

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 14 No. 11a

We are Westmount

November 3, 2020

Added: online workshops, refrigerated rink by Nov. 15

New lockdown creates 'huge setback' for Sports & Rec: director Lapointe

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Last week's extended restrictions for Montreal and other red zones until November 23 has presented a setback for the city's Sports and Recreation, department director Dave Lapointe said October 27.

Registration for the winter schedule had been targeted for November 17, which would have been after the anticipated lifting of the original October restrictions. It is now delayed indefinitely, he said.

"It's another huge setback for us. Four more weeks gone. We don't want to do a registration during a lockdown because we won't know whether we'll have to offer refunds or credits if the November 23 deadline is extended even further."

In the meantime, Lapointe said, the department is looking at introducing "à la

carte" online programs to those currently offered and is already offering online "Wellness Workshops" later this month (see p. 9 for story). Because most of the winter programs don't start until January, he's hopeful that those that had already been planned can proceed after a delayed registration. "We can do a pretty quick turnaround, as we did for the fall."

For now, the interim reservation system for interior general skating at the Westmount recreation centre is going well, "with almost all timeslots filled," he said.

As for the exterior refrigerated rink, city director general Benoit Hurtubise told the *Independent* that the city was still planning to install it in Westmount Park by November 15. If line-ups prove to be too long to ensure distancing, he said, it may require a reservation system too.

Hallowe'en happened!



Pippa and Beckham on Arlington Ave. were already mingling with skulls, a black rat and amputated limbs at 5:30 pm October 31, ready to trick the trick-or-treaters at their start of a two-hour vigil.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.



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Lambert only questioner at council meeting

Council asked to trim sidewalk plants around Roslyn for visibility

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

An advocate for pedestrian safety reported last week that the city had removed all the tall plantings in sidewalk beds on Westmount Ave., which – he had told the virtual council meeting October 19 – obscured the clear visibility of children.

These sections near the intersections at Roslyn Ave. and Lansdowne were created

when Westmount Ave. was rebuilt in 2016, the meeting was reminded by Dan Lambert, president of the Association of the Pedestrians and Cyclists of Westmount (APCW).

This year, however, the plants chosen "have grown to nearly four feet high, so children walking behind the plants are hidden from drivers," a particular problem near

continued on p. 23



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Knitters reach out to Montreal's homeless with knitwear



From left, Westmounters Julie Hooton and Donna Doherty on October 29 in Cabot Square leaving scarves for the homeless, along with a note explaining that they are gifts.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A group of women from Westmount and other areas of Montreal have been growing closer to the needy lately by donating scarves, tuques and other knitwear to the homeless in outdoor gathering places such as Cabot Square.

According to Donna Doherty, the participants were inspired around four years ago by a similar project that she'd spotted on the internet.

"I e-mailed a couple of friends to see if they'd be interested in doing some knitting and helping to produce what I thought might be 30 or 40 scarves to hang around the city," Doherty said in an interview with the *Independent*.

"By word of mouth, people passed the word around to friends, and friends of friends, and there are now about 35 women who knit every year," she said.

In the fall typically, the group's members get together, although they couldn't this year because of the pandemic. Still,

they managed to bring together all their creations, consisting of about 250 hats, scarves and pairs of socks, and have been gradually making their way around the city completing the deliveries.

The knitting campaign has benefited not only individuals in need, but also several organizations that help provide clothing to the needy and homeless, added Doherty. Among the groups which have received knitted items are the Welcome Hall Mission, the Old Brewery Mission, Chez Doris and the Open Door.

"It's just been great," she continued. "I've been amazed and gratified by the number of women who really enjoy knitting while helping out others in this way."

During the delivery period each year, when Donna's husband Ross often helps out with driving, the drop-off points typically include the outside of downtown churches where there are drop-in centres for the homeless, as well as outdoor gathering places such as Phillips Square.

"Any kind of public space where we

think people that might need them are likely to be gathering," said Doherty.

Last week, the *Independent* tagged along with Doherty and her fellow Westmounter Julie Hooton (one of the original contributors), as they distributed completed scarves and tuques in Cabot Square at Atwater Ave and St. Catherine St., while sharing a few moments with some of the recipients.

"I don't know if my knitting has improved since I started, but it's really been fun," said Hooton, who has contributed around 50 pieces of knitwear since the beginning.

"It's particularly nice to be interacting with these people," she said. "We open our bag and they get to pick a scarf and we sometimes help them put it on. These are especially lovely moments."

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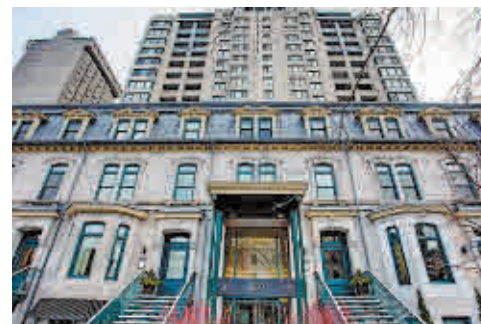


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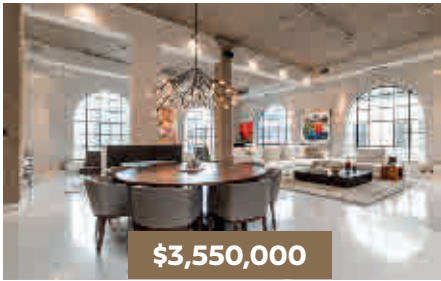
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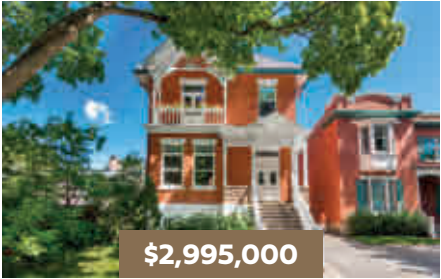
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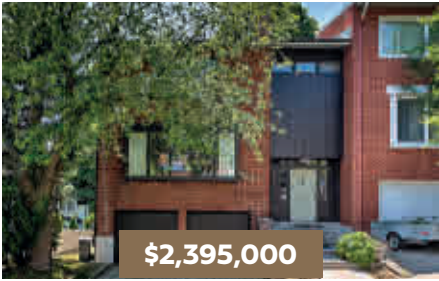
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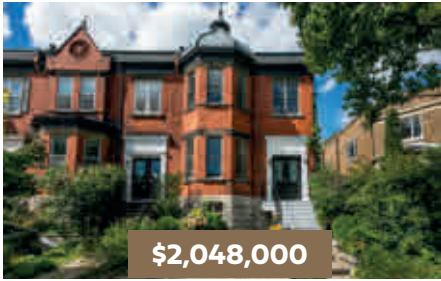
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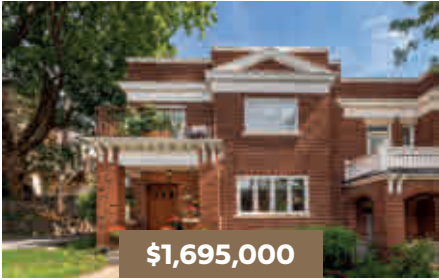
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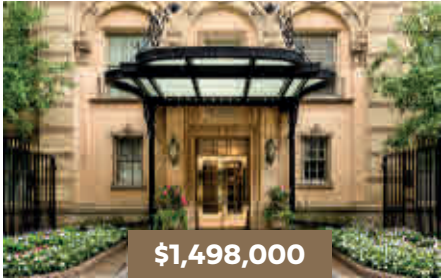
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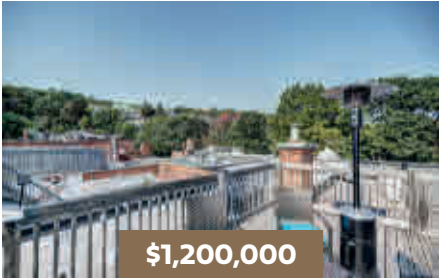
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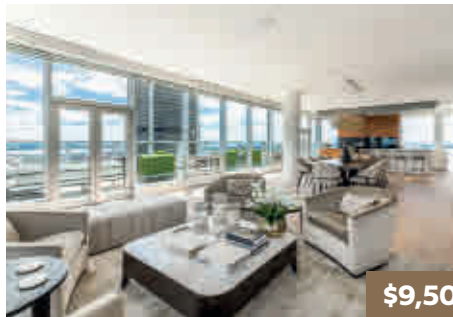
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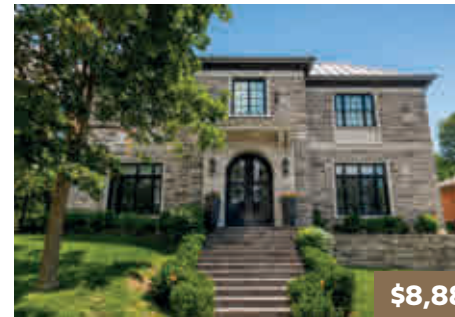
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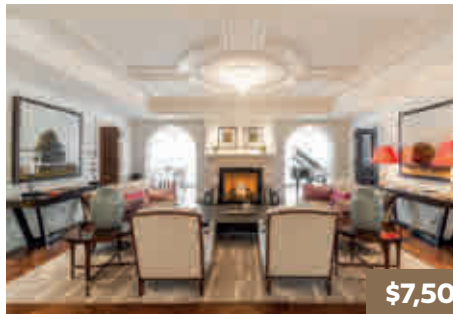
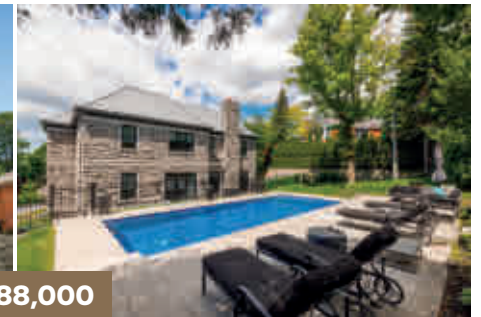
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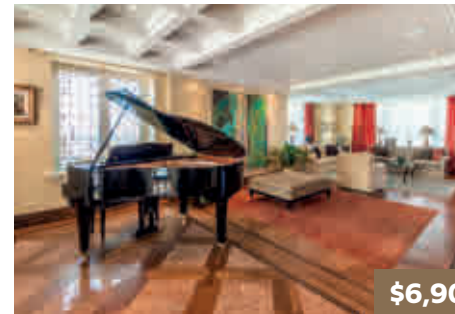
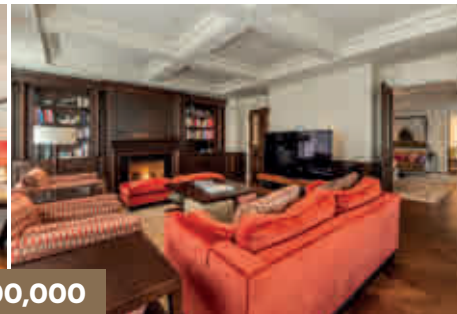
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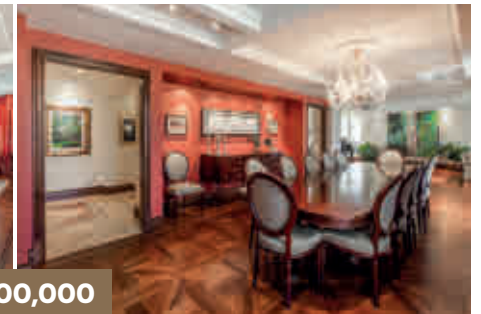
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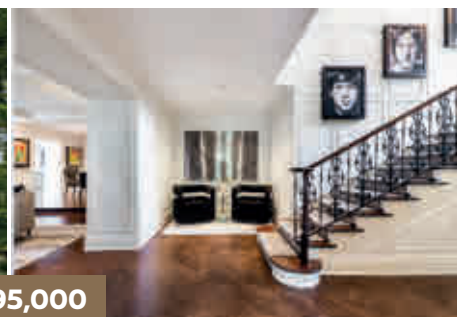
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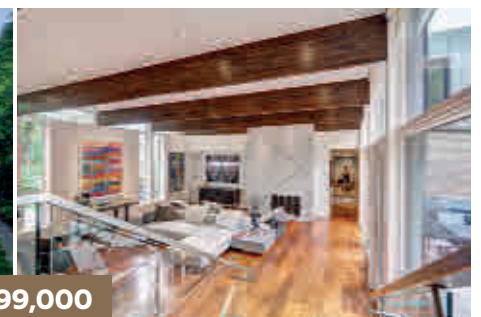
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Hallowe'en 2020



This well-guarded candy slide – a frequent feature of this COVID Hallowe'en – with sculptured pumpkins and scary skeletons was on Arlington Ave.



A sumo wrestler, a witch, Superman and Spiderman and more were all getting prepared for serious trick-or-treating October 31 on Westmount Ave.



This house on Côte St. Antoine was elaborately decked out for Hallowe'en with a monster ghost and spooky talking skeletons.



On Côte St. Antoine and Mount Stephen, even Spiderman approached this house very cautiously.

PHOTOS: RALPH THOMPSON.



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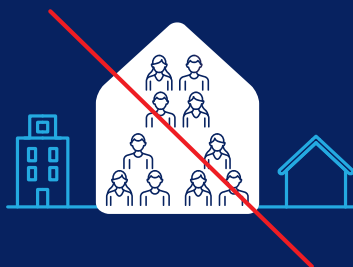
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Will they return next spring?

Where do Westmount Park's ducks go in winter?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It's a question being asked now that the lagoon in Westmount Park has been drained for the winter: "Where do the ducks go?"

"If they can find a source of food in a secured source of water, they tend to linger before migrating," said Westmount resident David Hanna, an interested "birder."

David Bird, the well-known and now retired ornithologist from McGill called "Dr. Bird," told the *Independent* last week from his home in BC, that mallards typically migrate when their sources of water freeze up but "they're not strong migratory birds."

They are known to stay around if they

find unfrozen water and a source of duckweed. Depending on the weather, he has seen ducks at Montreal's Old Port as late as Christmas. They would likely then fly toward the northern US states but just as far as they need to in search of water and a food supply.

Would the same ducks return to Westmount Park next spring? "Some might," he said, "as long as they survive hunters and foxes, or meet a partner and follow that one back to a new location. In general, they come back to the same area."

There have been many reports over the years of ducks and their ducklings swimming in backyard pools in Westmount, even one family making its way down Forde Ave. before being taken by Public

Security to the Westmount lagoon (see story June 2017, p. 6 and photo below).

Bird, who advised the city on how to make a nesting box for the owl that took up residency at the Westmount Public

Library during its renovations in 1994, said he is pleased to answer questions from the public on birds through an online program called Brome Bird News.

Coping with COVID restrictions

City to launch 12 'Wellness Workshops' starting November 11, 12

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A six-week series of 12 one-time Westmount Wellness Workshops is to be introduced by the city's Sports and Recreation department starting Wednesday, November 11 and Thursday, November 12 as a "coping mechanism" for the second wave of COVID restrictions.

Announcing the online Zoom workshops October 29, Claude Danis, the department's program and community services coordinator, said that every week the Wednesday workshop will take place at 1:30 pm, followed by the Thursday workshop at 7 pm.

"Everyone will deal with a different way of coping with stress and anxiety related to the ongoing pandemic," she said.

Among the 12 topics being planned are restorative yoga, mental health during COVID, "deskercise," nutrition and menu planning, self-care, pranayama meditation and yoga nidra.

Each will require a separate registration with a nominal fee of \$5, which will include a link to the workshop and reminders.

"Keep checking the city website's home page for Westmount Wellness Workshops for further details and access to registration," Danis said.



A mother duck leads her brood down Forde Ave. behind a Public Security car May 28, 2017 just before PSO Marie-Eve Parent collected the babies in a box and carried them, followed by the mother.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTMOUNT PUBLIC SECURITY

Capital works budget delayed to Nov. 16

The city's 2021 capital works budget is expected to be presented November 2, city director general Benoit Hurtubise said last week. It will also include preliminary plans for 2022 and 2023.

The budget was initially set to be unveiled November 3 but has required additional time given the uncertainty of poss-

ible COVID restrictions next year, he said.

Because the city's spending on infrastructure and other capital asset projects is largely funded by pay-as-you-go from the operating budget, possible ongoing losses of revenues into the next year has made this year's forward planning very complicated, he said.

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Unlike Montreal or TMR

City not actively exploring a ban on oil furnaces

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Residents heating their homes with oil may be relieved to know that, so far, Westmount is not actively considering banning oil furnaces as a way of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

“At this time, we’ve not been approached by council to explore this,” city director general Benoit Hurtubise said last week.

This comes in the wake of a recent decision by the Town of Mount Royal to delay for further study a proposed plan to do away with oil heating and dual energy systems by 2025 and a Montreal announcement in May last year that it would phase out the use of oil furnaces by 2030.

If it became the intention of the Westmount council to ban oil heating, would Westmount have the legal right to enact it?

City clerk Andrew Brownstein said that “in matters of air pollution, the city does have jurisdiction but it needs to be warranted by the extent of the pollution and be a real health problem. As such, it would require further research.”

Over the years and in other areas of activity, Westmount has been at the forefront of municipalities in Quebec and Canada

in prohibiting certain pesticides for non-essential use as well as smoking in certain areas and banning leaf blowers (for noise pollution) in all but two periods of the year.

The city, as well as other demerged municipalities, however, decided not to join Montreal’s ban on the use of certain wood-burning stoves and use of wood in fireplaces five years ago. This was based on the fact that few homes in these communities used wood for heating (see August 28, 2015, p. 1).

Regulation can also come from a higher level of government. Quebec Solidaire, for example, has already adopted a party platform that includes a ban on cars using gasoline.

When it comes to oil furnaces and TMR’s intention, however, Westmount has a different demography with more apartment buildings and fewer private homes, Hurtubise explained. When it comes to new construction, again the city is so built up that there is little of this going on. In any event, “It doesn’t make sense nowadays to install oil heating,” he explained.

The city of Westmount itself is an example.

Westmount’s recent tender call to install

a new boiler to heat the combined complex of Victoria Hall, the library and greenhouses specified electric heating, he said. All the bids received, however, were expected to be rejected at the council meeting November 2 (after the *Independent’s* press deadline). This was due to non-conformity and price, he said.

Under a Quebec government program called *Chauffez vert* (Heat green), some subsidies are available until December 31, 2020 for the conversion of heating systems to electricity, according to Hydro Westmount director Salah Bouziane. Information can be obtained from transitionenergetique.gouv.qc.ca/residentiel/programmes/chauffez-vert.

Hydro Westmount does not have statistics concerning the number of residences heating with electricity or those using oil or gas.

The demand in electrical consumption is increasing at 1 percent a year, he said.

A detailed analysis of Hydro Westmount accounts could help determine if a residence is heated by electricity if there is a significant difference in consumption between summer and winter consumption, according to Hurtubise.

Hallowe’en fun ‘at’ the library, Public Security



Left, at the Westmount Public Library’s Hallowe’en gala online presentation October 30, children’s librarian Wendy Wayling reads one of many stories presented by different library workers. Right, in place of Public Security’s annual haunted house at the Westmount Lawn Bowling clubhouse, the department presented online “The Halloween Hiatus” October 31, depicting quick glimpses of various city workers wearing masks saved from the previous haunted houses.

PHOTOS: LAUREEN SWEENEY.

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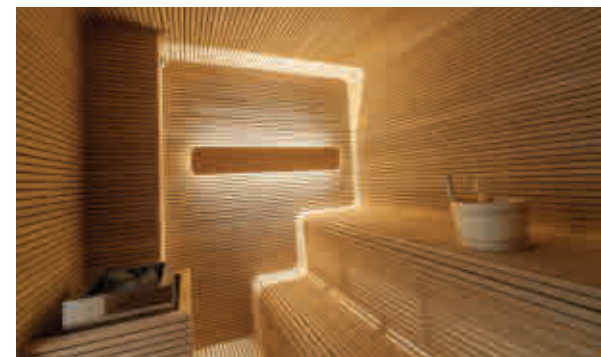
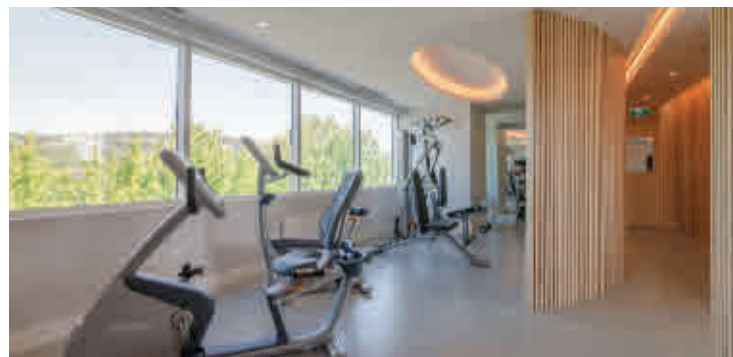
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Understanding Red Zone Restrictions

Full alert!

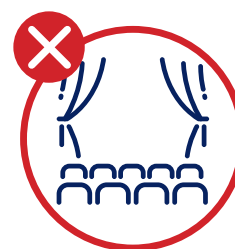
In red zones, where the situation is critical, stricter measures must be enacted because the number of cases is rapidly increasing. People in these zones must limit social contact as much as possible to prevent virus transmission. By applying all measures, we can fight COVID-19 more effectively. No single measure is sufficient on its own.

The more we limit contact with other people, the sooner we can resume our activities.



Why are restaurants and bars considered high-risk places for spreading COVID-19?

We usually gather in places like bars and restaurants to socialize with friends, family, and colleagues. In these places, we are often close to other people. Both talking and eating greatly increase the risk of virus transmission. Restrictive measures in red zones are meant to minimize close contact between people who do not live at the same address.



Why ban activities and audiences in public places?

Large gatherings are an opportunity for people to socialize, often in close proximity to one another. This can increase the risk of virus transmission. The ban on activities and audiences in public places in red zones is meant to minimize social contact between people who do not live at the same address.



Why close gyms and stop team sports?

Gyms provide an opportunity for people to socialize with others, and so do many sports and leisure activities. Group sports generally involve social contact with teammates. Some sports are difficult to play while maintaining physical distance. Stricter measures in red zones are meant to reduce close contact between individuals and thus slow the spread of COVID-19.



Why must face coverings be worn in high school classrooms in red zones?

Young people are currently overrepresented in COVID-19 case counts and a number of outbreaks have occurred in the school system, mainly in red zones. According to field observations and what we know about how the virus spreads, high schools pose more risk than primary schools.

High school students are older and capable of wearing masks or face coverings for longer periods of time. Therefore, in red zones, face coverings must be worn by all high school students at all times in common areas, including in stable class groups, on school grounds, and during electives with different class groups.

We need to act now

To find out the alert level in your region, consult the map of COVID-19 alert levels by region at [Québec.ca/alertlevels](https://quebec.ca/alertlevels)

[Québec.ca/zonerouge](https://quebec.ca/zonerouge)

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May transfers: Volume hits record low



Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in May 2020. A list of sales can be found on p. 17.

May, June and July are normally considered the busy months for notaries and moving trucks as families use summer months to take over new houses and get to know their new neighbours.

That didn't seem to be the case in May this year, most likely due to the spring COVID lockdown, when only eight residential deeds were signed, the slowest May we have in records going back to 1972, while the average for the past decade is 17.9. Prices were down, too, in a fairly slim range between \$900,000 and \$2,036,000 and an average just under \$1,725,000, while the average for the entire year is \$2,001,078. May is the fourth of five single-digit-volume months; the only busy month this year was April, when 16 deeds were signed.

The lowest price was claimed by 162 Hillside Ave., a row-house backing onto the CPR right-of-way, one of four one- or two-family houses to sell this year for less than \$1 million. The price was just one percent less than its municipal valuation, but the biggest mark-down was three percent, in the sale of 106 Sunnyside Ave. for \$1,800,000.

Highest-price was claimed by 485 Strathcona Ave., which also served as the



485 Strathcona on October 27.

highest mark-up over valuation at 24 percent.

One condo, one duplex

An even higher mark-up, this one at 37 percent, went for the only condominium sale in the month, at 4215 de Maisonneuve Blvd., between Greene and Olivier avenues.

No condo sales were registered in April, so the second quarter of the year is off to a very slow pace, but June might offer a couple more sales to make a statistic for the quarter.

The only other sale registered in May involved 330 Wood Ave., precisely 45 percent of a duplex just north of de Maisonneuve Blvd., which sold for \$741,500. It is one of only two share-sales (as opposed to condominiumized duplexes) to be registered through May this year.



162 Hillside on October 27.



106 Sunnyside on October 27.

Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in May 2020

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2020 VAL	RATIO (%)
8 de Casson	Bernard Mariette & Marie-Françoise Petit	\$1,915,000	\$1,692,500	13.1%
162 Hillside	Chunyan Xiong	\$900,000	\$909,500	-1.0%
41 Holton	Yervant Antikacioglu & Pinar Buyukuysal	\$1,835,000	\$1,613,600	13.7%
463 Mount Pleasant	Michelle Lafontaine & François de Broux	\$1,975,000	\$1,785,600	10.6%
662 Murray Hill	Andrew Hedrei & Edda Imbroglio	\$1,388,000	\$1,202,700	15.4%
485 Strathcona	Mark Anthony Cahill & Naveena Thind	\$2,036,000	\$1,639,300	24.2%
44 Summit Circle	Paul Ortenberg	\$1,950,000	\$1,846,500	5.6%
106 Sunnyside	Haiyan Shang	\$1,800,000	\$1,855,500	-3.0%
CONDOMINIUMS				
4215 de Maisonneuve #6	Eric Buzaglo	\$495,000	\$361,200	37.0%
SHARE SALES				
328-30 Wood, 45%	Xiao Li Shi	\$741,500	\$589,635 ¹	25.8%

¹Valuation is 45 percent of \$1,310,300. Exclusive use of 330 Wood.



172 CHEMIN EDGEHILL, WESTMOUNT
ASKING \$6,800,000



83 SUMMIT CR., WESTMOUNT
ASKING \$3,799,000



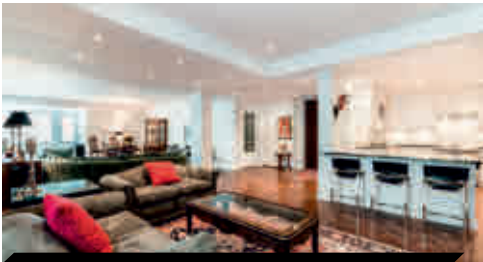
37 LYNCROFT, HAMPSTEAD
ASKING \$3,088,000



1 WOOD AVENUE #605, WESTMOUNT
ASKING \$2,825,000



215 REDFERN #406, WESTMOUNT
ASKING \$2,095,000



PORT ROYAL #807, VILLE-MARIE
ASKING \$1,595,000



227 HARROW CR., HAMPSTEAD
ASKING \$1,059,000



LE RITZ #303, CÔTE-ST-LUC
ASKING \$899,000



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infoWESTMOUNT

2020.11.03 • Vol. 1/14
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NOUVELLES

PROCHAINE SÉANCE
DU CONSEIL

Lundi 7 décembre



Westmount aujourd'hui ... selon vous!
Sondage en ligne jusqu'au 15 novembre :
Dans le cadre du projet de révision du Plan d'urbanisme de la Ville, vous êtes invité à participer à une activité en ligne qui permettra de mieux établir un portrait actuel du territoire.
engage.westmount.org

NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING

Monday, December 7



Your Westmount today!
Online survey until November 15. As part of the City's comprehensive review of its urban planning Master Plan, you are invited to participate in an online activity that will help enrich the current understanding of the City.
engage.westmount.org

Vaccination contre la grippe : pas de clinique au Victoria Hall cette année
En raison de la pandémie, le vaccin anti-grippal sera disponible au CLSC par rendez-vous. Réservez en ligne à dicsante.ca.

Nouveau : collecte de résidus de jardin
Placez vos résidus en bordure de trottoir **avant 7 h le jour de collecte chez vous.** Utilisez des sacs de papier ou des contenants ouverts. Consultez la liste de résidus acceptés et l'horaire des collectes à westmount.org.

Travaux ferroviaires jusqu'au 12 nov.
Des travaux d'installation de rails seront effectués entre 20 h et 6 h. westmount.org

Cours de loisirs en ligne à prix réduit
Des cours sur Zoom sont offerts à prix réduit pour le reste de la session d'automne. westmount.org
COVID-19 : prolongation des mesures
Le gouvernement du Québec a prolongé les mesures sanitaires en zone rouge jusqu'au 23 novembre. westmount.org

Jour du Souvenir
Cette année, Westmount n'organisera pas de cérémonie publique pour marquer le jour du Souvenir. Les résidents sont invités à participer virtuellement le 11 novembre à 11 h en direct sur la page Facebook de la Ville à l'adresse facebook.com/villedewestmount.org.

Flu vaccination: No clinic at Victoria Hall this year
Due to the pandemic, the flu vaccine will be available by appointment at the CLSC. Reserve online at dicsante.ca.

New: Garden waste collection
Place your materials at the curb **before 7 a.m. on your collection day.** Use paper bags or open containers only. Consult the list of accepted materials and the collection schedule at westmount.org.

Work on railway until November 12
Work to install new rails will be carried out between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. westmount.org

Online leisure classes at a reduced price
Online Zoom classes are now available at a reduced price for the remainder of the fall session. westmount.org
COVID-19: Measures extended
The Gouvernement du Québec has extended the red zone sanitary measures until November 23. westmount.org

Remembrance Day
This year, Westmount will not hold a public ceremony to mark Remembrance Day. Residents are welcome to participate virtually on November 11th at 11 a.m. live on the City's Facebook page at facebook.com/villedewestmount.org.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Activités d'automne
Découvrez notre programmation d'activités culturelles et communautaires qui seront diffusées en ligne et sur les médias sociaux cet automne. westlib.org
Sessions en studio au Victoria Hall
Samedis 7 et 21 novembre et 5 décembre à 19 h sur le compte YouTube de la Bibliothèque. Une nouvelle série de concerts intimes en ligne, en direct. westlib.org

Devinez qui remportera le prix Giller
Lundi 9 novembre 20 h à 21 h sur Zoom. Regardez Shelley Pomerance et le personnel de la Bibliothèque discuter des livres sur la liste préliminaire pour le prix Giller de la Banque Scotia, le prix littéraire le plus prestigieux au Canada. Choisissez votre boisson préférée et installez-vous dans le confort de votre foyer pour assister à cet événement virtuel. Inscrivez-vous à eventbrite.ca.

Soirée de quiz virtuel
Samedi 14 novembre 19 h à 21 h en ligne.

Testez vos compétences sur votre ordinateur ou appareil mobile dans le confort de votre foyer. Un thème différent sera proposé à chaque mois. Prix à gagner. Inscrivez-vous à westlib.org.
Ateliers d'écriture pour les jeunes (9+)
Mardi 17 novembre et mardi 1er décembre, 14 h 30 à 15 h 30 sur Zoom. Avec Andrew Katz, M.A. en création littéraire. Tu as besoin d'un carnet de notes? Nous en avons un pour toi. Places limitées; inscrivez-vous à westlib.org.

Club de cinéma de Westmount
Le club est maintenant en ligne! Inscrivez-vous au bulletin du club à westlib.org.

Service de cueillette sans contact
La Bibliothèque demeure fermée au public, mais notre service de cueillette est toujours disponible. Une fois que vos items sont réservés et confirmés, vous aurez deux jours pour les récupérer, sans rendez-vous. westlib.org

Besoin d'une carte de bibliothèque?
Demandez votre carte de membre à westlib.org.

LIBRARY

Fall activities
Discover our wide range of upcoming cultural and community events that will be presented online and on social media this fall. westlib.org
Victoria Hall Studio Sessions
Saturdays, November 7 & 21 and December 5 at 7 p.m. on the Library's YouTube account. A new series of intimate live concerts online. westlib.org

Guess the Giller
Monday, November 9, 8 to 9 p.m. on Zoom. Watch Shelley Pomerance and Library staff discuss the books that have been shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller prize, Canada's largest literary prize. Grab your beverage of choice and join us from the comfort of your own home. Register at eventbrite.ca.

Virtual Quiz Night
Saturday, November 14, 7 to 9 p.m. online. Test your trivia skills on computer or mobile device from the comfort of your own home.

Each month features a different theme. Prizes to be won. Register at westlib.org.
Writing workshops for tweens (9+)
Tuesdays, November 17 and December 1st, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Zoom. With Andrew Katz, M.A. in Creative Writing. Need a notebook? We've got one for each participant. Limited places; register at westlib.org.

Westmount Cinema Club
The Club is moving online! Sign up for the Club's newsletter at westlib.org.

Contactless pickup service
The Library remains closed to the public, but our pickup service continues. Once your items have been reserved and confirmed, you will have a 2-day pickup window, no appointment necessary. westlib.org

Need a library card?
Request your membership card at westlib.org.



Police Report

Dorchester/Clandeboyne break-in was probably also a burglary

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Investigators from the Montreal Police Department's Station 12 are assuming a break-in at a home near the corner of Dorchester Blvd. and Clandeboyne Ave. during the early hours of October 24 was probably also a burglary based on the disturbed state of the rooms they found inside.

The incident is presumed to have taken place sometime between midnight and 10 am while the owners were away.

A neighbour from the house next door called the police after noticing that one of the windows on the home next to his had been left open during the owners' absence.

The neighbour noticed at the same time that two bottles of alcohol, as well as a kitchen knife, were inexplicably lying on the front steps. It was later determined that these items, removed by the perpetrators, belonged to the owners of the home.

"He had been out walking his dog, when he noticed there was something that was definitely suspicious," said Station 12 community relations officer Constable

Adalbert Pimentel.

After being summoned by the neighbour who called 9-1-1, the police entered the dwelling and almost immediately noticed signs of forced entry. They were admitted into the house by a relative of the owners, who were not available as they were away at the time.

According to the police report, the perpetrators forced the window open to gain entry, after which they searched through several rooms seeking any items of value.

The investigators noted that the suspects paid particular attention to a bar with a selection of bottled alcoholic beverages they found. The police found bottles scattered around the bar on the floor.

Bottles scattered

Although the investigators couldn't determine, without confirmation from the owners, whether anything had been stolen, Pimentel said the obviously disturbed state of the rooms made it evident there had been an attempted burglary at least.

As well, some disconnected communications cables and wiring suggested the thieves made off with computer equipment. Although there were no known security cameras in the area, the investigators hope to get clues from fingerprints on the items the suspects left behind.

Dwarven door?



Have you ever noticed this door into Westmount Square from Wood Ave.? It is reminiscent of the doors that author J. R. R. Tolkien had in his novels that led into the dwarvish strongholds at the Lonely Mountain and Moria. The *Independent* noticed no dwarves in the area October 22, the date of this photo.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

NOTICE TO DENTAL PATIENTS OF DR. JOANNE C. WALFORD

TAKE NOTICE that as of November 1st, 2020, Dr. Joanne C. Walford, practicing dentistry at 2045 Stanley St. #1100, Montreal, QC H3A 2V4, 514 844-8061, has entrusted the legal custody of the files of patients who have consulted her, to Dr. Miki Zlatanovski.

As of November 1st, 2020, Dr. Joanne C. Walford will move and continue to practice her professional activities in dentistry, at the following new address, located at 5165 Queen-Mary Rd., Suite 305, Montréal, QC H3W 1X7. 514 488-9579.

If you have any inquiries regarding your file, please contact the transferee, Dr. Miki Zlatanovski, at 2045 Stanley St. #1100, Montreal, QC H3A 2V4, 514 844-8061. Patients are advised, according to the ODQ (Ordre des dentistes du Québec), that they may:

- 1- accept the transfer of their file;
 - 2- take back their file;
 - 3- or request that their file be transferred to another professional by contacting the transferee, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Please note that files will be kept for a period of 5 years from November 1st, 2020.



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We welcome your letters

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.

email us at:

editor@westmountindependent.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

JUSTICE SYSTEM HAS FAILED CONJUGAL-VIOLENCE VICTIMS, AGAIN

This press release was received by the Independent October 28

Unfortunately, it is with no surprise that L'Alliance des maisons d'hébergement de 2e étape pour les femmes et enfants victimes de violence conjugale learned earlier last week that singer Éric Lapointe will end up with no criminal record in regards to an accusation of assault against a woman – his intimate partner at the time – if he respects his probation of one year.

In our opinion, when Judge Steeve Larivière took the time to emphasize how a criminal record would be damaging to Mr. Lapointe's career and have material consequences for him, he underestimated and discredited the great impact of the assault on the victim's life.

Moreover, L'Alliance considers that by accepting such contentions, Judge Larivière is removing responsibility from the aggressor and therefore maintaining a system that makes women vulnerable. He has therefore made himself an accomplice of a system that keeps domestic violence alive as a true social evil.

Also, even if the sentence requires that Mr. Lapointe abstain from contacting or being in the physical presence of the victim (except with her previous consent), we consider that such measures are inadequate to properly ensure the victim's security.

The judicial system has proven to us, once again, its lack of effectiveness to prop-

erly make aggressors accountable for their actions in domestic-violence cases.

In a more general perspective, L'Alliance is highly concerned by the tendency to de-judicialize perpetrators of domestic violence crimes.

We would like to reiterate that, according to a report of the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics published in 2015, aggressors convicted of assault in domestic violence cases are likely to receive a lesser sentence than other type of aggressors (19 percent vs. 29 percent). Furthermore, we consider that a brief period of therapy and a small donation to victims' organizations are not close to sufficient to ensure a proper process of accountability for the perpetrator of the crime.

We therefore wait with great hope for the conclusions of the expert committee on support for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, expected to be published in November.

We also place a lot of hope in Bill C-247, which would modify the Criminal Code to include the concept of coercive or controlling conduct, which hence has a high reformative potential in domestic violence cases.

L'ALLIANCE DES MAISONS D'HÉBERGEMENT DE 2E ÉTAPE POUR LES FEMMES ET ENFANTS VICTIMES DE VIOLENCE CONJUGALE

THANKS FOR THE HORSE PHOTOS

Thanks for capturing the rarely seen with a picture of the two police officers riding their horses on Sherbrooke St. (Oc-

tober 20, p. 16). I laughed at the second pic depicting the "seen in passing" droppings left nearby.

As a former race horse rider who occasionally also "felt in need" as I rode deep into the woods: Are You Sure The Horses Were Responsible?

DOUGLAS PRICE, ROSEMOUNT AVE.

Editor's reply: Pretty sure, but not 100-percent certain. I did not handle the material in question, or send it for analysis. – DP.

NOT-SO-HEALTHY TANK NEEDS A HOME

I was very pleased to read the Westmount A-dog-tions column about Tank in the *Independent* of last week (October 27, p. 14).

My dog died in September. I immediately applied to the SPCA Montreal to adopt Tank.

The headline to Lysanne Fowler's piece was "Playing with Tank" above a delightful picture of him holding a frisbee in his mouth, inviting me to play with him.

"He is a very healthy four-year-old, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped. Please note his identification number 45358891 and you can refer to it when you go to the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com and fill out the adoption application for him on the attached link. Once submitted, you will then be contacted within 24 hours for a telephone interview, followed by a visit by appointment at the SPCA."

I had already decided to rename my new pet Sunny Boy. And I was thrilled to get a call from the Montreal SPCA this morning.

But my hopes were soon dashed. Tank has been at the Montreal SPCA for months

and he has special needs.

But I do hope that, for poor Tank's sake, there is someone in the *Westmount Independent's* readership who has more compassion than I could have.

STEPHEN CHIN, SHERBROOKE ST.

THANKS FOR FOX CONTRIBUTIONS, HALLOWE'EN

I wanted to give a special thanks to our Westmount neighbours for supporting my son's effort to raise money for the Terry Fox Run back in September and now for the ingenious candy delivery systems installed in many houses for Hallowe-en.

You allowed us to give our kids a little normal in this crazy year. Thank you.

MARINA CARRICABURU ORTIZ, CLAREMONT AVE.



WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount

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9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Mr. Phoenix

nered and affectionate.

He is healthy fellow, on a specific diet (as is to be expected), and up to date with his inoculations, neutered and micro-chipped.

Please note his identification number 45910946 and you can refer to it when you go to the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com and fill out the adoption application for him on the attached link. Once submitted, you will then be contacted within 24 hours for a telephone interview, followed by a visit by appointment at the SPCA.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne

Phoenix is such a wonderful cat, a gentle senior who spent his life in one home and is now waiting at the Montreal SPCA's cattery for the kindness and love of another family.

These are difficult times for senior pets. Many cats are adopted swiftly as adorable kittens and youngsters, and less often as quiet senior companions.

Phoenix is a handsome grey longhair with stunning green eyes. He is mild-man-



Westmount
A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

Dearest Jack is a devoted friend and wonderful companion. An eight-year-old German shepherd mix, he is a quiet fellow who is affectionate and confident with family and friends. He likes his regular walks and is keen on following his family around in daily activities.

He is very healthy, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped. Jack is available for adoption as soon as possible from the SPCA Montérégie, a no-kill volunteer grassroots animal shelter

Gentle Jack

that you find out about at its website at www.spcamonteregie.com. On their comments section under Jack's profile, you can forward a note showing your interest, presenting a bit about yourself, your dog experience and your contact information.

Adoption visits are organized by appointment only at the moment, hoping that a scenic drive to St. Angèle de Monnoir on a beautiful fall Saturday for a visit would be a moment that could change a family's life with a loving companion!

Your neighbour,
Lysanne

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Continues until Sunday, November 22 at 5 pm

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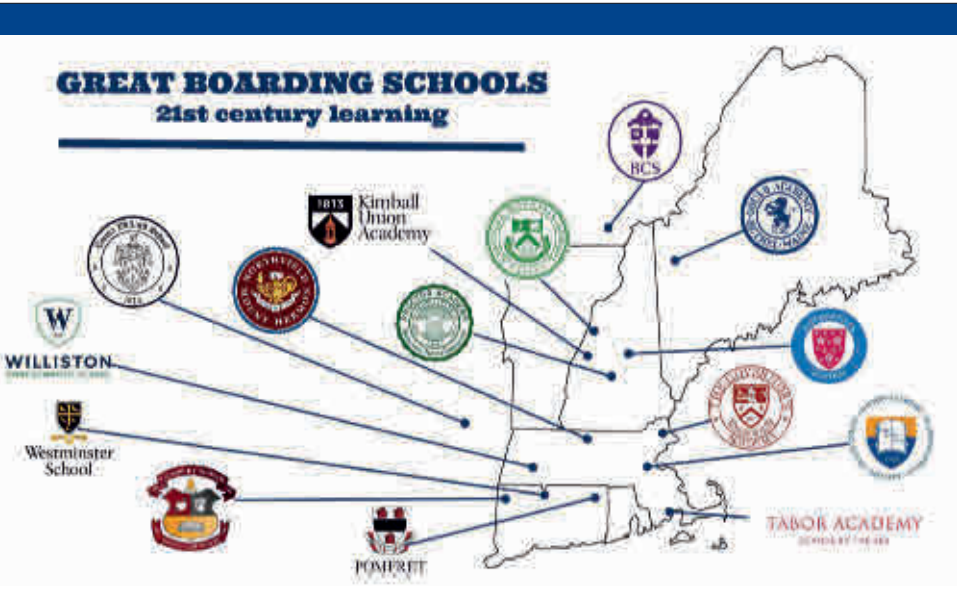
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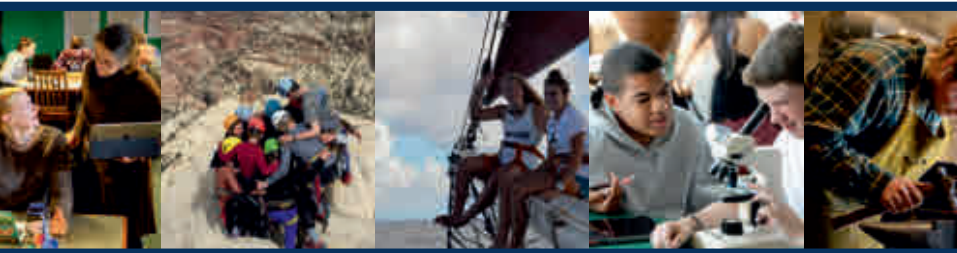
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Join Us!

Montreal Region Virtual Boarding School Fair

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

6:00 - 8:15 PM EST

Please visit the Great Boarding Schools registration page to sign up:
greatboardingschools.org/virtualevents

The Great Boarding School Consortium is excited to meet families from throughout the U.S. and Canada, exploring topics of residential life, co-curricular programming, and the many benefits of the boarding school experience.


Following the presentation, breakout rooms will be provided to meet directly with representatives from each school. Links will be posted at the time of the event.

Learn more about what makes each school unique by visiting greatboardingschools.org.






A tree to notice



This amazing tree is on the south side of The Boulevard between Clarke and Mt. Pleasant? It was photographed on October 23.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



Centre public
de santé
et de services sociaux
de l'Est de Montréal
Québec

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Wednesday, November 4, 2020
6:30 p.m.

Presentation of the 2019-2020 highlights, financial statements of the CIUSSS, information on our general services and question period for the public.

To get the Zoom link for this meeting:

annemarie.belanger.ccomtl@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

The CIUSSS West-Central Montreal network:

- Catherine Booth, Mount Sinai and Richardson Hospitals
- CLSCs Benny Farm, Côte-des-Neiges, Métro, Parc-Extension and René-Cassin
- Donald Berman Jewish Eldercare Centre
- Donald Berman Maimonides Geriatric Centre
- Father Dowd, Henri-Bradet, Saint-Andrew and Saint-Margaret residential centres
- Jewish General Hospital
- Info-Santé/Info-Social
- Lethbridge-Layton-Mackay Rehabilitation Centre
- Miriam Home and Services






PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Clockwise from "12 noon": the northwest, northeast and southeast corners of Roslyn Ave. and Westmount Ave. on October 30. Inset: a similar, but "pre-cutting" view on October 11, courtesy of Dan Lambert.

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Roslyn corner, cont'd. from p. 1

the northeast corner at Roslyn," he explained.

He asked not only that the plants be cut down to eliminate blind spots but that "Public Works take care when selecting plants for parks and planters to avoid creating blind zones which compromise pedestrian and cyclist safety."

"It's a good recommendation to pass on to the Public Works horticultural team," Mayor Christina Smith said.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham, whose commissionership includes parks, pointed

out that this has been a very good growing season "so we left them as long as possible."

Coinciding with the onset of cold evenings, however, Lambert told the *Independent* October 28 that he was pleased to see the plantings had been entirely removed the previous day.

In a second question to the council he also asked for "fast high-quality snow cleaning of sidewalks and paths" this winter, that no-parking be reinstated along Côte St. Antoine, and that the speed limit throughout Westmount be lowered to 30

km/h. This would be consistent with what already exists in many areas such as some hills, the parks and school zones.

At a lower speed, he said, drivers would have more time to react when someone steps off a curb. This is especially important with the many pedestrians walking during the pandemic.

"We share your concerns that pedestrians are safe and plan to improve snow cleaning even more this year," Mayor Smith replied.

Lambert's were the only two questions received for the question period.

Classifieds in the Independent

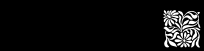
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Remembrance Day

Lest We Forget



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f Jennifer Maccarone, Députée/MNA
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Animal
Kingdom
LYSANNE FOWLER

Sweetest bunnykins ever! Onyx is a munchkin, a beautiful sleek black ball of fur with adorable bright dark eyes and half floppy ears. That busy little nose...

A bundle of joy, on the go while jumping and sniffing everywhere as a curious little fellow should.

He is under a year old and he will be in the family for a long time as they live long lives. He is so healthy and sporting, being up to date with his inoculations and neutered. He is a very clean fellow, litter trained and hutch organized.

His rabbit food is available in pet stores, consider the grass hay that is best, also offering the premixed snacks. He chews to keep his little juvenile teeth filed down, very keen on the chewsticks that are available in packages. So curious with toys, going from one to the other to play games and plan little runs.

This precious Onyx is waiting at the Montreal SPCA for an adoptive family to cuddle with. His identification number is 45887578 and you can refer to it when you

Baby bunny Onyx

go to the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com and fill out the adoption application for him on the attached link.

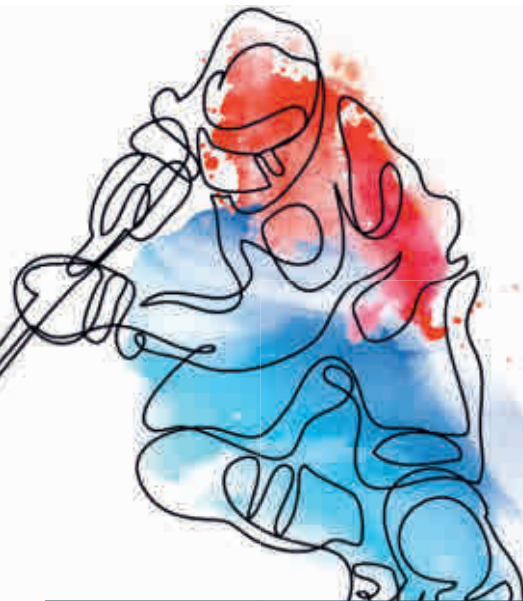
Once submitted, you will then be contacted within 24 hours for a telephone interview, followed by a visit by appointment at the SPCA.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



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6:30 PM



Return to Retail

VERONICA REDGRAVE

"Flore opened exactly 25 years ago," Denis D'Etcheverry, seen at right in front of his Victoria village shop, tells me with his inimitable smile.

"We started from scratch and have moved four times, but always the same side of Sherbrooke St. in Westmount. We have been in this space now for four years. Here, we really feel part of the community." (Very much part of the community, thank you very much. Denis kindly put chairs in front of his boutique so that people could wait for the 24 bus in comfort.)

Co-owner of the much-loved and bountiful L'Atelier Flore, Denis recounts memorable moments: creating florals for a royal wedding in Montreal; an inadvertent meeting with the Queen Mother on her visit here after having sent her (or is it "Her"?) flowers; creating the ambiance at the annual Musée d'art contemporain ball for 12 years, as well as providing the most exquisite petals, often in unique *objets* from the shop, for special occasions everywhere.

One of those moments was this past

25 years of flores

Mother's Day. And, yes, Flore was COVID-closed, but orders were filled via the website and telephone, "so we were frantically busy!"

And no wonder. What's not to love in this tastemaker's elegant haven? Puffy hydrangeas – pale Monet-Giverny-blue as well as purest white – excel beside bouquets of beautiful brights. Classic blue and white ginger jars sat waiting eagerly for an arrangement, as do shimmering silver pieces, not to mention unique glass urn vases.

Flore is renowned not only for their freshest of fresh posies ("I go to buy flowers every morning") but also for their boxed topiaries and preserved roses.

They ship all over the world, the only Montreal florist linked to Brooks Fine Flowers in San Francisco.

Graceful Flore orchids are sourced locally and last forever. (I know.)

On leaving, two large Italian terra cotta pots full of branches caught my eye. *Bellissimo!*

FLORE L'ATELIER
4818 Sherbrooke St.
(at Grosvenor)
flore.qc.ca

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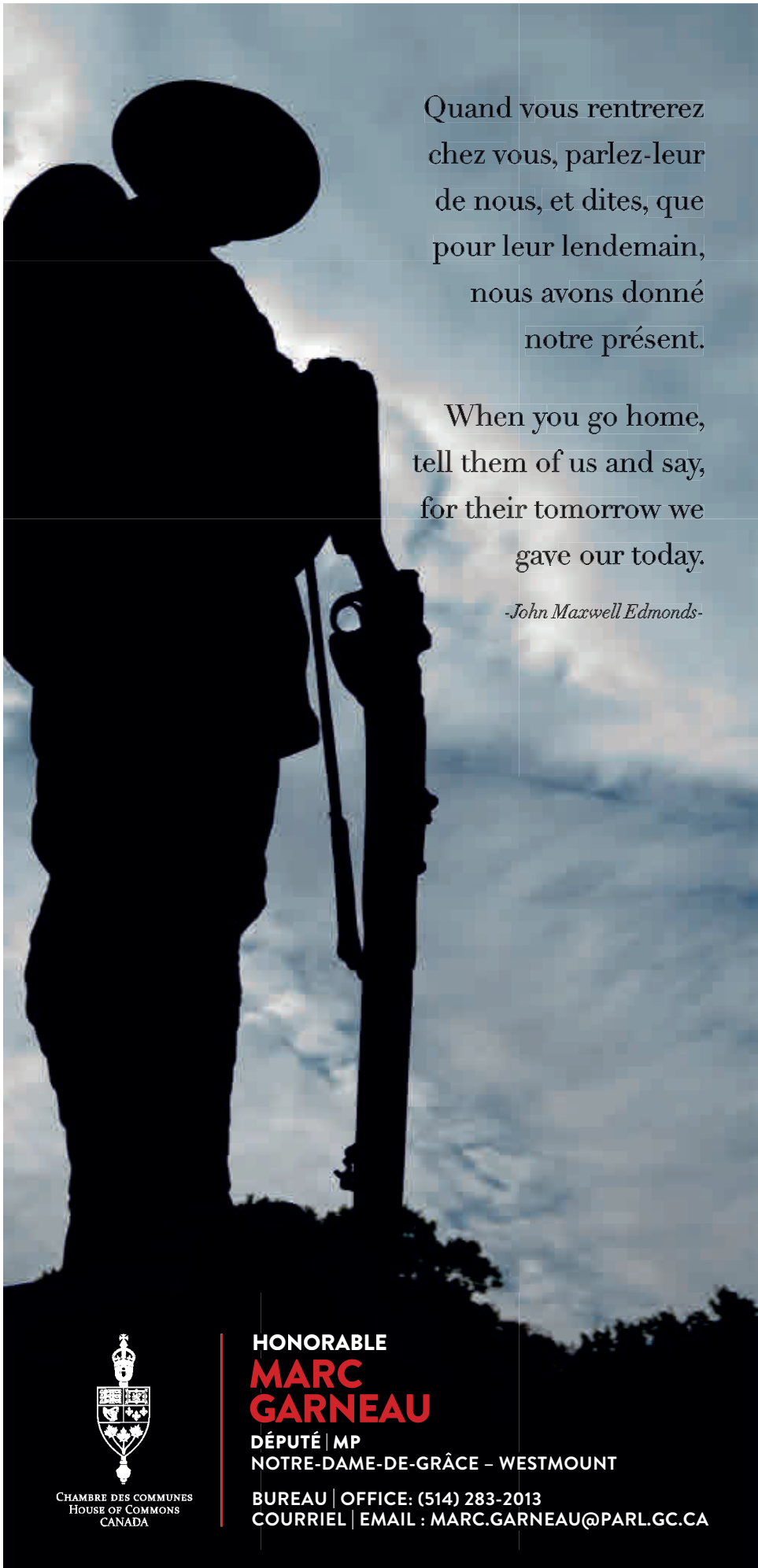


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tell them of us and say,
for their tomorrow we
gave our today.

-John Maxwell Edmonds-



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Two Westmount Park paths finished



October 23: Looking north towards Sherbrooke

The city has finished re-paving the y-forming paths that converge at the bridge in Westmount Park.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.



October 1: Looking south towards de Maisonneuve



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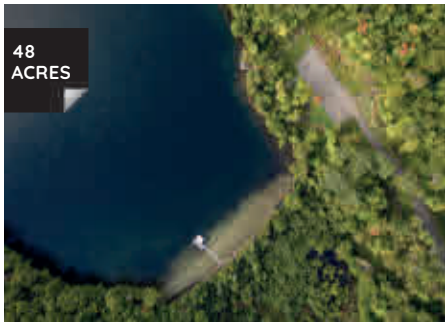
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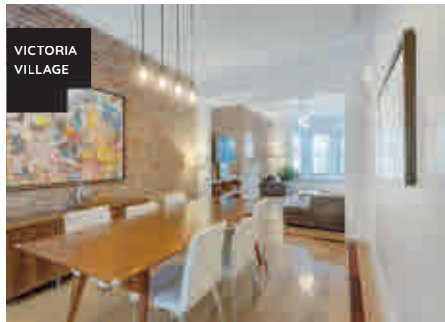
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