal Metropolitan Community based on Que-

bec’s Land Use and Development Law (see August 31, 2011).

When the proposed tree-cutting requirements were first reported, Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier told the *Independent* the more stringent regulations “are going to impose a big financial burden on people because we have so many trees in Westmount.”

Under the existing zoning by-law 1303, tree permits must go through the Board of Inspections before going to the Planning Advisory Committee and then to council. These apply generally only to trees on public land and to private trees at the front of properties whose trunks are at least six inches in diameter.

Metcalfe traffic, parking reinstated on completion of condos

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Following recent completion of the condo project at 175 Metcalfe, traffic was officially restored to two ways between St. Catherine and Hillside Ave. by a resolution of council adopted December 7. It had been one-way north since June last year.

Temporary parking regulations were also lifted. They had been instituted during the work to create a reserved zone on the west side of the street for permit holders only. The previous 2-hour parking, 8 am to 5 pm from Monday to Friday, was reinstated.

“This is a project that has gone off without a hitch,” said Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who represents District 7, where the new development is located. “Hats off to the developer, EMD.”

Few incidents or complaints regarding violation of municipal by-laws were reported by Public Security during the construction period – after an unexpected collapse June 25, 2014 during demolition of the former Vanguard School building (see story, photos, July 1, 2014, p. 1, 4).

Construction of the 52 units took place in a congested area immediately adjacent to Place Kensington seniors’ residence and

across from a row of Victorian houses and a medical clinic.

Residents of “Le Metcalfe” condos were reported to have started moving in last

month, almost exactly on the targetted completion date of autumn 2015.

Demolition had begun in June 2014.



The finished project: 175 Metcalfe as it appeared December 11 from Hillside Ave.

To our dear clients & friends

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**Best Wishes for the
Holiday Season
and the New Year!**
**Meilleurs vœux
pour la période des
Fêtes et pour la
nouvelle année!**

Critics seek earlier consultation/referendum

Zoning by-law on specific sites deferred

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council pulled a controversial by-law item from its meeting agenda at the last minute December 7. Its adoption would have allowed the city to approve specific development projects that do not conform to the existing zoning.

Postponement of the by-law's adoption followed continued requests by opponents for legally binding public consultation and even a referendum at the conceptual stage of such a development proposal.

The draft by-law on "Specific Construction Alteration or Occupancy Proposals for an Immovable" (SCAOPI) would enable the city to review a project considered to be in the public interest as a separate site rather than by criteria already established for the larger zone in which it is located. The by-law is consistently referred to at city meetings by its French acronym, PPCMOI.

Councillor Theodora Samiotis, commissioner of Urban Planning, announced the item's deferral at the start of the meeting saying more time was needed to review it, specifically in the area of public consul-

tation.

"As I was looking at it after certain suggestions and all the emails," she told the *Independent* the next day, "I decided we could take a couple more months to make sure we've answered all the questions and clarifications."

"Thanks for putting [the by-law] aside," said Jeremy Cooperstock, one of a group of Grosvenor residents opposing the current draft. "Would council give us a copy of revisions already made...and a copy of the final ones before adoption?" he asked.

Samiotis said she would make the final draft available to them a few days before it was to be adopted. "We're not expecting anything dramatic," she added.

The residents had turned up at the meeting to question council on a number of points regarding a proposed non-conforming condo/Metro grocery store development extending on to the Metro parking lot that would back onto many of their homes (see story December 8, p. 1).

They, along with architect Ken London had been requesting that the council insert the earlier consultation into the by-law before any project were to be reviewed by the city as a PPCMOI site.

As well, Councillor Patrick Martin had



Marina Brzeski appears pleased with the decision to postpone the by-law. She was among those asking questions at the December 7 council meeting.

made it known he would vote against adoption of the by-law if this were not done.

Trade-off are key

London, who did not speak at the meeting, maintains the proposed by-law would set

continued on p. 9

Gardener claims tickets for leaf blowing unfair

By LAUREN SWEENEY

A landscape contractor complained to city council December 7 about tickets he had been given recently for using his leaf blower. He alleged he was being "harassed" by two public safety officers in particular.

"They went out of their way to approach me again," he said of one incident. An extension to the permitted fall clean-up period expired November 20 (see stories December 1, p. 3 and 19).

He also asked what the point was of not being able to use a leaf blower, especially when remaining leaves from neighbouring properties were blowing onto those he cared for.

Why, he also asked, is he given a ticket when "next door" noisy construction equipment was in use all day.

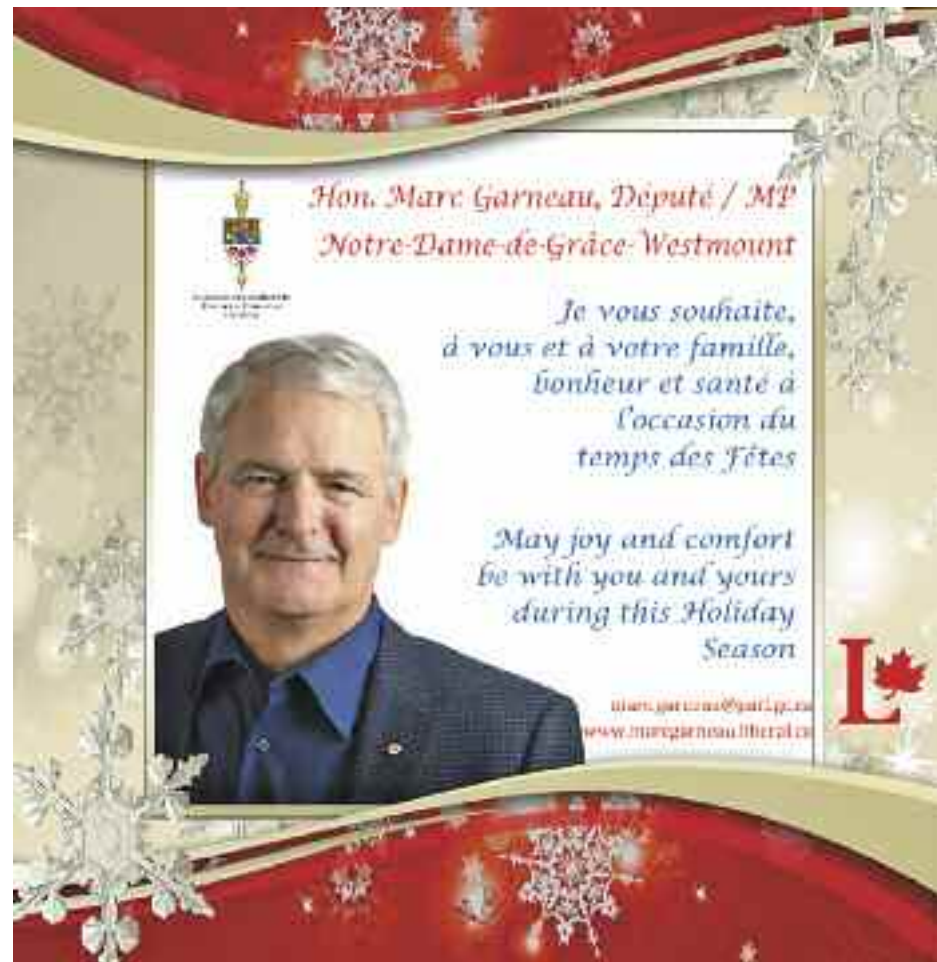
City director general Mike Deegan looked puzzled over the issue of "harassment," and the gardener was told the city would look into it.

Along with weekly incidents reported to the *Independent* by Public Security officials are those related to infractions of the city's noise by-law that bans the use of leaf blowers at all times except for prescribed periods during spring and fall clean-up. While most tickets are reported issued to contractors, they are also issued on occasion to residents, typically following noise complaints from neighbours.

Recently several tickets have been issued to various contractors following the end of the fall extension deadline. In at least one incident, a contractor was described as being "well aware" of the regulations.

Ticketing for leaf blowing has been a common practice for many years resulting from efforts by city council to reduce the use of leaf blowers for purposes such as cleaning dust and dirt off driveways.

Public Security statistics issued for 2012, for example, listed 51 tickets issued for leaf blowing infractions (see story November 27, 2012, p. 12).



Westmount Ave. residents joining Côte Rd. bike route opponents, council told

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Trial bike routes already postponed until the spring – westbound on Côte St. Antoine and eastbound on Westmount Ave. – generated continued questioning at city council during the last regular session of the year December 7.

Bruce Anderson of Côte Rd. once again led off the issue, saying a group of residents on Westmount Ave. was joining a group of opponents now being re-named “Save CSA and Westmount Ave.” to reflect both streets.

“No proper plans have been made [for the routes,]” he said. “That’s the point.”

“I’ve outlined [the plan] several times,” Councillor Philip Cutler said in reply to questions from both Anderson and Andrew Lindsay, a neighbour.

Along with details, Cutler has repeatedly said the aim of a trial was to collect data on which the city could make an informed recommendation before a consultation process, which was repeated again by Mayor Peter Trent.

“I just think to come at a problem by dismissing it is not the right course of action,” Cutler said referring to requests not to hold the trial. Those are based on residents’ concerns that include safety, enforcement and the aesthetic impact of a bike route on such a historical street as Côte Rd.

Budget, Shaar parking

Anderson also asked what budget the city had for changing parking signs and how a bike route might fit in with parking by Shaar congregants at times on both sides of Côte Rd. Neither was answered, although Cutler has previously said a trial would entail little expense.

The trial would involve only painted white lines and the shifting of the parking signs on Côte St. Antoine to be done by Public Works.

On another point, Cutler said he would provide Lindsay with requested statistics received from local police station 12 on results of enforcement campaigns regarding cyclists between January to September. None, however, indicate whether any in-

involved wayward cyclists on Côte St. Antoine, he later told the *Independent*.

In revealing the pilot project at the August 3 meeting, Cutler had reported the routes would operate in tandem from Argyle to Claremont, initially planned for three months in the fall but later delayed to after winter. The goal would be to collect data on which residents would be consulted (see story August 11, p. 1).

The routes are generally aimed at commuters cycling downtown and back. The plan is for a single lane, 1.8 meters wide on the south side of Westmount Ave. between the curb and parking. On Côte St. Antoine, however, a similar single lane is to run along the north side. This will shift parking to the south side.

No north-south connector routes were



Questioning council December 7 on the proposed bike route trial, Andrew Lindsay of Côte St. Antoine Rd. calls the city’s plan “hypothetical.”

planned but the aim is to provide a safer passage for commuting cyclists along the mentioned portions.

Dedication of memorial benches set for Dec. 18

To mark the 10th anniversary of the day, December 19, 2005, that 21-year-old Jessica Holman-Price was fatally hit by a snow removal truck at Sherbrooke and Strathcona, the city will hold a ceremony Friday, December 18 at 3 pm to dedicate two memorial benches in her memory.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham announced the event December 7 inviting “all” to attend, saying it would take place at the fountain in the small “park” between the library and the Westmount YMCA.

One bench will be dedicated to Jessica; the other to her brother, Peter Luc, whom she managed to push to safety as she slipped between the wheels of the truck (see December 1, p. 12). Both Peter Luc and his mother, Jeanette Holman-Price, are scheduled to attend. A presentation of certificates of thanks to the city and its retired Public Works director, Marianne Zalzal had been scheduled for the council meeting December 7 but had to be can-

celled at the last moment when Jeanette was suddenly unable to attend. Zalzal and the city had been instrumental in equipping city trucks with side guard rails between wheels as well as cameras for blind spots.



St. Matthias' Anglican Church

131 Cote St. Antoine Rd. (corner Metcalfe)

514-933-4295

Rector: The Reverend Patrick Wheeler
Music Director: John Wiens

★ Sunday December 13 Advent 3

10:30 am Choral Eucharist
5:00 pm Christmas Lessons
and Carols

★ Sunday December 20 Advent 4

10:30 am Choral Eucharist

★ Thursday December 24 Christmas Eve

2:00 pm Family Eucharist
10:00 pm Candlelight
Choral Eucharist

★ Friday December 25 Christmas Day

10:30 am Festive Choral Eucharist

The Parish of the Ascension of Our Lord (Sherbrooke St. at the corner of Clarke Ave.)

Welcomes all to our Christmas Celebrations!



Christmas Eve -Thursday, December 24th

Family Eucharist: 7:30 p.m.

Choral Service - Ascension Choir under the direction of Dr. David Szanto: 9:30 p.m.
Solemn Eucharist: 10 p.m.

Christmas Day - Friday, December 25th– 10:30a.m.

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 26th: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 27th: 10:30 a.m.

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Eve -Thursday, December 31st - 5:00 p.m.

New Year's Day -Friday, January 1st - 10:30 a.m.

Feast of the Epiphany

Saturday, January 2nd - 5:00p.m.

Sunday, January 3rd - 10:30a.m.

*We invite all parishioners, former parishioners and visitors
to join in celebrating with us this Holy Season.*

Rev. Lawrence MacEachen, Pastor



LOST BROOCH

on Greene Avenue

REWARD

Please call
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Westmount Park United Church

Dec 20, 4:30 Fur-Frond Service

Dec 24, 7:30 Candlelight Carol Service

4695 boul de Maisonneuve West, 514-937-1146

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANKS TO DOG SANTA

I just wanted to say thank you to the very kind person(s) who left a huge bag of toys in the new dog park for our dogs to enjoy.

To see that huge bag of toys and how happy my dog was, especially as I was having a bad day, was really tremendous.

You not only made my dog happy but you reminded me that there are kind and generous souls in this world and especially in Westmount!

TONI HAKEM, ST. CATHERINE ST.

MESSAGE FROM KNUTTAL

Westmounters may have mistakenly thought it was “fat squirrel season” had they been reading the *National Post* last week (among many other Canadian papers). As a squirrel, and on behalf of all squirrels, I am outraged at the collective extent of fat-shaming.

It is true that the warmer weather has not required our bodies to burn as many calories to keep warm; and for this,

yes, we are chunkier than we have ever been.

But Westmounters, please, let’s not mock or shame our favourite rodents but instead be a little more sensitive to their plight. We squirrels are now more likely to be found on the ground (owing to branches now breaking under our increased weight), where we will be moving more slowly. This is a recipe for a squirrel disaster if dogs are not always securely fastened to their leashes.

Compliance with the leash by-law is mostly good, but needs to be better. Just last week, our catered squirrel protest at city hall was cut short when just one off-

leash dog spotted us! We nearly lost some rodents that day, but thankfully didn’t.

We will still likely continue to accept treats but only because we are so gracious and polite. Please people: do not feed us any more. Well, at least not until we’re looking spry and more fit in the new year.

SKIP KNUTTAL, LARGE MAPLE TREE NEXT TO WESTMOUNT PUBLIC LIBRARY

QUESTIONING INSTRUCTIONS ON HILL PARKING

I want to thank Rony Cukier (“More signs needed for turning wheels,” November 24, p. 8) for bringing to the attention of those who have never seen this sign the need for more. *

I am not a parking expert nor a sign expert nor a regulation expert, but it seems to me that the instruction for uphill parking is incorrect for the following reason: In the event that someone happens to park uphill just a bit too far from the curb (and this we see quite often), in the event of a mechanical failure, the car would roll to the center of the street, and if the steering wheel was not in the lock position, could possibly continue down the hill.

However, if the front wheels are turned toward the curb on the uphill (which I always thought was the way to do it until I saw Cukier’s letter), a mechanical failure would cause the rear wheel to hit the curb in a very short distance and before the car had time to pick up speed.

Better recall the signs sign.

CARY KITNER, FORDEN AVE.

* Editor’s note: Westmount Public Security told the Independent “Section 383 of the Quebec Highway Safety Code states that cars parked on a hill must have the emergency brake engaged and the wheels turned at an angle. For safety reasons, cars are required to turn their wheels to the right when parking downhill, and to the left when parking uphill. The city is planning on adding more signage in the New Year for education purposes.” A story was published on p. 20 of our November 3 issue on the signage regarding hill parking. – KM

PARK’S NORWAY SPRUCE

After this year’s spectacular display of autumn colours in Westmount Park and now that the leaves have fallen, we enter a period where most of us begin to experience a sense of outdoor colour deprivation. As such, we develop a greater awareness of the various green conifers that grace the park.

For instance, have you ever wondered if

the conifer you are looking at is a pine, spruce or fir? There is a simple way to differentiate between these three families. Pines have long slender needles in bundles of two to five. In spruces, the needles are short, sharp and four-sided. Firs have short, blunt and flat needles and attached by short stalks to the twigs.

There is a beautiful stand of Norway spruces (*Picea abies*) adjacent to the park’s gazebo. The species is used extensively in Europe as Christmas decorations. The type of spruce is simple to identify: Norway spruces are unique in that the tree’s cones are downward facing and the branches droop towards to ground allowing the tree to shed its winter snow. Although commonly named “evergreens,” the needles are eventually shed – although this might occur once every 10 years.

In the 1800s, resin was collected from these trees to manufacture spruce gum, widely sold as a long lasting “woody flavoured,” purplish chewing gum. Once collected, the resin is boiled and allowed to cool before being broken into bite-sized pieces and dusted with corn starch.

In addition, the tree’s branches and needles, when boiled with water and molasses, comprise the basis of an excellent spruce beer.

Interestingly, Norway spruces possess

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WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

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EDITOR: Kristin McNeill

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

LETTERS & COMMENTS:

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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Norway spruce photographed in Westmount Park December 13. Photo courtesy of M. Walsh

Request granted to lengthen timing of green light on Wood

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A resident's request to city council December 7 took less than a day to be approved, it appears.

Pierre Lapointe, representing the condo association at 1 Wood, stepped up to the mic and asked for five seconds to be added to the north-south green light at Wood and de Maisonneuve to prevent traffic backing up during rush hours on Wood to the

south.

The light was so short, he said, that the back-up results from very few cars being able to turn left onto de Maisonneuve. The back-up also made it difficult for cars to exit from the garage at 1 Wood, particularly at 8:30 am.

"We fail to see the value of the city's timing," he said. "Sometimes only two cars can get through the light at a critical time. It needs five seconds more."

Taking it up next day

Councillor Patrick Martin, a council representative on the city's Transportation Advisory Committee, told Lapointe he would bring up the issue at its meeting taking place the next day.

After the meeting, he told the *Independent* another five seconds would be added throughout the day to the green light for north-south traffic on Wood for a total of 17 seconds instead of the previous 12. A work order had been issued, and he expected it would be carried out that week.

Car ticketed for really poor parking job

A car parked some four to five feet away from the curb December 1 in front of 32 Surrey Gardens was ticketed \$53, Public Security officials said. A complaint about a car "in the middle of the road" had been received at 9:24 am. It was found to have frost on the windows. The car was not impeding traffic, and the ticket was left on the car for being parked beyond the maximum six inches from the sidewalk.

Following up on Garden Point



Victor Cruz questioned Mayor Peter Trent December 7 on a letter he wrote asking that sidewalks be added diagonally across Garden Point between city hall and the cenotaph to increase safety for students at École Internationale. Trent said he had read a letter to the editor in the *Independent* on the subject (November 3, p. 6) but did not recall receiving one. Cruz then handed him a copy of both letters. "I'll answer you tomorrow," Trent said.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT



PÉRIODE DES FÊTES 2015 : services municipaux

Les bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront fermés du 24 au 28 décembre et du 31 décembre au 4 janvier inclusivement en raison des fêtes de Noël et du jour de l'An. La Bibliothèque publique sera fermée du 24 au 26 décembre et du 31 décembre au 2 janvier.

Le Conservatoire de Westmount est fermée pour une période indéterminée en raison de travaux de réparation.

Veuillez noter que la collecte d'ordures normalement effectuée le vendredi dans le secteur ouest sera **devancée aux mercredis 23 et 30 décembre**. Toutes les autres collectes s'effectueront selon l'horaire normal.

2015 HOLIDAY PERIOD: City services

The City's administrative offices will be closed from December 24th to 28th and from December 31st to January 4th inclusively for the Christmas and New Year holidays. The Library will be closed from December 24th to 26th and from December 31st to January 2nd.

The Westmount Conservatory is closed indefinitely due to necessary repairs.

Please note that garbage collection in the west sector, normally scheduled for Friday, **will be moved to Wednesday on December 23rd and 30th**. All other collections will take place according to the regular schedule.

www.westmount.org

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Well-known meter reader set to retire, known simply as ‘Marc’ to many

Gonin calls it a day after 28 years on the job

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

This winter will be the first in almost three decades that retiring Marc Gonin won't be slugging through snow banks or bracing against freezing temperatures to read Westmounters' electrical meters.

“Dealing with the weather was the worst part of the job,” he acknowledged last week, but added quickly: “I’ve never been a desk person. I need to be active. But as I get older [he’s 52], my tolerance for cold is less.”

Gonin is set to leave February 18 after some 26 years as a meter reader and two previous ones as a city parking inspector. An imposing figure at 6-foot-4, he's known to many residents simply as “Marc.”

Since he started at a time when most meters were installed inside, Gonin has visited “a lot of homes.”

Weather notwithstanding, “the best part of the job is that you're independent,” he explained. Gonin and colleague Roy Meiselbach divide the Westmount Hydro territory into eight zones, which they cover at the same time, typically five days per zone.

The recent introduction of the city's new billing system has provided more flexibility in their schedule, however (see story September 29, p. 1).

While the job has also been made “a lot easier” since Hydro Westmount began phasing in meters that can be read remotely from the sidewalk or car, Gonin still prefers to walk.

Looking ahead

Already planning the next phase of his working life – a project he's not yet ready to disclose – he said he's not prepared to stop work. He's also involved with his sons' hockey. Eric, 12, and Jacob, 11, play on the West Island where he and his wife, Joyce Anto, a Pfizer employee, are raising their family.

Gonin began working for the city in 1988 as a Public Security parking inspector, becoming a hydro meter reader in 1990.

Since then, he said, the most noticeable change in the community has been on the north side of St. Antoine St. The Westmount portion is between Atwater and Greene, where housing has been upgraded.



Marc Gonin December 4 in the meter room at Hydro Westmount.

Gonin has been called on to pinch-hit in a variety of other Hydro Westmount roles including meter installation. One of his noteworthy memories is of the ice storm in 1998. This was when he was pressed into service answering the phones when anxious citizens called over power losses.

Dedicated and loyal

“It’s always a little sad when you have good employees retiring,” said Hydro Westmount director Benoit Hurtubise.

“Marc has been a loyal and dedicated employee, and I hope that he enjoys his new retired life.”

He said Gonin would be replaced by a new employee on a one-year contract. “We will be gradually changing and optimizing our meter-reading routes as we will be introducing programming changes in our new equipment and billing system that will allow us to read more meters remotely.”

Public notice

Ministère des Transports du Québec

DISMANTLING AND RECYCLING OF BUILDINGS

This notice is to inform the public of the dismantling and recycling of the building located at 4295, rue De Richelieu, Montréal.

Property of Transports Québec (MTQ), this building was acquired to enable the construction of the new Turcot infrastructures.

Environmental measures

For sustainable development purposes, the building will be dismantled and at least 80 % of its components will be recycled.

Security measures during work

Measures will be implemented on adjacent streets to ensure pedestrians and other users' safety.

Noise mitigation measures

Measures will be implemented to protect noise-sensitive areas near the work sites.

Schedule

From January 18, 2016 until the end of February 2016.

December 16, 2015

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Peewee B Wings bring Westmount's first hockey banner



Westmount's Peewee B Wings hockey team won the Villeray hockey tournament December 13. It was the first banner of the year for Westmount, according to Andrew Maislin with the Sports and Recreation department. The Peewee A Wings team made it to the quarterfinals of the same tournament.

Photo courtesy of Sports and Recreation

Zoning cont'd. from p. 4

precedents in the wider community and open the door to "discretionary" approval of non-conforming projects once they are assessed as PPCMOI sites.

"What people don't understand is the trade-offs these projects encourage between the city and the developer," London later explained. Such trade-offs on height, usage and other specifics "should be put to the community before a project is even reviewed by the city as a SCAOPI [PPCMOI] project. They're key."

The process, he added, "is ripe with tricks."

Replying to the concerns of the Grosvenor residents over the proposed condo/Metro project, Mayor Peter Trent said during the meeting "We and the developer are very far apart." He said the city wanted the developer to respond to residents.

The trade-offs to which London referred

might include specific criteria such as allowing a higher project in exchange for preserving a heritage component or an occupancy seen as beneficial to the community. The draft by-law was "very vague" in this respect, he contends. Would the accepted trade-offs be considered as zoning changes in a referendum? he asked.

Samiotis maintains they would.

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Car hit under Greene CP overpass

A woman driving north on Greene at Prospect December 7 reported her car was hit by a piece of rust or crumbling cement coming off the railway bridge about 8:13 am, Public Security officials said. The street was closed in both directions for much of the day. Firefighters were called to check out the overpass. No "significant" structural damage was reported. Nevertheless, Canadian Pacific pressure-hosed the bridge to remove rust and any loose pieces.

While the bridge was described as being "under a construction zone" at the time, the structure had also been hit December 1 by a cube truck that became stuck beneath it at 4:39 pm.

Public safety officers had helped the driver free the truck by backing it onto the now-closed ramp of the eastbound Ville Marie expressway. Damages were believed to be confined to the roof of the truck.

The reason for the accident was not reported.



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AVIS PUBLIC CALENDRIER DES SÉANCES ORDINAIRES 2016

AVIS PUBLIC est par la présente donné que, lors de sa séance ordinaire du 2 novembre 2015, le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount a établi le calendrier de ses séances ordinaires pour l'année 2016 comme suit :

- le lundi 11 janvier à 20 h;
- le lundi 1^{er} février à 20 h;
- le lundi 7 mars à 20 h;
- le lundi 4 avril à 20 h;
- le lundi 2 mai à 20 h;
- le lundi 6 juin à 20 h;
- le lundi 4 juillet à 20 h;
- le lundi 1^{er} août à 20 h;
- le mardi 6 septembre à 20 h;
- le lundi 3 octobre à 20 h;
- le lundi 7 novembre à 20 h;
- le lundi 5 décembre à 20 h.

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 16 décembre 2015.

PUBLIC NOTICE 2016 REGULAR SITTING SCHEDULE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that, at its regular sitting held on November 2nd, 2015, the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount determined the 2016 schedule of its regular sittings as follows:

- Monday, January 11, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, February 1, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, March 7, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, April 4, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, May 2, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, June 6, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, July 4, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, August 1, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Tuesday, September 6, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, October 3, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, November 7, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, December 5, at 8:00 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, this December 16, 2015.

Martin St-Jean
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What are some Westmount parents doing on strike and ped days?

By JOANNE PENHALE

Westmount parents are dealing with many teachers' strike days, plus professional development – or “ped days” this school year. The *Independent* caught up with a few parents to see what they do during the weekdays their children are not in school.

Westmounter Jennifer Gold has a daughter at Roslyn elementary school.

“This is our first year dealing with ‘big kid’ school, and ped days,” said Gold, who also has a toddler. “I’m lucky enough to work from home so I can manage it, but I don’t get anything done.” During days off from Roslyn, Gold said, her daughter sometimes attends special ped day programming at the Westmount YMCA. “With all of the ped days, it gets expensive. It’s not ideal,” Gold said. Family and friends also help during strike days, Gold said, and she organizes playdates with other parents.

“I do support what the teachers are doing, but I wish it would end.”

Westmounter Steven Hilton has a son at

FACE School.

The Montreal school is administered by both the English and French school boards, and Hilton explained staff won’t cross each other’s picket lines, which results in extra days off school for his son. “For us, it’s been okay,” Hilton said. “Until my daughter is at school next year, I stay at home with the kids.” His daughter attends nursery school in the mornings five days a week, he said, and so the missed school days have given Hilton some extra one-on-one time with his son. They have gone to the Redpath Museum and the Montreal Biodome. “There also comes a point where [my son] needs to be doing more than part-time education,” Hilton said.

Westmounter Fariborz Saqafi has a son at Annexe Charlevoix in St. Henri.

“The strike is not good for the children... it’s boring to be out of school for so many days,” Saqafi said, adding it causes problems for him and his wife who have to work and attend school. Saqafi said they take turns caring for their son when he is



Fariborz Saqafi, December 10

off from school. His son watches cartoons, and if the weather permits will go to a park. He said he hopes teachers can find another way to demonstrate for their rights. After so many missed school days, he said, the quality of education is diminished. That said, Saqafi added the government should listen, negotiate and satisfy the teachers’ demands.

Chagnon 30 years in legislature

Provincial legislator for Westmount-St. Louis Jacques Chagnon was recognized December 2 for 30 years in the Quebec legislature. He has been speaker of the house since October 2012.

.....
Letters cont'd. from p. 6

the ability to regenerate their trunks. They can have a lifespan of up to 600 years; however, when it finally dies a new one is propagated from the roots. In fact, the world’s oldest known tree is a Norway spruce located in central Sweden’s mountainous Dalarna province – it contains a root system that has been growing for 9,550 years.

MICHAEL WALSH, MELVILLE AVE.



Jennifer Gold, December 10

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Meals-on-Wheels out of St. Matthias' celebrates 50 years

By JOANNE PENHALE

Fresh, hot meals have been delivered from the kitchen in St. Matthias' Church to Westmount residents and beyond since

1966.

The meals-on-wheels program is considered the first one established in Quebec, said Meals-on-Wheels Quebec president Marjorie Northrup.

"At first it was called, get this: 'Stew for a Few.' And it cost 25 cents [per meal]," she said.

"They based their start-up on [programs] in England," said St. Matthias' Meals-on-

Wheels coordinator Bob Laxton. "People were bombed out in the war," he said, and this service developed to get hot food to them.

program since it began in January 1966 after Montreal's Victorian Order of Nurses noticed a need for meal delivery, especially for elderly people who lived alone.

St. Matthias had a kitchen available,



"You guys are extremely special and don't you ever forget it," Marjorie Northrup (front row, centre), Meals-on-Wheels Quebec president, told a gathering of more than 20 volunteers for the St. Matthias Meals-on-Wheels program on December 3 during its 50th anniversary party.

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Photo : Peter Ferst

Wheels coordinator Bob Laxton. "People were bombed out in the war," he said, and this service developed to get hot food to them.

The present-day program in St. Matthias relies on about 40 volunteers, including Laxton.

Each Monday and Thursday mornings, volunteers cook and package about 24 meals in recyclable containers, and then a volunteer driver and runner take the meals to homes in the area between Decarie Blvd. and Guy St., from Côte St. Luc down into St. Henri, Laxton explained.

The service helps people who have lost some autonomy to stay at home – and retain dignity, Northrup said. Clients include elderly people and people with disabilities, and Northrup said income is not a factor for eligibility.

"Some like our meals so much they take two each time," Laxton said, adding client's pay \$4.50 for a meal and dessert or \$3.50 for only the meal.

"We're really struggling with trying to keep in the black," Laxton said, "We're about due for a price increase."

"They don't receive a cent of government funding; they are doing it all on their own," said Northrup, who is also the coordinator the Volunteer Bureau of Montreal's volunteer food services. The bureau, she said, has supported the St. Matthias pro-

Northrup said, and the volunteer bureau would recruit volunteers to make and deliver meals – a role it still plays today.

Northrup said the bureau provides resources to this and other Meals-on-Wheels programs, including links with social workers. A volunteer might notice an elderly person is not doing well, she said, and she can help set the wheels in motion for help.

Laxton also noted program volunteers have a protocol to follow when clients don't answer the door. "It's a fact of life; if someone is living alone and they were having a stroke or heart attack, who is going to find them?" said Laxton, a volunteer for meals-on-wheels programs for 35 years.

"That man takes the bus with groceries to take to St. Matthias," Northrup said of Laxton.

While a volunteer buyer normally gets ingredients from the Metro grocery store, Laxton said, "When I see Campbell's Soup on sale, I buy it ... why not?"

"I don't make a lot of money, so I don't give to charity, so instead I give time," Laxton said.

He flips through an old Meal-on-Wheels cookbook, prepared by Union League of Montreal and printed by Catelli Ltd. While it doesn't list a publication date, Laxton said, the recipes are very old-fashioned, like salmon

continued on p. 16

Retail Watch



VERONICA REDGRAVE

Holiday spirit alive on Greene

La Brioche Dorée has twinkly outdoor lights, and Le Living and Marie Dumas are also all featuring holiday decor. 'Tis almost the season...

RE/Max Action Westmount moves, Odile Cloutier moves in

Formerly housing the health vitamin and tonic shop En Santé at 1225 Greene Ave., the brick building was purchased by RE/Max Action Westmount in 2014. The team moved in November 30. The handsome New York-style brownstone has been renovated and is marked by two elegant black carriage lamps on either side of the front door – and holiday decorations. The historical architecture seems to have been preserved, and a staircase and roof-top terrace added.

Interior designer Odile Cloutier was “hired by RE/Max Action to redesign and give a new identity to its new building,” she explained in an email. Her office is on the second floor of Re/Max’s building, and her services will be by appointment only. 514.910.7765.

Connecte opened in May

Former Westmounter Andrea Martin co-founded Greene Ave.’s Connecte with partners Jodie Richardson and Lisa Linardatos. It opened in May, but we’re just getting to it now in Retail Watch. “We offer individual therapy to help people manage anxiety, overcome depression, eating disorders and body dissatisfaction,” Martin explained. “We also help individu-

als cope with feelings of stress and deal with chronic pain, insomnia or other sleep difficulties. All our psychologists are licensed with the Ordre des Psychologues du Québec.” Working with parents the clinic also addresses challenges of children and adolescents, specifically, issues such as depression, anxiety or low self-esteem. Weekly mindfulness yoga classes, run by yoga teacher Nicole Jones and psychologist Jodie Richardson are also offered.

Connecte, open Monday to Friday, is located at 1218 Greene Ave.

Joaillier David Plotnick gone?

There was a large à louer sign at 1228 Greene Ave. that was still up December 14, where Joaillier David Plotnick once was. Its listed telephone number no longer accepts calls.

Harricana ‘pops up’ in Bilboquet on Sherbrooke St.

How much fun is this shop *cum* ice-cream parlour? Very European. I saw a shop like this in Rome: Food + fashion. Delicious! Harricana, the fashion section which shares the space with Bilboquet, is owned by designer Mariouche, who recycles fur so it can be worn again. The boutique features warm woolen hats with fur pom-poms, gloves with fur wrists and sultry fur stoles to drape over t-shirts or ball gowns. A black lamb purse caught my eye as did a lovely leopard shrug. Every Sunday there is Atelier Pom-Pom. For \$20, you get a piece of recycled fur and instructions on how to attach it to your hat or gloves, or any item of your choice. Oh, and there are macaroons and ice cream. The macaroons come in delicious colours, and yes, people are still buying ice cream.

What I loved? Beautiful colourful tuques with fur pom-poms sat on a shelf above matching macaroons. I want both...now!

Harricana pop-up/Le Bilboquet is open seven days a week at 4864 Sherbrooke St.

Aesop has come to town

The famed firm specializes in skin, hair and body care products. Research is done by its own team of chemists. Founded by a hairdresser in 1987, there are now Aesop shops in New York, London, Paris, Tokyo and Hong Kong. The Westmount shop is small but charming, and the warm wooden walls are welcoming.

What I loved? Right at the front door, there is a long sloping sink so customers can try products and easily rinse off. Fun!

Aesop is open seven days a week at 4968 Sherbrooke St.

Celebrating 10 years on Victoria – Appetite for Books

Appetite for Books on Victoria Ave. celebrates 10 years. Owners Jonathan Cheung and Tays Spencer have just published *Montreal Cooks*, a hardcover – a heavyweight in more ways than one. The book, which “took about a year to produce” Cheung told me, covers Montreal chefs with fabulous photographs and their “favourite recipes.” For those who can resist the shop’s shelves and shelves of mouth-watering cookbooks – a great sign when recipes are free on the internet – the hip foodie magazine *Lucky Peach* is available for \$16.50. “I am thrilled we are still in business as an independent book store,” Cheung added. Indeed.

What I loved? Adorable jars of wildflower raw honey. Sweet. And, of course, Montreal Cooks. Fabulous!

Appetite for Books is at 388 Victoria Ave. It is open Monday through Saturday.

Five years anniversary for Soussana’s O’Way

Around the corner and over a street on Sherbrooke, O’Way Coiffure Spa is celebrating five years at its location. What a fun name. It is the name of super hair care products from Italy, and salon owner Pa-

tricia Soussana was allowed to use the name as she carries their collection. O’Way also offers Jane Iredale make-up based on mineral powders. Sold in over 40 countries, the line has been a success for over 20 years. Getting to Soussana’s salon is a mini work-out up to the third floor. But then soothing wood floors and a view over Sherbrooke St. welcome customers. Their celebratory party in early December offered complimentary Jane Iredale makeovers and back massages (mmmm!)

What I loved? Wonderful natural light pouring in is flattering. Yeah!

O’Way Coiffure Spa is at 4926 Sherbrooke St. It is open Tuesday to Saturday.

‘Suspicious package’ dumped on Elm

A suspicious “package” outside 395 Elm (Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom) resulted in a police operation December 5 around 10 am, Public Security officials said. The item turned out to be a harmless safe someone had dumped there. Public safety officers were asked to take it back to the station since the item was too big to fit in the back of a police car.

Crack found in garden pipe

Public safety officers were called to check out a water leak outside a house on Bruce Ave. December 1, according to Public Security officials. A small crack was discovered in the pipe leading to a garden hose outlet. The call came from a concerned neighbour at 11:45 am. A plumber was to be called.

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Merry Christmas

À tous et chacun
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SOLD neil & susan, after a spectacular search, secure something swanky overlooking the city **SOLD** john & sheila manage their move having made many memories on melbourne **SOLD** with boxes in the boot, eric & kathleen gallop out of grosvenor and beat it to boston before the bad weather **SOLD** robert trades in his rural retreat in st.lazare for a really rockin' urban residence **SOLD** mr. morgan makes a move out of his magnificent maisonette on the mountain **SOLD** erik, sarah & chloe get kicked out of kensington when their parents capture a cool casa with a killer view **SOLD** after cleaning house like crazy, zoe, nick & cleo the cat can finally cut loose until it's time to relocate **SOLD** orit, emmy & macey do a dance out of dollard and dash downtown **SOLD** determined to downsize, lovely louise anne along with connor leave their lovely lodging **SOLD** alex & michel, wanting adventure, give into their wanderlust wishes **SOLD** the lionhearted lustigs & their parade of pets leave their lovely lodgings on murray hill **SOLD** the bennets bid bye-bye to their beautiful church hill abode to buy in a big beautiful building **SOLD** the magnificent mckennas cut the cord from quebec to trot off to toronto **SOLD** anne & dan depart their digs on duvernay and dive into something gorgeous on grey **SOLD** with aspirations for the alps, marvellous margaret makes her move out of manoir belmont **SOLD** likeable larry leases his reliable redpath rental lickety-split **SOLD** the kaplows, really cool cats, fly the coop from cote st. antoine into a captivating condo **SOLD** opting out of ottawa, costa & their cuties capture a delightful dwelling on douglas **SOLD** the palgovas are tickled pink when their pleasing place promptly produces purchasers **SOLD** big-hearted benefactors help buy something beautiful for their beloved babysitter **SOLD** pleasant peter sells his exquisite casita on caledonia to blessed buyers from barbados **SOLD** les vandals sont victorieux et vendent quelque chose de merveilleux sur montrose **SOLD** the search is finally finished when a fun family of four, tired of hotel living, find something fantastic **SOLD** dr. rowen, determined to relocate, recognizes a real opportunity and purchases the perfect pad **SOLD** a regal residence on rosemount is sold, and the perfectly pleasant papiches pack up without panic **SOLD** the pascal/lessards pack up their pads and pile into something palatial **SOLD** louise, tired of tackling traffic, sells in the suburbs and picks up a trendy griffintown townhouse **SOLD** the gallant/garciès, done with their cocoon on clarke decide to get up and go **SOLD** george & leslie luck out with a long term lease to a dependable diplomat **SOLD** the merry mof-fards, longing for a life near lachute, abandon their argyle abode **SOLD** the cundill/gruodis clan are very content to continue their calling in costa rica **SOLD** the dawsons decide to depart but not to divest of their delightful dwelling just yet **SOLD** despite being dearly missed, the delightful dennis family, decide to skeddadle to the ski hills **SOLD** the boisterous bukhmans, busting at the seams, say a bittersweet bye bye to holton and buy something bodaciously bigger **SOLD** the glamorous galassos decide to depart their digs and commit hard to capture a condo **SOLD** the massively motivated morins manage meeting after meeting and move somewhere magnifique on montrose **SOLD** super smart sylvie and disciplined david stick with their system and are super successful **SOLD** david & pam, a dynamic duo, pull out the punches and pick a superior pad on st. paul **SOLD** richard, planning his proposal, puts pieces of the puzzle in place for a pleasurable transplant for his pretty partner **SOLD** amber & ben make a marvellous move to the meridian **SOLD** vee is victorious and nabs a cool condo on kingsley **SOLD** precious patrick's loft in lachine lands a lovely lady **SOLD** the montpetits break out of beaconsfield and move to the perfect place on prospect **SOLD** lovely linda deserts ddo for dreamy downtown domicile **SOLD** staying put in the city, stephanie switches her sherbrooke street flat for the love of a lofty lachine lair **SOLD** liane & jim, back from new jersey, jump for joy when they buy a real gem **SOLD** the marandas, nearly ready for retirement, buy a brand new beauty by the lake **SOLD** the groovy gilmours & their hot diggity dogs decide it's time to get going **SOLD** the goldins, tired of tackling traffic, grab something gorgeous and get the kids closer to st. george's **SOLD** the maillette/fradets find something fantastic for their soon to be family of five **SOLD** ruperts & their boisterous bunch buy a beauty on belmont **SOLD** oh my, the raymonds got missed on our list, not once but twice...how could this happen to people so nice? **SPECIAL THANKS** to my buyers whose perfect pad has yet to be picked, to my sellers whose homes are still to be **SOLD**, to my classy colleagues who offer consistent capable collaboration, and a big welcome to jen who joined our group **AND** finally to elizabeth, macy & stephanie for being, every year, the team that tames every tangle | **CONGRATULATIONS** to all my kind clients & **THANK YOU AGAIN** for your continued confidence!

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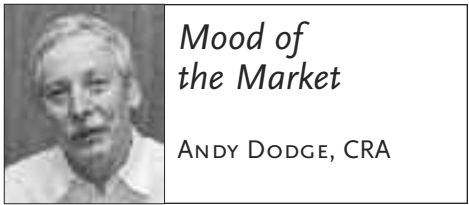
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November sales: Slowing down



The following article relates to offers to purchase Westmount residential dwellings that were reported by local real estate agents as having been accepted in November 2015. Because they are not final registered sales, the addresses cannot be made public but give a good idea of current trends in local real estate activity. The graph offers a picture of these trends over time.

The Westmount real estate market pulled back in November, as both prices and volume moved downwards and the overall average moved below \$1,550,000 for the first time since June 2014.

Only five single-family dwelling sales were posted in November, in a range from \$460,000 (the lowest price for a house in Westmount since November 2011) to \$1,500,000 (the lowest monthly maximum since August 2014). The total commitment for the month came to \$5,251,000, just under the municipal evaluation for the five of

\$5,272,200. This is the first time since December last year that the average is a mark-down.

Still, the value of the average Westmount home is higher than it ever was before August last year, so in the larger perspective owners should continue to be happy. The Montreal Real Estate Board was very positive last month about increases in both volume and prices of real estate on the island of Montreal, but of course they are talking about the median price of resales as \$300,000, so this is a far cry from the levels in Westmount.

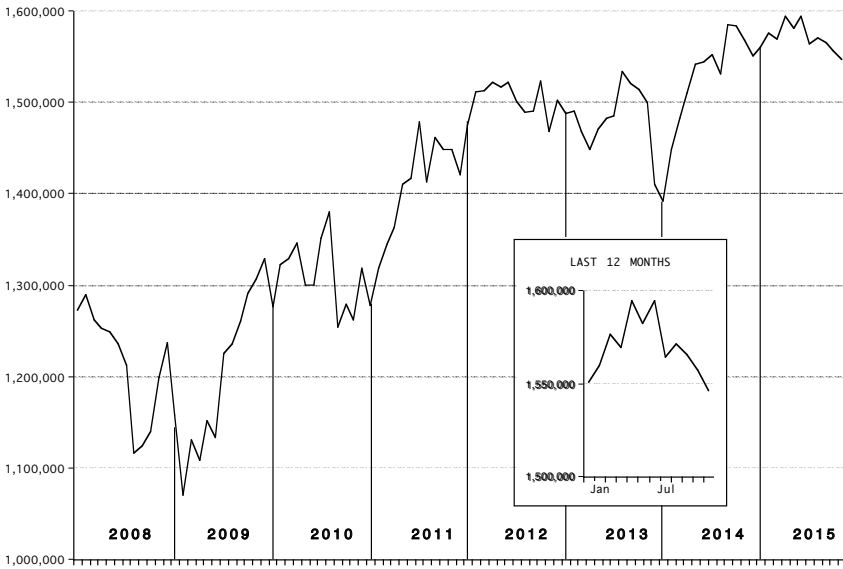
Condo sales

Two condo sales – one flat in a triplex and one apartment – both sold under valuation and combined with three sales in October, the average for the fourth quarter has been a net mark-down. Adjacent-Westmount was busy, but again, for low prices: three condos/co-ops in eastern NDG, a duplex and the lower half of another one in southern Côte des Neiges, and two houses to the east of Westmount, but both going below \$1,000,000. The November prices generally made averages dip in most areas, though as with Westmount they are still ahead of last year's figures.

So now we enter the holiday season and several houses have been pulled off the market: the number of listings is down by about 10 percent in the past month and even the number asking over \$4 million has dropped from 18 to 15. Eventually – say, mid- to late-February, the start of the next spring season – many of those unsold houses will come back on the market, and averages will either surge or pull back, depending on the state of the economy.

Let me take this opportunity to wish all of you – agents, colleagues, clients and readers – a wonderful holiday and joy throughout 2016.

Average adjusted price of a 'typical' Westmount home by month, Jan. 2008 to Nov. 2015, based on accepted offer dates



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Meals-on-wheels cont'd. from p. 12

loaf and tuna casserole.

"Gradually over the years, we've maintained half of [the recipes] ... like shepherd's pie, meatloaf and chicken cacciatore," Laxton said; others, like salmon loaf, are no longer made.

The St. Matthias Meals-on-Wheels program has a lot of happy volunteers, Laxton said, which helps attract more volunteers – mostly from the broader community, but some are from the church, which provides the kitchen at no cost.

Northrup said this Meals-on-Wheels is

one of the few volunteer-run programs left in Quebec; many now have paid positions despite beginning as purely volunteer efforts.

Westmount's Mountainside United Church recently closed its Meals-on-Wheels program and Ascension of Our Lord reduced its program – based out of Centre Greene – from two days a week to one, both due to a lack of volunteers.

To reach the St. Matthias Meals-on-Wheels program, contact Laxton at 514.846.0024. For the program that operates out of Centre Greene on Fridays, contact Jacqueline Neville at 514.935.3817.

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REWARD

Please call
514 953-0788

New property valuations could affect 'frozen' tax bills

cont'd. from p. 1



Councillor Victor Drury presents the budget December 14.

creasing taxes to home owners whose property valuations have not been inflated by construction projects, Councillor Victor Drury said in presenting the budget.

Valuation changes kick in

Despite phasing in the third year of the three-year valuation roll, which could affect some property owners up or down, "Without assessment increases owing to renovations or additions...the average [homeowner's increase] will still be zero," Drury said.

This would be a tax bill of \$12,699, the same as last year (see story December 8, p. 1), though the increase in construction activity has mathematically pushed up the average tax bill on a single family dwelling by \$64 to \$12,733, he explained.

"Tax bill increases or decreases will vary depending on the change in valuation of each individual property," Drury stressed.

In fact, according to Trent, "the intent is to have a tax freeze for all classes of property," though this is complicated when it comes to the commercial sector where there is no averaging.

The bills are expected to be mailed out by the end of January, payable in two instalments due February 26 and May 27.

Revenue sources

Of the \$101.5-million budget, \$84.5 million is to come from Westmount property owners, \$3.2 million from federal and provincial compensation in lieu of taxes and some \$14 million from "other sources."

These include \$5.8 million for parking fees and court fines, \$4.5 million from the welcome tax and \$1.2 million for recreational activities.

How it's spent

Of the total \$101.5 million, \$52.6 million goes to the aggro (\$51.7 million) and the Montreal Metropolitan Community.

This leaves \$48.9 million to pay for the

delivery of local services budgetted at \$34.9 million and \$14 million for other expenditures, such as debt servicing and pay-as-you-go.

Public Works eats up almost half the local services with \$16.4 million under its supervision. This includes \$4 million for road maintenance, \$3 million for snow removal and disposal, \$2.7 million for water and sewer maintenance and \$1.6 million for garbage and recycling. Another \$3.5 million is allocated to the maintenance of parks and playgrounds.

By comparison, the library and community events will cost \$4 million to operate and Public Security \$3.3 million.

Debt and surplus

The city's accumulated surplus of some \$40 million is expected to be reduced to about \$30 million by the end of 2016, according to Trent.

This would result from the transfer of \$4 million to the 2016 capital works budget of \$14.5 to add to the \$9 million coming from the operating budget. Another \$6 million will be used to pay off a consolidation in 2011 of loan by-laws for capital works projects.

Drury announced the city's debt at December 31, 2015 as \$36.2 million, excluding the \$10.5 million owed by the Quebec government for its portion of the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) grant, which it is paying down over 10 to 20 years. The federal government has already paid its portion. The city's portion stands at \$11.1 million.

One highlight singled out by Drury in the budget speech was a commitment to pay \$7 million on a large payment coming due in 2018 on a loan for the WRC. This has already been appropriated, he explained.

The debt was the only aspect of the budget raised during the ensuing question period by John Fretz, the only member of the public to attend the meeting.



John Fretz asks why the city doesn't use its surplus to wipe out all debt right now to immediately wipe out debt service charges. Because the city debentures allow this only when "bullet payments" come due, Mayor Peter Trent replied.

Police Report

Three break-ins in four days

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

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

A series of break-and-enter incidents that took place in Westmount between December 5 and 9 included a forced entry on Lexington Ave. near the summit by a would-be thief who brazenly searched parts of the dwelling while the owner was at home.

The incident took place on December 7 between 6 and 6:40 pm, according to Montreal police Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière. The intruder entered by a second storey rear window that was accessible from an upper balcony.

A video surveillance camera captured images of the suspect entering at a time when the owner was in the house. However, since the home in question is quite large, said Laperrière, the occupant wasn't aware there was an intruder until much later when he saw signs of intrusion, at which point he called the police.

The suspect, who is described as being of average height, spent time rummaging around areas of the house. However, according to the police report, the person left empty-handed. Police were unable to determine the person's gender.

Laperrière suggests that the best way to safeguard against burglar intrusions of this sort is with an alarm that has its perimeter sensors activated to detect outside intruders but not to motion inside the house. He also recommends leaving the house and calling 911 should an intruder come in, rather than confronting the suspect.

Two more

On December 5 at around 8:20 pm, burglars broke into a house on Elm Ave. by smashing a window on a rear entrance door. "They searched handbags found in the kitchen area, then left from the same point," Laperrière said, adding he had no specific information on what if anything was stolen. Since the homeowner was away at the time, a neighbour or friend left in charge of the dwelling reported the incident.

A third break-and-enter took place on Columbia Ave. near Dorchester Blvd. sometime between 8 am and 6:45 pm on Dec. 9. "No one was at home, and this was also an incident where the suspects also came in through a rear window," said Laperrière, adding that the burglars left with several items, including some computer equipment.

'Suspicious activity'

Police at Station 12 are mystified by an incident that occurred in a rear yard on Sunnyside Ave. near Westmount's summit on De- continued on p. 19



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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Message du conseil municipal

Le maire Peter F. Trent, les conseillers municipaux de Westmount, ainsi que tout le personnel de la Ville, souhaitent à tous et chacun une joyeuse période des fêtes en toute sécurité, en famille et entre amis, et une bonne et heureuse année en santé.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Cercle de lecture *Finnegans Wake* de Joyce : « *The Boaters and Sifters of ALP* »

Le mercredi 16 décembre, 19 h. Vous êtes invités à vous joindre au groupe de lecture, et à plonger tête première dans une discussion passionnée sur l'œuvre magistrale de James Joyce, *Finnegans Wake*. Apportez votre copie du livre Info : 514 989-5300.

Club de lecture en anglais

Le mardi 22 décembre, 19 h. *The Hungry Ghosts* de Shyam Selvadurai. Info : 514-989-5299.

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Le mercredi 23 décembre, 10 h 15. Le Groupe de poésie compose des poèmes à partir de thèmes proposés par les membres. Info : 514 989-5300.

Films pour la période des fêtes (5 ans et +)

Les mercredis 23 et 30 décembre, 14 h. *Shaun the Sheep*, 23 déc. ; *Inside Out*, 30 déc. Gratuit. SVP vous inscrire au comptoir des enfants. Info : 514 989-5229.

Teen Tour Theatre : « *The Secret Life of Girls* »

Le dimanche 28 février, 13 h 30. Un aperçu du monde de l'intimidation juvénile. Info : 514-989-5229.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Chœur d'hommes gallois de Montréal

Le mercredi 16 décembre à 19 h 30, Victoria Hall. La lecture de Brian Llewellyn-ap-Dafydd du conte de

Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 11 janvier 2016

Dylan Thomas, *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, accompagne les cantiques traditionnelles anglaises et galloises. Billets disponibles au Victoria Hall ou à la porte. 20 \$ adultes, 15 \$ âge d'or et étudiants. Info : 450 699-7013.

Chants de Noël du quartier de Westmount
Le jeudi 18 décembre à compter de 18 h, Victoria Hall. Vin épicé et liqueurs douces servis. Apportez des bouchées sucrées ou salées. Dons recueillis au profit d'organismes communautaires. Info : 514 989-5226.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Collecte d'aliments à Westmount
Jusqu'au 20 décembre. Apportez vos dons d'aliments non-périssables dans les bacs situés dans les édifices municipaux, ou appelez au 514 989-5222.

Vous partez en vacances ?

Contactez le Service de la sécurité publique de Westmount; des agents vérifieront la maison pendant votre absence. Info : 514 989-5222.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Collecte d'ordures : horaire des fêtes
Veuillez noter que la collecte normalement prévue le vendredi est déplacée au mercredi pendant les deux semaines des fêtes, soit le 23 décembre et le 30 décembre. Toutes les autres collectes ont lieu selon l'horaire normal. Info : 989-5390.

Collecte de sapins
À compter du 5 janvier. Placez votre sapin de Noël en arrière du trottoir à tout moment pour la cueillette. SVP, faites preuve de patience pendant les périodes d'opérations de déneigement. Info : 514 989-5390.

CITY HALL

Message from municipal council
Mayor Peter F. Trent and Westmount City Councillors, along with all City personnel, wish everyone a festive and safe holiday season in the company of family and friends, and a healthy and happy New Year.

LIBRARY

Reading group for Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*: *The Boaters and Sifters of ALP*
Wednesday, December 16, 7 p.m. Join the circle skimming the surface or sifting through the layers of James Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*. Bring a copy of the book. Info: 514 989-5300.

English Book Club
Tuesday, December 22, 7 p.m. Shyam Selvadurai's *The Hungry Ghosts*. Info: 514-989-5299.

Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd
Wednesday, December 23, 10:15 a.m. The Poetry Group meets to compose poetry together, using themes proposed by members. Info: 514 989-5300.

Holiday Films (5 years of age and up)
Wednesdays, December 23 and 30, 2 p.m. Dec 23: *Shaun the Sheep*; Dec 30: *Inside Out*. Free. Please sign up at the Children's Desk. Info: 514 989-5229.

Teen Tour Theatre: *The Secret Life of Girls*
Sunday, February 28, 1:30 p.m. A glimpse into the world of girls' bullying. Info: 514-989-5229.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Concert: The Montreal Welsh Male Choir
Wednesday, December 16, 7:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. A concert filled with traditional Welsh and English carols along with the reading of Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales* by Brian Llewellyn-ap-Dafydd.

Next Council Meeting Monday, January 11, 2016

Tickets available at Victoria Hall or at the door. \$20 adults, \$15 seniors and students. Info: 450 699-7013.

Westmount Neighbourhood Carolling
Thursday, December 18 from 6 p.m., Victoria Hall. Spiced wine and soft drinks served. Bring a sweet or savoury dish to share. Donations accepted for local community groups. Info: 514 989-5226.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Holiday Food Drive in Westmount
Until December 20. Bring your donations of non-perishable food to the collection bins located in City buildings, or phone 514 989-5222.









Going on vacation?
Contact the Westmount Public Security Unit; officers will check on your property while you're away. Info: 514 989-5222.


PUBLIC WORKS

Garbage collection: holiday schedule
Please note that during the two holiday weeks, the garbage collection normally scheduled for Friday will take place on Wednesday, on December 23rd and 30th. All other collections will take place according to the regular schedule. Info: 514 989-5390.

Christmas tree collection
Begins January 5. Place your Christmas tree behind the sidewalk anytime for the collection. Please be patient during snow removal operations. Info: 514 989-5390.



HORAIRE DES FÊTES HOLIDAY SCHEDULE	LUN / MON 21	MAR / TUE 22	MER / WED 23	JEU / THU 24	VEN / FRI 25	SAM / SAT 26	DIM / SUN 27	LUN / MON 28	MAR / TUE 29	MER / WED 30	JEU / THU 31	VEN / FRI 1	SAM / SAT 2	DIM / SUN 3	LUN / MON 4
BUREAUX ADMINISTRATIFS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES	8 h 30 - 16 h 30	8 h 30 - 16 h 30	8 h 30 - 16 h 30	fermés - closed					8 h 30 - 16 h 30	8 h 30 - 16 h 30	fermés - closed				
BIBLIOTHÈQUE - LIBRARY	10 h - 21 h	10 h - 21 h	10 h - 21 h	fermée - closed			10 h - 17 h	10 h - 17 h	10 h - 21 h	10 h - 21 h	fermée - closed			10 h - 17 h	10 h - 17 h
CONSERVATOIRE - CONSERVATORY *** fermé pour une période indéterminée en raison de réparations nécessaires *** *** Closed indefinitely due to necessary repairs ***															
CENTRE DES LOISIRS RECREATION CENTRE	12 h - 22 h	8 h - 22 h	8 h - 22 h	9 - 16 h 30	fermé closed	12 h - 19 h 30	8 h - 22 h	12 h - 22 h	8 h - 22 h	8 h - 22 h	9 - 16 h 30	fermé closed	12 h - 19 h 30	9 h - 22 h	7 h 30 - 23 h
VICTORIA HALL fermé - closed															
POLICE : PDQ / STATION 12	Tous les jours de 9 h à 19 h - Every day from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.														
SERVICES DE COLLECTE COLLECTION SERVICES			 ouest west		pas de collecte no collection					 ouest west		pas de collecte no collection			





The fault in her stars?

The Underdog Club

JANE DAVEY



Adorable Elizabeth is a puppy, and puppies are usually quickly scooped up for adoption, rarely falling into the underdog category right off the bat. But Elizabeth really has only one strike against her in the popularity department, which should be as plain as the stripe on her lovable little face.

She's part pitbull, a much maligned breed these days with more doggone bad press than the great white shark.



But her seeming unpopularity in securing a home is entirely circumstantial, having nothing to do with her character, which by all accounts is pup-tastic!

Elizabeth started out life in a loving foster home under the expert care and guidance of her dog-mom until she was 3

months of age. But then for some random reason, all of her siblings were adopted except her. This coincided with the summer vacation period, which meant that both steady and puppy-suitable foster parents were in short supply for a time. So through no fault of her own, Elizabeth ended up being transferred to three different foster homes.

No one is more concerned about this darling's developing abandonment issues than Sophie's Dog Adoption and it's their hope that a loving pitbull-savvy forever-home will open its doors ASAP to little Elizabeth, who is now 6 months old. But despite the instability in her life the girl remains a trooper.

She's your typical high energy pup, curious and playful, described as a "great girl with lots of potential, very bright and eager to learn, and loving everyone she meets." She's in excellent health, already weighing in at 45 lbs. We're told she's used to kids, other dogs and cats, and her house-training is almost 100 percent. She's also crate-trained.

If you're the one destined to change this puppy's luck, please contact Sophie's at info@sophiesdogadoption.com or 514.804.5052.

Update on Shelby, the long-haired shepherd

At the end of November, Frontier Animal Society reported that Shelby ("Shelby: The comeback kid," October 20, p. 20) was on the way to her new home in PEI. The new owners were experienced with the breed. Though the shelter had received several calls from people reading about her in the Underdog column none was the right fit, though one was going to visit the shelter to meet another dog.

owner's back yard, although they couldn't find any traces suggesting that a break-and-enter had been in the process of taking place.

Pimentel said the property owner was right to call police to report what he had heard.

Lexus SUV stolen

Sometime between 3 pm on December 2 and 10:15 am on December 3, a Lexus sports utility vehicle was stolen from its parking spot on Windsor Ave. near the corner of Prince Albert Ave. According to Pimentel, the owners parked the vehicle the day before but only noticed it was missing the day after.

SPCA fundraiser

On November 5, the Montreal SPCA hosted its "Beasts of Fashion" gala with 500 guests at the Théâtre Paradoxe. It featured music from two bands, food, wine and chocolate (this year's theme was "Love and Chocolate") and a stage show with

dogs (and a surprise cat). A live auction was "judged" by television star Anne-France Goldwater. A cheque for \$175,000 was presented from the PetSmart Foundation Canada to the SPCA for "targeted spay/neuter work."



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT



AVIS D'ADOPTION RÈGLEMENT 1491

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné que le règlement 1491 intitulé « *RÈGLEMENT VISANT À IMPOSER ET À PRÉLEVER UNE TAXE ET UNE COMPENSATION POUR L'EXERCICE FINANCIER 2016* » a été adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount lors de sa deuxième séance extraordinaire tenue à l'hôtel de ville le 14 décembre 2015.

L'objet de ce règlement vise à :

- imposer et prélever la taxe foncière générale sur tous les immeubles situés sur le territoire de la municipalité, basée sur la valeur portée au rôle d'évaluation ; et
- imposer le paiement d'une compensation pour services municipaux aux propriétaires des immeubles ou terrains situés sur le territoire.

Ce règlement entre en vigueur conformément à la loi.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter le règlement sur le site Web de la Ville au www.westmount.org, et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffe situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 16 décembre 2015.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION BY-LAW 1491

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that By-law 1491 entitled "*BY-LAW TO IMPOSE AND LEVY A TAX AND A COMPENSATION FOR THE 2016 FISCAL YEAR*" was adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount at its second special sitting held at City Hall on December 14, 2015.

The object of this by-law is:

- to impose and levy a tax on all taxable immovables in the territory of the municipality, based on their value shown on the assessment roll; and
- to impose the payment of compensation for municipal services on the owners of immovables or lands situated in the territory.

This by-law shall come into force according to law.

Any interested person may consult the by-law on the City's Website at www.westmount.org, and obtain copies at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, this December 16, 2015.

Martin St Jean
Greffier de la Ville / City Clerk

www.westmount.org

Station 12 cont'd. from p. 17

cember 2, although they are classifying it as a "suspicious activity."

According to community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, the owner of a house on Sunnyside called police shortly after midnight to report he heard what sounded like the noise of a drill being operated somewhere in or behind his rear yard.

"He thought it was a break-in so he called 911," said Pimentel, noting that the complainant also reported seeing what he thought was a flashlight being used.

After investigating, he added, police officers found an LED flashlight in the



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT



AVIS PUBLIC
ASSEMBLÉE PUBLIQUE DE CONSULTATION
LUNDI, 25 JANVIER 2016 – 19 h

AUX PERSONNES INTÉRESSÉES PAR LES PROJETS DE RÈGLEMENT 1492, 1493, 1494 ET 1495

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné par le soussigné, greffier de la Ville de Westmount, de ce qui suit :

1. Lors de sa séance ordinaire tenue le lundi 7 décembre 2015, le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount a donné un avis de motion ou adopté par résolutions les projets de règlement suivants :
 - Règlement 1492, intitulé « **RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER DE NOUVEAU LE RÈGLEMENT 1300 SUR LES PERMIS ET CERTIFICATS** »;
 - Règlement 1493, intitulé « **RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER DE NOUVEAU LE PLAN D'URBANISME DE LA VILLE DE WESTMOUNT – SCHÉMA D'AMÉNAGEMENT ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'AGGLOMÉRATION DE MONTRÉAL** »;
 - Règlement 1494, intitulé « **RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER DE NOUVEAU LE RÈGLEMENT 1303 CONCERNANT LE ZONAGE – SCHÉMA D'AMÉNAGEMENT ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'AGGLOMÉRATION DE MONTRÉAL** »; et
 - Règlement 1495, intitulé « **RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER DE NOUVEAU LE RÈGLEMENT 1305 SUR LES PLANS D'IMPLANTATION ET D'INTÉGRATION ARCHITECTURALE – SCHÉMA D'AMÉNAGEMENT ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'AGGLOMÉRATION DE MONTRÉAL** ».
2. Conformément à la *Loi sur l'aménagement et l'urbanisme* (RLRQ, chapitre A-19.1), une assemblée publique de consultation aura lieu **le lundi 25 janvier 2016 à 19 h**, à la salle du conseil de l'hôtel de ville située au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, à Westmount;
3. Cette assemblée publique de consultation a pour but d'expliquer les projets de règlement ci-haut mentionnés dont l'objet est d'assurer leur conformité **avec le nouveau SCHÉMA D'AMÉNAGEMENT ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'AGGLOMÉRATION DE MONTRÉAL** adopté le 1er avril 2015, lequel peut être consulté en visitant le site Web de la Ville de Montréal :

http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portal/page?_pageid=6877,134597929&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

4. Au cours de cette assemblée, la personne qui préside expliquera les projets de règlement et entendra les personnes et organismes qui désirent s'exprimer;
5. Les projets de règlement étant des règlements de concordance ils ne sont pas susceptibles d'approbation référendaire;
6. Toute personne intéressée peut consulter les projets de règlement ci-haut mentionnés et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffe situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, du lundi au vendredi, de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 16 décembre 2015.

Martin St-Jean
Greffier de la Ville/City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED BY THE DRAFT BY-LAWS 1492, 1493, 1494 AND 1495.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Westmount, of the following:

1. At its regular meeting held on Monday, December 7, 2015, the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount gave a notice of motion or adopted by resolution the following draft by-laws :
 - By-law 1492, entitled “**BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES BY-LAW 1300**”;
 - By-law 1493, entitled “**BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND THE PLANNING PROGRAMME OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT – LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE URBAN AGGLOMERATION OF MONTRÉAL**”;
 - By-law 1494, entitled “**BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND ZONING BY-LAW 1303 – LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE URBAN AGGLOMERATION OF MONTRÉAL**”; and
 - By-law 1495, entitled “**BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND BY-LAW 1305 ON SITE PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURAL INTEGRATION PROGRAMMES – LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE URBAN AGGLOMERATION OF MONTRÉAL**”.
2. In accordance with *An Act respecting land use planning and development* (CQLR, chapter A-19.1), a public consultation meeting will be held on **Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Council Chamber of City Hall, located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, in Westmount;
3. The purpose of this public consultation meeting is to explain the aforementioned draft by-laws, the object of which is to comply with the new **LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE URBAN AGGLOMERATION OF MONTRÉAL** adopted on April 1st, 2015, which can be consulted on the Website of the City of Montreal at:

4. During this meeting, the person presiding will explain the draft by-laws and will hear every person or body wishing to express an opinion;
5. The draft by-laws, being concordance by-laws, are not subject to approval by way of referendum;
6. Any interested person may consult the aforementioned draft by-laws and obtain copies thereof at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this December 16, 2015.



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT



AVIS PUBLIC

MODIFICATIONS DEVANT ÊTRE EFFECTUÉES PAR L'ÉVALUATEUR AU RÔLE D'ÉVALUATION FONCIÈRE 2014-2015-2016

3^e EXERCICE FINANCIER

AVIS PUBLIC est par la présente donné par le soussigné, greffier de la Ville de Westmount, de ce qui suit :

Le rôle d'évaluation foncière qui s'appliquera pour le 3^e exercice du rôle triennal d'évaluation foncière de 2014-2015-2016 a été déposé au bureau du greffe et toute personne intéressée peut en prendre connaissance pendant nos heures d'ouvertures. Le rôle est également disponible pour consultation sur internet à l'adresse suivante :

<http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/evalweb>

Toute personne au nom de laquelle est ou était inscrit au rôle un bien visé par une modification au rôle d'évaluation foncière de 2014-2015-2016 peut déposer une demande de révision administrative prévue à la section I du chapitre X de la *Loi sur la fiscalité municipale* (RLRQ, chapitre F-2.1) au motif que l'évaluateur n'a pas effectué une modification qu'il aurait dû y apporter en vertu de l'article 174 de ladite loi.

Pour être recevable, une demande de révision administrative doit remplir les conditions suivantes :

- i) Être déposée au cours de l'exercice financier pendant lequel survient un événement justifiant une modification du rôle en vertu de la loi, ou au cours de l'exercice suivant, si l'évaluateur n'effectue pas cette modification ;
- ii) Être faite au moyen du formulaire prescrit à cette fin et disponible dans les lieux de dépôt mentionnés ci-dessous ainsi qu'à l'hôtel de ville de Westmount ;
- iii) Être accompagnée du montant d'argent déterminé par le *Règlement sur les tarifs de l'agglomération de Montréal* pour l'unité d'évaluation visée, ou, si transmise par courrier recommandé, être accompagnée d'un chèque visé ou d'un mandat-poste à l'ordre de la Ville de Montréal ;
- iv) Être déposée en personne, du lundi au vendredi, entre 9 h et 12 h ou entre 13 h et 16 h auprès de la Direction de l'évaluation foncière de la Ville de Montréal (DEFVM) à l'une des adresses suivantes :

Division Centre
255, boul. Crémazie Est,
bureau 600
Montréal (Québec) H2M 1M2

Division Est
7101, rue Jean-Talon Est,
bureau 1110
Anjou (Québec) H1M 3N7

Division Ouest
1868, boulevard Des Sources,
bureau 500
Pointe-Claire (Québec) H9R 5R2

ou être envoyée par courrier recommandé à :

Division Centre
255, boul. Crémazie Est, bureau 600
Montréal (Québec) H2M 1M2

or be sent by registered mail to:

GIVEN at Westmount, Québec, this 16th day of December 2015.

Me Martin St-Jean
Greffier de la Ville / City Clerk

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 16 décembre 2015.



Ville de WESTMOUNT
City of WESTMOUNT

	FORECAST (Nov. 2nd) 2015	FORECAST (updated Dec. 2nd) 2015	BUDGET 2016	
REVENUS	\$	\$	\$	REVENUES
TAXE FONCIÈRE GÉNÉRALE				GENERAL PROPERTY TAX
Résidentielle (1 à 5 logements)	54,688,100	54,688,100	54,578,000	Residential (1 to 5 units)
Immeubles de 6 logements ou plus	6,772,300	6,772,300	6,792,600	Apartments (6 or more units)
Immeubles non résidentiels	22,748,900	22,748,900	22,771,400	Non-Residential Properties
Provision pour contestation et construction	(200,000)	(200,000)	-	Provision for Contestation and Construction
Taxe foncière générale	84,009,300	84,009,300	84,142,000	General Property Tax
Autres revenus - taxes sur terrains vacants	437,700	437,700	387,000	Other - Taxes on Vacant Lots
Taxe foncière générale totale	84,447,000	84,447,000	84,529,000	Total - General Property Tax
PAIEMENTS TENANT LIEU DE TAXES				COMPENSATION IN LIEU OF TAXES
Gouvernement du Canada	168,400	168,400	168,400	Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Québec	2,410,300	2,410,300	2,410,200	Government of Québec
Autres (programmes en compensation - bonification)	509,400	509,400	509,400	Other (Compensation Programs - Allowance)
Compensation pour services municipaux	67,700	67,700	67,700	Compensation - Municipal Services Tax
	3,155,800	3,155,800	3,155,700	
AUTRES SERVICES				OTHER SERVICES
Activités récréatives	1,051,600	1,051,600	1,180,000	Recreational Activities
Bibliothèque	103,000	103,000	104,200	Library
Stationnement	3,200,000	3,200,000	3,300,000	Parking
Recouvrables et autres revenus	457,300	457,300	400,000	Recoverable and Other Revenues
	4,811,900	4,811,900	4,984,200	
AUTRES REVENUS DE SOURCES LOCALES				OTHER REVENUES FROM LOCAL SOURCES
Droits sur les mutations immobilières	5,000,000	5,000,000	4,500,000	Duty on Transfer of Immovable
Amendes	2,441,200	2,441,200	2,541,900	Court Fines
Intérêts sur les dépôts à court terme	578,300	578,300	770,000	Interest on Short-Term Deposits
Intérêts et pénalités sur les arrérages de taxes	437,000	437,000	392,700	Interest and Penalties on Tax Arrears
Licences et permis	999,700	999,700	805,400	Licenses and Permits
	9,456,200	9,456,200	9,010,000	
SUBVENTION DU QUÉBEC À LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE	17,700	17,700	22,000	QUÉBEC LIBRARY GRANT
SERVICES RENDUS ET TRANSFERTS				OTHER REVENUES AND TRANSFER PAYMENTS
Traitement des matières secondaires	414,300	414,300	479,400	Recycling and Refuse
Recouvrables - Service des incendies de MTL	160,000	160,000	160,000	Recoverable from MTL Fire Department
	574,300	574,300	639,400	
DISTRIBUTION D'ÉLECTRICITÉ				UTILITY OPERATION
Revenu brut	30,946,300	30,946,300	31,462,300	Gross Revenue
Coût d'opération	(29,261,200)	(29,261,200)	(29,662,300)	Operating Cost
Contribution d'exploitation	1,685,100	1,685,100	1,800,000	Operating Margin
Immobilisations imputées au Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG)	(2,386,100)	(2,386,100)	(2,690,000)	Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) Capital Expenses
REVENU TOTAL	101,761,900	101,761,900	101,450,300	TOTAL REVENUE



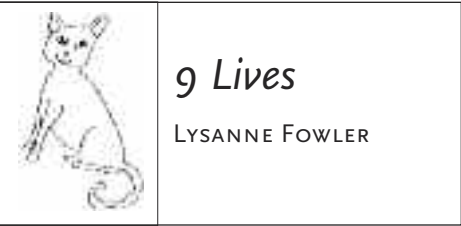
Ville de WESTMOUNT
City of WESTMOUNT

	FORECAST (Nov. 2nd) 2015*	FORECAST (updated Dec. 2nd) 2015*	BUDGET 2016	
D É P E N S E S	\$	\$	\$	EXPENDITURE
ADMINISTRATION GÉNÉRALE				GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
Législation - conseil	435,600	412,300	421,500	Legislation - Council
Gestion financière et administrative	2,662,387	2,957,100	2,741,900	Finance and General Administration
Greffé et département juridique	1,023,800	1,142,100	1,110,900	City Clerk and Legal Department
Ressources humaines	1,001,300	1,018,300	1,117,000	Human Resources
Édifices administratifs	258,200	353,000	316,800	Administration Buildings
5,381,287	5,882,800	5,708,100		
SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE				PUBLIC SECURITY
Édifice de la police	37,300	30,000	31,000	Police Building
Sécurité publique	3,021,200	3,148,450	3,271,500	Public Security
3,058,500	3,178,450	3,302,500		
VOIRIE				ROAD TRANSPORT
Voirie municipale	3,884,185	3,884,185	3,980,400	Streets and Sidewalks
Enlèvement et transport de la neige	3,157,400	3,157,400	3,147,500	Snow Removal and Disposal
Éclairage des rues	456,600	456,600	480,900	Street Lighting
Circulation	793,435	793,435	797,500	Traffic Control
Stationnement	174,400	174,400	181,500	Parking Lots
8,466,020	8,466,020	8,587,800		
HYGIÈNE DU MILIEU				SANITATION SERVICES
Entretien des réseaux d'égouts locaux et d'aqueduc	2,290,998	2,290,998	2,694,900	Local Water & Sewer System Maintenance
Enlèvement des ordures et matières secondaires	1,613,810	1,613,810	1,590,200	Refuse Collection and Recycling
3,904,808	3,904,808	4,285,100		
ZONAGE ET MISE EN VALEUR DU TERRITOIRE	1,260,700	1,260,700	1,283,700	ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
LOISIRS ET SPORTS				SPORTS AND RECREATION
Aréna	1,305,615	1,305,615	1,304,600	Arena
Piscine	247,500	247,500	269,100	Swimming Pool
Programmes de récréation	1,076,885	1,076,885	1,176,900	Recreation Programs
2,630,000	2,630,000	2,750,600		
PARCS, TERRAINS DE JEUX ET SERRE	3,193,772	3,193,772	3,517,500	PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND GREENHOUSE
BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES**	3,776,213	3,776,213	3,925,900	**LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS
Greffé et département juridique (1 an)	-	-	148,900	City Clerk and Legal Department (1 year)
Zonage et mise en valeur du territoire (3 ans)	-	-	191,600	Zoning and Development Services (3 years)
Parcs, terrains de jeux et serre (3 ans)	-	-	100,000	Parks, Playgrounds and Greenhouse (3 years)
PROJETS SPÉCIAUX	-	-	440,500	SPECIAL PROJECTS
AUTRES	464,000	731,500	1,115,800	OTHER
DÉPENSES MUNICIPALES CONTRÔLABLES	32,135,300	33,024,263	34,917,500	CONTROLLABLE MUNICIPAL EXPENSES
AUTRES DÉPENSES				OTHER EXPENDITURE
Service de la dette et autres frais de financement	8,167,800	8,167,800	5,926,900	Debt Service and Other Financing Costs
Transfert pour hygiène du milieu	(245,900)	(245,900)	(261,900)	Transfer for Water and Sewer Network
Transfert pour Centre des loisirs de Westmount	(1,162,300)	(1,162,300)	(1,162,300)	Transfer for Westmount Recreation Centre
Fonds de pension et avantages sociaux futurs	2,741,900	2,741,900	2,442,000	Pension and Future Benefits
Réserve et éventualités	194,800	194,800	500,000	Provision and Contingencies
Recouvrables	221,900	221,900	194,300	Recoverables
Immobilisations imputées au Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG)	8,133,200	8,133,200	6,298,600	Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) Capital Expenses
18,051,400	18,051,400	13,937,600		
COMMUNAUTÉ MÉTROPOLITAINE DE MONTRÉAL	845,300	845,300	893,100	MONTRÉAL METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY
QUOTE - PART AGGLOMÉRATION	51,290,100	51,290,100	51,702,100	SHARE - AGGLOMERATION
AFFECTATION DE L'EXCÉDENT ACCUMULÉ	(3,149,900)	(3,149,900)	-	APPROPRIATION FROM ACCUMULATED SURPLUS
TOTAL DES DÉPENSES APRÈS AFFECTATION	99,172,200	100,061,163	101,450,300	TOTAL EXPENDITURES AFTER APPROPRIATION
TOTAL DES REVENUS	101,761,900	101,761,900	101,450,300	TOTAL REVENUE
SURPLUS DES OPÉRATIONS	2,589,700	1,700,737	-	OPERATING SURPLUS
AFFECTATIONS PROJETÉES	(2,589,700)	(1,700,737)	-	PROJECTED APPROPRIATIONS
SURPLUS DES OPÉRATIONS APRÈS AFFECTATIONS	-	-	-	UNAPPROPRIATED SURPLUS AFTER APPROPRIATIONS

* Les chiffres de 2015 ont été reclassés pour être conformes à la présentation adoptée en 2016.
2015 numbers have been reclassified in order to be comparable with 2016.

** Cette rubrique inclue les activités «Communications».
This section includes "Communication" activities.

Merry Minnie, catnip mice galore



Precious Minnie was a young one-year-old mother cat found abandoned outside in the cold, together with her three-week



old kitten Rollie. They were saved when they were taken in by a very kind lady who called Gerdy's Rescue.

Rollie kitten has been adopted, to our great joy, and now Minnie is ready for a loving family as well. She is an elegant, long-haired white cat, with a delightful pink nose and stunning green eyes. She is quite affectionate and playful, yet enjoys companionable snoozing.

Minnie was vaccinated and spayed by Gerdy's Rescue and is in excellent health. For more information on Minnie, please contact the rescue at 514.203.9180 or info@gerdysrescue.org. You can also find out more about the great rescue work done by this volunteer group on their website at www.gerdysrescue.org.



Massive Christmas tree lights up during evening party

Mayor Peter Trent continued the tradition of officially lighting "Westmount's Christmas Tree" December 7 during an evening ceremony outside city hall. It was accompanied by hot spiced wine, hot chocolate, cookies and fruit cake.

The city had requested people bring their own mugs, which many did. The crowd of around 200 was treated to a concert of carols sung by chamber choir Seraphim.

After a brief countdown, shortly after 7 pm, Trent turned on the lights to cheers from the audience. *See p. 1 for photo.*

– RT

Westmounters mark Hanukah with blessings and songs

Temple Emanu-El-Beth-Sholom's Rabbi Lisa Grushcow and Congregation Shaar Hashomayim's Rabbi Adam Scheier spoke at a ceremony marking Hanukah during the early evening of December 10 at city hall. They assisted young Noya Etzion, a member of the 2nd Westmount Cubs, in lighting the menorah. Mayor Peter Trent and Councillor Nicole Forbes were among the more than 125 guests who attended the festive blessings and songs event. *See p. 1 for photo.*

– MCB

Catnip mice for sale to benefit Gerdy's

These adorable mousies are a classic around my house and perfect for cat gifting during the holidays. As they are hand-knitted to benefit Gerdy's Rescue and Adoptions exclusively, the giving grows to include cats and dogs that need help as well.

This season has a new collection, with incredible colours and styles. There are also "Habs" mice for the hockey fans; wonky ears and rainbow mice to make you smile, plus French mice sporting berets.

Each mouse is filled with organic catnip and measures about 5 inches long, not including carry-around or toss-along tail and bell.

Westmounters who want to give their friends' cats some purring delight can find the catnip mice in our neighbourhood at the following locations: Little Bear, 4152 St. Catherine St.; Hôpital Vétérinaire Général MB, 3400 St. Antoine St.; and Ben & Tournesol, 4915 Sherbrooke St.

Special custom-styled mice can also be ordered by email at auerpets@gmail.com. They are \$10.

Happy holidays from your neighbour, Lysanne


Leash cut from chain

A public safety officer came across a cyclist December 5 whose bicycle chain had become caught in a dog leash near St. Catherine and Lansdowne, Public Security officials said. The officer cut the leash after it was determined the other option was cutting the chain. It was not reported whether the cyclist had been "walking" the dog while riding the bike. The incident occurred at about 7:49 am.

Barking dog taken to PSU station

A call to Public Security for a barking dog December 5 on Côte St. Antoine resulted in the golden retriever being taken to the station around 9 pm, department officials said. No one appeared to be home at the time. When the owner returned and picked up the dog, it was learned that a special dog door had become jammed, causing the dog to bark when unable to get back inside. The dog had a licence.

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Musical gala a masked affair



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Stotland, there with his wife **Merle**, also sported a feathery mask, his in velvety black. Brott's minimalist mask in scarlet matched his pocket foulard.

Former Westmounters wore wondrous masks to match their black tie ensembles: **Louis Villeneuve's** was Art Deco white on black; **George Remus'** gold calligraphic design matched his designer jacket; **Margaret Cuddihy's** rhinestone-encrusted mask balanced her beige ruched gown. She was there with hubby **Roger Warren**, who wore a traditional Venetian-style mask in red, black and gold.

Attending from Westmount were **Cornelia Nihon**, whose red leather mask was a show-stopper, and **Hilary Radley** and **Jean de Brabant**.

Also noted were **Taras Kulish**, executive director MCO, in a wonderful black leathery mask; **Alison Silkoff** (Daffodil Ball organizer *extraordinaire*) dressed up with make-up; her "mask" painted on by MAC Cosmetics; **Barbara Stutman**, whose mask was a black sparkly butterfly shape; and **Amin Noorani**, whose gold mask sported fantastically tall red feathers.

Amidst the crowd tasting the pre-cocktail fried spring rolls were **Kelly Rice**, **Tamara Lieven**, **Luba Gayda**, **Kevin Gallie**, **Sean Ferguson**, dean of the Schulich School of Music at McGill, **Annette Woloshyn** and **James Martin** and **Thomas Leslie**, executive director of the Canadian International Organ Competition, whose glorious feathered creation won best mask.

More photos, p. 26.



Bernard Stotland, left, and Boris Brott.

Navigating downtown Montreal is always a daunting task during rush hour. October 29 was no exception with wall-to-wall traffic and, of course, the challenging "décor" of construction cones, appropriately orange during that Hallowe'en period, but otherwise a real bother. However, that night, the McGill Chamber Orchestra's (MCO) masked gala – "*Un ballo in maschera*" – at the Sofitel attracted a sold-out crowd of evening gown-clad ladies and their elegant escorts. Everyone wore a mask or picked one up at the door.

The night was sponsored by Banque Nationale Private Wealth 1859, whose president **Eric Bujold**, attending with his wife **Marie-Ève Lemay**, was president of honour of the evening.

Boris Brott, director of the MCO, conducted the performance of sopranos **Sharon Azrieli** and **Marianne Fiset**, with **Christopher Dunham** singing baritone.

Westmounter media personality **Richard Burnett** was the emcee. He attended with **Liliane Burnett**, his mum, also a local res, whose splendid black lace couture outfit was accessorized by a spectacular mask with a D'Artagnan-style red feather.

Local res MCO board member **Bernard**



Eric Bujold, left, and Marie-Ève Lemay.

Photo courtesy of McGill Chamber Orchestra

Correction

In the December 8 Social Notes on the

Jane Goodall fundraising event, we omitted Marina Hatzakis' last name (p. 26). We apologize for the error.

JOAILLIER
Lou Goldberg
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ON THE SHELVES

Among new arrivals at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

Magazines: Climate change talks

“Attentats, climat: La France triomphera des périls, un entretien exclusif avec François Hollande by Oliver Le Naire in *L'Express Magazine*, 25 novembre au 1er décembre, 2015, p. 30

“Canada and Climate Change: A Special Feature on the Stakes for Canada and the World in the Lead-Up to International Climate Talks in Paris,” by Marc Lee in *Monitor, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives*, November/December 2015, p. 16

“Game of Thrones: As the Climate in Canada’s Far North changes, Polar Bears are Being Affected,” by Sharon Oosthoek in *Canadian Geographic*, December 2015,

p. 36

E-books – Interesting Women

The Last Love Song: A Biography of Joan Didion by Tracy Daugherty – Daugherty takes readers on a journey back through time, following a young Didion in Sacramento, through to her adult life as a writer interviewing those who know and knew her personally.

My Life on the Road by Gloria Steinem – Writer, activist, organizer and inspiring leader, Steinem gives a candid account of her life as a traveller, a listener and a catalyst for change.

Livres numériques

L’oiseau du bon dieu by James McBride – Mistaken for a girl on account of his curly

hair, delicate features and sackcloth smock, 12-year-old slave Henry Shackleford realizes that his accidental disguise affords him greater safety and decides to remain female. Dubbed “Little Onion” by his liberator, abolitionist John Brown, Henry accompanies the increasingly fanatical Brown on his crusade to end slavery.

Tout ce qu’on ne te dira pas, Mongo by Dany Laferrière – In this novel, Laferrière casts himself as the mentor of Mongo, a young immigrant that just arrived in Montreal. The young man reminds him of his own journey, as he came to Quebec 40 years ago with the same disarray and the same determination. Mongo asks him: what do I need to do to fit in this new society?

Adult English – Art fiction

The Improbability of Love by Hannah Rothschild – 31-year-old Annie wanders into a junk shop, buys a grimy painting and unwittingly stumbles across a lost masterpiece by one of the most important French painters of the 18th century. In a blend of art, mystery, intrigue and love, Annie finds herself pursued by interested parties who would do anything to possess her picture.

The Muralist by B.A. Shapiro – In 1940, American painter Alizee Benoit vanishes in New York City amid personal and political turmoil. Entwining history and fiction, the past and present, *The Muralist* plunges readers into pre-war politics and the plight of European refugees refused entrance to the US, capturing both the beginnings of the school of abstract expressionism and the inner workings of today’s New York art scene.

Adult French – Artists’ lives

Sable mouvant by Henning Mankell – When Swedish writer Henning Mankell learned that he had cancer, he started keep-

ing a journal. In 67 fragments, he talks about his perception of the world, his life, death and his own and humanity’s story – a perception transformed by his ordeal.

Sonnez, merveilles! by Kent Nagano and Inge Kloepper – Nagano traces his journey which brought him, the grandson of modest immigrants, from growing up in a small Californian village to directing the most prestigious orchestras. He also reflects on the place of classical music in society today and argues that it is an instrument that brings people together and fosters dialogue.

DVD releases from the UK

Arthur & George – This film, based on the novel by Julian Barnes, chronicles the lives of two boys – one who is forgotten by history, and one who becomes the creator of the world’s most famous detective – as they pursue their separate destinies until they meet in a remarkable alliance.

Indian Summers – Set against the sweeping grandeur of the Himalayas and tea plantations of Northern India, this epic drama tells the rich and explosive story of the decline of the British Empire and the birth of modern India from both sides of the experience.

Christmas books for children

Quand le père Noël était petit by Linda Bailey – Santa’s parents think their little one is absolutely wonderful, even though he has a booming voice instead of a baby’s gurgle, loves to stand in front of the refrigerator, gives his birthday presents away, and has an unusual interest in chimneys.

Me and My Dragon Christmas Spirit by David Biedrzycki – A little boy is trying to get his dragon into the Christmas spirit by buying the best Christmas gifts ever, but he soon realizes that the most important thing about the holiday is sharing with those in need.



Richard, left, and Liliane Burnett.



Cornelia Nihon, left, and Taras Kulish.

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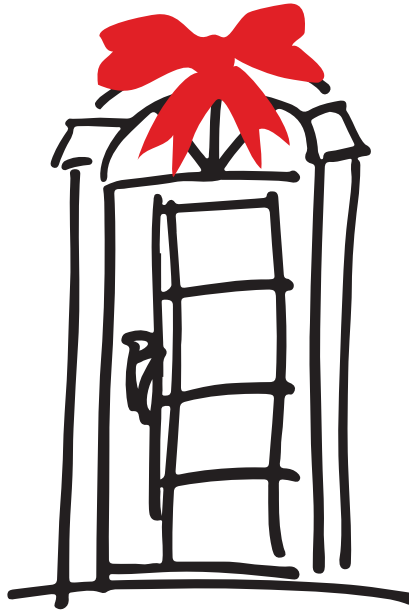


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Looking forward to Welcome you to the Right Address in 2016!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Marie Sicotte



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 *Wishing all our friends, family & clients
a happy, healthy & prosperous 2016!* 

*May you all find time to be home with your loved
ones this holiday season, wherever home may be...*

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