

Miss Vicky's pre-school to close

Selwyn, St. Matthias working on sale of church for school's grade 12

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

There are still many hoops to go through, but a long-range plan for the proposed purchase of St. Matthias' Church by Selwyn House for its new grade 12 program was confirmed to the *Independent* last week by officials from both.

Fuelled by the upcoming closing in June of Miss Vicky's pre-school at the church, the plan would allow for expansion of Selwyn House's campus while preserving the sanctuary for the 150-year-old congregation's services and community outreach work.

"It's a win-win situation," said school headmaster Mike Downey, a sentiment reiterated by church rector Rev. Patrick Wheeler: "It's very, very exciting," he said. "Our goal is to be around for a long time to serve the community."

Meanwhile, interior renovations at the school's existing campus would allow for the launch of the new grade 12 program this fall for the 2023-2024 school year.

The plan is also the result of a decision by Victoria Naday, owner and founder of Miss Vicky's pre-school, to close after some 30 years at St. Matthias (see story, p. 8).

Selwyn House, which last fall announced its "pre-university" program, also launched a related grade 12 fund "to support the purchase of a new facility, renovate a dedicated space on campus until the new facility

continued on p. 8

Elliott awarded 'Silver Acorn' by Scouts



Longtime Scouting volunteer and Westmounter Virginia Elliott, centre, was awarded the Silver Acorn by Scouts Canada May 21 at the summit lookout by new Scouting CEO Liam Burns, left, and Justin Chenier, right, the movement's national youth commissioner. It is the top service award from Scouts Canada.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DOUGLAS LEAHEY.

**City's blue collars to strike
June 1 to 7, see p. 6**

JOSEPH MAROVITCH

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL BROKER

100% GOLD CLUB AWARD 2022



I SELL/BUY/LEASE WITH EXPERIENCE & KNOWLEDGE
NO MATTER THE ISSUE, I GET THE JOB DONE!

josephmarovitchrealestate.com

514-825-8771

REMAX ACTION INC - WESTMOUNT

Includes Pilates, dog grooming, Shakespeare's fairies

Greene festival to include street music, magician, artists

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A number of attractions were announced last week for the upcoming street festival to be featured by Quartier Greene merchants Friday through Sunday, June 9 to 11.

These include a focus on Westmount artists on the street and inside several galleries as well as a children's fun zone, street music, sidewalk magician Chris Barillo, a

doggie photo booth and a mobile dog grooming van on Sunday offering free nail clipping along with doggie treats.

The Westmount YMCA will host low impact Pilates and yoga in the Greene parking lot at 11:30 am Saturday while a line-up of musicians throughout the area and in Square Greene is to include opera, jazz, pop and soul. A children's zone will feature face

continued on p. 8

WESTMOUNT Commercial unit for sale



No. 1 Wood Ave.
Immediate Occupancy/ Motivated Vendor
Centris #11123755 for more info
Antonios Xipoleas, 514 770-9476
Residential & Commercial Real Estate Broker Groupe Sutton-Centre Ouest

4000 JEAN-TALON WEST MONTREAL / LUCIANICADILLAC.COM

The Hale Investment Group at Wellington-Altus Private Wealth



REPORT ON BUSINESS 2021 SHOOK
CANADA'S TOP WEALTH ADVISORS

Led by one of Canada's Top Wealth Advisors, Simon Hale, the Hale Investment Group is proud to have joined Canada's #1 Rated Investment Advisory Company*.

Founded in 2017, Wellington-Altus Private Wealth Inc. (Wellington-Altus) is the top-rated* wealth advisory company in Canada and one of Canada's Best Managed Companies. With more than \$20 billion in assets under administration and offices across the country, Wellington-Altus is now serving high-net-worth clients and their families from its new state-of-the-art office in the heart of Montréal's downtown core.

**Investment Executive 2022 Brokerage Report Card.*

Hale Investment Group

Wellington-Altus Private Wealth

IBM Marathon Building
1250 René-Lévesque Boulevard West, Suite 4200
Montréal, QC H3B 4W8
Office: 514.819.0045

For more information visit haleinvestmentgroup.ca today.

 **IIROC** | Regulated by
Investment Industry Regulatory
Organization of Canada

CIPF
Canadian Investor Protection Fund
MEMBER


WELLINGTON-ALTUS
PRIVATE WEALTH

Public Security rescues duck families

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It's that time of year when mother ducks and their broods take up residence in the Westmount Park lagoon and even beyond. They stroll around the neighbourhood in an unpredictable way. This year, they have even required assistance around city hall, according to recent Public Security reports. It was at a back corner of city hall on May 20 where a mother and ducklings were spotted May 20 at 1:06 pm and a call placed to Public Security. The family was found protected by nearby lawn bowlers.

A screen was placed on the ground as officers brought a box for the ducklings to be transported to Westmount Park. They set off on foot with the officer carrying the box followed by the mother and all accompanied for safety measures by a patrol vehicle.

Two days later at 9:22 am, a call was received for a single duck walking in circles around a sewer outlet behind Westmount High, which has happened before. Responding to the call, PSO Jason Souza assisted by a Public Works employee moved the sewer grate and fished out a dozen ducklings. Once reunited, the family "went on their way."

Public Security assists 'vulnerable' man

A 75-year-old man who appeared confused and somewhat incoherent while questioned at the corner of Wood and de Maisonneuve May 19 at 12:43 pm was



This mama duck walked circles around a sewer near the back of Westmount High May 22 until her ducklings were rescued by Public Safety officer Jason Souza and a Public Works employee.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTMOUNT PUBLIC SECURITY.

driven home by a public safety officer.

According to Public Security officials, the officer finally escorted the man home to a "messy" apartment unit on de Maisonneuve, where an unpleasant odor was discovered along with medication found to have been untaken. The building concierge was contacted but could not reach any listed contacts. The situation was explained by phone to police who agreed he should not be left alone and they attended.

"Once again, Public Security, being close to the community were able to take the time to escort the man home and follow the incident through with police," said department director Greg McBain.

Table of Contents

Letters, p. 6

Police Report, p. 11

Pet page, p. 14

Social Notes:

Montreal Children's Hospital, p. 15

You May Be Getting Older, But Your Skin Doesn't Have to Show It

Over the years, a number of environmental assaults on the skin can cause wrinkling and loss of elasticity.

These factors can't be stopped entirely, but they can be controlled through innovative cosmeceutical products. A compounding pharmacist can customize a therapy of cosmeceutical creams prepared for the exact needs of your skin. The result? Protected, rejuvenated skin that looks as young and healthy as it did five, ten, even fifteen years ago!

BERTRAND COHEN TENOUDJI
pharmacie | pharmacy

5025 Sherbrooke West (west of Claremont)
Tel: 514-484-2222 | Fax: 514-484-2205

Manoir Westmount
A Project of The Rotary Club of Westmount



A great community, in a perfect location

Very affordable all inclusive rates...

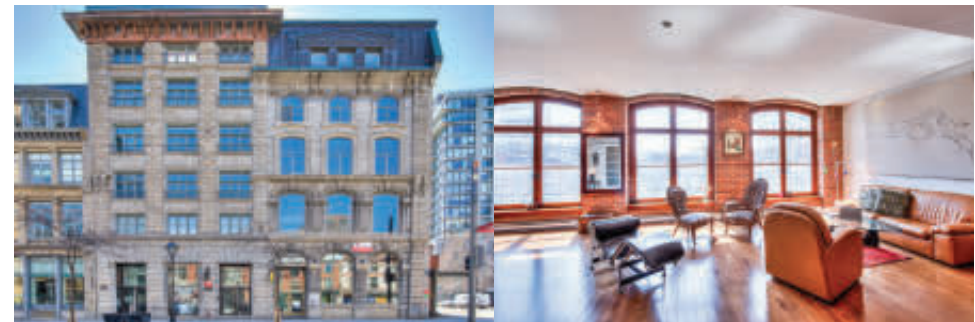
- ✓ All meals
- ✓ Daily tea
- ✓ Daily housekeeping
- ✓ Personal Laundry
- ✓ Medication distribution
- ✓ 24 hour security
- ✓ 24 hour nurse
- ✓ Extensive activity programme

Manoir Westmount Inc.
4646 Sherbrooke Street West
Westmount, QC H3Z 2Z8

For an appointment to view, please call

514.937.3943

www.manoirwestmount.ca



OLD MONTREAL | 430 MCGILL #402

Spacious loft style condo with exposed brick walls on sought after McGill Street in Old Montreal, just steps to Montreal's best restaurants, boutiques, transportation, "Old Port." This unit is located in the "Sir James McGill" building, a heritage "boutique" building. MLS: 12459175 **\$795,000**

PROFUSION
IMMOBILIER

Forbes
REAL ESTATE

MAYFAIR

LUXURY

Real Estate

Leading

Bunny Berke
Residential & Commercial Real Estate Broker



bberkeprofusion@gmail.com

514.347.1928

PROFUSION REALTY INC. - REAL ESTATE AGENCY



KAUFMANGROUP.CA

514.379.1333

Kaufman Group does not just place a sign in front of your home,
we place your home in front of the world.

Highest sale ever in Québec^{°°}

Highest sale ever in Westmount[°]

Highest sale ever in Hampstead[°]



Record Breaking, World Renowned.

Sotheby's | Québec
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

INTRODUCING



Mont-Royal \$7,500,000
BEDS: 5+1 | BATHS: 5+3
MLS 15274786



Westmount \$6,495,000
BEDS: 8 | BATHS: 5+2
MLS 14916479



Hampstead \$5,898,000
BEDS: 4 | BATHS: 4+1
MLS 17962215



Saint-Adolphe-d'Howard \$4,345,000
BEDS: 6 | BATHS: 3+1
MLS 15256420

INTRODUCING



Beaconsfield \$3,200,000
BEDS: 4+2 | BATHS: 4+1
MLS 9102978



Westmount \$2,995,000
BEDS: 3+1 | BATHS: 3+1
MLS 24627624



Unity II | Ville-Marie \$1,495,000
BEDS: 2+1 | BATHS: 2
MLS 17308060



Hampstead \$1,319,000
BEDS: 3 | BATHS: 2+1
MLS 15242900

NEW PRICE



Beaconsfield \$5,590,000
BEDS: 4+1 | BATHS: 6+1
MLS 20842112



Westmount \$2,995,000
BEDS: 4+1 | BATHS: 3+1
MLS 20742850



Westmount \$2,695,000
BEDS: 6+1 | BATHS: 4+1
MLS 26999345



C.D.N./N.D.G \$1,950,000
BEDS: 3 | BATHS: 3+1
MLS 12475749

ACCEPTED OFFER



Westmount
BEDS: 6 | BATHS: 5+2



MLS 22951732



Knowlton
HIGHEST PRICED HOME SOLD IN LAC-BROME HISTORY*



over
118B
ANNUAL WEB VIEWS**

over
\$2B
TOTAL SALES VOLUME
since 2008*

100%
DEDICATED TO YOU

Sotheby's | Québec
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LET THERE BE GRASS
AT WAG, FOREVER

The proposal of synthetic over natural grass as an improvement to the historic oval of Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) is a classic example of *Titanic* thinking born of the industrial era. This defends business as usual, until it is too late. It contrasts with the less well-known process, to live within limits and post-industrial realities.

This process was boosted in the 1960s with Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* and the earthrise photos from Apollo space missions. I call it *oikogenesis*: the beginnings of home for all, not just for humans.

I can be more specific for the WAG. This grass area is a cool area, which is needed more than ever. It offsets the heat-island effect of tarmac or synthetic grass. The grass is multipurpose and pleasant to lie upon, to play, to watch the clouds. Grass is healthy, giving us oxygen and home for millions of creatures: insects, snails and slugs, bacteria and fungi. It is home for them. Synthetic turf would kill this life and suit only limited uses.

The connection grass makes for us with nature matters: it teaches us about the seasons, growth, balance and respect for the conditions of life. There is time to rest, as well as play. A synthetic surface proposes human timelines rather than nature's and denies limits, just as we pretend, at our peril, the earth has no limits

to exploitation.

Parents can talk about why grass and sports go together and it was inspiring to witness the signing of a Sports for Nature Framework at the Montreal COP15 Biodiversity conference last December. Or why not join the Green Sports Alliance? There are some with green sense in sports!

Let the WAG be grass forever, to teach children that our life will flourish when it is in harmony with the seasons and the life of the land.

REV. NEIL WHITEHOUSE,
WESTMOUNT PARK UNITED CHURCH

POISONINGS, NOT OVERDOSES

The Police Report on p. 3 of the *Independent's* May 23 edition uses the word "overdose" in relation to incidents where individuals suffer serious and sometimes fatal effects from using opioids. "Overdose" suggests that the person either knowingly or accidentally took an excessive amount of a medication with known potency. In the current epidemic of incidents involving street drugs, the correct term is "poisoning," since the drugs have typically been adulterated with either very potent synthetic opiates or with a variety of other drugs. The user, being unaware of the actual potency of what is being used or what adulterants have been added, can be seriously affected even when using his or her usual dose.

Why is this important? Calling these incidents "overdoses" is a way of blaming

the victims, while calling them "poisonings" opens a number of avenues to reduce harms, such as making tests for opiate potency readily available to users, or making medical-grade opioids accessible as a viable alternative to street drugs.

HENRY OLDERS, MD, FRCPC,
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (RETIRED), DEPT
OF PSYCHIATRY, MCGILL UNIVERSITY,
LANSDOWNE AVE.

GO, ANTHONY, PART TWO

I heartily endorse Mr. Price for his timely editorial ("Go, Anthony!" May 23, p. 6) that salutes the courage of Anthony Housefather, Mount Royal MP, for his lone dissent on [federal] Bill C-13.

I reckon Mr. Price is correct when he allows that English and allophone Quebec will retain a deep gratitude for Housefather's defiance.

[On the provincial side,] this is how M. Legault intends to preserve the French language? By implementing a coercive law against English-speaking Quebecers? Added to these belligerent tools, which will affect all of our medical/legal dealings, is his trove of \$87 million to be allocated for future language preservation.

Just think of all the nurses' salaries that would benefit from this amount. This allotment at a time when Quebec's health care system is in shambles. M. Legault is a shameless autocrat perversely ignoring a situation affecting both French and English.

I remember well during the COVID pandemic M. Legault's once-weekly

COVID address. You could detect his voice strain when perforce he undertook a final five minutes of his question period for the "English press" whilst updating the "nation" on the mortal exigencies of COVID.

Bravo, Mr. Housefather!
BRONWEN MANTEL, BRUCE AVE.

Blue collar strike
set for June 1-7

The city gave notice May 25 of its blue-collar workers' intention to strike June 1 to 7. The workers belong to local 301 of the Syndicat des cols bleus regroupés de Montréal SCFP (CUPE). Affected services are expected to return as of June 8.

Garbage, recycling and compost collections are not expected to be impacted but other interruptions are listed as follows:

- Opening of the pool postponed from May 27 to June 10;
- Collection of bulky items moved from June 5 to 9 to the week of June 12 to 16;
- Clay tennis courts will be playable but not fully maintained;
- Belvedere depot will be closed;
- Maintenance of parks, sports fields, and streets will be interrupted;
- Pick-up of garden waste will not take place June 1 to 7.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount

Editor

David Price: 514.935.4537
editor@westmountindependent.com

Chief reporter

Laureen Sweeney

Graphics

Ted Sancton

Advertising sales

Arleen Candiotti: 514.223.3567
advertising@westmountindependent.com

Classified ads

www.westendclassifieds.com

Accounting

Beth Hudson: 514.223.6138
office@westmountindependent.com

PRESSTIME: Monday at 10:30 am
(except before long weekends, Friday at 10:30 am).

LETTERS: We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit them to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. Letter writers should not expect to be published in every issue, or in back-to-back issues, or repeatedly in the same season or on the same topic. Please include your name and street for publication (or borough or municipality if you do not live in Westmount), but not your address (unless you want it published).

13,800+ physical copies DW, plus low-resolution email and web versions
Distribution: Tuesday to Friday (longer when interrupted by postal holidays)

OWNED AND PUBLISHED BY:

Sherbrooke-Valois Inc., 310 Victoria Ave., #105, Westmount, QC H3Z 2M9

Tag removed when dog
sprayed by skunk

A ticket for \$230 was issued May 21 to a Westmount resident spotted playing ball with his unleashed dog at the Westmount Athletic Grounds at 8:21 pm, Public Security officials report. While the ticket was issued for the off-leash offence, the dog also bore no licence tag.

The man explained the tag had been removed when the dog was recently sprayed by a skunk at which it was barking. The patroller had recalled the incident and a check of the city's data base also confirmed it had an up-to-date licence.

Another dog owner was issued a ticket for a total of \$230 when he was seen throwing a stick to his unleashed dog at the Melville playing field in Westmount Park May 20 at 8:55 pm. Public Security officials said. The man continued to throw the stick back and forth as the patroller approached. Children were seen playing nearby.

Off-leash in Summit Woods
a no-no until June 15

An off-leash dog was seen in Summit Woods, May 19 at 9:54 am when the guardian, a Westmount resident, wearing earphones, was finally alerted by a patroller on a third attempt and found to have been previously warned about the offence. "Oh is it that time of year?" the man was reported to have asked. The answer to that is that the city had been issuing on-leash reminders during the bird-migration season the woods to until June 15.

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

3-car accident traps driver picking up student at The Study

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

An accident May 23 on Braeside Place involving three cars trapped the driver of one who had to be extricated by firefighters and police. She was picking up a grand-child after school at The Study, according to Public Security officials.

The driver of the car, an Audi, identified

as 74-year-old woman, was described to have made “a false manoeuvre” hitting a parked Jaguar and a Tesla as well as a city lamp post, which broke at the base as well as stairs at 16 Braeside. Hydro Westmount and two tow trucks were also called to the scene.

While Public Security officers were not summoned (since police and firefighters

were already there), a report of the incident was recorded by the department’s dispatcher.

Second lamp post hit on Victoria

The same day, however, Public Security was called when a second light post was knocked over at the base outside 475 Victoria. A witness called to report seeing a pick-up truck backing into the lamppost. Officers met with the driver, identified as a 38-year-old man, who admitted hitting the post while a second contractor picked broken glass.

Dog found after jumping out car window

A Public Security patroller was flagged down on Oakland May 24 at 4:10 pm by a woman seeking help to find a dog that had jumped out her car window, department officials said. After several attempts to find the dog, it was finally found on Roslyn Ave. in Côte des Neiges. It was suggested that she might have been walking the dog in Summit Woods.



The Braeside lamppost on May 23.

PHOTO COUTESY OF WESTMOUNT PUBLIC SECURITY.

QUALITY USED

Book Sale

Saturday & Sunday
June 3 & 4 10 am – 4 pm

Books for everyone at very low prices.
Proceeds go towards purchasing new materials
for the Westmount Public Library.

We are unable to accept books until after the sale

Victoria Hall 4626 Sherbrooke W.
Info 514 989-5299 or cemoneill@yahoo.com



Friends
of the Westmount
Public Library

Message de la Mairesse de Westmount | Message from the Mayor of Westmount

Chers.ères concitoyens.ennes de Westmount,

Nous avons le regret de vous informer que les négociations avec le Syndicat des cols bleus regroupés de Montréal SCFP - Section locale 301 sont toujours en cours. Nous croyons fermement que le contrat proposé est généreux et qu'il offre des avantages intéressants en termes de vies professionnelles et personnelles. Nous restons fermement déterminés à parvenir à un accord favorable dans un délai raisonnable.

Nous avons été surpris par la grève d'une semaine annoncée pour la période du 1^{er} au 7 juin, alors que le syndicat avait fait une pause de deux mois à la table des négociations. Néanmoins, nous vous assurons que nous sommes activement engagés dans la recherche d'une solution.

Malheureusement, la grève retardera l'ouverture de la piscine au 10 juin et affectera l'entretien des parcs et des routes. Nous vous demandons donc de faire preuve de patience.

Nous sommes extrêmement fiers de nos employés et reconnaissons leur travail et leur dévouement. Nous restons optimistes quant à l'avenir et sommes convaincus que notre équipe de négociation surmontera les difficultés actuelles, ouvrant ainsi la voie à un accord harmonieux et fructueux.

Nous vous remercions de votre compréhension et de votre patience tout au long de ce processus.

Dear fellow Westmounters,

We regret to inform you that negotiations with the blue-collar workers' union, Syndicat des cols bleus regroupés de Montreal SCFP - Section locale 301, are still ongoing. We firmly believe the offered contract is generous and provides attractive work-life benefits. Our unwavering commitment to reaching a favourable agreement within a reasonable timeframe remains strong.

We were surprised by the one-week strike announced for June 1st to 7th, despite the union taking a two-month break from the negotiation table. Still, we assure you that we are actively engaged in finding a resolution.

Sadly, the strike will delay the pool's opening to June 10 and affect the maintenance of the parks and roads. So we ask for your patience.

We take immense pride in our employees and recognize their hard work and dedication. We remain optimistic about the future and are confident that our negotiating team will overcome the current challenges, paving the way for a successful and harmonious settlement.

We appreciate your understanding and patience as we navigate through this process. Thank you.

Pre-school to say 'adieu'

Miss Vicky's to close June 9 after 30 years at St. Matthias

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The closure of Miss Vicky's pre-school after some 30 years at St. Matthias' Church is a direct result of a drop in enrolment numbers during COVID and the current prevailing need of many parents for year-round daylong care. A private school, Miss Vicky's operates as a "pre-school," as currently required by the Quebec government.

This was explained last week by Reggie Mettler, the school's longtime administrator, in the absence of founder and school head Victoria Naday.

Selwyn House, cont'd from p. 1
is ready, and provide funding for other program needs."

The plan will require the temporary use at the school's existing Speirs building, after which it hopes to move the pre-university program to renovated interior space at St. Matthias.

The stone Speirs building is the school's newest one, opened in 2006, and was constructed on its former parking lot and rink partway up Stanton. It is attached to the school's original building on the site, the stone Lucas building, which was used by a

The two have worked together through most of the school's three decades, during which time some of the parents of the current 20 children now in attendance started their early schooling with Miss Vicky.

As a pre-school, Mettler explained, it is restricted to operating four hours a day from September to the end of the school year rather than all day throughout most of the year as allowed for "daycares."

Times have changed, Mettler explained. Many parents are seeking what amounts to full-time daycare. On the other hand, as a pre-school, she added, "we did not have

variety of public schools before Selwyn's move there from downtown in 1961. The former St. Andrew's Church is the school's red-brick Macaulay building, purchased in 1985. It is linked to the other two underground.

Grade 12 has 20 students so far

As of last week, explained headmaster Downey, a total of some 20 applicants of 40 have been accepted to the grade 12 program, leaving a waiting list, he said, "and we're still very open to new applications."

The curriculum being adopted by the school is based on New Brunswick's grade 12, which leads immediately into university. This compares with the long-ago Quebec grade 12 that was replaced many years ago by the CEGEP program requiring two years for university entrance.

If the St. Matthias transaction goes through, it will be a return of sorts for Selwyn House. One former Selwyn student told the *Independent* that, for a very short time after St. Andrew's had been purchased but before it was ready, Selwyn rented space at St. Matthias' church hall.

"It was a memorable 'classroom,'" he recalled, "given the leaded-glass windows – much more elegant than the utilitarian ones in what was soon to be re-named the Lucas building."

a frequent turnover of staff because personnel were able to have the summer off."

A 'full house'

As she spoke, May 24, "it's a full house today," she said. This referred to the fact that some of the children attend only two days a week, for example, as may be needed by their parents.

The school had faced different legal ups and downs at its Church Hill location over the years. Some nearby residents had been concerned about the traffic that it generated. There was also a required re-zoning by the city in 2013 to permit its operation in the church.

Naked man spotted ringing doorbell on Surrey Gardens after midnight

A naked man was spotted wandering around the area of Devon and Roxborough by a Public Security patroller May 25 at 20:30 am, Public Security officials said. While a call was placed to request police assistance, the patroller saw the man approach a house on Surrey Gardens and ring the doorbell.

Efforts were made to contact the resi-

This was followed three years later by orders from the Quebec Family ministry to close its operation as a "jardin d'enfants" (nursery school). The school contended that it had acquired rights despite new government restrictions. Its hours of operation had been in dispute, off and on, since 2013. The private school had had an enrollment of some 80 children prior to that. (See story, February 16, 2016, p. 1.)

Getting a nursery school designation was considered to be neither physically possible nor economic within the church premises, and would have required costly renovation and required a provisional injunction to keep it open.

dents warning them not to open the door, but received no response. The patroller stayed nearby to keep the area clear from possible passers-by but lost sight of the man.

When police arrived, a search was carried out of the neighbourhood but the subject was never found. A pile of clothing believed to be his was found on the walking path leading to the oratory.

Greene festival,, cont'd from p. 1

painting, tattoos and fun activities.

A John Abbott theatre group will present its rendition of "Shakespeare's Fairies" Saturday in Square Greene from 6 pm to 6:45 pm. This is described as "a fun take using 1980s music, costumes and dance."

The following Westmount artists will be displaying their work on the sidewalk – Marie-Elaine Cusson, Anna Gedalof, John Scott Bailey, Guiseppe Pascale and Catherine Benny – while others will be at work inside various galleries.

These include Kai McCall at Galerie Blanche and a live screen-printing demon-

stration at Station 16 Gallery with a focus on contemporary and urban street, this one on Saturday from noon to 5 pm. This is described as "a hands-on" opportunity for people to come in and experience the art of print making.

Gallery Han Modern and Contemporary is also planning to host a tribute to the late artist Dorothy Knowles while at Gallery 203, artist Carol Loeb will be at work on one of her latest acrylic works.

This is described as "a hands-on" opportunity for people to come in and experience the art of print making with participants walking away with their own screen print.

WHEN QUALITY & EXPERTISE COUNT!

YOU NEED TO CALL

ZOURIK INC.

**RUG & CARPET
CLEANING
SPECIALISTS**

**Hand wash & repairs
of new and
antique rugs**

**Furniture & Wall to Wall
Carpeting Experts**

**SERVING WESTMOUNTERS
WITH OUTSTANDING
SERVICE AND WORKMANSHIP
FOR 35+ YEARS!**

514-825-5500

zourikcleaning@gmail.com

REFERRED FOR A REASON

Coiffure Jean John

4897 Sherbrooke, Westmount

514-486-6261



**NEW online
appointments
now available!**

saloncoiffurejeanjohn.com

**Homme
Men**

**Femme
Women**

**Enfants
Children**

**Master Editions
Antiques & collectibles**



**Estate &
Moving Sales**

We Provide

Professional Evaluations
Staging of your home
Courteous & bonded Staff
Clean-up after sale

**Iona & Marvin
514-501-9072**

Tabagie Westmount Square

International news agent

- British & European newspapers
- Specializing in fashion & interior design • Imported chocolates
- BELL lifestyle natural products
- Lottery tickets and maps

Westmount Square

**At foot of escalator leading from/to
Greene Ave. entrance**

(514) 935-7727

LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

GROUPE
CHRISTINA
MILLER

LUXURY REAL ESTATE



christinamiller.ca | 514.934.2480

PROFUSION
IMMOBILIERForbes
GLOBAL PROPERTIESAV. OAKLAND | WESTMOUNT
\$6,295,000PL. BELVEDERE | WESTMOUNT
\$5,600,000AV. CARLETON | WESTMOUNT
\$5,475,000

NEW LISTING

AV. ELM | WESTMOUNT
\$2,898,000AV. HUDSON | WESTMOUNT
\$2,775,000

NEW LISTING

AV. CLAREMONT | WESTMOUNT
\$2,299,000

NEW LISTING

CH. MERTON | CÔTE-SAINT-LUC
\$2,195,000RUE SHERBROOKE O. | VILLE-MARIE
\$1,475,000

NEWLY PRICED

AV. COLUMBIA | WESTMOUNT
\$1,395,000

NEW LISTING

AV. BRUCE | WESTMOUNT
\$899,000AV. CLAREMONT | WESTMOUNT
\$875,000

NEW LISTING

PLACE PARKSIDE | VILLE-MARIE
\$699,000



VINTAGE
MUSTS

ACCESSOIRES DE MODE ET DE MAISON
FASHION AND HOME ACCESSORIES

ART ET ARTS DÉCORATIFS DU VINGTIÈME SIÈCLE
FINE AND DECORATIVE ARTS OF THE 20TH CENTURY

1 WESTMOUNT SQUARE, SUITE CK-05
MONTRÉAL [QC] CANADA H3Z 2P9
514-602-1545

Westmount youth group profile

Westmount Park, 2nd Westmount Scouts
can't wait to get outdoors

By JENNIFER BALL

Learning how to handle knives, seeing friends and being around the campfire are the main attractions for local Scouts who spoke to the *Independent* at recent meetings.

Daphne Phillips, Douglas Leahey and his son Griffin are adult volunteers at the Westmount Park School group.

Phillips said on the evening of April 25 that they were preparing for a camp excursion. Known as the tri-district camp, it was to include Scouting groups from Quebec, Ontario and New York State.

Zachary Tabah is a Scout who said the appeal of the association for him is “the enjoyment of camp and the fact that I can nurture my skills. For Earth Day this year, we cleaned up garbage on Mont Royal. For Westmount Family Day, we [plan to sell] cotton candy.”

Elijah Sambat said he was most looking forward to “the camping! I possibly will get the winter camping badge this year. I really liked the camp fire because it was really cold outside.”



From left, on bench, Douglas Leahey (Scouter), Jun Cho, William Hooper, Elijah Sambat, Kyle Lo, Ryder Lo, Griffin Leahey (Scouter); floor: Zachary Tabah, Isabelle Tabah and Daphne Phillips (Scouter); standing: Sarah Tabah (Scouter).

Phillips said the meeting was all about tents. “They are learning the skill to tie knots because if they do not learn to tie knots, their tent is going to fall apart...”

“We focus on a lot of team-building and a lot of looking out for the other person. We try to function as a Scouting family so you are always looking out, not just for yourself, but for everyone else.”

The other order of business on the night was to plan the camp menu. “This year, we are celebrating all of the holidays and they are going to have to get creative. Next week, they have to create a gateway decoration for the camp, so they have to get creative again.”

At Roslyn School...

A few weeks prior, on March 1, adult volunteer leader Chris Hosein told the *Independent*, “The idea is that we try to keep these kids engaged and active. We teach them about the community, respect, resilience, the environment, and we build their

confidence.”

Three Scouts wanted to share their experiences but requests for approval to publish their names and photographs did not come in time for the *Independent's* print deadline.

Scout One said he always has “a good time with my friends.” The other reason he joined is “for the camping. We learned a lot of skills there and learned how to do a whole bunch of stuff.”

Scout Two said, “You learn new skills and you play a lot of activities and it's really fun.” He had only joined a month ago, but he was extremely excited by the prospect of getting to the sleep-away camp. “Well, now having the experience of winter camp, I think we're going to do a lot of activities. We're going to go fishing and then do archery.”

Scout Three said. “The fact that we get to play games” was what kept him coming. “I love that we get to learn how to use knives and we get to learn really cool stuff.”

lake
shore

construction
montréal



- New construction & remodeling
- Dedicated project management
- Architectural design services

514 683-8306

www.lakeshoreconstruction.com

info@lakeshoreconstruction.ca

RBQ: 8347-1839-02

Renovating your house into your dream home

T·O·I·L·E

Ouvert au public
BED • BATH • WINDOWS

Designer's Source for Bedding

Showroom Hours: M-F/10-5 – Shop at TOILESHOWROOM.COM
330 Victoria Ave, Westmount – 514.486.2424

Police Report**Police seek witnesses after dog dies in fall from St. Catherine St. apt. bldg.**

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Investigators at the Montreal police dept.'s Station 12 on Stanton St. are seeking the help of Westmounters who may have witnessed a potential animal-cruelty incident in which a dog suffered fatal injuries after a fall from the roof of a St. Catherine St. apartment building.

Around 6 am on May 21, according to Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit, the owner, who was a tenant in the building, left his dog in the care of a friend in the apartment.

While the owner was absent, the friend invited a number of other people over. "And then, for some reason, a couple of people left with the dog and went up to the roof," said Yigit.

While the exact circumstances remain unclear, what is known is that the dog fell from the roof sometime around 6 am. "The people on the roof claim it was an accident, but none of it kind of makes sense," added Yigit.

As a result, the investigators are currently trying to find video evidence recorded by security cameras, or statements from

witnesses who may have seen or heard what happened.

"We're trying to find footage, or perhaps anybody who witnessed that they were fooling around with the dog on the roof. And there's also the possibility that they pushed the dog over."

He pointed out that cruelty to animals is a criminal offence.

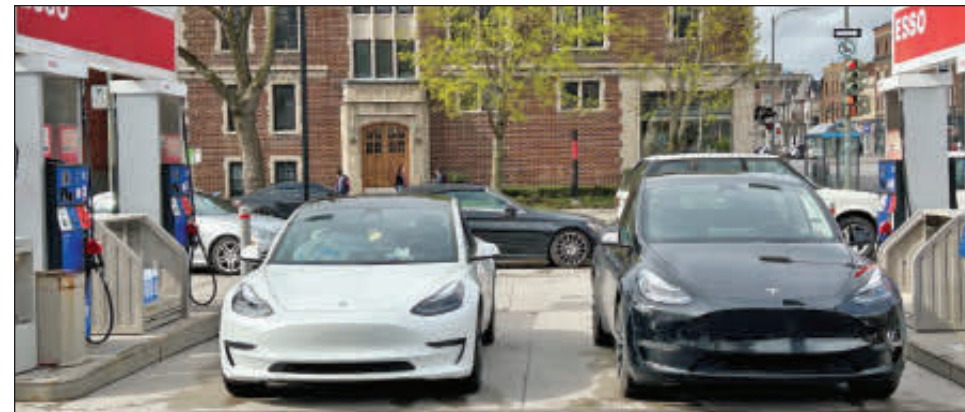
According to Yigit, the dog, a pit bull, was rushed to a veterinarian shortly after falling, but died of its injuries. Anyone who thinks they may have useful information pertaining to the incident is asked to call Station 12 at 514.280.0112 or Cst. Yigit directly at 514.280.0412.

Car thefts

Recently, a pair of car thefts stood out as they both involved the same make of luxury vehicle.

On May 18, a Lexus SUV was stolen from a private driveway parking space near the corner of Metcalfe and Melbourne.

A week later, on May 25, a Lexus RX, also an SUV, was stolen from a parking spot on the street near the corner of Redfern Ave. and de Maisonneuve Blvd.

**The future is electric**

We service all cars,
including electric ones

**WESTMOUNT AUTO SERVICE Inc.**4780 Sherbrooke West H3Z 1G4 corner Grosvenor

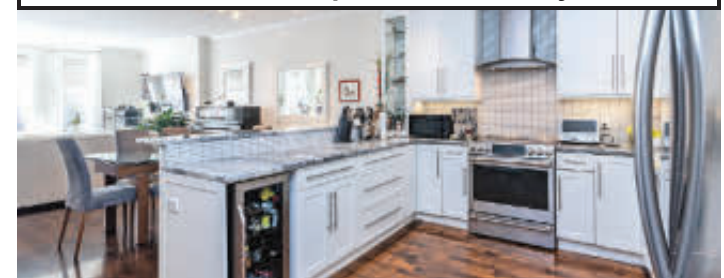
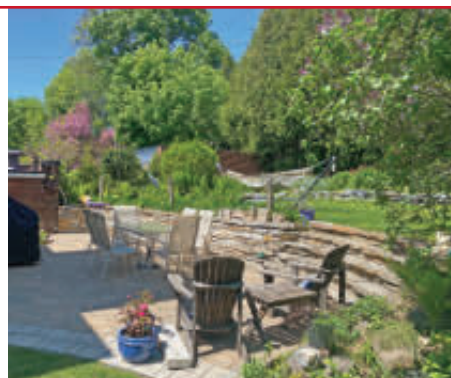
- All services maintain your warranty
 - All vehicles • All work
 - Pick-up/drop-off available
- 514 933-8556**

À VOTRE SERVICE * AT YOUR SERVICE****LORRI FAUGHNAN**

Residential & Commercial Real Estate Broker

To Buy and Sell**514.715.6201****lorrifaughnan@gmail.com**

RE/MAX Action - WESTMOUNT

WESTMOUNT Open House Sunday 2-4**435 Grosvenor #5 | C#18886560 | New Price \$875,000****WESTMOUNT | C#16059332 | \$595,000****4687 ROSLYN AVENUE | C#19786882 | \$2,200,000****WESTMOUNT | 200 Lansdowne #505****RE/MAX** **Westmount Rental | 75 Hallowell | C#19011750 | \$4,300/mo****NO ONE IN THE WORLD SELLS MORE THAN RE/MAX**

Stakeholders disagree on host of issues

Parents, nun-owners spar on future of Villa Ste-Marcelline school, campus

By JENNIFER BALL & DAVID PRICE

A parent source close to the proceedings of the Villa Ste-Marcelline future committee has contended that there is a conflict of interest at the school given the desires of its non-nun stakeholders and those of the nuns at the Congrégation Ste-Marcelline, who have influence, in his view, over the school's administration and board. The Congrégation also owns the campus, but the school is a separate entity.

This source has also said that one may never come to understand what the nuns' true intentions are.

History

On October 6 last year, the Congrégation announced its intention not to renew the school's lease for the 2023-24 school year, citing the cost of maintaining the building (see October 18, p. 12).

The lease was subsequently extended until June 2024 (February 7, p. 1).

On January 24, the Villa Ste-Marcelline board of directors approved the creation of a "rescue committee," whose mandate was to evaluate all possibilities for continuation of the school. The name was later changed to the "future committee."

Offers by a family with a child at the school to buy the campus for the school's use and by the future committee have been turned down (see February 7, p. 1, May 2, p. 19).

'Future committee' member speaks out

A parent source close to the proceedings of the future committee sat down with the *Independent* May 4.

"You have [Ninon St. Pierre, director general of the Villa Ste-Marcelline school] who simply followed the orders of the

nuns. She has been at their service for more than 30 years and the nuns have a veto right over firing her, and she never pushed back on their [initial, October 6] decision to close the school...

"You also have nuns who control the board and who have veto rights on other matters, obviously in a ...conflict of interest position [in my opinion] as they want to close the school..."

"[In my opinion] they have damaged it [the school] with their [October 6] announcement and the board can't really take action against them for the announcement. This is because the director general is their extension in the school and will never do what is necessary to institute the necessary legal action."

According to him, the future committee had 25 parents who thought that they were going to be able to make a deal with the Congrégation: "There was everybody with the skill set to do a deal of such magnitude and ... with good faith, could have hammered out a deal months ago."

Parent: Building not that bad

The October 6 email from Sister Marielle Dion indicated that the Congrégation had commissioned engineering reports that showed approximately \$12 to \$16 million had to be invested in the school's buildings.

The parent source said this was "pure bullshit."

He continued, "We now know that 1.5 million bucks would be tops to settle the Regie du batiment du Québec (RBQ) issues, yet we have never been able to speak to [the RBQ] because the nuns are negotiating directly..."

"The building is not unsafe because the RBQ would have closed us down if some-

thing was going to fall on our kids' heads!"

In terms of the financial picture, he said that the school was not in great shape but it was not losing money.

The only things that the nuns are right about, he said, is that they are tired. "Okay, you are tired, but does it mean that you are going to run a school that is twice as big – the Collège Ste-Marcelline on Gouin Blvd. [in Ahuntsic-Cartierville] – and you are going to run the Amitié [Saraguay seniors' residence] that is nearby? But not this little school with 539 kids?"

Two offers refused

According to the parent source, the family that offered to buy the school offered between \$11.5 and \$13 million in cash.

The nuns and their lawyer "started adding all these conditions to it and the family said, 'No, no, no. I am paying you to give me the school. I am going to figure it out.' The negotiations were very aggressive and they eventually pulled out."

For the second offer, the future committee "went to the nuns and said 'What do you want? If we meet that, then we have a deal!'"

"They said, 'We are out June 30, 2024. We want to make sure we have no liability, no financial commitments whatsoever.' The future committee said, 'In order for us to make a deal and buy the school by June 30, 2024, we need to secure the parents because everybody is leaving. We want you to extend the lease to June 30, 2026..."

"With the condition of a three-year lease extension, the rescue committee therefore raised

- (i) \$2.8 million initially allocated as follows:
 - (a) \$1.6 million for Year 1
 - (b) \$600k for Year 2
 - (c) \$600k for Year 3
- (ii) an additional \$2 million over 10 years to support the school's working capital...

"Instead, the Congrégation required the full \$2.8 million be paid to it immediately into a bank account that it alone would control..."

"The committee then countered by offering to deposit \$1.675 million in a trust account within 45 days of the signing of the documents creating this agreement, with the remaining amounts at the beginning of each subsequent school year..."

"Our offer was not accepted."

Negotiations broke down, he said, "when the nuns asked for a million in the

bank account now and if the future committee did not get the full money for the offer to buy the building by June 2024, they would lose the million dollars."

The parent source said, "We have never figured out what the nuns' deal is!"

At a May 25 protest in support of the school, board co-chair Michael Gentile was more positive. See lower story on p. 13.

Sister Marielle Dion was contacted via Collège Ste-Marcelline on Gouin Blvd, but did not respond for an interview request.

Given the Congrégation's silence, the *Independent* has chosen to reproduce Dion's complete May 12 communication, translated from the original French, on p. 13.

Refutation

A former member of the future committee has taken issue with Dion's May 12 message in a French-language message dated May 17 called "Memo VSM."

An excerpt (translated with DeepL) reads: "...you have all seen the commitment of parents, alumni, teachers and some staff members since October 2022. You have surely noticed the pledges collected in record time, the rallies at the Congrégation's location (on Gouin) and the attempts to present solutions to the Congrégation. The Congrégation says it is committed to the Villa and is exploring solutions, but alas, its representatives in Montreal have not, to date, met with the parents."

"On the other hand, the representatives of the Montreal Congrégation maintain veto rights on the board of directors of the Villa Sainte-Marcelline, despite their desire to relieve themselves of this right, and often do not participate in board meetings, making efforts to safeguard this unique institution very difficult. We continue to hope for a change of course, knowing that this school is absolutely viable, and absolutely exceptional..."

The memo also took issue with Dion's characterization of the school's financial position, contending that continuing operations have been profitable since 2013 with the exception of 2016, that the forecast of \$7.5 million in losses for the next three years was too pessimistic, that the fundraising ability of the school was being underestimated (for instance, because the report cited had been commissioned in a building-maintenance, not save-the-school, context) and that certain reimbursed expenses of the school actually benefitted the Congrégation too.

Ruth Stalker Antiques



Jamie and Alison Stalker
514 931-0822
alison.stalker@bellnet.ca

155 Hillside Avenue
Westmount, Quebec
H3Z 1W1

Letter from Congrégation des Soeurs Sainte-Marcelline to parents of Villa Ste-Marcelline school (translation)

May 12, 2023

RE: Explanation regarding information that is in circulation, but that lacks context regarding the offer to buy Villa Ste-Marcelline's campus

Dear parents,

It is with great emotion that we are sending you this message today.

Indeed, we have read the press articles that have appeared following the refusal of the offer to purchase and wish, on behalf of the Congrégation des Soeurs Sainte-Marcelline, to share with you the reasons for this decision.

First, it is clear that the situation of Villa Sainte-Marcelline is of great concern to us all and that the announcements of the last few days have reminded us of the uncertain future of this institution. Our efforts to preserve the Villa have not yet been successful, and we regret this.

The Villa Sainte-Marcelline is an institution in our community and has been for over 60 years. We therefore understand the passion emanating from the latest announcements and the desire to do everything possible to avoid the closure of the establishment that we hold so dear. On behalf of the Congrégation des Soeurs Sainte-Marcelline, we wish to recall and emphasize that we share the same emotion

and disappointment. Our commitment to the students, their parents and the staff of Villa Sainte-Marcelline, whose well-being is our top priority, remains intact.

In recent years, our mission has led us to work hard to ensure activities of the Villa for many generations to come. Unfortunately, the insolvency of the institution, the inability of the Congrégation to continue the deficits generated by the Villa, and the various current issues related to the dynamism of the institution have not yet allowed us to find a solid buyer or realistic offers for our buildings. To this effect, we would like to add a few elements of information following the refusal of the proposed purchase offer:

● **Operating deficits:** Prior to the tabling of its proposal to extend the lease, the committee had told the Congrégation that it would no longer have to cover the deficits of Villa Sainte-Marcelline.

However, the reality is quite different. With the exception of a sum of \$75,000 from donations and another \$600,000 from the Villa's cash flow, the Congrégation is obliged to cover the deficit for the 2023/2024 year currently estimated at \$1.2 million. For the second and third years, the committee is offering to pay the sum of \$1.6 million and pledges of \$600,000 for

each of the last two years.

In other words, with a projected deficit of \$7.5 million for the next three years, the committee is offering the Congrégation a safety net of \$2.275 million. This is woefully inadequate to cover the estimated \$7.5-million loss. In light of this information (provided by the Villa's auditors), the financial risk is too large.

● **Sale of the buildings:** The committee's proposal unfortunately does not include the purchase of the buildings. It asks that the Congrégation grant them an option to purchase the building by June 2024 for \$10 million (even though the asking price is \$12 million and the municipal assessment is over \$27 million). Therefore, if the parents do not raise donations, there will be no sale. The committee says it has pledged totalling \$4 million to buy the buildings. However, there is still a gap of \$8 million to reach the asking price of \$12 million. It would take 800 donors at \$10,000 to reach that figure or 8,000 at \$1,000. It seems impossible at this time to reach these amounts, especially since a study on the feasibility of raising funds for this project (commissioned by the Villa Foundation) estimated the potential for donations at \$2 million to \$3 million.

● **[Past losses]** Last but not least, by law, the

Villa cannot run a deficit, so to help it balance its books, the Congrégation has given the Villa a rent vacation of \$330,000 for the past four years, pays some of its expenses and covers the year-end deficit. This represents ±\$3M over the last few years. The financial statements do not show a deficit as such, but this is explained by the fact that the activities of the Villa are subsidized by the Congrégation.

Our commitment to the work of the Villa remains unchanged, and we continue our efforts to find an alternative that will allow the Villa Sainte-Marcelline to continue to welcome students in the years to come, and this in a safe environment.

In close collaboration with the board of directors, we wish to inform you that we live in hope that a door will open, despite the deadline.

Thank you for your understanding,

Soeur Marielle Dion, i.m.

Marielle Dion is the regional delegate of Les Soeurs de Sainte Marcelline, which owns the campus of Villa Ste-Marcelline school on Upper Belmont. She is also on the school's board.

*

Translation by DeepL & Independent.

Parents protest at Villa Ste-Marcelline – board co-chair Gentile upbeat on prospects

BY JENNIFER BALL

There was a fourth parent protest over the Villa Ste. Marcelline school's future on May 25 between 4 pm and 5 pm. This time, it was held directly at the school on Upper Belmont Ave. in Westmount instead of at Collège Ste. Marcelline in Ahuntsic-Cartierville.

A choir of students sang "California Dreaming" and over 100 participants waved banners and solicited honks of support from passing cars.

Michael Gentile, who is the co-chair of the school's board of directors, was buoyant: "We are still very hopeful. We know what we are trying to achieve, it is just the timeline... We know what the Congrégation [which owns the school's campus] wants and we are pretty confident if we deliver what they want, we are going to have a deal," he said.

Rose Ouellet is a secondary three (grade 9) student who is "really concerned with the school situation. I am here to try to get attention from the media about an important cause."

The school is important to her she said because "of its values. The school is really homey. It is really cozy, as opposed to other

schools where there are a lot of students. Teachers really get to know their students and the students have really close relation-

ships with other students. I have friends that I have made every year since I have been here."



Parents and students protest at the Villa Ste. Marcelline on Upper Belmont Ave. on May 25. Some young students' faces obscured by the Independent.

Moose puppy got bigger



Westmount
A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

Well, here is some news: this very happy mid-sized puppy has thrived in the last few weeks in foster care and is now a chunky fellow with a great personality and lots of energy for fun and games.

Moose was presented earlier and you might remember him. He is still in need of a forever family as he is still in his foster home for the Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions rescue.

From a backyard breeder, he was supposed to be a small to mid-sized fellow. Well, he blossomed into a big-breed mix who is most uniquely ... cute! Needing a big-guy home life with flexible or work-from-home environment, he is now ready to take his pride of place in the active pack of doggy newbies in our neighborhood.



Moose is very healthy, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped. He is moving along with his puppy training, more age-appropriate programs to come in his new family to integrate routine and bonding. A good-sized, fenced yard would be good for play, he could do with another young active dog buddy. As a large pup, he has not been exposed to cats and small children yet.

If you would like more information on Moose, please contact the dedicated volunteers at Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions at info@gerdysrescue.org and refer to their website at www.gerdysrescue.org. Such a good Moose, please do not hesitate to enquire about him.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne

The hug: Embracing Hope & Tigrun



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

The love and nurturing between them is beautiful to see: Hope and Tigrun are hopelessly in love!

Hope is on the left of the photograph, she is a stunning two-year old black-and-taupe tabby with energy to spare. Even though she was found with a hind leg already amputated, she is confident, dominant and a bundle of curiosity. Running everywhere is her thing, yes on three legs.

She found her soulmate in Tigrun, a four-year old handsome domestic long-haired beige-and-brown tabby. Tigrun is a little shy at first and soon becomes a love bucket as well.

This pair has been sterilized, vaccinated



and microchipped, Being so bonded, they would be adopted together to thrive in their new home. If you would like more information on them, please do not hesitate to reach out to the wonderful team of volunteers at Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions at info@gerdysrescue.org and find out more about their adoption work from their website www.gerdysrescue.org.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne

RB

RONDA BLY

ESTATE SALES

CERTIFIED APPRAISER

Expert Evaluations

Full Professional Setups

Complete Cleanup Available

514 236-4159

www.rondably.com

The Gold Standard in Estate Sales Since 1998

VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Minor Exemption Application

1. The City of Westmount has received an application for a minor exemption for the building located at **398 Roslyn Avenue**;

2. The application will be reviewed at the regular sitting of the Municipal Council that will be held on **June 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.** in the Council Chamber of City Hall, located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, in Westmount and will be broadcast live on the City's website. The link for the sitting will be available at the following address: www.westmount.org/council-live.

The legal notice relating to the foregoing is available at: <https://westmount.org/en/resident-zone/legal-services-city-clerks-office/public-notice/>

www.westmount.org

Painting • Decoration & Finishing

STUART
DEARLOVE

www.stuartdearlove.com

Standard & Restorative Painting

Plaster

Stripping, Wood finishing

Interior & Exterior

Licensed - Bonded - Insured - References

514 482-5267

stuartpaints@sympatico.ca

RBQ 8328 8514 09

OVER 20 YEARS PAINTING EXPERIENCE

Arthur Younanian

Notaire – Notary

4635 Sherbrooke West
Westmount, QC H3Z 1G2

Tel.: 514 931-2531

info@aynotary.ca

www.aynotary.ca

LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

Assistant Sought

I am looking for an on-site part-time assistant with Mac expertise to help me organize and catalogue photographs & documents etc. Please call Aurel at 514-582-4157.

Weeding & Yard Work

Garden cleaning, small lawns, weeding, adding mulch, yard cleanup, raking leaves. Text/Message Vince at 514-294-5562.

Residential Home Cleaning

Are you selling your house in the next few months and need a big cleaning or do you need a post-renovation cleaning? Professional Services 514-290-1673, Marie.

Hawaii Rental Available

Honolulu, Hawaii short-term rental home in exclusive area. Six bedrooms, pool, AC. Maximum 10 adults. Email don3662@me.com for further details and references.

Garage Wanted

Ideally for winter but will take now; area of Greene and Dorchester. Please call 514-927-2751.

Classified in the

INDEPENDENT

Why list your goods (or services) on fly-by-night, who-knows-who-is-replying websites when you can list (and sell) locally?

Buy a classified in the

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

at

www.westendclassifieds.com

Buy locally to sell locally

Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Held in an airplane hanger cleverly disguised as a ballroom at Starlink Aviation in Dorval, Le Bal des tannants raised a record \$1.5 million for The Montreal Children's Hospital's Healthy Kids Fund – "because a bratty kid is a healthy kid."

Tickets to the glam gala are the most sought after of the Montreal spring social season. Indeed, the ball quickly sold out.

The black-tie affair was not only elegant; it was fun! Guests added a child-like twist to stylish gowns and tuxedos. (Think sticky lollipops in updos and sunglasses that would make Elton John envious!)

Caterer Beatrice Ristorante lived up to its delicious reputation. The appetizers alone were world class. And then there was dinner. My fave: lobster ravioli followed by mouth-watering main-course choices.

Dancing the night away to the sounds of Paul Chacra 1945 and DJ YO-C worked off the chocolate torte with cream.

Children's 'Bratty' Ball best ever!

The successful soirée's honorary co-presidents were **Isabelle Marcoux**, board president Transcontinental, and **Kim Thomassin**, first vp Quebec, Caisse de dépôt and placement du Québec.

They worked hand in hand with the partnership committee headed by **Sharon Stern** and **Véronique Black**.

Over 700 Quebec business and community leaders, philanthropists, government ministers and other generous Quebecers attended the "fun'draiser."

The evening's special guests included ministers **Mélanie Joly** (federal foreign affairs), **Christian Dubé** (provincial health) and **Pierre Fitzgibbon**, (provincial economy, innovation and energy) as well as **Grégoire Baillargeon**, president, BMO Financial Group, Quebec; **Lucie Blanchet**, executive vp, personal banking and client experience National Bank of Canada; **Julie Godin**, executive vp strategic planning and corporate development, CGI; **Dr. Lucie Opatrny**, president, MUHC, with **Jean-François Tremblay**, and The Children's Foundation's **Katrin Nakashima**, board president, *continued on p. 16*



Isabelle Marcoux, Kim Thomassin, Renée Vézina, Véronique Black and Sharon Stern.



Mélanie Joly.



Dr. Ilana Galperin, Harrison Black, Renée Vézina, Herbert Black, Véronique Black, Sharon Stern and Anna Antonopoulos.

WOOD FINISHING DOORS•FURNITURE•WOODWORK

ON-SITE SERVICE

•Specializing in stripping & staining
ENTRANCE DOORS

– also –

•Touch-Ups & Repairs
•Kitchen Cabinets
•Fine Furniture



HENRY CORNBILIT, professional craftsman
FREE ESTIMATE 514.369.0295
www.woodfinishingmontreal.com



Charles Pearo

Ph.D.
Real Estate Broker
cpearo@yahoo.com

C. 704-1063
B. 934-1818

*Integrity &
Expertise
Working
for you!*

ROYAL LEPAGE
HERITAGE
Real Estate Agency

REAL ESTATE BROKERS



Evi Ho

514 862-7718
eviho@outlook.com

**Anne-Marie
Larue**

514 919-0877
amlarue@uniserve.com

**WE WILL EXCEED
YOUR EXPECTATIONS!**

RE/MAX ACTION INC AGENCY – WESTMOUNT

Tim Ngo

Cell.: 514 999-2918
Bur.: 514 333-3000

*I can serve you in
French, English, Chinese
(Mandarin, Cantonese, and
Chaozhou) and Vietnamese.*

www.timngo.com
timngo.remax@gmail.com



courtier immobilier certifié

Remax 3000 inc
Agence immobilière
9280 boul. de l'Acadie
H4N 3C6



Belgrave
COUVREURS | ROOFING

We got you covered!

FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

SINCE 1967

Member of
APCHQ

RBQ# 8261-4496-02

ALL ROOF TYPES & BRICKWORK

VENTILATION & METAL WORK

SKYLIGHT & THERMAL DOMES

Call for your Free Estimate
514.932.7772
belgrave@yahoo.ca
belgraveroofing.ca



Social notes, cont'd from p. 15

and Renée Vézina, president.

Other guests enjoying the night included **Yves Fortier**, president of honour of the Children's Foundation and his wife **Carol Fortier**; **Dr. Rhian Touyz**, executive director Institut de recherche du Centre universitaire de santé McGill with **David Koppel**; **Herbert Black**, CEO American Iron & Metal; **Sharon Stern**, Gestion Eastmore Management, and **Aaron Stern**, managing partner/CIO Converium Capital Management; **Grégoire Baillargeon**, president, BMO Groupe financier Québec and **Nathalie Forcier**; **Charles Emond**, CEO Caisse de dépôt and placement du Québec, and **Renée-Claude Boivin**; **Guy Cormier**, CEO Mouvement Desjardins, and **Julie Forgues**; **Alan Desnoyers**, RBC Private banking Quebec and Eastern Canada and **Shelley Barton**; **Jean Raymond**, board president CIBC and **Marie-Anick Bouchard**; **Najah Sampson**, president Pfizer Canada and **Andhan Norman**; **André Beaulieu**, Bell Canada, and **Francesca Trop**; **Charles Brindamour**, CEO Intact and **Josée Landarte**; **Denis Ricard**, CEO iA Financial Group, and **Nancy Ricard**; **Jean-Guy Desjardins**, board CEO Fiera Capital and **Sandra Delisle**, **Marie-Anne Tawil** and **Michel Vennat** and Senator **Tony Loffreda** and **Angelina Loffreda**.

The emcee was **Ben Mulroney**.



Julie Forgues and Guy Cormier.



Charles Emond and Renée-Claude Boivin.



Ben Mulroney, and Tyler Epassy and Rémi Briedeau, actors in the Foundation YouTube ad.



Christian Dubé and Josée Perreault.

Call now to receive a discount of 10% for a tune up performed before June 15th



CHAUFFAGE DIRECT INC.
DIRECT HEATING INC.

Annual maintenance by a skilled and licenced technician will keep your gas-fired pool heater or heat pump working efficiently for many years to come.

514-990-1346

PAPIER is now PLURAL



Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Although T.S. Eliot referred to April as “the cruellest month,” the PLURAL Contemporary Art Fair was a huge success despite wind and rain. Formerly known as PAPIER, the event held last weekend in the Old Port featured galleries from coast to coast – literally: from Halifax to Vancouver.

Local gallerist **Bradley Ertaskiran** was one of the 49 booths. Co-owner/director **Antoine Ertaskiran** told me that, like many exhibitors, his sales were great during VIP opening night when a crowd of collectors converged to snap up early finds.

The art fair is a must-visit annual event. The large exhibition space is flooded with light and visitors can enjoy gourmet delights or sip wine as they discuss points from the art talks.

Most of the art is on paper, which makes it an affordable first purchase, although amidst the *über*-chic crowd I noted some major collectors, both corporate and private.

Art aficionados wore the requisite black as well as urbane wide-legged jeans, minidresses and leathers. (Umbrellas and dripping coats were quickly shed at the entrance.) The fun of the fair is that, like many events, some attend just for the selfie moment. The look-at-me tribe’s edgy outfits were Instagram-ready: bright, outré and over-the-top exuberant. Handbags were like *Succession*’s oft-memed “capacious tote” – the better to gather gallery catalogues. Among the many galleries I knew from my art reviews written over 10 years for *Vie des Arts*, I enjoyed the eponymous booth of **Pierre-François Ouellette**. He featured **Phyllis Lambert**’s just launched book, *Observation Is A Constant That Underlies All Approaches* and a selection of her 70 photographs curated by artist **Adad Hannah**. (This exhibit continues at his gallery.)

Missed PLURAL? Google it to check out the local galleries that participated and visit at your leisure.



Antoine Ertaskiran.



Pierre-François Ouellette.



ETERNAL BEAUTY

Embody a beautiful promise and express your commitment in a way words simply cannot.



KAUFMANN de SUISSE

PASSIONATE JEWELLERY SINCE 1954

An elegant evolution of the classic eternity ring featuring thin waves of 18 gold or platinum allowing more light into the beautiful diamonds. Each ring is custom made to order.

Patek Philippe · Parmigiani Fleurier · Arnold & Son · Schwarz Etienne
2195 Crescent Street · 514.848.0595 · KaufmanndeSuisse.ca

Protestors target Israeli PM Netanyahu’s proposed judicial reforms

By JENNIFER BALL

The world is watching...and speaking out... as Benjamin Netanyahu’s proposed judicial reforms undermine democracy in Israel – at least according to protestors right here in Westmount.

There was a protest on this theme outside the consulate of Israel, located at 1 Westmount Square, on May 5. Some members of Montreal’s Jewish community gathered to express their dismay about the matter.

The organizers said in a written statement that they “recognize the importance of other causes and issues related to Israel and the Middle East. However, this rally will remain focused on supporting democracy and the protesters [in Israel].”

Netanyahu seeks to curb the Israeli judiciary’s influence over lawmaking and public policy by limiting the supreme court’s power to exercise judicial review, granting the government control over judicial appointments and limiting the authority of its legal advisors.

However, Netanyahu has been barred from actively taking part in the process of the judicial reform by the attorney general due to a conflict of interest stemming from his ongoing corruption trial.



Outside the consulate of Israel at Westmount Square, near Wood Ave. and de Maisonneuve on May 5.

Organized by a local grassroots organization called Montreal Jews for Democracy in Israel, speakers included Shelly Schreter, a Montreal native who moved to Israel 46 years ago; Rabbi Lisa Grushcow

of Temple Emmanu-El in Westmount; Rabbi Boris Dolin of Congregation Dorshei Emet; and Westmount resident Natale Amar, who was one of the main organizers of the event.

“It is a sobering reminder that one can’t take democratic values and practices for granted,” Rabbi Grushcow said. “If you care about democracy, if you care about [the] judiciary – which of course is very connected to minority rights, which in Israel plays out in all kinds of ways – [then] you have to be invested and engaged in these conversations...”

“What really inspired us to do what we did here, is the fact that Israelis have been coming out for months now: hundreds of thousands of Israelis who are speaking up about this and who are protesting the direction that the government is taking. Who are saying, ‘We love this country, we care about this country and want to make

our voices heard in terms of its future.’ When we reached out to them, the message we got, loud and clear, was that they really welcomed support from around the world.”





**SUBLINE
SURFACE**

**MARBLE & LUXURY STONE
PROTECTION AND POLISHING**
by Sublime Surface featuring **Sheerstone™**

* Use promo code **"Promo23"** and receive a 10% discount


Call/Text:

Montreal 514.569.6448
Toronto 437.886.0983

sublimesurface.ca



- Visit our website, call or text to make an appointment.
- No obligations free estimates.
- Read about the Sheerstone solution for anti etch & anti stain.
- Choose your finish: mat, satin, gloss or high-gloss.
- Ask about our other indoor and outdoor stone work



Le Cartier



**Montreal’s Finest
Rental Apartments**

lecartier.ca

Contact:
Catherine Paradis
(514) 586-1511
cparadis@lecartier.ca



**Chinese Works of Art
WANTED**



Paintings
Jade
Snuff Bottles
Buddha Figures
Censers
Porcelain Plaque
Porcelain
Porcelain

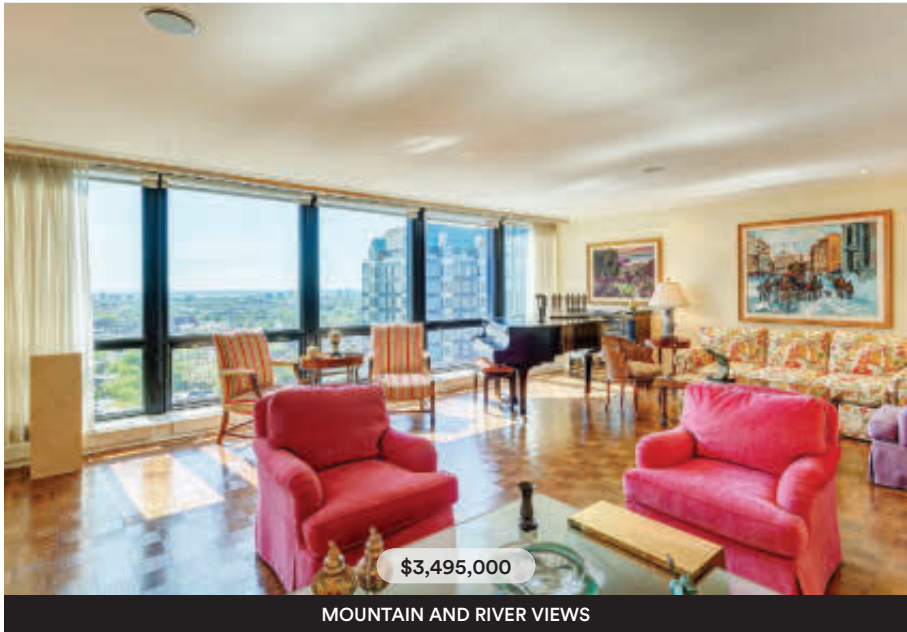
V.I. ANTIQUES & FINE ART
Victor Isganaitis
Appraiser-Consultant
514-944-4919



sicotte & co

Marie Sicotte
Real Estate Broker

+1 514 953 9808
marie@mariesicotte.com
mariesicotte.com



\$3,495,000

MOUNTAIN AND RIVER VIEWS

Westmount
2 WESTMOUNT-SQUARE, APT. 1901

3 3 + 1 2665 sf.

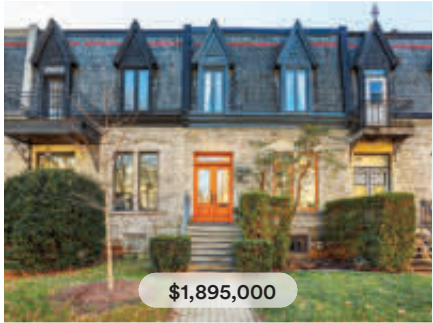


\$3,295,000

MOUNTAIN VIEWS

Westmount
2 WESTMOUNT-SQUARE, APT. 1403

2 2 2385 sf.



\$1,895,000

Westmount
370 ELM AV.



RENTAL \$7,750/MONTH

Ville-Marie
2700 CH. HILL PARK, BEAVER LAKE



Mont-Tremblant
1025 CH. DU MITIK



Tremblant Region, La Conception
203 CH. DES NOVATEURS



←
Scan me to know me!



GRUPE SUTTON CENTRE-OUEST, INC.
245 AV. VICTORIA, BUREAU 20, WESTMOUNT, QC H3Z 2M6



CARL KNOWS
HOW TO MAKE YOUR PROPERTY
STAND OUT IN TODAY'S MARKET

CARL
RÉMILLARD
FONTAINE
REAL ESTATE BROKER



INTRODUCING

\$1,950,000
HARVARD AV. | NDG



INTRODUCING

\$795,000
BESSBOROUGH AV. | NDG



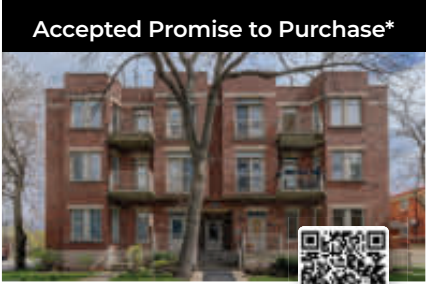
\$3,998,500
CH. DE GEORGEVILLE | MAGOG



\$2,150,000
CHÂTEAU WESTMOUNT SQUARE

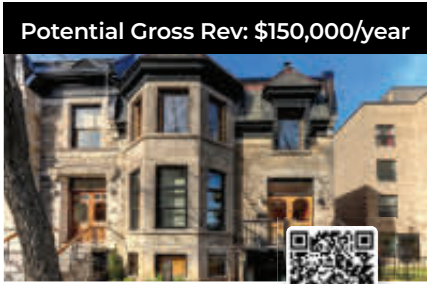


\$1,595,000
CLARKE AV. | WESTMOUNT



Accepted Promise to Purchase*

\$669,000
YORK ST. | WESTMOUNT



Potential Gross Rev: \$150,000/year

\$1,848,000
SEYMOUR AV. | VILLE-MARIE



\$1,698,000
MARLOWE | NDG



Accepted Promise to Purchase*

\$6,895,000
SURREY GARDENS | WESTMOUNT



\$2,395,000
1 WOOD | WESTMOUNT



\$1,049,000
PORT ROYAL | GOLDEN SQUARE MILE



\$639,000
SHERBROOKE O. | GOLDEN SQUARE MILE



PROFUSION
IMMOBILIER

Forbes
GLOBAL PROPERTIES

514.726.2077
crfontaine@profusion.global
1303 Greene Ave, Suite 500, Westmount Profusion Immobilier inc. - Real Estate Agency. Real Estate Broker
* Under conditions