

This Friday in

The Suburban magazine

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Around the Towns

CSL -CDN MEDICAL DISTRICT SHUTTLE SURVEY

Côte St. Luc put out an advisory that the city and the Jewish General Hospital "in collaboration with Mobiligo and the Centre de gestion des déplacements de développement économique Saint-Laurent (CGD DESTL), is looking for solutions to improve commuting to medical facilities in the Côte des Neiges district for the residents, workers and users. The goal of the project is to encourage single occupancy vehicle users to shift to environmentally-friendly transport practices, such as public transit, carpooling, walking and biking.

A survey of the population of Côte St. Luc, Hampstead and Montreal West is currently underway concerning their transportation needs to identify convenient options that could be offered to them, other than traveling alone in their car. Access to healthcare is more than having a family doctor; it is also being able to get to the doctor's office without causing an impact on our health and our community environment." To participate in the survey, go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/DBGHB6N.

WINTER PRO-STYLE BASKETBALL TRAINING CAMP

Côte St. Luc is holding a winter pro-style basketball training camp from Dec. 24 to Jan. 4 at the Côte St. Luc Gymnasium, 7500 Mackle Road. The camp is for children Grades 2 to 7 and registration can be for one or the whole two weeks. For more information and to register, consult jhoops.ca.

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JOEL GOLDENBERG PHOTO

Hanukkah in CSL

Chabad of Côte St. Luc's annual Hanukkah menorah lighting took place before a large crowd at city hall on Cavendish Blvd. last Wednesday night, attracting all members of city council and Israeli Consul General Joel Lion. Councillor Steven Erdelyi went up on the cherry picker to illuminate the candle on the large menorah and Rabbi Menachem Mendel Raskin presided. Following the lighting ceremony and greetings by all the dignitaries, a grand menorah car procession took place.



The Suburban looks back at 50 years in our community

When Montreal had two English dailies..

By Joel Goldenberg
The Suburban

Some Montrealers under 35 may not be aware, but this city once had two English daily newspapers - *The Montreal Gazette* and *The Montreal Star*.

Our family used to receive the *Star* on a daily basis, and the perception was that it was the superior paper, even as *The Gazette* was much older, dating from the 18th century. *The Star* was founded in 1869 and prospered as an evening paper. Montrealers over the age of 35 also likely remember the popular *Weekend* magazine that was in Saturday's paper. I also fondly remember one of our school field trips, a tour of *The Star's* downtown printing plant.

This popularity and prosperity came to a screeching halt in 1978, when the pressmen went on strike for eight months, causing a cessation in publi-

cation. During that time, as the community had little other choice (*The Suburban* is a weekly), they switched over to *The Gazette*. By the time *The Star* returned in February 1979, it was diminished, and shut down for good that September.

In October, 1979, two of *The Suburban's* regular columnists reflected on the loss of *The Star*. Publisher Max Wollock, in his regular *Red Cap* column, lambasted the unions.

"It was a classic example of how a stagnating institution, which most of today's unions are, can destroy a viable enterprise and commit suicide at the same time," Wollock wrote. "The union leadership and the workers would do well to sit down and reflect on what portion of the responsibility they failed to shoulder which resulted in the closure of *The Star*."

Wollock also looked to the future, to a time when reporters would send sto-

ries from elsewhere via phone lines to a paper's main computer, something *The Suburban* did years later with modems.

Of course, now we have e-mail, Word documents, NewsEdit Pro, Blackberrys and iPads as means of typing and sending articles.

Then-D'Arcy McGee MNA Victor Goldbloom also reflected on the loss of *The Star*, pointing out that there were then fewer cities where two or more newspapers competed. He also cited the role of the unions.

"We are all losers - employees who struck, others who did not, management, readership. The entire English community is poorer."

We have since lost more English publications, most recently the *Hour* and the *Mirror*. But *The Suburban* is still going strong, and even filling gaps left by the departure of those other English publications. ■

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