

## Indoor ice shows, comedy event added

# Carnival events to kick off Canada's 150 celebrations

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's winter carnival, February 1 to 4, will kick off the city's celebrations to mark the 150th year of Canadian federation, city officials said last week. Three new events have also been added to the program line-up.

The first, also a new event, is a Bowser and Blue comedy show themed on the anniversary that will open the carnival program on Wednesday night under the banner "Celebrating Canada if that's ok with you."

Another is the Friday night family din-

ner and dance, which this year is being re-branded from the traditional "carnival cruise" theme to "Canoe Across Canada," Councillor Rosalind Davis said. "This is the first wave of our Canada 150 celebrations."

Two indoor ice shows have been added this year to the Saturday program, according to Sports and Recreation director Dave Lapointe. Both are at the Westmount recreation centre (WRC).

At 5 pm, children from the city's figure skating program will perform in costume at a show usually held at the end of the season. At 7 pm, a show geared to adults is to be presented by Le Patin Libre, a touring performance company being brought to Westmount *continued on p. 19*



A precisely-crafted six-foot-high snowman welcomed visitors to King George (Murray) Park January 29. The smiling sculpture had buttons, top hat, pipe and shoes.

Photo: Ralph Thompson



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## City expresses regret in Garland case

# Sex abuse settlement goes before court Jan. 31

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A tentative settlement between the city and a victim of alleged sexual abuse by a former hockey coach four decades ago is on its way to Quebec Superior Court January 31 for approval of wording and the possible authorization of a class action suit.

The agreement was approved by city council at a special meeting January 23, according to a press release in which the city

expressed regret to the plaintiff and victim Matthew Bissonnette for the actions inflicted on him between 1978 and 1980 by its employee, the late John Garland.

The well-known former director of Parks and Recreation retired in 1987. He had coached the Peewee all-stars, Westmount's only inter-city hockey team at the time.

Mayor Peter Trent told a news conference January 24, he hoped "this settlement can, in some small way, help with the healing pro- *continued on p. 4*

Human bones found in Victoria Ave. house, p. 17.

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Sent to property owners with tax bills

# Letter points out Westmount's share of Montreal debt costs

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

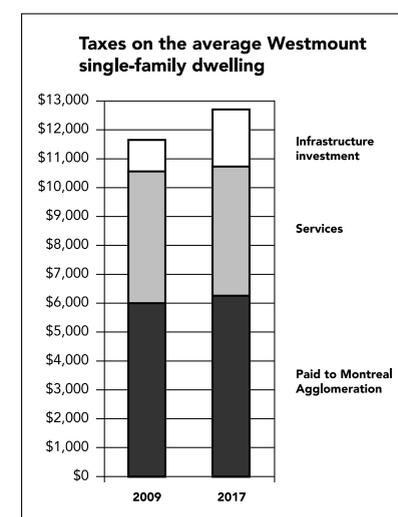
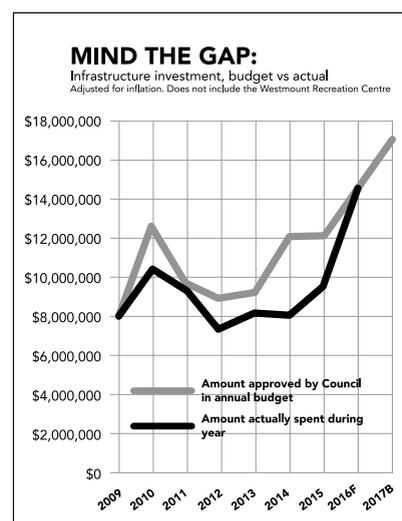
While Westmount is now free of net debt and able to double its investment in infrastructure without borrowing, "the picture is not all rosy," Mayor Peter Trent says when it comes to paying the service costs on the portion of Montreal's debt charged to Westmount in its agglomeration apportionment.

These are "buried" in the total \$52-million

lion payment that Westmount is assessed this year for island-wide services, he writes in a letter accompanying tax bills mailed out last week.

The service costs (interest and debt repayment) allocated to Westmount are \$5.5 million, he told the *Independent*. The city's total agglomeration payment is half its total operating budget of \$106 million (see story December 14, p. 1).

While the tax letter is mailed only to



These two graphs from the tax letter show, at left, capital works budget versus completion and, at right, the different components of tax bills as labelled. Courtesy of Peter Trent

property owners, Trent said he believes the city's financial position should be understood by all Westmount citizens, including tenants, since they pay a portion of their building owners' taxes in their rent.

The average tax bill for single-family dwellings is "frozen for the second year in a row," he explains in the letter.

Despite this, he writes, the city is doubling its historic average in infrastructure spending to \$17 million for 2017 and can keep up that level "into the future" without having to borrow.

As well, one of two graphs included in the letter shows that in 2016 the city had managed to execute most of the capital works budgetted for the first time since at least 2009. This resulted, he said, from hiring more engineers and technicians.

Trent writes that in the tax letters he has issued starting with the first 25 years ago, "I generally give multi-year tax trends and not dwell overly much on the current year's budget."

The tax bills may be paid in two installments, due February 27 and May 29. Properties with outstanding tax arrears can be put for sale at auction (see story p. 3).

## Remembering Alexis Troubetzkoy (1934-2017)

Alexis Troubetzkoy, headmaster of Selwyn House School from 1972 to 1980, died on January 22. Born in France to a Russian princely family and raised in the US, he moved to Canada in 1953. After his time at Selwyn House, he was the headmaster of Appleby (1981-87) in Oakville, Ontario and the Toronto French School. He authored a number of books and, after retirement from education in 1993, spent 16 years in humanitarian work, including a focus on Russia. A memorial is to be held in Toronto on Saturday, February 4.



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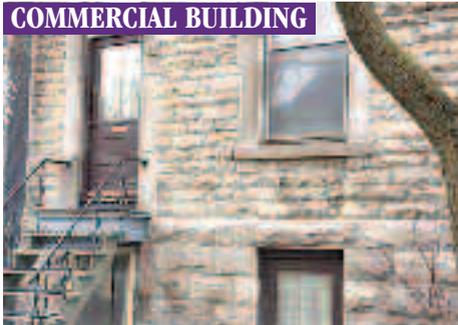
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All but one date back to 2015

# 26 properties listed for sale to recover unpaid taxes

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council January 16 approved the sale at auction of 26 properties listed at that date for the recovery of unpaid taxes for 2014 and 2015. These represent a total of some \$137,264 in tax arrears before the addition of interest and penalties. Only one relates to 2014.

The sale, set for March 15, had been delayed from an earlier date to provide property owners with increased time to pay outstanding amounts after the city changed its timing practice to collect overdue amounts more quickly (see story November 22, p. 1).

“It’s not something we do gladly,” said Councillor Christina Smith in presenting the resolution for the March sale of immovables.

Under the new practice, properties with tax arrears stemming from 2016 are expected to be sold at auction in the fall of 2017. Property owners owing the city for the tax year 2017 could expect the sale at auction to take place in the fall of 2018.

When properties are sold at auction, the owner has a year to buy them back. In the meantime, according to Martin St-Jean, the city’s director of Legal Services, the highest bidder essentially becomes the “temporary” owner, having provided payment for the property on the spot. The city is reimbursed from that amount. This “temporary” owner obtains clear title to the property if it is not bought back by the end of the one-year period.

Once outstanding taxes from 2016 and all interest charges and penalties from the three years are factored in, the total amount owed by all taxpayers was listed as at January 16, 2017 at just under \$500,000.

All those on the list have right up until the time of the sale to pay off amounts owing.

## Properties listed by the city to be sold for tax arrears related to 2014 and 2015, as approved by council January 16

Addresses	Taxes owed, (net of interest and/or penalty)
757 Upper Belmont	3,161.22
753 Lexington	165.12
586 Côte St. Antoine	5,708.67
530-532 Prince Albert	10,777.68
319 Prince Albert	195.32
Lot on Grosvenor	73.78
346 Grosvenor	4,145.31
215 Edgemoor	19,698.55
Lot on Surrey Gardens	13,897.99
19 Grenville	11,767.29
25 Edgemoor	385.64
68 Forden Cresc.	16,512.67
4343 Westmount	7,246.41
3606 The Boulevard	1,645.85
9 Hudson	5,695.30
Lot on Côte des Neiges	14.73
106-108 Lewis	1,879.58
12A Ingleside	4,705.52
4476 St. Catherine, #104	3,369.35
64 Rosemount Cresc.	7,893.61
4293 de Maisonneuve	234.73
422 Wood	4,126.36
4214 de Maisonneuve	1,157.44
320 Elm	41.85
1 Wood, #1202	10,590.53
4008 St. Catherine	5,343.56

Source: City of Westmount

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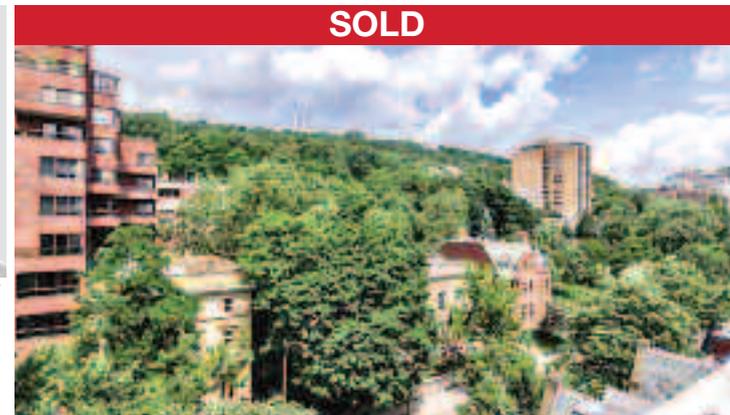
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# Victims urged to speak up in sex assault incidents

*cont'd. from p. 1*

cess.”

Bissonnette, an independent film producer who now lives in Los Angeles, acknowledged a non-confrontational handling of the situation by the city and said he hoped it would be a “model” for other cases.

He urged all young victims of sexual abuse to “speak up” immediately, saying that “there are answers, there is hope and there is justice.”

The agreement, Trent said, calls for compensation ranging in total from \$1 million to \$2.5 million, depending on the number of admissible claimants who might come forward. There were five at that date.

The city expects to be indemnified by its insurers for “a substantial portion” of any final settlement, he added.

Investigations related to the case helped allow the city “to make sure that the safeguards in place today protect the community from sexual abuse,” the press release stated (see story p. 5).

As reported in the *Independent* June 9, 2015, p. 8, Bissonnette filed a motion in Superior Court alleging having been as-

saulted over a period of about two years from the age of 12, mainly at Garland's Westmount apartment.

While Bissonnette made the request to launch a class action case against the city on behalf of himself as the petitioner and others who might have been assaulted between 1953 and 1987, the case still has more legal hurdles ahead.

These include a hearing May 1 when people will have an opportunity to convince Superior Court judge Marc De Wever that the settlement is “fair and reasonable,” explains Kurt Johnson, the city's counsel in the file from the law firm of Irving Mitchell Kalichman.

If the settlement is ratified, claimants would likely have 60 to 90 days to come forward before the final results would be known.

Johnson spoke during the news conference as did Bissonnette's class action lawyer, André Lespérance of the firm of Trudel Johnston & Lespérance.

Johnson had carried out an investigation of the Garland issue and had had first-hand understanding of the city's position as the former chair of the board of Bishop's College School in Lennoxville, according to Trent. The boarding school had reached a



Matthew Bissonnette, centre, sits between his lawyer André Lespérance, left, and Mayor Peter Trent, right, January 24 during a press conference at Westmount city hall. He encouraged victims of abuse to tell somebody and everybody. He also said that he hoped in future reporting and detection of child sexual abuse would be dealt with like bike theft, which is to say quickly and without any tendency towards hesitation, shame or silence. A lighter moment came when a member of the French media asked the 20-year resident of Los Angeles to speak French, which he did, until he stopped to find the word for “hope.” His lawyer, André Lespérance, helped out: “espérance.” Photo: Westmount Independent.

settlement in 2010 in a sexual abuse situation involving some 40 former students decades earlier.



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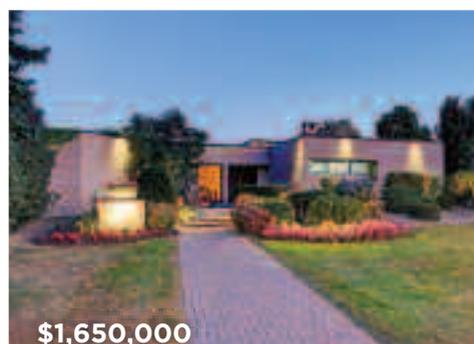
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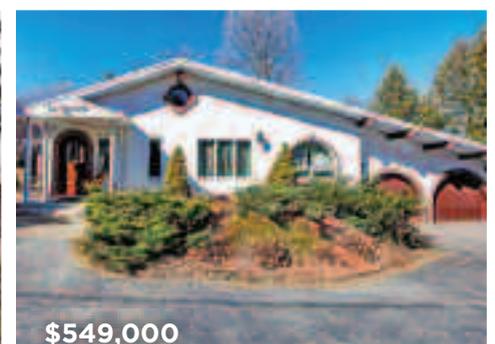
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## City looks into strengthening another Safeguards outlined to prevent future abuse

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

What policies and procedures are in place today to help guard against possible future sexual abuse within the Sports and Recreation department?

In the aftermath of an announced settlement in the case of alleged abuse more than 35 years ago of a 12-year-old hockey player in Westmount, city director general Mike Deegan, a recent former director of the department, outlined existing preventive measures today.

These include police background checks, the presence of city sports coordinators on the site of all activities to monitor the conduct of adults and the requirement that parents or guardians of younger children remain at the site during sporting programs.

“The city is now looking into the possibility of enforcing this policy for all children, not just the younger ones,” Deegan said.

“Most of the safeguards have been in place since at least 2008, as I recall,” he told the *Independent*. This was before Matthew Bissonnette brought forward his allegations in 2015, Deegan pointed out (see separate story, p. 1).

All city employees, full-time and part-time, have undergone background checks for many years, he explained. As well, “all coaches and other volunteers are required to sign a form consenting to a police background check.” To date, he said, two have refused to do so and therefore were not ac-

cepted. No negative reports had been received from police.

The only exception to these checks are lifeguards and summer camp counsellors since most are under the permissible age of 18 for background verification, he said. But in these cases, the children are usually together in groups and not alone with a lifeguard or counsellor, he added.

### Parents must stay on site

It was more than seven years ago, Deegan said that the measure was implemented to require that the parents or guardians of younger children taking skating be present on the site. This means not dropping them off and leaving them during the lesson.

While this applies to children “10 years and younger,” according to the Sports and Recreation brochure, the view to extending it to older-age levels is under consideration.

The practice of requiring an employee, such as a paid sports coordinator, to be on site for every sporting game or event is aimed at monitoring the conduct of coaches including yelling or other inappropriate behaviour.

Although it was a long-time and well-known city employee who had abused Bissonnette – in fact the head of the city’s Parks and Recreation department, Deegan acknowledged that “Nothing is perfect,” but noted this had occurred “decades ago.”

What is the policy in the event a child or supervisor reports inappropriate actions suggesting sexual abuse? Deegan replied: “I would be contacted by the director of the department involved – library or Sports and Recreation – and the SPVM [police] would receive the report.”

## Grosvenor bus shelter up again



The scene at the Sherbrooke/Grosvenor bus stop January 25 around 11 am.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Société de transport de Montréal (STM) workers were seen erecting a bus shelter on the south side of Sherbrooke at Grosvenor January 25 around 11 am, after the former one had been removed over the summer. The work was under way at 7 am. The foreman told the *Independent* the structure would be STM’s standard design and not the newer “digital” version. He said that about half the shelters in Montreal would remain this style for now.

Denis D’Etchevery, co-owner of Flore, which is situated across the sidewalk from the shelter, said he hoped the entrance doesn’t face his shop “because then people just stand in my entrance.” In an August 16, 2016 story, it was reported that “More people seemed to seek shelter in the doorway of his store than in the shelter itself, he noted. ‘We’re putting up a nice awning, which people can use.’” (p. 11).

City Public Works director Patrick Raggo said later in the day January 25 that there

had been “errors with the installation” of the bus shelter and he was discussing with the STM “how they are planning to fix these outstanding issues” which he would report on later.



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## PRINCE ALBERT WORK ALL WORTHWHILE

After the work done over the past two years on Prince Albert Ave. – the addition of a splash pad for the families as well as the reconstruction of the walkway in Prince Albert Park – this nice winter afternoon makes this all worthwhile (see photo).

Hockey seems to still be our national sport!

Have a good 2017, *Indie!*

JEAN-FRANCOIS EMMANUEL,  
WINDSOR AVE.



Photo courtesy of J.F. Emmanuel

Prince Albert Park, January 14.

## WORKING ON DORCHESTER THE DEMOCRATIC WAY

Recently, we handed in our wish list regarding the southeast project, which over 200 people signed from district 8, and it felt very good because I feel we are helping the democratic process of letting our city councillors know that not everyone agrees with their visions, and it opens up a friendly debate between many more people.

After, Mayor Peter Trent clearly said that this isn't a project anymore but only a vision. I am happy about that because looking at the pictures that were put up as mock-ups for the southeast project really irked me because they were not very Westmount-like and truly felt that they depicted the growth of an urban jungle eliminating green space, not at all with today's trends.

I urge everyone to have a look. Unfortunately one thing still bothers me. Everyone is in agreement that speeding is a huge problem on Dorchester, and this is why our city councillors are proposing to narrow Dorchester and to eliminate the curve to slow down the traffic. Since 2014 they have been talking about this issue but no action has been taken.

Why haven't they implemented some classic approaches to slowing down the traffic, such as stop signs, speed bumps, crosswalks or speed cameras – a very effective way to slow down traffic. Nobody likes to get speeding tickets in the mail.

While the debate goes on, these inexpensive methods could be implemented. Look at how effectively the speed camera on Côte des Neiges works just below The Boulevard, and it is implemented in a curve.

Let's keep on talking, be respectful of each other and be truly happy that we have such a fantastic democratic process, where everybody has the right to voice their opinions. I feel very fortunate and blessed to live in such a great place. Let's make Westmount even better.

TONY KEZ, DORCHESTER BLVD.

## NOT INTO NARROWING IT

I am responding to three letters in the January 17 edition of the *Independent* (p. 6).

With regard to the hyperbolic "disaster of post-war traffic engineering," "mistake" and "nightmare" referred to by Mr. London, how does he see a "squared-off west end" as any kind of improvement?

Backed-up traffic at this point will brake, wait with idling engines then accelerate only to stop and repeat the above scenario in a short section before crossing Clarke/St. Catherine and vice versa. A right-angled turn makes sense when houses occupied the north side of Dorchester at this point, but those houses are gone, the curve is the logical route through this green area.

Local residents have been subjected to unacceptable noise levels and pollution from the expressway for decades with no relief whatsoever – and still no feasible remedy is being planned for the residents east of Hallowell. Do we need to add to this?

Regarding the second letter, to cross, pedestrians need only use the intersections at Greene/Dorchester and St. Catherine/Dorchester. Crosswalks can be inserted at other key points. Authorities could monitor speed, as they do regularly at other stretches such as Redfern to Clarke.

The existing meridian constitutes a green space with flower beds and mature trees. Let's see in spring if any are actually dying and replace as required. Do we really want a treeless view of the looming RCMP building from the south side? All these current features would be lost in the narrowing "vision."

Also infeasible would be the establishment of a segregated bicycle path on the

north side of Dorchester.

I take the view that the existing Dorchester is not at all a "functionalist error of the 1960s." I do favour sensibly developing the existing parking lots north of Dorchester, but not narrowing it or creating additional stops.

MICHAEL HANNEN, HALLOWELL AVE.

## AT MERCY OF RAIN

Councillor Rosalind Davis thanked us for our "patience" during two years of street repairs in her letter to the editor "Prince Albert residents good sports" (November 29, p. 6). She wrote TGA "resolved these unfinished issues." Problem solved?

Road repairs ended in early summer. City officials said: Wait until September for the contractor (TGA) to clean up the front gardens. We waited patiently, imagining a partial restoration of the simple charm out front: odd grass varieties, old stones, indigenous flowers and bushes, bulbs for the spring.

TGA's disrespect for our micro-heritage was transparent. The "horticulturists" were two construction workers on a flatbed truck armed with a jigsaw (for rough-cutting the grass to fit the barren soil), shovels (for rapid earth-turning then beating down the grass slices) and a hose (to provide initial sustenance from an onboard tank).

"When are you coming back next?" I asked. "Nous revenons pas." "So, who's going to do it?" "Faut prier pour la pluie," he said, looking up into the clear blue sky. The rain stayed away, and the grass shrivelled predictably.

What we lost was intangible but real: Distinctive front patches of greenery weathered by nature and nurtured into a pleasant and varied visual experience for residents and strollers alike.

What we got instead were one-colour-fits-all (Starbucks green) chunks of poor-fitting, ill-fated, single-variety grass.

TGA must be held responsible: a \$500 charge for each mutilated front garden; add \$250 for punitive damages for irreparable, wanton damage to Westmount's natural heritage, potentially reducing housing prices – all to be deducted from the final payment instalment.

So, Councillor Davis, thanks for your thanks, but no thanks! TGA did a shoddy job – and will do [so] on the next street they rip up, unless it hurts its bottom line. Westmounters didn't pay taxes for the evisceration of Prince Albert. We deserve better.

PATRICK BOLLAND, .....  
PRINCE ALBERT AVE. *continued on p. 8*

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*Letter writers should not expect to be published in every issue, or in back-to-back issues, or repeatedly in the same season or on the same topic.*

# Meeting hears pleas for Glen arch to preserve its name

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

At a public consultation meeting January 25 on a proposed by-law to designate the historic railway overpass for Glen Rd. as a historic site, the need to call it by its commonly used name of “Glen arch” was one of the main concerns raised by the handful of residents attending.

It was described in the by-law and throughout a presentation as the “Glen Viaduct” by virtue of being a railway “transporter.”

Jane Martin, the archivist and a director of the Westmount Historical Association (WHA), took issue with this nomenclature, explaining that the name “Glen arch” was used in early city documents and continues to this day. In fact, she pointed out, this is the name it was given on the plaque that commemorates its 1892 construction (see story November 27, 2012, p. 12).

“In everyday conversation and in the press, I would like it referred to as the Glen arch,” she said.

The word “viaduct” more accurately describes the structure with its supporting embankments, explained Myriam St-Denis, project manager, Urban Planning.

In concluding the meeting, Julia Gersovitz, who chairs the city’s Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), suggested that while Glen viaduct had been chosen as its

official name, it could commonly be called the Glen arch. She provided the example of King George Park, being the park’s official name though most residents refer to it by its previous one, Murray Park.

Details of the structure’s historical, technological, architectural and environmental value were presented by St-Denis, according to the proposed by-law that had been presented by Councillor Theodora Samiotis at the city council meeting December 5 (see story December 14, p. 6).

Gersovitz thanked the WHA and the Westmount Municipal Association for their grassroots efforts leading to the structure on the way to becoming protected and preserved as Westmount’s first official heritage site designated by the new Westmount Heritage Council, constituted as part of the PAC.

The meeting was attended by members of the PAC and experts in the conservation field advising the heritage council on the project.

No one from Canadian Pacific, which owns the railway viaduct, attended. The federal government’s guidelines for conservation were invoked as a further means of protecting the structure from future destruction or change.

The by-law is scheduled for adoption Monday, February 6.

## Cars slides slowly out of ice driveway

A Public Security patroller on Mountain Ave. was flagged down January 23 at 2:42 pm to be told a parked car was slowly sliding out of a driveway on the street. Department officials said the driveway was very icy, but the patroller managed to stop the car by bracing a tire. The owner, a visitor, was finally contacted and managed to reposition the car. It had been left in park, but the handbrake had not been applied.



Louise Carpentier of the Westmount Historical Association, left, speaks with Urban Planning project manager Myriam St-Denis at the public consultation meeting January 25 on designating the Glen arch as a heritage site.

## Batshaw Children Needing Homes

# 10-year-old emotionally fragile

A long-term foster home is being sought for 10-year-old Sally, who is described as a pleasant, caring and engaging child. She is likable and gets along very well with her peers.

Academically, Sally finds school challenging in all subjects and is operating below grade level. In order to give her the support she needs to succeed, she is following a modified program, as well as being tutored three times a week.

Emotionally fragile, caring for Sally can be challenging as she struggles with issues of rejection and abandonment. She

tends to be argumentative and can be manipulative when she wants to have her own way.

However, she responds to clear structure, limits and consistency.

Sally’s parents are unable to take care of her. She is in need of a family that will be able to make a long-term commitment to her for as long as she needs. The ideal family would be that of a Caucasian background.

For more information about Sally, please call Batshaw Youth and Family Centres at 514.932.7161, extension 1139.



Jane Martin speaks at the meeting.

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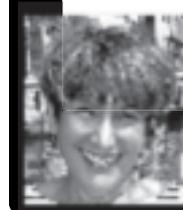
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# PSOs help 3 hurt in falls on icy sidewalks during ice storm

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Public Security officials reported three persons were known to have injured themselves in falls on icy sidewalks in Westmount January 24. All occurred during the sudden arrival and unexpected duration of freezing rain and ice pellets that hit the Montreal area at morning rush hour.

Officers answered a call at 8:34 am for assistance to a man on Strathcona, who had slipped on the sidewalk and was bleeding from cuts on the back of the head. They met him at the doorway to his house and bandaged his head. Owing to a long wait for Urgences Santé, they decided to take him to the super-hospital themselves. They stayed with him until 10:37 am until he was seen by a nurse.

The second incident was recorded at 8:41 am when a public safety officer went to assist a woman who had fallen on Victoria near Café Crème. "Numerous people" had gathered to assist her. She was lying flat on the sidewalk and was suffering pain in the back.

Officers initially provided blankets and then more when the wait for Urgences Santé was described as over an hour because of the many calls being received due to the weather.

She was eventually transported to the Montreal General Hospital.

At 9:11 am, while on their way to another call, officers witnessed a woman fall on a patch of ice while walking her dog outside 389 Claremont near Sherbrooke.

She claimed to have hit her shin in the fall and was in pain.

Nevertheless, she wanted to go to work. Officers helped her take the dog into her home nearby and then drove her to work providing medical assistance at her office.

## Car fills with snow

At 4:46 pm, Public Security received a call about a car "filled with snow" outside 245 Clarke. The Honda Civic was found, all windows down through which snow had blown throughout the day. The owner was contacted via a parking permit and was reported to be "quite dismayed."



A witness phoned the Independent January 24 to say that a woman had waited an hour to be transported from the scene of her slip-and-fall on Victoria Ave. at Somerville. City sidewalks were slippery that morning from freezing rain. By the time the photographer got there at around 10 am, ambulance staff were getting her ready for transport.

Photo: Westmount Independent

## Letters to the editor cont'd. from p. 6

### BEST TO KNOW RANGE ROVERS ROAD CODE

It was time to buy a new car, and I decided I would test drive a few selections. Noticing that Range Rovers are featured in our neighbourhood, I went to a dealer and asked if I could borrow one for a day. (I am sure you know the vehicle. The one that requires a step ladder to get into the driver's chair.) That was arranged, and as I was about to depart the lot, the salesperson handed me an envelope with the admonishment that I would need the Code of the Road for Westmount Rover owners. When

I got home, I opened the envelope and read the enclosed code. I offer just a few of the rules:

- Do not use the lever on the left of the steering column to signal turns. It really isn't anyone's business.
- If given passage way in a narrow opening by another driver, do not wave thanks. The queen may wave but she doesn't use her phone.
- Do use the four-way flasher when you double park and run in for your meds and a latte at Starbucks. It is an indication you will be back soon and haven't abandoned the car.

- Because of your high seating position, it is permissible to encroach into the pedestrian crosswalks. They can't really see you and won't recognize you.
- While picking up the little dears at school, do not worry about speeding to the pick-up spot. Everyone knows how busy you are.
- Try and go off road at least once a year, and don't wash the car for a month. It proves you are as rugged as the car. Off road is not limited to driving to Montreal West.

I took the car back and mumbled something about a hybrid.

MICHAEL ST. B. HARRISON,  
MOUNTAIN AVE.

### RE-DO PROGRAMMING ON PARKING METERS

The new parking meters have been in use for over a year now, but there are still bugs to be worked out. While the basic system is great, the implementation still requires some improvements.

My major complaints are the response times of the machines and the requirements relating to adding parking time. As I do not use a cell phone, I have to manually push lots of buttons, and the response time is pathetically slow. When I have to do one or two quick errands, I feel as though I spend as much time to get my parking re-

ceipt as I do to actually run them.

My main issues:

1. slow and awkward to add extra parking time. One has to enter an endless stream of numbers, i.e. the number on the parking receipt. Why can't I simply just enter my licence plate number?

2. The slow response time to make changes whenever I inadvertently enter something wrong. There is no simple cancel button, one that simply resets the machine to the start without having to wait for what may in fact be a longer time than I need to do my errands. Recently, on a day with the snow and cloudy conditions (does the machine not get enough sunlight for power under cloudy conditions?), I went to a machine where a lady had already spent quite a few minutes trying unsuccessfully to obtain her parking receipt as the machine appeared locked; no matter what buttons we pushed nothing happened.

It was pointed out to me later that there is a telephone number on the parking machine to call in case of problems.

With the capabilities of present-day cheap microprocessors and the availability of incredible amounts of memory at ridiculously low prices, the only thing I can think of is that the programming needs to be re-done. After all, the programming of a simple system like this does not require artificial intelligence!

ALFRED EDEL, VICTORIA AVE.

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*Served twice with UN police force in Haiti*

# Dubuc settles in to her first station command – in Westmount

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

While travel may be a favourite pastime for the new commander of Westmount's police Station 12 on Stanton St., it's been closely entwined with her own career and interest in public service.

For Martine Dubuc, serving two separate tours of duty in Haiti as part of the United Nations' police peacekeeping force gave her management experience as well as "lessons in life," she explains. It's also how she met her husband, a police officer with the municipal force in Quebec City, she adds.

"While the people may be poor and for the most part have nothing, every day they smile," she says. "They don't worry about what they don't have."

She said she helped buy food and clothes for a family with five children whose only home was a house under construction. She helped organize a small Christmas party in the street. "And for us, the pleasure that we gave was amazing. If



Commander Martine Dubuc in her new office at local police Station 12 on December 9.

you give a child a ball, there is a smile on the face and in the eyes."

On her first mission to Haiti, nine months during 2008 and 2009 before the earthquake in 2010, she worked in Port au Prince with Haiti's national police force.

Her second tour lasted one year 2011 to 2012. This time she worked out of Port au Paix as commander of the UN force in the north region, which consisted of 30 officers from Jordan, China, San Salvador, Ivory Coast "and lot from Spain."

Fast forward back home, Station 12 is Dubuc's first station command after previously working as an operations sergeant on patrol at the busy downtown Station

20 on St. Catherine at Bishop. She also served a year as acting lieutenant, which qualified her to become a commander, she said.

Working at a small, mainly residential station is quite different, she said, especially for her first station command with new responsibilities.

### *People here 'like the police'*

"The people who live here come to the station; they like the police." Her first impression of the station itself, she added, is that "everybody works together which makes it easier. It's amazing."

*continued on p. 17*

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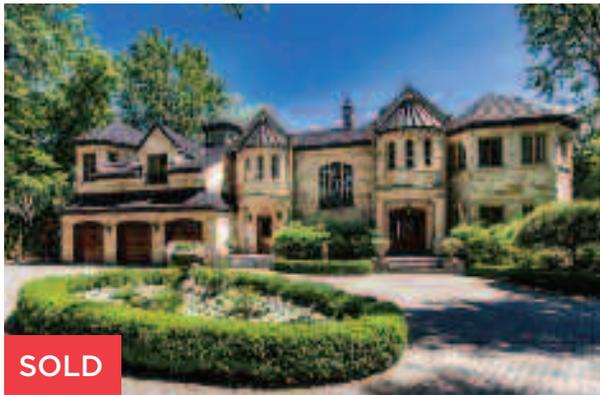
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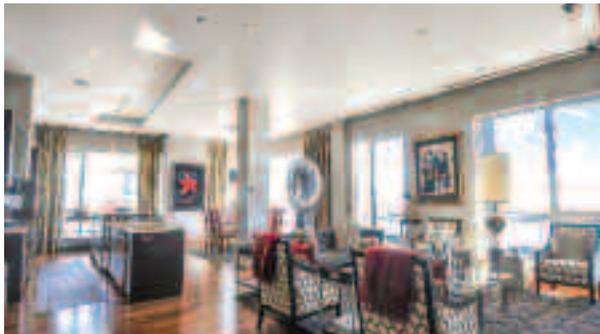
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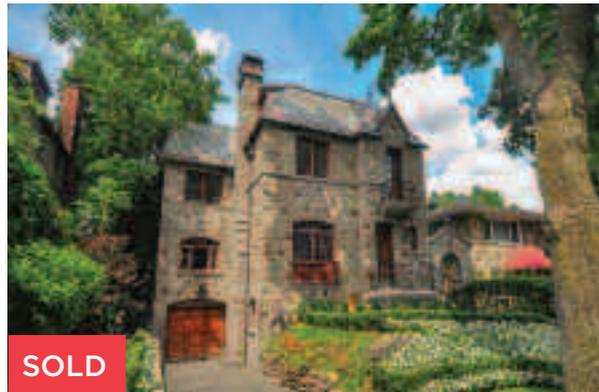
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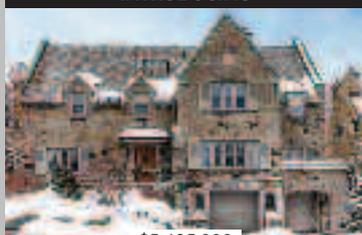
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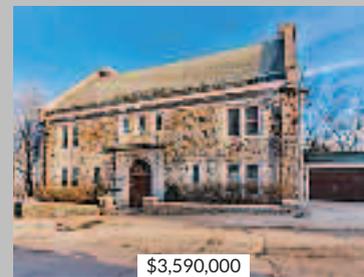
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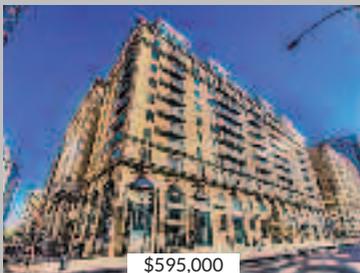


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## INTRODUCING



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**AHUNTSIC | SPRAWLING WATERFRONT MANSION**

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\$5,500,000

**POINTE-CLAIRE | CUSTOM BUILT MASTERPIECE**

Absolutely stunning, very large property with water views in a prime location. Modern amenities, luxury finishes throughout. 30 ft cathedral ceilings, 2 wine cellars, butler's pantry, gym, yoga studio, spa, pool and pool house. MLS 22006237

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\$4,400,000

**BEAUCONSFIELD | WATERFRONT ESTATE**

Magnificent contemporary residence on lake Saint Louis' shore. Design and architecture by Gagnier & Villeneuve. Exquisite coupling of warm natural materials and stylish lines for enjoyment of views of the lake and beyond. Sculpted stairway in the entrance hallway. MLS 20484177

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\$1,375,000

**KIRKLAND | LUXURIOUS RESIDENCE**

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\$700,000

**PIERREFONDS | 4PLEX WITH WATER VIEWS**

Excellent location! Front garden faces the beautiful lac Menard with bright and spacious units. 1st floor offers 3 bdms, with basement and fireplace. Interior garage, 4 space driveway, and hardwood floors. Close proximity to all amenities. MLS 18229515

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\$239,000

**PIERREFONDS**

Great condominium with a vast bedroom and 1 bathroom. This 2012 property offers 843 sq. ft. of living space with a gas fireplace, a large balcony, a/c, and is close to all amenities. Building with elevator and exterior parking. Ideal for a professional or a couple. MLS 21347605

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\$2,750,000

**ST-BRUNO-DE-MONTARVILLE | EXTRAORDINARY LIFESTYLE**  
Magnificent home located on an extraordinary site, at the entrance to the Mt-St-Bruno National Park. With its exceptional 60,000 sq. ft. lot, the property offers an unparalleled quality of life, where peace of mind is assured. MLS 25873666

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**INTRODUCING**

\$2,173,516 +txs

**ST-LAMBERT | LUXURY CONDOMINIUM**

Prestigious property with superb architectural design. Located in the heart of Saint-Lambert on a sought after street. 2907sqft of living space + 3 interior parking spaces. Plenty of natural light adorns each unit. Close to all commodities & 15 mins. from downtown Montreal. MLS 19717423

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\$749,000

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Custom built home with an oversized kitchen and butler's pantry. Open design with generous rooms. Luxurious master suite and 2 large bedrooms, along with a family room to complete the 2nd floor. Covered patio, salt-water pool, and 2 garages. MLS 18771559

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**CÔTE-NORD**

\$768,000

**SACRÉ-COEUR | NESTLED ON TOP OF THE FJORD**

Nestled on a 75 meter cliff in front of the Saguenay Fjord; a natural sanctuary for whales. It's definitely a contemporary architectural dream home. The solar design promotes eco energy efficiency without sacrificing the spectacular view to the southwest. MLS 18244320

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**COUNTRY  
RETREATS**



\$7,900,000

**IVRY-SUR-LE-LAC | WATERFRONT | LAC MANITOU**  
Stunning waterfront on prestigious lac Manitou. This magnificent home boasts 3+4 bedrooms, 6+1 bathrooms, fireplaces, A/C, 10-car driveway, state of the art audio/video system, & intercom. Luxury country living at its best! MLS 26357047

**JILL SHPRITZER\*\*** 514.691.0800  
**MAUREEN BROUSSEAU\*** 514.935.4597



\$7,481,600

**LAC-TREMBLANT-NORD | TRANQUILITY BAY**

Nestled next to Mont-Tremblant National Park, this 330 acre property, with more than 4,400 feet of waterfront on lac Tremblant, can be sold as a spectacular private family estate or may be subdivided. MLS 19772480

**HERBERT RATSCHT†** 819.429.9019



\$3,900,000

**ST-LAZARE | BREATHTAKING ESTATE**

This spectacular 102 acre estate offers an exquisite lifestyle with a swimmable private lake, a grandiose main residence & side-by-side inter-generational coach-house, inground pool, triple garage, & equestrian facilities. MLS 27289497

**BEA JARZYNSKA<sup>Δ</sup>** 438.989.8912



\$2,595,000

**STE-AGATHE-DES-MONTS | LAC DES SABLES**

Magnificent waterfront home on the prestigious lac des Sables. Impeccably designed, using the finest materials. Oriented to optimize the lake and mountain views, offering the experience of Laurentian living at its finest. MLS 14155694

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\$2,450,000

**MONT-TREMBLANT | WATERFRONT HOME**

Unique chic mountain custom home on lac Moore. with 220 ft of waterfront. Walking distance to the resort village, old village, and the bike path. Open concept plus 7 bedrooms, family room and large media room. Mud room and double garage. MLS 17765596

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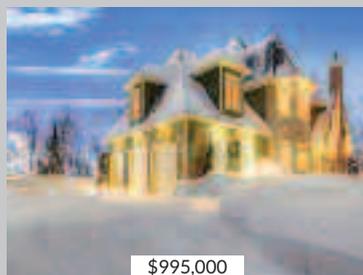


\$1,095,000

**MONT-TREMBLANT | LAC GÉLINAS**

Spacious, comfortable 4 bdrm, 2 bath home. 208 feet of shoreline on pristine lac Gélinas. Open concept, cathedral ceiling, wood burning stone fireplace and abundant windows. Large garden, with a family room that faces the lake and dock. MLS 15542106

**RAYMOND DALBEC\*\*** 819.425.4568



\$995,000

**SAINTE-ADELE | BREATHTAKING VIEW | MT-OLYMPIA**

Majestic residence with indescribable panoramic views, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, heated floors, triple Garage, detached workshop 24 x 24, and shed. Plot of 61,625 ft is irrigated and illuminated. Beside Piedmont's golf and St-Sauveur services. MLS 28921595

**STÉPHANE LARRIVÉE\*** 514.809.8466



\$890,000

**LAC-BROME | ANCESTRAL THE MONT-ÉCHO FARM**

Magnificent ancestral stone property built on 140 acres of land. Sumptuous gardens, barn & pond. Very private 5 bdrm with exposed beams in dining & family room. Strategically located near the village of Knowlton. MLS 14554781

**MARIE-PIERS BARSALOU\*\*** 450.577.0272  
**JOHANNE MEUNIER\*** 514.926.5626



\$850,000

**IVRY-SUR-LE-LAC | 14 ACRES DOMAIN**

Magnificent domain of 14 acres +, ideally located, offering views of the river. This 4 bedroom home is constructed with high quality material, and is exquisitely designed with a warm and inviting country flair. Access to lac Manitou. MLS 16991075

**MICHEL DAVIDSON\*** 514.239.7399

**INTRODUCING**



\$845,000

**ST-GEORGES-DE-CLARENCEVILLE | LAKE CHAMPLAIN**

Magnificent waterfront property sited on a large 21,950 sq ft landscaped lot w 115 + linear ft on the lake. 2010 custom built home, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, with a panoramic view of the lake. 45 min from MontTré and 5 min from the US border. MLS 21124053

**DIANE OLIVER\*\*** 514.893.9872



\$699,000

**SUTTON | 5 ACRES COUNTRY HOME**

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**MARIE-JOSÉE ROULEAU\*** 514.660.6682

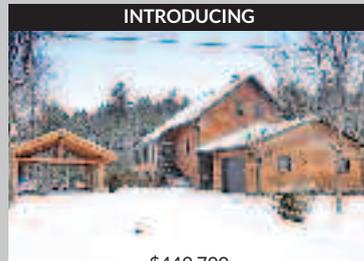


\$699,000

**WATERVILLE | SUPERIOR QUALITY**

An exquisite recent residence on the banks of the beautiful river Moe. The property features an abundance of open spaces and beautifully laid-out rooms. The superior quality construction was built with long-lasting materials, requiring little maintenance. MLS 11942400

**STÉPHANE CLOUTIER\*** 819.842.1909



**INTRODUCING**

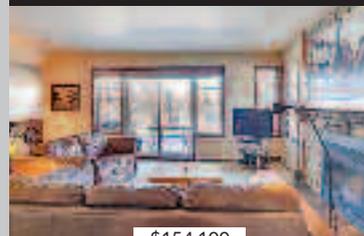
\$449,700

**ST-CALIXTE | WATERFRONT**

Countryside retreat nestled amidst the hills and trees of the Lanaudière region. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath, waterfront, log style wood cottage, complete with finished basement, sits on a nearly 18,000 sq. ft. lot. Great exterior kitchen with a built-in BBQ, facing lac Pinet. MLS 17553720

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**RECENTLY REDUCED**



\$154,100

**MONT-TREMBLANT | CAP TREMBLANT**

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# Local students fly onward at St. George's-hosted Scholar's Cup

BY RUBY PRATKA

Several dozen secondary school students from English-language independent schools around Montreal will take on the world this summer, after racking up points at the Montreal round of the World Scholar's Cup regional competition, held over January 20 and 21 at St. George's School.

Students compete in teams of three, often but not always with teammates from their own school. The competitions combine questions about literature, history and science, interwoven with music videos, references to *Sherlock* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, and distributions of stuffed baby alpacas, the World Scholar's mascot. Students are tested on writing and debating skills as well as on general knowledge. They compete for medals and personal and team satisfaction as well as a chance to move on to the "global round" (which families must pay for out of pocket).

The successful students from Westmount were from St. George's, The Study, Selwyn House and ECS. Other local schools included LCC, Trafalgar and West Island College (WIC). These students now have the option to participate in global

competitions in Cape Town, Hanoi or Athens and try to qualify for a worldwide final at Yale University in Connecticut, alongside students from over 40 countries.

This is the second year that Montreal schools have participated in the competition, said Nathalie Bossé, assistant head of curriculum and the Centre for Learning Enrichment at St. George's, which also hosted the Montreal round last year. "We had been looking for an opportunity to get our students to meet people from elsewhere and develop their skills without getting involved in a cutthroat competition," she said. "We wanted to find something that would make learning and teamwork cool, and we found it. Other schools jumped on board very quickly."

"I enjoy World Scholar's because it doesn't take itself too seriously; it shows you can be in a serious event and have fun," said Taya Ismail, a grade 8 student at The Study, who qualified for the global round with two teammates from St. George's.

St. George's students Lillian Simons, Emily MacDonald and Jessica Marshall were overall winners in the senior division. "Everyone knows us, and the cheering at the end was crazy," Marshall said.

Simons, who competed last year at an in-



Seen at St. George's School January 21, its students, from left, grade 11 student Lillian Simons, and grade 10 students Emily MacDonald and Jessica Marshall placed first in the team division in the senior competition. Simons' sister, Annabel Simons, who attends ECS, won first place in the junior division with teammates Josephine Greenhill and Kiara Hoffman.

ternational round in Prague and at the global finals at Yale, hopes to repeat the feat in her last year of secondary school. "It's a real competition, but it's not as

stressful as you'd expect," she said. "The cultural experiences and the people you meet are what make it ..... priceless for me." *continued on p. 17*

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# infoWestmount

## HÔTEL DE VILLE

### Séances du conseil : horaire 2017

L'horaire 2017 des séances ordinaires du conseil est disponible en ligne au [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).



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## SPORTS ET LOISIRS

### 34<sup>e</sup> Carnaval d'hiver de Westmount

**Du 1<sup>er</sup> au 4 février**, parc King George, le CLW et le Victoria Hall. Une foule d'activités pour tous. L'horaire des activités vous parviendra sous peu.

### Concours Crée ta Médaille!

#### Appel aux jeunes créateurs de la communauté!

Aide le Service des sports et loisirs de Westmount à créer de nouvelles médailles! Ton concept pourrait être choisi soit pour les médailles de baseball, soccer ou hockey! Info : [westmount.org/medailles](http://westmount.org/medailles).

## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

**Le mercredi 1<sup>er</sup> février, 10 h 15**, Bibliothèque. Le Groupe de poésie de Westmount compose des poèmes à partir de thèmes proposés par les membres. Bienvenue à tous. Info : 514 989-5299.

### Club de films documentaires

**Le mercredi 1<sup>er</sup> février, 19 h**, Bibliothèque. *Waltz with Bashir* (2008). Billets requis. Info : 514 989-5299.

### Concours littéraire McEntyre 2017

Invitation aux étudiants du primaire et du secondaire de Westmount : participez au Concours littéraire McEntyre 2017 en écrivant une histoire, un poème, ou un essai sur le thème **des endroits secret et des trésors cachés**. Tous les textes doivent parvenir au comptoir des enfants de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount avant 21 h le vendredi 7 avril 2017. Info : [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

## Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 6 février

## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

### Galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

**Du 26 janvier au 24 février.** La Galerie est fière de présenter les œuvres d'Ann McCall. Venez rencontrer l'artiste et la conservatrice Victoria LeBlanc le lundi 6 février à 19 h. Horaire : lundi au vendredi 10 h à 21 h, samedi et dimanche 10 h à 17 h. Info : 514 989-5521.

### Bowser & Blue : 37.5<sup>e</sup>

**Le mercredi 1<sup>er</sup> février, 19 h**, Victoria Hall. Le carnaval d'hiver de Westmount présente le duo musical et comique Bowser & Blue en concert. Bar payant. Accès à 18 h 30. 35 \$ à la porte / 30 \$ à l'avance; billets disponibles au Victoria Hall, à la Bibliothèque et au [www.bowserandbluefr.eventbrite.ca](http://www.bowserandbluefr.eventbrite.ca). Info : 514 989-5226.

### Soirée familiale du carnaval

**Le vendredi 3 février, 17 h 30**, Victoria Hall. **À travers le Canada en canot.** Soirée de danse familiale, souper et jeux. Bar payant. Les places sont limitées; achetez vos billets à l'avance! 12 \$ adultes, 6 \$ enfants. Info : 514 989-5226.

### Théâtre McGill Classics

**Le samedi 4 février, 15 h**, Victoria Hall. Le Banquet de Platon, dans une nouvelle traduction anglaise. Lors d'une soirée d'ivresse, Socrate et ses amis discutent de sexe et d'amour dans leur quête de la vérité philosophique. Gratuit (12 ans et plus). Info : 514 989-5226.

### Le Patin Libre : Vertical Influences

**Le samedi 4 février, 19 h**, Centre des loisirs. Un spectacle de patinage contemporain présenté en collaboration avec le *Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée*. Billets gratuits disponibles au CLW, au Victoria Hall et à la Bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5226.

### Concert : Kind of Blue – hommage à Miles Davis

**Le samedi 18 février, 19 h 30**, Victoria Hall. Mettant en vedette Deacon George et Ron Di Lauro et son sextet. Billets : 30 \$ (comptant ou chèque) disponibles au Victoria Hall, à la Bibliothèque et au [www.kindofbluefr.eventbrite.ca](http://www.kindofbluefr.eventbrite.ca). Info : 514 989-5226.

## SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

### Permis de chien en ligne

Obtenez ou renouvelez votre permis de chien en ligne à [westmount.org/chiens](http://westmount.org/chiens) ou en personne au 21, rue Stanton. Assurez-vous d'avoir en main les documents nécessaires pour obtenir le permis.

## CITY HALL

### Council meetings - 2017 schedule

The 2017 schedule of regular Council meetings is available online at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).



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## SPORTS AND RECREATION

### 34<sup>th</sup> Westmount Winter Carnival

February 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>, King George Park, WRC and Victoria Hall. A fun variety of outdoor and indoor activities for everyone. Watch for the schedules soon!

### Design your Medal Contest

Young creative locals needed! Help Westmount's Sports and Recreation Department design its new sports medals! Your concept could be chosen for either baseball, soccer or hockey medals! Info: [westmount.org/medals](http://westmount.org/medals).

## LIBRARY

### Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:15 a.m., Library. The Westmount Poetry Group meets to compose poetry together working with themes suggested by members. Welcome to all. Info: 514 989-5299.

### Documentary Film Club

Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 p.m., Library. *Waltz with Bashir* (2008). Tickets required. Info: 514 989-5299.

### 2017 McEntyre Writing Competition

Calling all Westmount elementary and high school students take part in this year's McEntyre Writing Competition by submitting an original story, poem or essay on the theme *Secret Places, Hidden Treasures*. Submit your entry to the Children's Desk, Westmount Public Library, no later than 9 p.m. on Friday, April 7, 2017. Info: [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

## Next Council Meeting Monday, February 6

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Gallery at Victoria Hall: Exhibition

January 26 to February 24. The Gallery is pleased to feature the works of Ann McCall. Come meet the artist and the Gallery Curator Victoria LeBlanc on Monday, February 6 at 7 p.m. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., Sat, Sun 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Info: 514 989-5521.

### Bowser & Blue: 37.5<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 p.m., Victoria Hall. The Westmount Winter Carnival presents music and comedy duo Bowser & Blue in concert. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cash bar. \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door. Tickets available at Victoria Hall, the Library, or at [www.bowserandblueeng.eventbrite.ca](http://www.bowserandblueeng.eventbrite.ca). Info: 514 989-5226.

### Westmount Winter Carnival Family Night

Friday, February 3, 5:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. *Come Across Canada*: Family dinner, dance and games. Cash bar. Places are limited, so purchase your tickets in advance. \$12 adults, \$6 children. Info: 514 989-5226.

### McGill Classics Play

Saturday, February 4, 3 p.m., Victoria Hall. *Plato's Symposium* in a new English translation. At a drunken party, Socrates and his friends discuss sex and love in their quest for philosophical truth. Free (ages 12+). Info: 514 989-5226.

### Le Patin Libre : Vertical Influences

Saturday, February 4, 7 p.m., Recreation Centre. An exciting contemporary skating show presented in collaboration with the *Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée*. Free tickets available at the WRC, Victoria Hall and the Library. Info: 514 989-5226.

### Concert: Kind of Blue – a Tribute to Miles Davis

Saturday, February 18, 7:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. Featuring Deacon George and Ron Di Lauro and his sextet. Tickets: \$30 (cash or cheque), available at Victoria Hall, the Library or [www.kindofblueeng.eventbrite.ca](http://www.kindofblueeng.eventbrite.ca). Info: 514 989-5226.

## PUBLIC SECURITY

### Dog permits available online

Obtain or renew your dog permit online at [westmount.org/dogs](http://westmount.org/dogs) or in person at 21 Stanton Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Monday to Friday (8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.). Make sure you have all the necessary documents to obtain the permit.



## Police Report

## Mystery surrounds bones found in Victoria home

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.

An official at the Montreal police department's Station 12 on Stanton St. say they are waiting for the results of an investigator's report on what are presumed to be an infant's remains found in a Victoria Ave. home before any information is released to the media.

"We are not currently in a position to provide any information pending the investigator's report," community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel told the *Independent*.

According to widespread news reports, the owner of the home made the grisly discovery of newspaper-wrapped human bones believed to be those of an infant after a contractor dislodged them from a basement ceiling while doing renovations.

Media reports also say that bones were wrapped in newspapers mentioning Premier Maurice Duplessis (who died in office in 1959) and that the current owners are

### Global scholars cont'd. from p. 15

Individual and team awards were given out in 24 academic categories, in junior (10 to 14 years-old) and senior (15 to 16 years-old) age groups. The top five junior individual high scorers were Josephine Greenhill (ECS), Mia Calandriello (The Study), Annabel Simons (ECS), James Gosnell (WIC) and Matthew Stolow (St. George's).

The senior high scorers were Jarren Fefer (Selwyn House), Lillian Simons (St. George's), Jessica Marshall (St. George's), Ryan Stewart (WIC) and Simone Aslan (The Study).

The top junior teams were ECS 202 (Annabel Simons, Josephine Greenhill, Kiara Hoffman), The Study 225 (Amel Melanson, Mia Calandriello, Tara Seirafi), ECS 201 (Zainab Ahmed, Abigail Koscis, Rebecca Combs), Selwyn House 209 (Daniel Bergen, Matthew Homa, Dylan Lee) and WIC 228 (Megan Edelstein, James Gosnell, Omer Vered).

The highest scoring senior teams were St. George's 255 (Lillian Simons, Emily MacDonald, Jessica Marshall), Trafalgar 260 (Seyjii Schultz, Gabby Martucci, Cecelia Lopez), Selwyn House 253 (Nabeel Ahmed, Harry Hosker, Jarren Fefer), The Study 257 (Minyi Jiang, Qianqian Zhou and Simone Aslan) and WIC 263 (Ryan Stewart, Kaitlin Wong, Dylan Thomas).

not suspects.

### Robbery, assault

A robbery committed in an apartment on Sherbrooke St. near the corner of Atwater Ave. sometime during a two-month period last year was reported to Station 12 only on January 26.

The apartment's occupant, who had been away from August to October, discovered upon returning that there were signs of water damage in the dwelling.

As well, related repairs had been carried out by the building's administration. However, the tenant also noticed that certain items of personal property were missing. These included a costly designer wristwatch and a Leica camera with a Summilux lens.

On January 18 around 8 am, a male Westmount resident walking near the rear of St. Joseph's Oratory was assaulted by a male suspect who stole a document holder from him.

While the incident occurred on Station

### Dubuc cont'd. from p. 10

Although Dubuc's uncle was an RCMP officer, she didn't aspire to the work until she was in grade 10. One day, her high school was visited on a career day by two police officers. After listening to one of them talk about being an undercover investigator, she decided that was the life for her, though she notes she has never worked undercover.

She studied police technology at Ahuntsic College and then graduated from Nicolet police academy after which she served in several stations, including Verdun. "I'm lucky. All my career I've been in stations in the South region, so I know many people."

Preparing Station 12's action plan for

12's territory, the victim initially reported it to Station 26, which covers the Côte des Neiges area.

According to the police report, the suspect approached the victim and tried forcefully to take the item from him. "The suspect pushed the victim and gave him a punch," said Pimentel.

"When the victim fell, that's when the suspect took the document holder that he had in his hands and ran in the direction of Westmount," he said. However, the victim only filed a complaint with the police a few days later.

The perpetrator is described as being around 30 years old and weighing 185 lbs. with a slim build. He had curly, dark hair and a beard, and wore a green, sleeveless duvet vest and blue jeans. Pimentel confirmed the victim was from Westmount.

On January 13 at 11:55 am, a motorist driving west along de Maisonneuve Blvd. struck a pedestrian while attempting to make a left turn onto

Greene Ave. *continued on p. 22*

2017 was one of Dubuc's first challenges after arriving at the station November 7. On her first day, she was introduced at the city council meeting by outgoing commander Mathieu Bastien (see story November 15, p. 5).

While she likes to downhill ski, her passion is for travel. It's one she shares with her husband. While she met him in Haiti the first time, when she returned the next time, he joined the UN police contingent in Ivory Coast.

In the summer, she said, they take the opportunity to visit more northern countries. In the winter, however, they choose the warmer climes including Thailand and, most recently, Jamaica.

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For story, please see paper archive.

## Akiva parents, kids gather together for 'Mensch Madness'



On December 7, Akiva students, from left: Tori Singer, Maia Cymet, Odella Abitbol and Abigail Schipper help put together Shabbat packages for JEM Workshop employees as part of Mensch Madness Day, "a day dedicated doing good deeds and helping others." It was the school's 11th annual Parent Day, and this year the theme was "Mensch Madness." Some 90 Akiva parent volunteers came to the school and organized fun and educational activities for the students. "Mensch" is a Yiddish term that refers to a person of integrity and honour.

Photo courtesy of Akiva

## Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 TO  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

City of Westmount's winter carnival takes place at Victoria Hall, King George (Murray) Park and the Westmount recreation centre. Info: <http://westmount.org/en/event/carnival>.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

To celebrate Black History Month, the Imani gospel singers perform a program of spiritual music and discuss the evolution of Black gospel music, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. Free.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

"Inclusion and the Jewish Community: Let's make sure everyone can participate!" 12:30 pm at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom. Free. RSVP: [rabbigreenspan@templemontreal.ca](mailto:rabbigreenspan@templemontreal.ca) or on website.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

The Krishnamurti Information Centre of Montreal presents a video on "Why are we frightened to be nothing?" 2 to 4 pm at the Atwater Library. Cost: \$5.

## LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

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### Name Change Notice

Prenez avis que Sardar Molaei, dont l'address de domicile est le 90 hill-

side avenue # 104 Westmount H3Z1V9, presentera au Directeur de l'etat civil une demande pour changer son nom en celui de Miles Rostami. Cette avis a ete rempli et signe a Verdun, le 24/11/2016 par Sardar Molaei.

### Caregiver available

Mature woman with experience, to care for the elderly, Monday to Friday, days and evenings. Westmount/downtown area. For information email: [sylvia.work.wright@gmail.com](mailto:sylvia.work.wright@gmail.com)

## Outdoor activities go to Murray

cont'd. from p. 1

in collaboration with the Conseil des Arts de Montréal.

Saturday's daytime outdoor activities are planned to take place at King George (Murray) Park, unless a lack of snow and rink closure require them to be based at the WRC as happened last year.

On tap are sledding, horse-drawn sleigh rides, the "winter classic" kids' hockey game, a sugar shack, skating for all and a puck-shooting competition.

A presentation of Plato's *Symposium* will also be held by McGill Classics Play, a non-profit venture, at Victoria Hall, Saturday at 3 pm.

A schedule of carnival events including the Contactivity seniors' luncheon Thursday, February 2 was being delivered to all Westmount addresses, Lapointe said.

Tickets for the Bowser and Blue show cost \$30 while those for the Friday night family dinner and dance are \$12 and \$6 for children 12 and under. These are available at Victoria Hall and Westmount Public Library.

There is no charge for the Patin Libre performance but passes (also available at the WRC office) are required; 200 are available.

### More on celebrating Canada 150

Along with the carnival events marking the anniversary, the city will give a Canadian focus to Black History Month in February, according to Virginia Elliott, Community Events project manager. It will also "be building" on its annual celebration of Canada Day.

While the city won't specifically celebrate Montreal's 375th anniversary – officially May 17, she said, it will by extension be rolled into Westmount's St. Jean celebration of Quebec. It will also be marked in the carnival performance of Bowser and Blue, who are coincidentally celebrating "37.5" years of their partnership as entertainers.

Mayor Peter Trent told the *Independent* the "Westmount way" to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday would be "not to spend money unless it would otherwise have been spent without a birthday to celebrate."

**University Women's Club of Montreal**  
Wednesday, February 15 at 6 pm in the  
Atwater Club, 3505 Avenue Atwater

Author, Judith Adamson, will reflect on her work as a biographer. How do you get from an ordinary Montreal upbringing to collaborate with Graham Greene on his final book, write his and other biographies, and edit the correspondence between Leonard Woolf and the woman he spent his life with after Virginia died? Writing a literary biography is a peculiarly devilish task.

Dinner \$31.04 (members), \$50 (non members; glass-wine included). Reservations required by February 9. Newcomers welcome.

For reservations or information 514 934-1362 or email [uwcm@uwcm.com](mailto:uwcm@uwcm.com)

A suggestion at the January 16 council meeting by Kirk Polymenakos of Claremont Ave. for mounting flags throughout the city for an extended period led to Trent's reply: "That couldn't cost much!"

The proposal was for the city to buy 50 shields bearing its crest to which the flags of Canada and Quebec could be mounted and re-used. This is similar to the shields and flags the city already affixes to light posts – mostly along Sherbrooke – over the period of St. Jean and Canada Day festivities.

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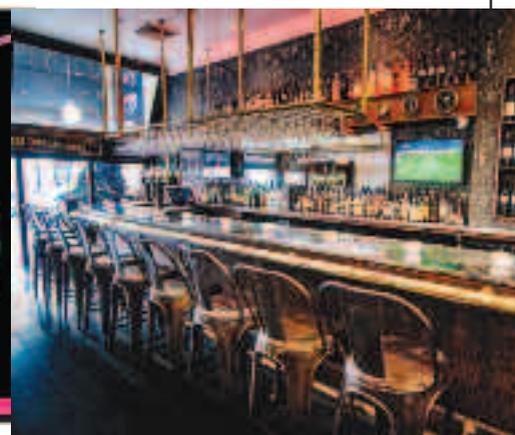
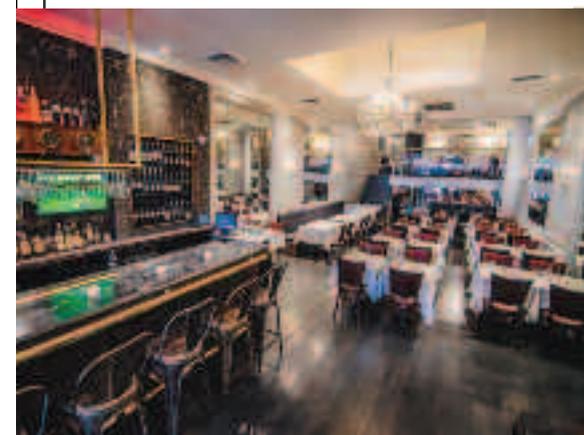
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# Segals host soirée for Weizmann Institute

## Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE



From left: Ziv Nevo Kulman, Alvin and Emmelle Segal, Ari Elson, Varda Rotter, Ruth Scherz-Shouval, Idit Shachar and Avigdor Scherz.

Alvin and Emmelle Segal, effortlessly elegant in a black-lace cocktail dress, hosted a presentation by the Weizmann Institute on November 6. Their Ritz Residences PH, with its grand glittering two-storey chandelier and unparalleled views through floor-to-ceiling windows, was enhanced for the occasion with tall orchids, white hydrangeas and palest of pretty pink roses.

Five scientists from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel spoke about their amazing scientific advancements. Professors Avigdor Scherz, Varda Rotter, Ari Elson, Idit Shachar and Ruth Scherz-Shouval were in Montreal to present at the McGill-Weizmann joint symposium the next day.

At the Segals, they were introduced by

Susan Stern, national executive director, Weizmann Canada. The research-scientists discussed cellular composition and communications, an esoteric subject that each explained eloquently within their areas of research.

Recently, the institute made global headlines when two of its senior researchers – Avigdor Scherz along with professor Yoram Salomon – announced successful clinical trials of a 90-minute treatment that cures early-stage prostate cancer.

The institute has recently established the Moross Integrated Cancer Centre, which is to “combine fundamental insights and cutting-edge technologies to elucidate the nature of cancer in depth.” Since its earliest days, the Weizmann Institute of Science has been seen as an important centre of cancer research.

The Segals’ large living room, with comfortable sofas and chairs, was packed with avid listeners. Guests at the cocktail dinatoire included Westmounters Israel consul-general Ziv Nevo Kulman, Anne-Marie Boucher and Mitch Garber, Linda Smith, Andrew Hops, Susan and Peter Varadi and Susan Wener, as well as Lillian Vineberg and Morris Goodman, doctors Sandra Bornet and her husband Henri Elbaz, former executive director Jewish General Hospital; Frank Niro and Jan Goldenberg, Weizmann Canada national program and events manager.

More photos, p. 22.



Mitch Garber and Anne-Marie Boucher.



Susan Stern, left, and Susan Wener.

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*Social Notes cont'd. from p. 21*



From left: Peter and Susan Varadi flank Sandra Bornet.

*Police cont'd. from p. 17*

According to Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière, the driver signaled for a left turn, although the pedestrian didn't have the right of way to walk and was struck.

"He was then sent to the hospital with injuries to his left knee," said Laperrière, citing the police report. "They were minor injuries. There was no mention of anything being broken or an open fracture or anything like that. It's just that there was an impact between the knee and the bumper."

The *Independent* carried a different de-

scription of what seems to be the same incident in its January 24 edition, p. 8.

Laperrière said pedestrians and drivers alike are advised to be extra mindful of the traffic signals at the Greene/de Maisonneuve intersection, especially around noon on weekdays.

On January 13 between 1 and 2 pm, a 2000 Toyota Corolla parked on Claremont Ave. just north of Sherbrooke St. was stolen. According to Laperrière, the owner walked to the Vendôme Metro station. When he returned the car was gone.

Investigators determined that the vehicle hadn't been towed away during a snow removal operation, and that there weren't any signs it was broken into.

Given that it was an older vehicle, Laperrière speculated that the owner might have left it unlocked and that the thief knew how to get the engine started without a key to take it for a joy ride.

On January 18, the owner of a car that was left parked outside 4966 Sherbrooke St. around 5:15 pm realized only later that some articles that were in a bag inside the vehicle had been stolen.

"Usually what we see is that someone breaking into the car grabs the bag and leaves," said Laperrière. "We don't often see a case like this where they search the bag and leave with something they found."

Stolen were a wallet and a document holder with an estimated high value.

## WHA closes out 2016 with evening to honour Lindsay



About 50 people attended the last of the fall events of the Westmount Historical Association on December 15 at the Gallery at Victoria Hall, in honour of Doreen Lindsay, right.



BY RALPH THOMPSON

A December 15 evening social event, hosted by the Westmount Historical Association (WHA), was in honour of past president Doreen Lindsay, who stepped down in 2016 after more than 13 years in the role. The same year, she won the Marion Phelps Award from the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network.

In recent years, Lindsay dedicated herself to promoting the WHA, researching and writing about local history, mounting exhibitions, preserving archive material and publishing *The Westmount Historian* newsletter.

Upcoming WHA Thursday evening lec-

tures include a February 16 one called "Life-

story interviews with Westmounters," with Sharon Gubbay Helfer. On March 16, author Nicolas Paquin will speak on "Ross Eveleigh Johnson: From Westmount to Eternity."

"Women Volunteers in Westmount during World War II," with speakers Sandra Stock and Lindsay, takes place on April 20, and on May 18, 2017, it's "T.C. Bulmer: a 'Father' of Westmount," is discussed by photographer Mika Goodfriend.



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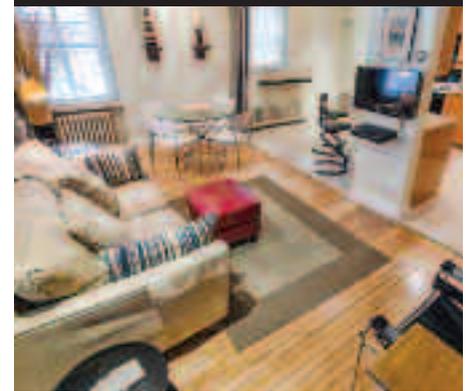
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