

Musicians, face painting, tattoos, doggie photo booths

Weekend street festivals coming up for Greene, Vic village

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Now that summer is kicking off, with Victoria Day just passed and the city's Family Day events to come this weekend, there comes the announcement of two weekend street festivals in the city's commercial districts. One on Greene is slated for June 9 to 11, followed by one in Victoria village from June 16 to 18.

While stores and businesses in Vic vil-

lage will continue a typical street sale with some form of entertainment, this time an event in "Quartier Greene" will focus more on art and entertainment, though both are

planning events under the common umbrella of "community building," said organizer Cynthia Lulham.

Former city councillor Lulham, who has

taken on the role this year as the new general manager of both the east-end and west-end merchant associations, said that both will feature street music, and varying forms of family activities including face painting and tattoo application.

Both are taking place a week apart, "because these are the best two weekends we have," she said. The end of June brings the Jean Baptiste and July 1 holidays "and then in July people start going away."

Details to follow

Though details of each festival will follow in the coming weeks, she said, the Greene event will focus more on an art component with artists out on the street. Greene is to have a doggie photo booth and pet centre, along with musicians centred on "Square Greene" outside Les 5 Saisons.

For Vic village, however, most of the shops will offer sidewalk sales.

St. Matthias turns 150



Clerics, singers and musicians were out in force May 14 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the congregation of St. Matthias' Anglican Church on Church Hill and Côte St. Antoine. Participants included the bishop of Montreal, Mary Irwin-Gibson (back row right); the Reverend Patrick Wheeler (back row left) and the director of music and organist Scott Bradford (second row from back, centre). See p. 15 for story.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

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Philip Surrey 1910-1990, *Gaspé Cabins*
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"La Gaspésie was still primitive, no hotels. We stopped at little wood cabins with a stove for heat and cooking. I made about 40 6 x 8s and later four canvases of which we have kept one. At Percé we rented a cabin right above the beach. Margaret cooked and I painted all day." - Philip Surrey's Autobiographical Notes;

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Public Security leads woman to safety from smoky fire

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A woman was reported to have been assisted to safety May 18 by a passing Public Security official and a parking inspector working nearby. Smoke was coming from the building and an alarm was heard sounding.

The woman who came out of patio doors onto a second-storey balcony of the condo building at 175 Metcalfe informed them she had left a pot on the stove.

The corridor was found to be full of smoke at 11:45 am as officers knocked on doors and escorted residents needing assistance out of the building as the fire department was on the way to ensure the fire was out. They also ventilated the building.

Urgences Santé also attended and Public Security blocked the area for the trucks.

Man in distress on street spotted by city worker

Quick action by a city employee working on traffic lights at St. Catherine St. and Hillside Lane May 16 led to medical assistance for a man appearing in distress at 10:40 am, Public Security officials said.

The worker had been talking to the man whose demeanor suddenly seemed to change. He was described as appearing confused and unwell, leading to the worker initiating a call to Public Security and the subsequent arrival of Urgences Santé.

After an injection, the man “came back” within a minute. Police then took charge. The man was described as a resident of NDG aged about 30.

“This was very good work by the city employee working for Hydro Westmount,” said Public Security director Greg McBain.

See below for more, from the police department's point of view.

Dispatcher notices man needing help at the lookout

A Public Security dispatcher monitor-

ing the city's surveillance camera May 15 at 5:23 pm at the summit lookout noticed someone described as “not looking well.” The dispatcher called for medical assistance for the man.

Upon arrival of officers, a man wearing a bicycle helmet was found sitting on the sidewalk who reported having lost consciousness for a few seconds. A woman on the scene had already called Urgences Santé and the man was monitored until their arrival.

He was identified as a Montreal resident aged 33.

Police Report

Police, Security, Urgences Santé respond to overdose incident

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Despite a drastic increase in opioid overdoses just about everywhere, an overdose incident one morning along St. Catherine St. last week was one of the rare instances in Westmount in recent years requiring a police response, according to a Station 12 spokesperson.

Around 10:30 am on May 16, Montreal police officers were summoned when a 25-year-old man who was walking past Westmount High School was reported to have collapsed on the sidewalk.

A witness who was waiting at a nearby bus stop called 9-1-1. Westmount Public Security arrived shortly afterwards, followed by the police, Urgences Santé and medical emergency first responders from the fire department.

Although Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit couldn't confirm whether it was an opioid overdose, he

said Urgences-Santé administered several doses of the opioid-reversing medication Naloxone, which stabilized the man.

While no charges were filed against the man, the police found he was in possession of paraphernalia used for drug use, according to Yigit.

All the same, “he didn't want to talk to the police officers about what had happened,” said Yigit, adding that the officers presumed the man collapsed as a result of drug abuse.

He was transported by Urgences-Santé to hospital, where his condition was later reported to be stable.

While car theft and burglary incidents are reported far more frequently in the Westmount portion of Station 12's territory, Yigit acknowledged that overdose reports remain rare – even more so in broad daylight and in full public view.

“Normally when people overdose and when they *continued on p. 14*



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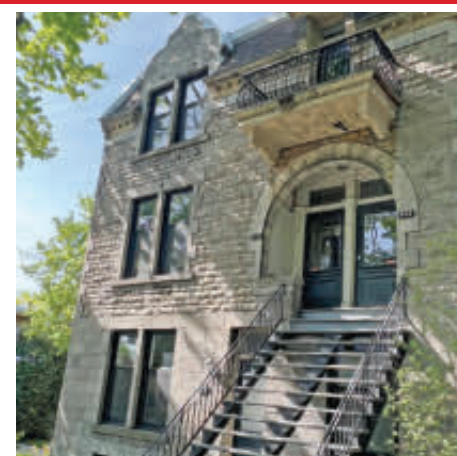
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Fellow, Kellogg College, University of Oxford

**Justin J. Sanders,
MD, MSc, FAAHPM**

**Serious Illness Communication in
Cancer Care: With Whom, About
What, and To What End?**

Kappy and Eric M. Flanders Chair
Director, Palliative Care McGill
Associate Professor, Department of Family
Medicine, McGill University

Antonio Vigano, MD, MSc

**Supportive Cancer Care at the
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Virginia Lee, N., Ph.D.

**Learning to be Still and
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Program and Services,
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Chantal Le Blanc, T.S. MSW M.

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the MUHC Cedars Cancer Centre

Question and Answer Period

[bilingue / bilingual]

First public library in Quebec

Library's 125th celebrations committee named for 2024

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A celebrations committee for next year's 125th anniversary of the Westmount Public Library was adopted by city council May 15 consisting of four of its administrative staff members, the council's library commissioner, Councillor Elisabeth Roux, and four residents.

"There will be a large celebration on the actual birthday of the library, June 20, 2024, but there will be more than the one event throughout the anniversary year, that's for sure," said director Anne-Marie Lacombe.

Donna Lach, assistant director of the library and Community Events, is in charge of the celebrations committee while other staff members are programming

librarian Daniel Miguez de Luca, children's librarian Wendy Wayling, and online services and archives librarian Lora Baiocco.

Chosen as resident members are Caroline Breslaw, a board member of the Westmount Historical Association, as well as Marie-Christine Dufour, Helaine Kliger, and Kathleen Roger. "All have previously been involved in the community or expressed interest in becoming involved in the library," Lacombe said.

Recorded as the first publicly funded library in Quebec, it marked its 100th anniversary in 1999 with yearlong activities and initiatives that included upgrading the computer system, revising its 100-year-old by-law and forming the fund-raising Friends of the Library group.

Ready to go on schedule!

Pool water heating up for pre-season start on May 29

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city's pool has been filled and the water has been heating up to prepare for its pre-season use May 29. As usual, this is the Monday after Family Day, right on the annual schedule.

"Any required pool maintenance or repair has already been done and now it's just a matter of waiting for the water to warm up to 80°F," said Bruce Stacey, facilities manager for the city's Sports and Recreation department.

In advance, however, the first users on May 22, the holiday Monday, were to be the 17 fulltime lifeguards and 10 part-timers. This was the first of their staff meetings and review of safety and life-saving procedures that are to take place throughout the

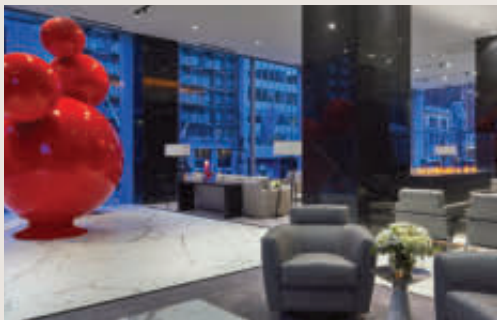
summer on every second Monday, he explained.

"Safety at the pool is our number one priority," he said, adding that all the lifeguards hired have had experience at a municipal pool, most of which have similar procedures to Westmount's.

During the pre-season period from May 29 to June 26, swim times will include those for lap and general swim as well as times set for Dolphins and masters' swimmers. A schedule is expected to be posted this week on the pool's section of the city website.

This timetable will be followed by a new full summer schedule to include lessons. These start June 27 ushering in the regular pool season until August 20.

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City hall, fire, police and schools

Council launches survey into mobility, safety in school zones

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

One of the most congested traffic areas in Westmount is expected to go under the microscope from an independent firm to identify and/or confirm street safety concerns that have been expressed over many years.

Identified in particular in a resolution adopted at the city council meeting May 15 is the configuration of streets near schools around Argyle, Metcalfe, Montrose and Kensington avenues. This area includes city hall, the fire and police stations and four designated schools though others are reported to be involved.

The designated schools are Selwyn House, Akiva, St. Leon and the Montreal International School. But others, Mayor Christina Smith told the *Independent*, include ECS at Mount Pleasant, for which Montrose is considered to be a school route, and some pre-schools. Miss Vicky's, for instance, is on Church Hill.

The contract to undertake “the mobility and safety study with respect to street dimensions” around the four school zones mentioned was given to Intervia Group Inc. This is a firm of civil engineers, whose bid price was \$54,908.46, including tax credits, and a maximum of \$60,131.93 including taxes. This firm was later described as the only bidder of three that was able to undertake the project.

“There have been many complaints (about this area) before my time (on council),” said Councillor Kathleen Kez, commissioner of Public Security, who moved the council resolution.

Mayor Christina Smith added that the exercise was to look at the area with a broader prospective such as “what the potentialities” might be for biking and walking, for example.

Independent assessment

Kez later told the *Independent* the study would provide an independent assessment

of how the streets conform to government requirements around school zones, an item that had been discussed at the city's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), now sometimes called the Mobility Committee.

“What might be involved in converting some to one-way,” she suggested.

She also noted that the area has become particularly difficult and unsafe in the afternoon when drivers pick up students

from school parking and even double parking wherever they can find availability.

As well, while no specific reference was made was to Côte St. Antoine Rd. as it passes through the school zones mentioned, its intersection with Stanton St. was the scene many years ago of an accident involving a fire truck trying to negotiate the sharp turn onto an icy Côte Rd.

A firefighter was injured when thrown off.

Scotiabank intends to have two Westmount branches

BY JENNIFER BALL

There will be two Scotiabank branches in Westmount starting soon.

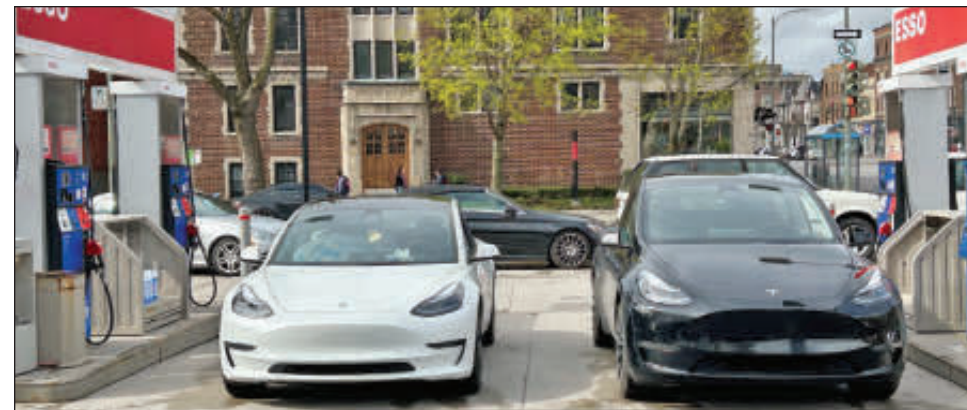
Daniela Da Silva is a senior manager at the Canadian banking communications division for Scotiabank. She confirmed there will be two Westmount locations for Scotiabank: the existing one on Greene Ave., and a branch at 4823 Sherbrooke St., near Grosvenor Ave.

“Our Scotiabank branch at 1326 Greene Ave., Westmount, Quebec has resumed regular operations [after a flood that closed it in early April]. There are no plans to close this branch location....

“Scotiabank can also share that a new branch location will also be opening in Westmount, at 4823 Sherbrooke St. West, Westmount. We will share more details with the community as they become available.”

Gainey to seek federal seat June 19

Anna Gainey won the federal Liberal nomination for NDG-Westmount May 15 (see profile May 2, p. 1). The by-election to replace retiring MP Marc Garneau was also set last week, for Monday, June 19.



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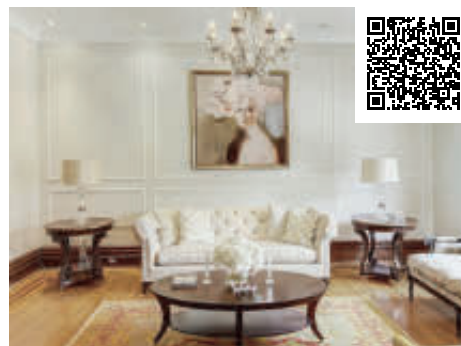
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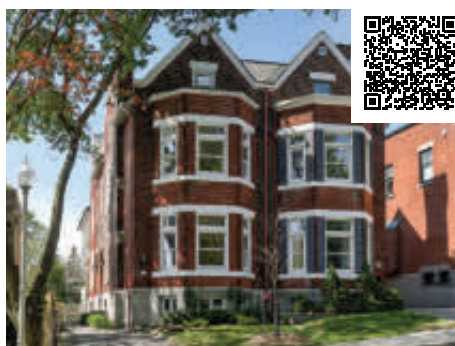
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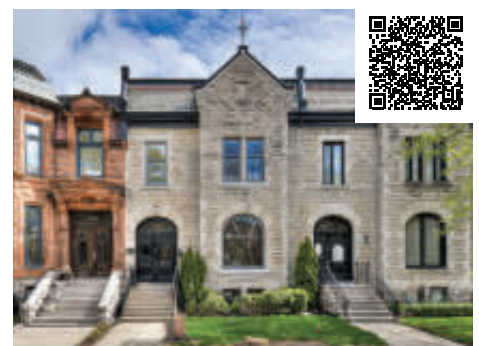
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EDITORIAL

Go, Anthony!

It will not change anything, but I wanted nonetheless to praise Mount Royal MP Anthony Housefather for his lone dissenting vote on Bill C-13.

Anthony: When you are alone, you know you are in good company! But remember that even if the current crop of politicians is against you, much of English and allophone Quebec is with you and we look on your parliamentary colleagues, of all parties, with little love.

The proposed law is the latest in a new series of language provocations from Ottawa and Quebec City, but some campaign operative has decided that it will give some candidates somewhere sometime a small edge, so here we go.

The federal Conservatives/Progressive Conservatives are notorious for throwing Quebec anglos and allos under the bus (Meech, Charlottetown, the Quebec nation vote etc – yes, *we remember*), but the federal Liberals used to be different. Now, they seem to be in a hurry to turn themselves into the betrayal/expediency machine that is the provincial Liberal party, which continues to lose (province-wide) despite its endless double dealing and race to the bottom.

Hurray to Housefather for not joining the stampede.

David Price is the editor of the Independent. He lives in Quebec.

WESTMOUNT DOES NOT OWN THE ARMOURY

I am baffled by readers and writers saying that the city of Westmount owns the armoury. It does not.

The city owns the plot of land that the armoury is built on, and has issued a 99-year lease to the RMR/federal government (for \$1 per year) for the use of the land.

The armoury was funded and built at the behest of former members of the 14th BN CEF, and those previously associated with the 58th Westmount Rifles. Over time, title of the armoury was transferred to the government of Canada, and it is the feds that look after the building's maintenance. Westmount does not.

The city uses the armoury for [some of] its recreation programs. Over the years, the lot has changed in size – with city recreation and parking facilities reducing the size of the leased lot.

Please stop saying that the armoury is being sold to the federal government. It is the land, and only the land, that is being sold. And the city will continue with its use of the facilities.

GEORGES GOHIER, ACADEMY RD.

Editor's reply: It is my understanding that if Westmount had just allowed the land lease run out, it would have acquired the armoury when it took the land back. If this interpretation is correct, Westmount may not have sold *the armoury* (or owned it), but it did sell its right to own the armoury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

in the future – a distinction without a difference, at least in the world of general-interest journalism.

In the same vein, I think that the federal government would have theoretically been within its private-law rights to destroy the armoury and return the land as it was pre-construction, but governments in Canada are not usually that spiteful towards each other and there may have been other issues, including practical, PR and legal ones. For instance, does the federal government need a demolition permit from a municipality to destroy a building?

People with relevant knowledge are invited to write in on the main issue: what happens upon expiration regarding improvements on land in a lease situation like this one? – DP.

How (not) to sell an armoury

Following the May council meeting, I asked the city, under the access to information guidelines, for a copy of the professional assessment(s) of the RMR armoury undertaken by the city over the last three years. The 100-year lease of the armoury expires in 2024. The city supplied only one report by JLL (Jone Lang Lasalle Services Immobiliers, Inc). While this is a professional study, running 123 pages, it raised two concerns.

First, it was commissioned by the Gestionnaire interimarie, Region du Quebec, Services public et Approvisionnement Canada – so it wasn't commissioned by Westmount, but by the federal government, the potential purchaser. And second, the evaluation was for July 2020, almost three years ago, and almost at the lowest point of the pandemic.

Now clearly no prudent property owner would contemplate negotiating the sale of their house based solely on a three-year-old evaluation commissioned by the potential purchaser. Thus, there are two possible explanations. Either there are (A) other assessments that were commissioned by the city, and not released under the access to information guidelines, or (B) there are no such studies, in which case the concept of a "prudent property owner" has to be questioned. Neither (A) nor (B) is acceptable.

JON BRESLAW, GROSVENOR AVE.

FREE PARKING?

In an earlier edition of the *Independent* (May 2, p. 19), you ran pictures of a before-and-after black "freedom convoy" pick-up truck. Here is another truck (blue, this time, see below) along a similar theme, but with an Ontario plate and the messaging is all in English.

I noted this truck because it was blocking the crosswalk, then saw the messaging, and then checked the licence plate.

Will the truck be ticketed?

BILL SMITH, YORK ST.

Editor's additional question: Ticketed for the English signage, or the parking job? – DP.

Pedneault to run federally for Greens

Deputy federal Green Party leader Jonathan Pedneault is the party's candidate for the Monday, June 19 by-election in NDG-Westmount, the *Independent* learned May 19.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount

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The truck on Prince Albert at de Maisonneuve May 12, a day or more after letter writer Bill Smith noticed it. Here, it is parking in the corner no-parking zone.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Another look at King Charles' coronation



Over 200 residents joined city staff, Mayor Christina Smith and Councillor Jeff Shamie for a coronation tea May 6 at the Gallery at Victoria Hall.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WESTMOUNT PUBLIC LIBRARY/COMMUNITY EVENTS.



The Westmount Athletic Grounds on May 7 as a 22-gun salute was fired.

PHOTOS: RALPH THOMPSON.

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Sherbrooke St. on March 20.



From left, York St. March 15 and Sherbrooke St. March 16.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

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Contractor without permit gets \$1,317 ticket on St. Antoine St.

As if ongoing construction work by Montreal narrowing traffic to one lane on St. Antoine St. was not enough. A dump truck and small excavator were found working and double parked in the same area May 17 at 7:38 am, Public Security officials said. No permit had been issued for the equipment to occupy the public domain, for which a ticket for \$1,317 was issued.

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Overheard

First woman to second woman: “She wanted to burn it.”
Second woman: “Give me a lobotomy, so that I can forget that I was ever there.”
– The Boulevard at Roslyn, May 9 around 8:15 am

High school boy to his friends: “I don’t care. I am not being mean. I am being truthful.”
– Greene Ave. near entrance to Westmount Square, May 12 around 8:15 am

Young man to young man: “I am going to get a crazy-ass [motions across his torso, perhaps meaning a shirt or jacket] and then you are going to get a picture of me.”
– near Metro parking lot on Victoria Ave., May 12 around 3:45 pm

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Performers bring Polak's novel to life at library

Actors Holly Gauthier-Frankel and Eric Davis, accompanied by cellist Myëlle, “performed a dramatic reading” April 26 of excerpts from the novel *What World Is Left* by Montreal author Monique Polak, according to Westmount Public Library programming and outreach librarian Daniel

Miguez de Luca.

"The dramatic performance brought to life the story of the fictional Anneke Van Raalte and her family, who were imprisoned in the Theresienstadt concentration camp during World War II."

Miguez de Luca estimated the crowd at

70 people.

The event was held in collaboration with *À voix haute: le livre en scène*.

Following the reading, “Polak gave an engaging and moving talk about her novel, which is based on her mother’s real-life Holocaust story.

▲ From left, cellist Myëlle, actors Holly Gauthier-Frankel and Eric Davis, and novelist Monique Polak. PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTMOUNT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

“As Polak recounted, her mother didn’t share her experiences at Theresienstadt until late in her life.

“When she finally began to share her memories, Polak wrote *What World Is Left*, filling in certain details, but staying true to her mother’s story.”

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Annabelle, Matis Duffar-Calder raise \$7k – almost double goal

HEROS sports non-profit benefits from twins' fundraiser at LCC



Matis and Annabelle Duffar-Calder at the LCC arena in NDG on May 12.

By JENNIFER BALL

The 23-year-old HEROS sports non-profit will get to help seven kids throughout the upcoming hockey season after Westmount teen twins Annabelle and Matis Duffar-Calder raised over \$7,000 for their sport expenses.

Annabelle and Matis organized a fundraiser at Lower Canada College (LCC) on 4025 Royal Ave. in NDG on May 12.

Their goal was to raise \$4,000 by hosting a charity 3-on-3, round-robin style hockey tournament.

While the middle school “PIGS” won their division, the twins’ father, Thane Calder, said: “Perhaps the real story here is everyone won with a lot of fun to cap off the hockey year as many will be graduating and more importantly HEROS won!”

Since launching in 2000, HEROS has grown to 29 programs in 11 cities across Canada. They have provided over 15,000 youth with personal growth opportunities through sport training, educational development and bursaries, guiding them to become constructive citizens and future community leaders.

Josh Delves heads up donations and

sponsorship for the charity. “So, whether they are facing significant financial or social barriers in their life that keep them away from the game, we always ensure that they have the equipment, the rides to and from the rink, healthy snacks and the crucial mentorship that hockey provides. This is so that they can build life skills and they can grow on and off the ice...”

“This event here will give us a huge springboard to develop our program here in Montreal. We have been here in Montreal since 2020 but unfortunately – like every other Canadian charity – we struggled through the pandemic and the last few years have been very difficult for us to get this chapter up and running again.”

For kids facing ‘financial, social barriers’ to hockey

Canadians tend to have winter sports, skating and hockey in their DNA but not everyone realizes how much pressure is on parents when their kids are in these high-demand sports if they are struggling financially, he said.

“With gas prices the way that they are, if you live in a ‘one car’ or ‘no car’ family, transportation to the arena becomes an

Please Sign Our Petition To:
Encourage the Provincial Government to Combat the Threat of "Date Rape Drugs"

To sign our petition in a matter of seconds:

1. Scan the QR code below with your phone camera to access the petition or visit @GenderEqualityMcGill on Instagram and click the link in our bio
2. Fill out the required information to sign
3. Confirm your signature by clicking the link sent to your email

This petition is presented by the McGill Collective for Gender Equality and is endorsed by Westmount—Saint-Louis' MNA, Jennifer Maccarone

We are calling on the government to:

- educate the youth about date rape drugs;
- ease access to drug screenings in suspected cases of involuntary date rape drug intoxication;
- ensure the distribution of free testing kits.

McGill Collective for GENDER EQUALITY

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Josh Delves at the LCC arena on May 12.

even bigger barrier to overcome. We really strive to remove that. We want to see people enjoying the game of hockey and getting all the benefits that it has to offer.”

The fundraiser that they organized was a 3-on-3 hockey tournament, Matis said. “From 3 pm to 5 pm, the middle school played and there were four teams in total...”

“Running time was 15 minutes per game and it was a round robin. From 5 pm to 8:30 pm, the senior school teams played.”

Matis is a very committed hockey player at LCC while his sister’s main sport is horseback riding. Tennis and soccer are also competitive passions for the siblings.

Annabelle: ‘fortunate to play so many sports’

They decided to fundraise for HEROS

because “we know that we are so fortunate to play so many sports at this school, especially hockey, that we felt like it was time to give back to the community,” Annabelle said.

“We heard about HEROS helping kids play hockey who have mental disabilities, and physical disabilities, so we found that this foundation could really help especially since they want to help kids in Montreal. We felt that it was a great cause.”

Their original goal was to raise \$4,000 but by the end of the campaign they had raised \$7,275. “1,000 dollars are enough for one kid to play hockey for a whole year. That is taking into account equipment, transportation, coaches, skate sharpening, etc. So, \$7,275 will be enough for seven kids to play a season of hockey,” Matis summarized.

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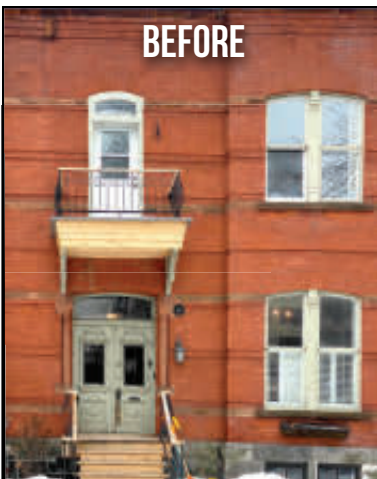
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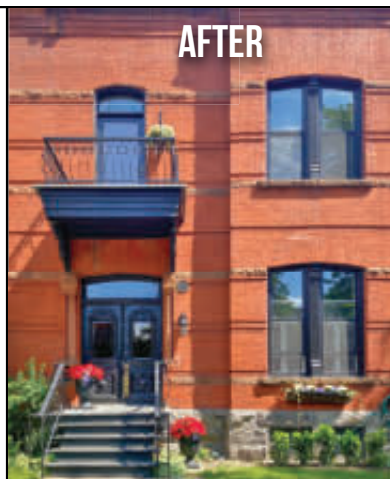
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NOUVELLES

PROCHAINE SÉANCE
DU CONSEIL

Lundi 5 juin

NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING

Monday, June 5



Taxes foncières : date limite pour le 2^e versement le 26 mai
Les paiements sont acceptés par la poste, par voie électronique ou en personne. Veuillez noter que l'horaire d'été est en vigueur et l'hôtel de ville fermera à 13 h le vendredi 26 mai. westmount.org



Property taxes: deadline for the 2nd intallment is May 26
Payments are accepted by mail, by electronic transfer or in person. Please note that the summer office schedule is in effect and City Hall will close at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 26. westmount.org

Horaire d'été en vigueur
Du 23 mai au 25 août, les bureaux municipaux de Westmount seront ouverts du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h.

Fin de la collecte spéciale de branches et reprise de la collecte de résidus verts
La collecte spéciale pour ramasser les dégâts de la tempête de verglas est terminé et nous vous prions d'inclure vos petites branches à la collecte de résidus de jardin. Placez-les en bordure de rue avant 7 h le jour de votre collecte (max. 1 m de long et 5 cm de diamètre, attachées en paquets avec de la ficelle naturelle). Les horaires des collectes sont affichés à westmount.org.

Route 136 en direction est : fermeture de longue durée de la sortie n° 3
En raison de travaux de réparation des structures, la sortie n° 3 (centre-ville/rue Guy) de la route 136 en direction est est fermée jusqu'à la fin de l'automne 2023.

Dépôt Belvédère : horaire modifié
Le dépôt pour les résidus de jardin sera ouvert aux entrepreneurs détenant un permis de la Ville du lundi au jeudi de 7 h 30 à 16 h et le vendredi de 7 h 30 à 11 h.

Activités de sports et de loisirs
Inscrivez-vous maintenant pour les activités d'été. Consultez le guide à westmount.org.

Summer schedule in effect
From May 23 to August 25, Westmount's municipal offices will be open Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

End of special branch collection and resumption of yard waste collection
The special collection to clean up ice storm debris has ended and we ask that you include small branches with the garden waste collection. Place them at the curbside by 7 a.m. on your collection day (max. 1 m long and 5 cm in diameter, tied in bundles with natural twine). The collection schedules are posted at westmount.org.

Eastbound Route 136: long-term closure of exit no. 3
Due to repair work on the elevated structures, exit no. 3 (downtown/Rue Guy) of eastbound Route 136 is closed until late fall 2023.

Belvedere depot: modified schedule
The garden waste depot will be open to contractors with a City permit Monday to Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Sports and recreation activities
Sign up now for summer activities. Consult the activity guide at westmount.org.

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Bibliothèque de semences
Empruntez des semences en présentant votre carte de bibliothèque au comptoir du prêt. Consultez l'inventaire à westlib.org

Bibliothèque : travaux en cours
Pendant les travaux de réparation, veuillez utiliser l'entrée du parc Westmount ou l'entrée accessible via le Conservatoire.

46^e Journée familiale le 27 mai
Samedi 27 mai, 10 h à 16 h, parc Westmount. Fêtez l'arrivée de l'été avec des activités et des jeux tout au long de la journée. **Événement zéro-déchet** : n'oubliez pas d'apporter votre bouteille d'eau, vos ustensils et vos contenants réutilisables.

Ciné-club — *The Duke* (2020)
Mardi 30 mai, 14 h, Victoria Hall. Inscrivez-vous à westmount.org.

Vente de livres des Amis de la Bibliothèque
Samedi et dimanche 3 et 4 juin, 10 h à 16 h, Victoria Hall. Dénichez des livres d'occasion de qualité à des prix intéressants.

Lecture spéciale : Mitali Banerjee Ruths
Samedi 10 juin, 11 h, Victoria Hall. Viens rencontrer l'auteure montréalaise Mitali Banerjee Ruths et assister à une lecture spéciale de son nouveau livre *Starry Henna Night*. Inscris-toi à westlib.org.

Club de films documentaires — mois national de l'histoire autochtone
Mercredi 14 juin, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *Mary Two-Axe Earley: I am Indian Again* (2021); *Bill Reid Remembers* (2021); *Now Is the Time* (2019). En anglais. Inscrivez-vous à westlib.org.

LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Seed Lending Library
Check out vegetable, herb and flower seeds using your Library card. See the list at westlib.org.

Library: repair work underway
During the work, please use the Westmount Park entrance, or the fully accessible entrance via the Conservatory.

46th Family Day on May 27
Saturday, May 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Westmount Park. Celebrate the start of summer with games and activities throughout the day. **Zero-waste event**: don't forget to bring your reusable water bottle, food containers and utensils.

Film Club — *The Duke* (2020)
Tuesday, May 30, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. Register at westmount.org

Friends of the Library Book Sale
Saturday and Sunday, June 3 & 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Victoria Hall. Find quality used books at great prices.



Special Reading: Mitali Banerjee Ruths
Saturday, June 10, 11 a.m., Victoria Hall. Come meet this Montreal author Mitali Banerjee Ruths for a special reading of her new book *Starry Henna Night*. Register at westlib.org.

Documentary Film Club — National Indigenous History Month
Wednesday, June 14, 7 p.m., Library. *Mary Two-Axe Earley: I am Indian Again* (2021); *Bill Reid Remembers* (2021); *Now Is the Time* (2019). Register at westlib.org.

Grosvenor work begins



Grosvenor from Westmount Ave. to The Boulevard is only open to local traffic as work to re-do the street begins, as seen May 12. It is expected to take about five months. The contract for \$4.7 million was awarded April 17 (April 25, p. 5).

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Mount Pleasant work begins



Mount Pleasant is being re-done from Sherbrooke to Rosemount Crescent, as seen May 17. The contract for \$3.4 million was awarded April 17 (April 18, p. 5).

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Weredale Park tunnel gone



The tunnel to protect vehicles from potential falling masonry at Weredale Park road and Dorchester is gone, as seen on May 16. The city's contractor is repairing the house at the owner's expense (see April 25, p. 4). The tunnel had been there since June 2020 and operational since January 2021 (see January 19, 2021, p. 4). The dispute about the house's maintenance dates back to at least 2019 (see February 19, 2019, p. 1).

PHOTO COURTESY OF JIM RICHARDS.



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LYSANNE FOWLER

At only one year of age, young Diane will be so happy in a family from our neighbourhood where she will have an active and companionable life. With her contrasting coat of tan, fawn and black, this shepherd type is presently at the Montreal SPCA kennel, ready for adoption.

She is a bit shy, a bit not-so-sure, showing that she has some catching up to do, as some larger dogs need routine exercise and socialization in the first months but only get it later when in a more experienced family.

Diane is very healthy, up to date with her inoculations, spayed and microchipped. She is a beauty, most regal and sweet. She is still more of an older puppy than an adult, with the emphasis on her being the only pet in the family for more attention at this stage. For more information on Diane, please search the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com, refer to her

Police, cont'd from p. 3

do drugs, they tend to look for places that are a little more isolated,” he said.

Another upper Westmount burglary, using a ladder

Adding to an ongoing string of break-in incidents around upper Westmount, there was yet another burglary last week in the area – this time at a home near the corner of The Boulevard and Renfrew Ave.

Sometime between 12 noon and 10:30 pm on May 12, the perpetrators took advantage of a security weakness the owners failed to take into account: a ladder they had left outdoors.

“The suspects climbed the ladder to the second floor, they broke the bathroom window and from there they had access to the inside,” said Yigit, adding that once inside,

Elegant Diane



information page from her identification number, 52337494, then click on the red “opening hours” window to choose your day of visit at the shelter, when you will meet with Diane and adoption coordinators. The Montreal SPCA is located at 5215 Jean Talon St. West, Montreal H4P 1X4. It is open every day as of 10 am for visits and adoptions.

Your neighbour, Lysanne

they made a thorough search of the home’s interior.

Apart from equipping a home with a burglar alarm system, one of the more basic rules of home security is that you don’t leave ladders outside in the open.

But if you must, Cst. Yigit suggested, it would be important to at least secure it, either with a padlock and a chain tethered to a fixed object, or simply by storing the ladder in a shed or a garage.

And he drew attention to another common error home owners make: they focus on the security of ground floor windows, while neglecting the upper storeys.

“Most people secure the bottom windows, assuming no one will climb up,” he said. “But if there is a ladder lying around, they will take advantage of that opportunity.”



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

As a most loving and serene presence, Yoki is waiting for a new family at the Montreal SPCA cattery. Yoki is a stunning white domestic longhair, with such bright gold-tone eyes, and all-pink nose and toes!

He is five years old, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped.

Please go to the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com, then scroll to Yoki’s information page from his identification number, 52607228, and check on the red words “opening hours” to plan your visit to the shelter, which opens at 10 am every morning, seven days a week. Please bring a carrier for your meeting with the adoption coordinators. If you would like to purchase one, they are available at the accessories boutique onsite.

Please support neo-natal foster program

How I remember one February afternoon when I was a student finding an ever-so-tiny tortoiseshell kitten in the snow after school. The kitten had just been dropped from a pocket and left freezing in a driveway – then into this young student’s pocket and heart forever more.

The story of Kumquat “The Fighter,” which you can read on the SPCA website at www.sPCA.com, shares a similar moment when tiny fragile Kumquat was found in a parking lot in February by a good Samaritan and brought immediately to the SPCA for emergency care and neo-natal fostering.

Yes, the SPCA has specially trained and supplied neo-natal foster families who bring these kittens through healthy and loving growth to the stage when they are ready for a forever family. Please donate to this most worthy program at this time of year when so many kittens will be in need of shelter and care.

Your neighbour, Lysanne

Precious Yoki



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St. Matthias turns 150 with music, ceremony



Brian Davies (choir and parish executive member) leads the choir in a procession up the aisle singing the Processional Hymn (300 v 1, 3, 4, 5) with the magnificent Karl Wilhelm organ in the background. Director of music and organist Scott Bradford leads the accompanying music.

BY RALPH THOMPSON

St. Matthias' Anglican Church, located at Côte St. Antoine Rd. and Church Hill celebrated its 150th anniversary May 14.

The bishop of Montreal, Mary Irwin-Gibson, welcomed the congregation to the auspicious occasion along with the rector,

the Reverend Patrick Wheeler.

The congregation was greeted on arrival by the choir, trumpets and timpani under the direction of director of music and organist Scott Bradford, who played the superlative 1973 Karl Wilhelm organ (which replaced the 1950s-era Casavant organ).

As all local churches struggle with ris-

ing costs and declining support, the Rev. Wheeler is optimistic and embracing change. "We are maintaining the tradition and looking forward to the future. We worship with ancient and contemporary liturgies," he said. "Our services can be followed on Zoom. We are mentoring young musicians. We are worshiping beautiful. Our parishioners have a willingness to continue."

First service at YMCA

Just over 150 years ago, the first service was held in April 1873 by the Côte St. Antoine mission of St. George's Church. The current building was constructed on donated land between 1910 and 1913. Today, the church supports nine community organizations directly and hosts the oldest Meals on Wheels program in Quebec, for which over 150 volunteers contribute over 6,000 hours of their time.

The church has a detailed plan to maintain its infrastructure, from the kneelers and candles to the roof and masonry – no mean feat for the large 113-year-old stone structure.

The church looks forward to another 150 years with a strong sense of "who we are and where we are called to go." The service was followed by a catered lunch. Notable participants at the event included former MP Marc Garneau, his wife Pamela Soame, former mayor Peter Trent and city councillor Elisabeth Roux.

Indie makes it to Athens



Former Westmounter Frank Denis and his wife Christine Chantegreil passed through Montreal last week on their way from Halifax to Athens, Greece and were given last week's issue of the *Independent* by his parents, longtime Westmounters Peter and Loy Denis. He is pictured reading his copy "in the shadow of the acropolis," to use his poetic turn of phrase.

PHOTO BY C. CHANTEGREIL

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MUHC names oncology ward for Lutfy

An important unit of the McGill University Health Centre has a new name: The Andrew J. Lutfy and Family Cedars Oncology Inpatient Unit. The tenth-floor unit was officially re-named May 3 in recognition of the Lutfys’ \$3.6-million donation to the Cedars Cancer Foundation. The 36-bed ward is for cancer patients who are recovering from surgery.

“The financial support of the Cedars Cancer Foundation and of donors like Mr. Lutfy and his family were critical to the building of this hospital and are vital to our Cancer Care Mission,” Dr. Armen Aprikian, chief of the MUHC’s Cancer Care Mission, was quoted as saying in a press release the same day.

“This is a story for us all, about the power of channeling the grief that arises from tragic loss. Over 50 years ago, my grandfather lost his 29-year-old son to what was just starting to be understood as cancer. The trauma and energy from that loss has manifested into what is today known as the Cedars Cancer Centre, which saves



From left, Lauren Mezzaluna, Marisa Mezzaluna, Alex Lutfy, Donna Lutfy, Bernard Rabot, Nadine Chamandy, George Lutfy, Andrew Lutfy, Melanie Cosgrove, Bram Paperman, Jessica Lutfy and Camille Tremblay.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AVENUE COMMUNICATIONS.

thousands of Montrealers’ lives each and every year,” said Andrew Lutfy.

“Andrew has been supporting Cedars,

which his grandfather Joe Chamandy founded in 1966, since his youth. We’re extremely grateful for his dedication and

generosity,” said Cedars Cancer Foundation CEO, Jeff Shamie, who is also a Westmount city councillor.

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Westmounters born to mother duck



As seen near Melville and St. Catherine May 18.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM BEITEL.

Rollerskaters ‘fill the plate’ for Chai Lifeline, Bread & Beyond

Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Que la fête commence! Actually that should be plural. All sorts of *fêtes* – evenings, galas and fundraisers – have raised their happy heads this social season.

One of the most fun – and certainly

most relaxed – was the recent Nellie Foundation’s “Rollerskate to fill the Plate” event. Guests dusted off their leg warmers, glittered up their faces and unleashed their inner 1980s kid.

The event was to raise funds for Chai Lifeline’s food security program and Bread & Beyond, which provides food for the unhoused. The theme was a hit and 100 tickets were *continued on p. 18*



Carrie Mazoff, Julie Kristof, Beth Tannenbaum, David Lisbona and Melissa Margles.



Susie Roper, Paige Mazoff, Maya Arab-Makansi and Clemence Marceau.



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Ashley Malet, Heather Leckner and Jen Gardos.



Angela Lehrer, Carrie Mazoff and Perry Shak.



Monies raised!

Social notes, cont'd from p. 17
sold, raising \$7,200 net.
Free food was offered by generous sponsors Sushi Shop, Le Fournil, Fressers, Pasta Casareccia, TCBY, IGA Lipari, Ser-vomax, Beso and Kosher Quality.

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Hard-working committee members were **Beth Tannenbaum, Melissa Margles, Julie Kristof** and Nellie Philanthropy Foundation’s founder **David Lisbona and Carrie Mazoff**, who spearheaded the event.
“This donation enables us to be able to provide grocery boxes for people moving out of homelessness and youth transitioning out of care. We can provide sandwiches for over 3,000 people as well as ‘starter kit’ grocery boxes for 100 people,” said **Kirstie Jagoe**, founding director of Bread & Beyond.
Chai Lifeline Montreal provides critical care and services to families of children or parents with cancers and complex chronic diseases. Chai Lifeline also provides funding for food security in the form of grocery vouchers and financial support when family food needs become a difficult burden. As it is said, pictures are worth a thousand words – no more words. Just the happy pictures.

Mea culpa: Galerie Blanche, take 2

In my May 2 column, “Galerie Blanche on Greene makes it official” (p. 25), I misspelled the last names of Rose-Aimée Bélanger and Jean Bélanger.
We also switched two captions. They should have been:

As a result of the caption error, I neglected to praise Elle Belz for her wonderful pink jacket, perfect for spring.
I apologize. – VR.



Manon Lemire, Lyne St-Amant and Brigit Bujnowski.



Pascale Pratte, Elle Belz and Ramona Nordal.

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Medal of Sacrifice awarded to Afghanistan veteran Beaudry

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The Royal Montreal Regiment's St. Catherine St. armoury was the venue on April 30 for a ceremony during which the Medal of Sacrifice was awarded to retired 2nd Lieutenant Ivan Beaudry for injuries he sustained while serving overseas in the Canadian Forces.

Lieut. Beaudry was a member of the 34th Signals Regiment, whose home base is in the armoury building. The Medal of Sacrifice is the Canadian equivalent of the Purple Heart in the US.

"This is an important ceremony for Ivan Beaudry," retired Major Charles de Kovachich explained to the *Independent* prior to the ceremony. He is president of the Trail Foundation, which offers transition support to Canadian veterans.

He said Canadian Forces special events, such as the awarding of a decoration, "help a veteran close the book on their military service and then move on."

Lieut. Beaudry, a West Island resident, served in 2007 and 2008 in Afghanistan where he was seriously injured when a Canadian Forces convoy was ambushed. A rocket-propelled grenade hit the lead vehicle. After they returned fire and dis-



Canadian Forces Brigadier-General Patrick Robichaud pins the Medal of Sacrifice on retired 2nd Lieutenant Ivan Beaudry during a ceremony held at the Royal Montreal Regiment's St. Catherine St. armoury on April 30.

mounted, an additional Taliban attack took place with blasts and explosions.

As a result, he said, Beaudry ended up developing a cognitive auditory focus injury caused by blast exposure, irreparable inner ear damage, and post-traumatic stress with recurring nightmares involving injuries.

Like some other retired or currently active Canadian Forces personnel who delivered remarks after the medal presentation, Lieut. Beaudry feels that Canadians tend to undervalue their soldiers, especially those who served in more recent military engagements.

"When we think about war, we think about World War I, World War II. We think about Korea," he said.

"They don't necessarily realize that Canadians were involved in a lot of hostile environments, like in the Balkans, in Rwanda, in Haiti and Afghanistan. It's as if the public sentiment is that, 'yes, we're proud of our troops and send them overseas, but then we don't really want to know what happens after that.'

"I think at the end of the day, there needs to be a shift to let Canadians know of the sacrifices their veterans or current soldiers made."

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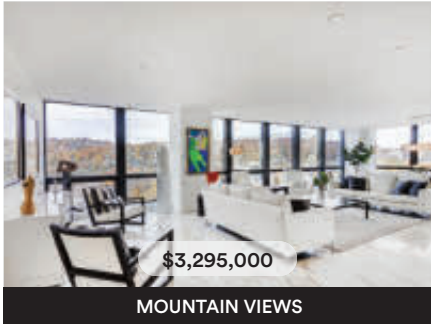
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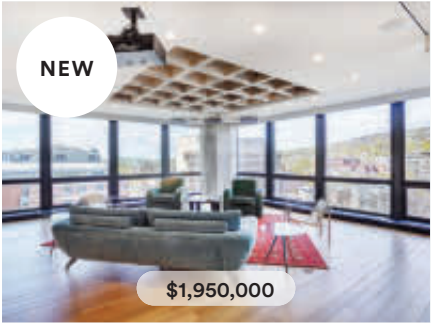
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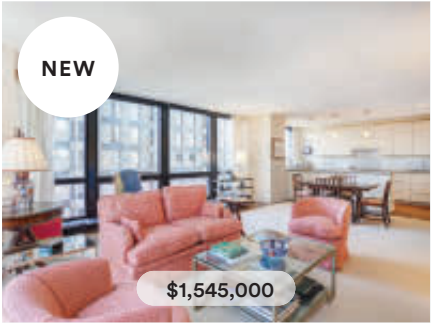
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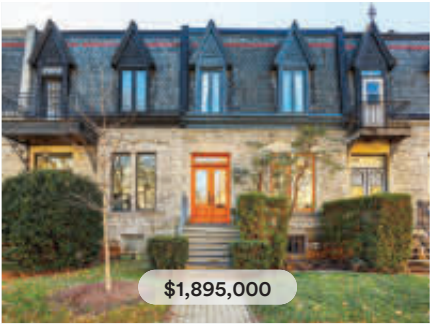
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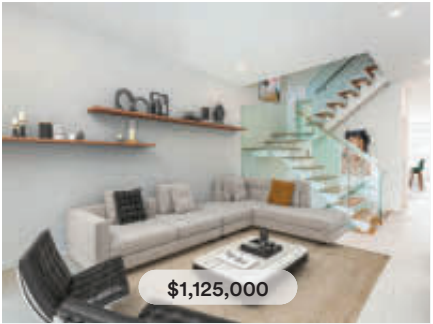
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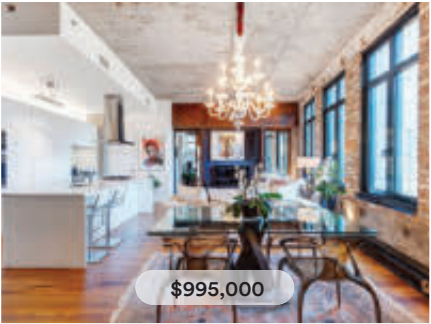
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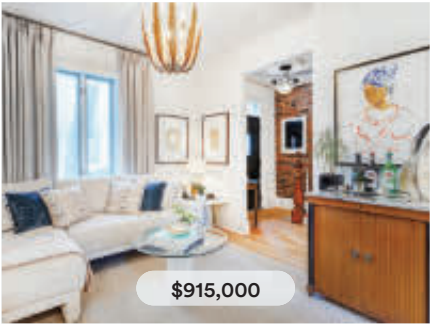
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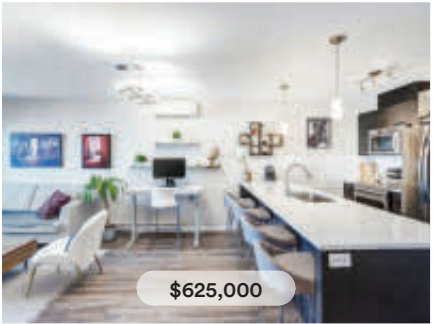
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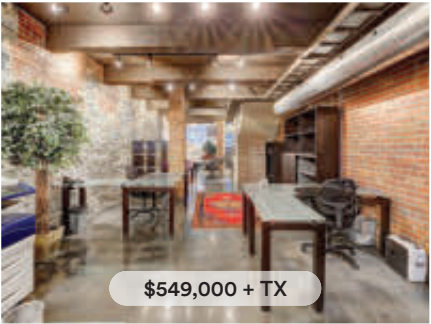
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