

Upgrading of parks under way

Three-year plan kicks off to restore Summit Woods, area

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A three-year project to refurbish Summit Woods and surroundings will kick off this year, Councillor Cynthia Lulham said last week.

This includes the landscaping of the Public Works depot off Belvedere Rd. and Côte des Neiges, planning to integrate the closure of Summit Circle into the nature reserve and conducting an inventory of its trees. Planning to revamp its drainage and paths will also take place, with the work to follow.

“The aim is to have the work completed in time for Montreal’s 375th anniversary

year in 2017, which will highlight Mount Royal,” she said.

“We’re working hard to assure we are provided funding from the Quebec minister of Culture and Communications through the Arrondissement historique et naturel du Mont-Royal,” she added.

The paths have not been refurbished in some 23 years and this is an important focus, she explained. These have widened into park vegetation, been washed out by poor drainage and led to the proliferation of sub-paths and off-trail use destroying some of the ground cover.

One path is especially close to the escarpment on the north side and poses a potential danger, she explained.

The water issue, “our key concern,” is to be ad- continued on p. 8

Letters p. 6
Bought & Sold BY A. DODGE p. 17
Social Notes BY V. REDGRAVE p. 21

St. George’s holds Toonie event



St. George’s held its inaugural “Toonie Challenge” dance January 28, as part of a Montreal school-wide fundraiser to raise money for the McGill University Health Centre Foundation’s Best Care for Life Campaign. This year, half of the funds raised by the school are to go to the Liam Armstrong Pediatric Oncology Fund. Grade 6 students were to invite the former classmates of Liam Armstrong, who passed away last year, and all St. George’s elementary school students “to dance the afternoon away in the gym, just as Liam would have loved,” the school press release stated. Photo courtesy of St. George’s School

Oink Oink redevelopment proposed for Greene store

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A proposed redevelopment plan for Oink Oink calls for tearing down and rebuilding one of the two attached commercial buildings that comprise the iconic toy store on Greene Ave. The one affected is to the south.

Notice of the demolition proposal was posted outside the store last week, revealing a plan to take down and rebuild 85

percent of the building, preserving some characteristics of the front façade. A setback third storey is also to be added to the new structure.

A demolition hearing has been set for Wednesday, February 25 at 7 pm at city hall. Citizens have until this Friday, February 6, to send letters of objection or support to the city clerk’s office.

The project is estimated to cost \$1.2 million. continued on p. 10

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Pair followed by public safety officers

Suspects tailed in overnight attempts to open car doors

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

Two men trying to open car doors January 25 were spotted and followed by public safety officers as the pair proceeded west from Olivier to Roslyn starting at 2:41 am, Public Security officials said.

It was not known whether the two managed to open any doors but their activities generated sufficient suspicions for police to be called. The suspects were questioned and identified but reported released without charges when neither was found in possession of stolen items.

Public safety officers came across the pair when they spotted a man emerging from between two cars parked in a driveway at 315 Olivier, explained Public Security

director Greg McBain. “He was dressed all in black.”

The man walked across the street, met up with another and both began systematically trying car doors on the west side of Olivier as they walked north to Sherbrooke. During this time an unmarked Public Security car joined the surveillance, and police were called.

At Clarke and Sherbrooke, one suspect checked out cars on the south side while the other crossed over to the intersection of Sherbrooke and Côte St. Antoine and was seen in four driveways on Côte Rd.

As the officers recorded their activities while awaiting police, the suspects continued west on Sherbrooke until one disappeared from sight into Westmount Park.

He subsequently was spotted on Roslyn south of Sherbrooke.

When police arrived, they stopped, questioned and released both men.

“We don’t know whether they managed to open any car doors,” McBain said. But a note was made of eight addresses where they were seen on private property: 315 Olivier; 3, 5, 7 and 9 Côte St. Antoine; 4547 Sherbrooke; and 382 and 385 Roslyn.

“This shows how important it is for people to lock their cars and not leave anything of value that can be seen, especially overnight,” McBain said. It’s not the first time that public safety officers have kept watch on people trying to open cars, he pointed out.

“It shows the value of preventive patrols overnight. We’re out there at two in the morning.”

Police Report

Robbery suspect arrested in Ville Marie

BY MICHAEL MOORE

The following news story is based on information from police reports provided by a Station 12 constable in an interview with the reporter.

A 45-year-old man suspected of stealing electronic devices from Vidéotron and jewellery stores in Westmount in recent weeks was arrested by police on January 28 in Ville Marie.

Officers were called to the scene by a security guard who apprehended the man during an incident near the corner of de Maisonneuve and Mackay, according to Station 12 constable Stephan Laperrière.

In addition to the Ville Marie incident, investigators are attempting to definitively

link the suspect to two Westmount robberies in mid-January, which featured a similar *modus operandi*.

In the early hours of January 14, a man broke through the window of the Sherbrooke St. Vidéotron store and stole a Samsung tablet, an iPad and a pair of iPhones. Evidence had been found at the scene, said Laperrière.

Five days later, a suspect smashed the reinforced front window of a Sherbrooke St. jewellery store at approximately 2:30 am and took a MacBook Pro that had been left on the counter.

Neither the store’s cash register nor any of the jewellery was taken.

The suspect’s identity cannot be released until he has appeared in court.

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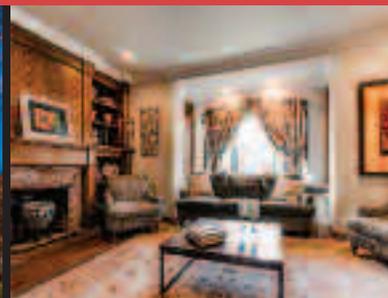
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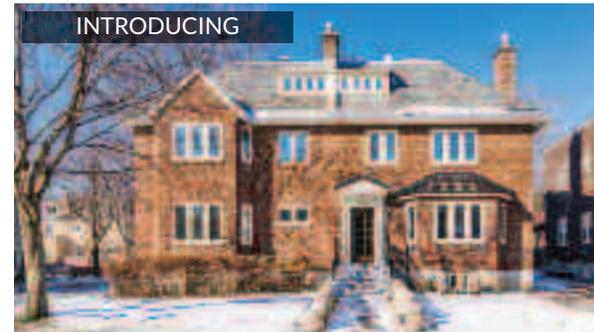
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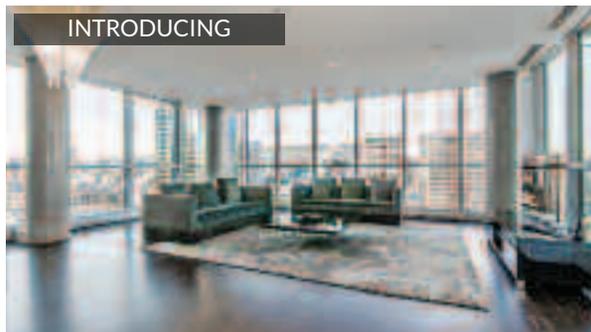
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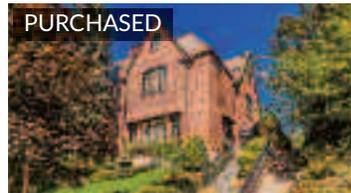
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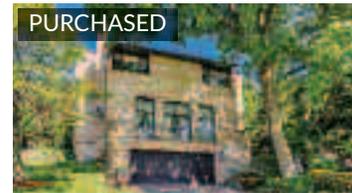
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEED SAFER SNOW REMOVAL

I regret council's "interim toleration" decision ("City clarifies interim toleration of night-time snow removal," January 20, p. 1) because those unfortunates who desperately needed to leave their homes at 7 am could have chosen to park near the sidewalk (as those with parking aprons now do), or use a taxi.

But now that our leaders have caved in to the suffering contractors and the "long driveway lobby," ("Residents ask city to allow overnight snow clearing," December 17, 2014, p. 8) and we are left to enjoy the "sound of music" (tractors reversing) during the wee hours, could we consider balancing the scales a bit?

Before Christmas, I emailed the mayor and council, asking that when revising nuisance by-laws that they view improper snow removal as a safety issue. (Only one had the courtesy to reply.) Many contractors continue to dump snow on sidewalks and roads in such a way as to create serious hazards that affect the safety of the elderly, disabled and even drivers.

It shouldn't be necessary for Westmount Public Security to witness these offences in order to act. Homeowners are responsible



Photo taken "soon after Westmount had nicely cleared this sidewalk," in early January according to Barry Pless. Photo courtesy of Barry Pless

for what their contractors do.

Since contractors are now able to remove snow when they wish, I urge that they or their employers accept non-trivial fines when snow removal offences are

committed. Employers serious about safety should instruct their contractor not to put snow on the street in the path of cars and not to distribute it on the sidewalk.

Most homes with long driveways have long properties on which the snow could be placed. Years ago, our [then] Public Works director, Jacques Lahaie, suggested contractors use tractors with blowers as other communities do ("Personnel key to Westmount effort," February 20, 2008, p. 1). If Westmount followed this suggestion our streets and sidewalks would be safer for all.

Finally, if councillor Patrick Martin wishes to reward contractors for breaking the law, may we assume he will do so from his own pocket? ("Snow clearing rules need to be changed," January 13, p. 7).

BARRY PLESS, LANSDOWNE AVE.

lose my keys. I called Public Security to inform them of my loss – after all, you just never know.

About an hour and a half later, I received a call from Public Security telling me that they received a call from city hall to the effect that someone had just dropped off a set of keys they had found.

I would like to thank the person who took the time to bring my keys to city hall and to the Public Security officer who picked them up and brought them to my home.

In spite of some of the things one sometimes reads about, there is still a lot of good and a lot of good people out there.

SAM BEITEL, ABBOTT AVE.

\$118 NOT ENOUGH

Re: "Graffiti pair caught in night pursuit by Public Security," (January 27, p. 1), I want to add my voice to the many complaints of concerned citizens (and victims) who think that a \$118 fine for the uglification of pri- continued on p. 7

GOODNESS OUT THERE

On January 23, while walking my dog along the various streets and laneways near my home, I somehow managed to

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Negotiations still under way for expropriation of city land in southwest

Selby triplexes about to come down slowly for Turcot project

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

The greystone triplexes at Selby and Greene are to be dismantled “very shortly” as part of the Turcot project, city officials said last week. The building is all that remains of a row, following a fire in 1981.

The demolition is set to take place stone by stone and brick by brick so the material may be recycled in the same manner used for the Richelieu warehouse in Westmount’s industrial zone (see story April 22, p. 1).

Expropriated by the provincial government from former city councillor John de Castell almost a year ago, the destruction of 178 to 188 Selby is one of the last hurdles in Westmount to be cleared for the lowering of the Ville Marie Expressway westward from Greene.

To the west, the province’s “acquisition” of a strip of city-owned land at the south end of the Glen Power station and the Public Works yard is still under negotiation, according to Hydro Westmount director Benoit Hurtubise.

An agreement between the city and the Ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ), is being drafted up by lawyers, he said.

The loss of the land “is going to have some effect but not as much as we believed,” he explained.

“Once the MTQ signs the contract with the Turcot consortium in February, there’s going to be a lot happening,” Hurtubise said. “The bulldozing will start very quickly in the spring.”

In exchange for the city land, it is un-

Letters cont’d. from p. 6

vate and public buildings with spray paint, known more commonly as graffiti vandalism, is far too little, especially when fines in other cities are well over \$500 and as high as \$5,000, and can include imprisonment.

And why not require them to clean up, as a form of community service, the often lingering messes they make? This might foster in them some small measure of civic pride, the obvious lack of which in such young people borders on the tragic.

RICHARD ORLANDO, SHERBROOKE ST.

Editor’s note: The fines are more severe for adults but our understanding is that under Quebec law, the actual fines related to municipal by-law offences cannot exceed \$100 for a juvenile (plus court fee), which applied to this individual.



178-188 Selby, looking east. The exposed side wall adjoined the rest of the row of buildings demolished after a major fire in 1981.

derstood the MTQ will take over responsibility for the pumping of contaminants that has been ongoing jointly for some 20 years by Westmount and Montreal at the foot of the power station property (see February 25, 2014, p. 1).

Land required for the new lowered highway west to east, will slice diagonally and irregularly across the Hydro Westmount property from the current parking lot gate on Glen Rd. through the foot of the Public Works yard. This is a narrow strip near the city’s garages and “not as much as we expected,” Hurtubise said. See rendering, p. 8.

The expropriated portion, however, will widen to about three car widths at the city’s salt shed to the east. This poses some concerns for trucks backing up at that point.

Just like the design-build approach used for the Westmount recreation centre (WRC), however, details of the work and its schedule will be up to the consortium, he

said.

Transformers that used to be stored by the city on the expropriated portion under the Ville Marie Expressway have already been temporarily relocated to the MTQ’s

secured property at Pullman, west of Glen Rd. (see April 22, p. 25).

These will be accommodated back on Hydro’s land after the work, Hurtubise said.

“The MTQ is going to have to level out and relandscape that whole area,” he said. “We’re going to have a meeting on logistics once the contract is signed.”



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Surveying for 'living wall' under way along tracks

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Land surveying by Public Works is under way to determine the feasibility of building a "living wall" along the railway tracks between Abbott and Blenheim Place, Councillor Cynthia Lulham announced last week. This would be a first step in the process.

An insulated wooden wall covered with vines is seen as a solution to reducing sound from the steel train wheels while addressing safety and improving the visual impact, she said.

"It's very exciting and hopeful," she said. Before Christmas, the city met with

companies specializing in living walls. Leading from this, the Public Works survey is studying the land along the CP rail fence to determine ownership, whether there is sufficient space for a living wall and what underground installations might impede its installation.

Two feet of land is required to erect the wall, Lulham explained. "If it doesn't fit, that's the end of the idea, and we'll have to try something else."

"I think it's an attractive and useful solution," she added.

A wall of probably seven feet "would offer some sound attenuation from the wheel-rail interface, but not vibration," she

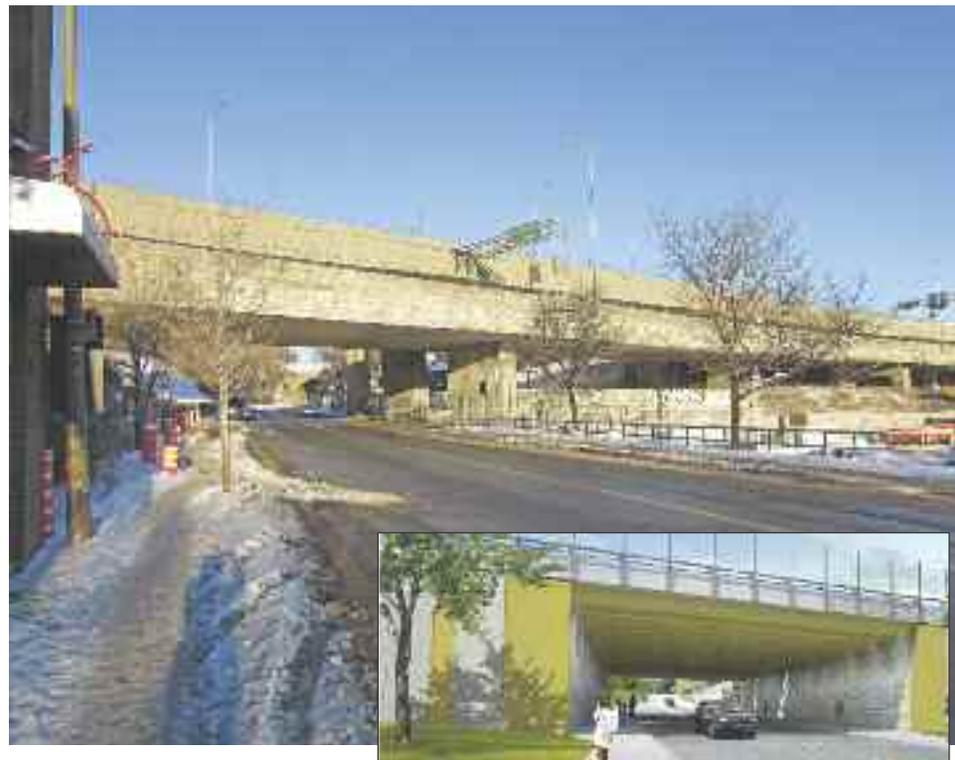
said. It would also eliminate graffiti, be "impossible" to climb and eliminate or hide the unsightly, patched-up metal railway fence.

While the only real answer to railway annoyance is electrification of the rail, she pointed out, the feasibility of a living wall is expected to be known before long so that plans could move forward.

Lowering the new Ville Marie Express-

way some 15 feet in this area is expected to mitigate sound from the highway but leaves the noise from the tracks as the main concern. In the section of the city to the east, District 8, where the highway will not be substantially lowered, the living wall could link up with a possible sound wall. The sound barrier would be jointly funded by the city and Transport Quebec, she explained (see story September 16, p. 1).

Lower highway to use city land



The Glen Rd. near Home Depot and St. Jacques, looking north towards the train and Ville Marie overpasses on January 30. Inset: The new expressway at Glen/de Courcelle will be approximately three meters lower eastbound and 11 meters lower westbound than the current elevated spans. This rendering from Transport Quebec shows Glen Rd. looking north toward St. Catherine. The differences in elevation were received by the city January 29 in response to questions at the Turcot meeting at Victoria Hall January 14.

Photo: Westmount Independent; rendering courtesy of city of Westmount.

Summit Woods cont'd. from p. 1

dressed next year, Lulham said. This includes creating waterways for spring runoff and heavy rains.

Courtyard, dog run among other work

Measures to refurbish Summit Woods are among city efforts to upgrade city parks based on parks studies carried out over recent years.

In other park upgrades, a plan to improve drainage and re-landscape the courtyard outside the conservatory will be stepped up following a burst pipe under the area January 19.

The burst pipe underlines the need to do the drainage work "earlier than planned," Lulham said. Heavy rain typically drains into the basement of Victoria Hall.

The design for the new courtyard, donated by landscape architect Myke Hodgins, includes re-grading and the installa-

tion of a swale to catch and drain rain, a model that may be used by residents in their garden, Lulham explained (see November 4, p. 7).

Hodgins is also designing the new dog run in Westmount Park. This is to be located between the new tennis courts and the bike path, which is to be straightened and pushed further north (see story, October 21, p. 3).

There will also be new landscaping for the Clarke traffic island, Roslyn steps area and sidewalk bump-outs on Devon and on Sunnyside. Landscaping of the Westmount recreation centre will be completed as will the entrance to Westmount Park at de Maisonneuve and Lansdowne across from Westmount Park Church.

As well, playground equipment will be evaluated and a splash-pad added to Prince Albert Park.

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From left to right: 1699 St-Patrick #401, Le Sud-Ouest \$858 000 - 437 Mount Pleasant, Westmount \$1 898 000 -120 keeler, Hatley \$2 449 000.



Oink Oink cont'd. from p. 1

Reconstruction of the 1921 building at 1335-1339 Greene would provide a street-level entry and larger, more functional interior commercial space, according to a demolition file opened at city hall.

It is located mid-block south of Sherbrooke and has a distinctive yellow staircase at the front. This leads down to the basement bookstore and up to the main floor in a recess "carved-out" during renovations in 1965.

Renderings by architect Michael Esar show the recess being filled in, replaced by a single street-level entrance. The second

floor dormer windows and the false mansard roof would be retained, replacing the asphalt shingles with slate ones.

The plan has been recommended by the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) as harmonizing with the character and scale of the streetscape, improving pedestrian access and safety, and restoring some of the characteristics of the façade before the 1965 renovations.

Because of these reasons, the PAC did not object to the request for demolition even though the building is considered to be in good condition and holds a Category II heritage preservation rating.

Project 'timely:' Urban Planning

"I think it's very timely," said Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier of the new plan.

Glenn Neven, vice president of the Greene Avenue Merchants Association, said he hoped the work could be done from the rear and that construction trucks wouldn't block lane deliveries to other stores.

"If it's necessary to do the demolition because of the age of the building, it's fine with me as long as it doesn't interfere with business on the street," he said. "I wish they could do the demolition at this time of year – as far away from the busy season as possible."

Efforts to revitalize the shopping strip have been under way over the last four summers. During this time, the street south to St. Catherine has been reconstructed in two phases.

The southwest corner of Greene and de Maisonneuve has been redeveloped and a public square created.

Recently, zoning changes were also made to restrict new street-level occupancies to retail and service outlets in order to rejuvenate the shopping aspect.

The 2012 total valuation of the property is \$1.13 million. It is listed as owned by Westmount residents Jane Silverstone Segal, CEO of Le Château stores, and Herschel Segal, founder of Le Château.



The demolition proposal involves the Oink Oink building (at right), 1335-1339 Greene Ave. The toy store's "other half" at left is not listed as part of the plan.

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Westmount hockey standings

With just over a month left in the regular season, Westmount's minor youth hockey teams are vying for post-season positioning down the stretch run.

Here is how Westmount's 11 teams sit in the Eastern Hockey League standings, as of February 1.

– MM

	Pos.	Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	FJ	Pts
Novice A	9	Wings	10	2	7	1	15	65	10	15
Novice B	11	Wings	12	2	8	2	14	38	12	18
Atom A	4	Wings	10	7	1	2	56	16	10	26
Atom B	5	Wings	11	8	3	0	39	21	11	27
Peewee A	8	Wings	13	3	8	2	35	47	13	21
Peewee B	1	Wings	20	9	7	4	63	57	20	42
Bantam A	2	Wings	15	14	1	0	66	10	14	42
Bantam B	3	Wings	18	11	5	2	77	45	18	42
Midget A	1	Wings	15	14	1	0	110	36	14	42
	5	Predators	12	8	2	2	69	40	9	27
Midget B	3	Wings	13	10	3	0	76	46	12	32

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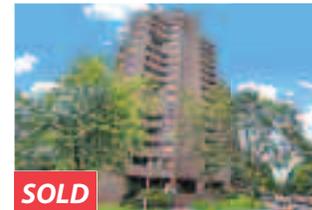
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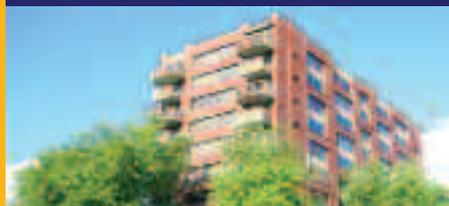
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October transfers: Lower prices, higher mark-ups



Real estate

ANDY DODGE, CRA

home sales in October last year, as 11 houses and a duplex changed hands.

The highest price was only \$1,670,000 for the mountainside home at 3 Bellevue Ave., and five sales were registered south of \$1 million, only \$605,000 for 156 Hillside Ave.

The average was \$1,163,273, compared with an average for all the sales last year (through October) of more than \$1,465,000. Still, with three sales at less than municipal valuation and three others with mark-ups of more than 20 percent, the average mark-up was almost 10 per-

cent, compared with the year's average of only 1.3 percent.

Six of the 11 sales registered in October were actually negotiated in September and closed quickly, including 232 Redfern Ave. which, according to our records, was listed on September 5, sold on September 8 and the deeds signed by October 7.

On the other hand, 3 Bellevue Ave. had been listed several times between 2007 and 2013 before finally selling in late April, with the deeds signed on the last day of October.

The only duplex to sell in October was

61-63 Hallowell St., which had been the subject of a History by the House column ("History of 61-63 Hallowell St.") published in the June 12, 2012 issue of the *Independent*. It is only the fourth full duplex to have been sold in 2014, compared with seven the previous year and 13 in 2012.

No condominium sales closed in October, but the upper flat with the address 427 Victoria Ave. sold for \$442,000. It was deemed to comprise 40 percent of the total duplex at 425-27 Victoria.

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Schubert party raises \$5K for writing program for teens



Spoken word artist Moe Clark attends the annual party to raise money for the Writers in the Community program. It was held at the Victoria Ave. home of Lori Schubert January 18. Clark is one of the facilitators in the Writers in the Community program, which pairs at-risk young people with a professional writer or literary performance artist "to use language to express themselves in productive ways." It is run by the Quebec Writers' Federation, of which Schubert is executive director, along with the Centre for Literacy of Quebec. About \$5,000 was raised for the program.

Photo courtesy of Lori Calman

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Je suis Charlie at library



Photograph taken January 9 at the Westmount Public Library.

Photo: Veronica Redgrave



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Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in October 2014

For list of real estate transfers, please consult paper copy.

For Andy Dodge's analysis, see p. 15.

Dump trucks park in bus zone

The operator of two dump trucks was ticketed January 24 for parking them in a bus zone at St. Catherine at Atwater, Public Security officials said. The trucks were being used at 3:45 pm for "urgent work"

on a roof of one of the stores where water was leaking into the premises. The work was "tolerated" though a permit to occupy the city street had not been obtained.

Alcohol confiscated, weed thrown away

A group of eight itinerants was dispersed January 24 from consuming alcohol in the Tupper lane at 10:12 am. Public Security officials said their bottles were confiscated and the group ordered to circulate.

At 5:12 pm, a large bottle of beer was poured into the sewer and marijuana put in the garbage when three others were found sharing the bottle opposite 4015 St. Catherine.

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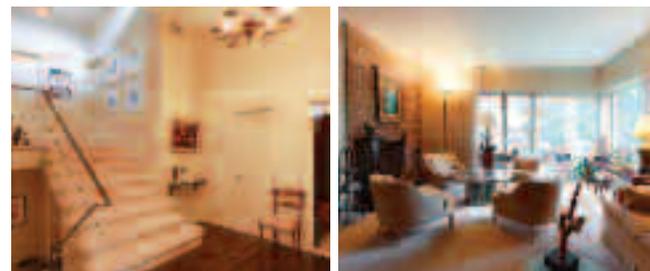
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BUILDING PERMITS

What's permitted

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the city council meeting December 1.

804 Lexington: to add a partial second storey to this existing single dwelling, to add a two-storey oriel window on the front facade, to replace the principal veneer of the building by brick and to replace the windows and doors;

321 Victoria: at a Category I building, to erect a fence in the rear yard.

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the city council meeting December 15.

4 de Casson: to plant some coniferous and deciduous trees along the side property line;

538 Prince Albert: to erect a fence in the rear yard;

2 de Casson: to replace some windows and a door;

54 Oakland: to replace some windows;

540 Côte St. Antoine: to replace some windows;

1373 Greene: at a Category I building, to replace a rear exit door;

45 Oakland: to replace all windows and some doors;

4845 Westmount: to replace some windows;

427 Victoria: to replace some windows and a front balcony door provided the door is wood;

425 Victoria: to replace some windows;

345 Grosvenor: to replace some windows;

415 Argyle: to restore the front porch;

26 Shorncliffe: to build a second-storey addition over the volume fronting on Shorncliffe (see story October 28, p. 3);

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the city council meeting January 12.

450 Côte St. Antoine: to rebuild a retaining wall at the rear of the property and do some landscaping;

4883 Sherbrooke: at a Category I building, to renovate the front façade at the ground floor and do some interior renovations;

472 Grosvenor: to replace the front balcony railing provided it is wrought iron;

4333 St. Catherine: to replace the sign for "Invera;"

372 Roslyn: to replace some rear windows and a side one;

4960-4966 Sherbrooke: to renovate the front façade and interior provided the proposed cornice is removed and the addition of the shutters is omitted;

23 Holton: to do some landscaping at the front, rear and side;

1379 Greene: at a Category I building, to replace a rear door, block a rear window and renovate the interior;

569 Grosvenor: to replace windows and do some interior renovations;

1384 Greene: to rebuild the rear fire escape;

151 Hillside: to replace the second floor windows;

4084 St. Catherine: to install a sign for "Café Green;"

126 Abbott: to rebuild the existing rear extension and rear deck;

4342 Sherbrooke: at Category I building to install a sign for "Martha Franco Architecture & Design;"

427 Victoria: to modify an opening and replace a rear window and door;

345 Victoria: to repave the parking areas and install a fence.

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the city council meeting January 19.

510 Victoria: at a Category I house, landscaping at the rear to include addition of a stone patio with integrated fire pit and water basin at grade;

4028-A Dorchester: to replace windows with certain conditions;

220 Olivier: to replace windows and doors;

225 Olivier: to replace windows and

Tap left running in apartment

Public safety officers were called at 8:15 pm for a water leak in the hallway of an apartment building at 4215 de Maisonneuve January 23, Public Security officials said. Firefighters who arrived to check out the problem attributed it to a faucet left running in a second-story apartment under renovation.

Hockey player injured at Prince Albert Park

A hockey player injured his right ankle January 24 on the rink at Prince Albert Park, according to Public Security officials. Patrollers put ice on the ankle until the man's wife arrived to drive him to hospital. The accident took place just after 4 pm.

doors;

100 Sunnyside: to modify the kitchen window and door openings;

62 Aberdeen: to replace a front door;

4824 de Maisonneuve: to build a roof deck above an existing one storey-addition at the rear provided the trellis is replaced with horizontal boards to match the privacy screen;

330 Victoria: at a Category I building, to build a rear deck at the first floor, provided the grills in the door are simulated divided lites;

3270 Cedar: at a Category I house, to block a side door opening.

Noisy work stopped on Saturday

Following a noise complaint at 8:15 am, workers were warned to turn off a compressor January 24, a Saturday, at 4921 Sherbrooke, Public Security officials said. Heavy machinery is not allowed on the weekend.

Truck stuck heading south on Greene

A large truck was stuck for almost three hours in the Greene underpass beneath the railway tracks January 17, Public Security officials said. "In all my years, it's the first time I've ever seen one stuck southbound," said Public Security director Greg McBain. The incident at 10:58 am brought out CP inspectors as well as CP and Montreal police indicating there must have damage to the structure, he said.

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Mother Minnie and her kitten Roly



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Young Minnie appeared at the door with her tiny kitten Roly in tow, freezing cold and abandoned. They were taken in immediately by a kind lady, who has now asked that Gerdy's Rescues and Adoptions arrange for their adoption.



Minnie is a beautiful white domestic shorthair, with a dramatic grey hat and cape. Her tiny pink nose and gold eyes are a striking contrast to her silky coat. She is just over a year old, a young mother who was inoculated and spayed by the rescue and is now ready for adoption into a family of her own.

Her kitten Roly is now about 12 weeks old, and he is the picture of kitten health. He has had his kitten vaccines and will be neutered by Gerdy's Rescue. As you can see, he has a lot of his mother in him, with his white fur and grey hat and cape. He is



delightfully playful and affectionate, an inquisitive young fellow who looks forward to every new day to discover new things and then fall asleep in the middle of play.

We are looking for separate homes for each, to ensure that they are adopted as soon as possible.

For more details on sweet Minnie and adorable Roly kitten, please page Gerdy's organization at 514.203.9180 or email info@gerdysrescue.org.

Update on handsome Dexter

Dexter, featured in this column on September 9, 2014, has been adopted to a wonderful family and is enjoying the good life, according to Gerdy's Rescues and Adoptions.

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Comin' Up

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Westmount Horticultural Society meets at Westmount Public Library 6:30 pm. "Mosses: Ancient Plants for Contemporary Gardens" by Suzanne Campeau. Members free, guests \$5. Info: 514.932.9349.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Information session hosted by police station 12, 6:30 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Open meeting for residents to discuss 2014 annual assessment, updates on Cabot Square and the 2015 police action plan. Reserve: 514.280.0312.

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or call to speak to a member of the Management Team,

514-933-7975

The ladies of Fulford will welcome you!

Fulford Residence is a private non-profit continuing care residence for senior ladies. This gracious facility provides a special combination of residential living, activities, support and health care designed to meet the individual needs of each resident.

Located on Guy Street, this lovely Victorian house, built in 1859, was once the home of a wealthy Montreal family. With a wide verandah and well-kept flower gardens, the residents are able to enjoy an outdoor setting, as well as indoor spaces for groups or for quiet, activities. Dr. Hew is always on-call, visiting through the week, and working alongside Head Nurse Sylvie Castonguay. With caring staff available 24 hours a day, home-cooked meals to meet every taste, professionals and volunteers who visit to provide services and activities, the ladies of Fulford enjoy a quality of life that encourages individual strengths and abilities.

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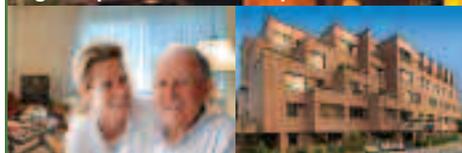
The time has finally come to sharpen my favourite knife.

Considering that it was purchased on

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April 26, 1995 (at 2:15 am, to be precise), I think that it has held up remarkably well.

Lest you think that I am some kind of idiot savant with respect to dates, allow me to reassure you that this is one of the very few that has remained etched in my ever enfeebled brain.

I remember solely because the specific purchase took place, not coincidentally, on a rather eminent date in the Dannenbaum household. It was, as luck might have it, Day 13 of my Eldest Son’s Life. (Perhaps I would be more accurate in defining it as *Night* 13, though this trifling distinction seemed to have been lost on him entirely.)

As had happened for the previous twelve nights, a malevolent curse had befallen our house. With the plunge into darkness, my lovely, cherubic infant had his joyful soul spirited away by what could only have been the Archfiend himself. (If only he could have spirited *me* away.)

For hour after hour, I nursed and rocked and patted and nursed and paced and sang and nursed and wept and cursed and nursed again. I tried the snuggle-hold, the cradle-hold, the belly-hold, and the football-hold – no holds barred! Yet nothing could soothe the savage beast.

Blery eyed and delirious to the point of psychosis, I turned on the television. And that’s when I saw them, in their flashing, slashing glory: the Miracle Blades.

I knew in an instant that these were something I simply could not live without! After all, not a single knife currently in my drawer could permit me to toss a toughened old shoe into the air and julienne it before it hit the ground.

And what else could possibly do the trick the next time I was called upon to slice 92 kilos of tomatoes? With nary a pause to sharpen?

These astonishing knives would allow me to filet a frozen pineapple! To slice

Adamakakis, a national poster contest finalist



Demetrios Adamakakis, a grade 6 student at Selwyn House who was the Quebec winner in the Canadian Public Health Association’s (CPAH) 2014 national immunization poster contest, points to his contribution, which was chosen for the CPAH calendar/poster’s month of August. Students from across Canada were invited to submit drawings which drew attention to the benefits of immunization. The winning submissions were displayed at the Canadian Immunization Conference in Ottawa in December.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

through gyprock! And to cut down a Christmas tree!

But I had to *act now*. It was a *limited time offer*. And I was *saving money*.

So I did what any desperately unhinged new mom would do under the circumstances. I bought two sets. (Remember, I was *saving money*.)

In my defence, in the previous 13 days I had slept a grand total of... just a second while I do the math... zero minutes. Which, when you consider the sizable denominator, was a woefully substandard ratio.

It is also quite possible that this acquisition represented some poorly veiled and sublimated hostility. Several mornings earlier, following a particularly dreadful night (see nurse/curse/pace/weep above), my

husband awoke in his usual refreshed and chipper state. (Eight uninterrupted hours of blissful REM will do that to you.)

“Mmmmmmm,” he purred, stretching luxuriously. “That was a pretty good night!”

Oh, where was my Miracle Cleaver when I needed it?

Fast forward 19 years and my fiendishly delightful son has moved out. Though his apartment is only 10 minutes away, his clamorous nocturnal capers can no longer keep me awake.

So I wistfully assemble care packages; baked with love, and wrapped in yearning.

And I tuck in a single, nifty, ever-sharp little paring knife. For old times sake.

Woman in ‘critical condition’ after falling

A patroller found a woman lying in the snow outside Westmount Public Library January 19 while locking up the building around 9 pm, Public Security officials said. The woman complained she kept falling. Urgences Santé was called and later stated

the woman had to be revived on the way to the Montreal General Hospital. Public safety officers took her effects to the hospital, where she was described in critical but stable condition. She was identified as living in east-end Montreal.

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The Museum Ball sold out – again



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

One of the most glamorous galas in the city was sold out at \$1,000 a ticket. Held

late November, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts' (MMFA) 54th annual ball was inspired by the then-exhibition "Van Gogh to Kandinsky: Impressionism to Expressionism, 1900-1914."

The décor, "Éclats de Rêve," created by La Cirque du Soleil and 4U2C, was full of surreal scenes and performers.

The fundraiser was under the patronage of co-presidents **Luc Bachand**, vice chair and head, BMO Capital Markets, Quebec; **Claude Mongeau**, president and CEO, CN; and **Alan Rossy**, president and CEO, Groupe Copley.

Roula Rossy, chief designer at Groupe Copley and director of The Alan and Roula Rossy Family Foundation, presided over the steering committee.

Co-presidents of the volunteer association were Westmounter **Alexandra MacDougall** and **Michèle Plourde**.

Sensationally stylish Westmounters added to the sartorial scenario. Noted amidst the beaux in black ties and couture-clad ladies were local res **Sylvie and Jacques Chagnon**, **Suzanne Legge** and **Jeffrey Orr**, **Julia and Stephen Reitman**, **Nathalie Schwartz** and **Charles Décarie**, **Sara Pederson** and **Patrick Shea**, **Mary and Slim Vanaselias**, **Daniela and Tom Velan**, **Jennifer and Martin Steber**, **Michèle and James Beckerleg**, **Linda and Ian Greenberg**, **Joelle and Bruce Kent**, **Leslie McDonald** and **Eric Klinkoff**, **Louise Fecteau** and **Lawrence Moquette**, **Camilla Leigh** and **Benn Mikula** and **Paul Desmarais III** with his wife **Mary Daily Desmarais**, in a



From left: Alan and Roula Rossy, Claude Mongeau and Luc Bachand. Photo courtesy of Denis Bernier

ruffled emerald green gown from Lanvin. **Gagnon**, museum director/chief curator **Nathalie Bondil** welcomed guests along with **Brian** *continued on p. 22*



Nathalie Bondil, left, and Michael Levitt. Photo courtesy of Denis Bernier



Mary Daily Desmarais, left, and Paul Desmarais III. Photo courtesy of Jimmy Hamelin

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Social Notes cont'd. from p. 21

Levitt, board chair, and an elegant receiving line.

Noted arriving were Montreal mayor **Denis Coderre** and his wife **Chantal Renaud**, former mayor **Gérald Tremblay** and **Suzanne Côté**, and, as well as **Vivian** and

Francis Fox, Serge Joyal, Carolina and Erik Richer Lafèche, and Concordia president **Alan Shepard**.

Bold face designer names were noted on many lovely ladies, including executive chair of Sun Life Financial Quebec, **Isabelle Hudon**, who dazzled in a white Dolce and Gabbana gown and a Chanel crystal clutch in black to match her bejew-

elled belt. The crowd of 800 enjoyed a meal created by the Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth, under the guidance of Armando Aruda.

Funds raised by the gala were to help finance the acquisition of new works of art, the presentation of international exhibitions and the development of educational and cultural programs at the MMFA.

For the *Indie's* 2015 spring social calendar, please send information to **Veronica Redgrave** at redgrave@videotron.ca.



Michèle Plourde, left, and Alexandra MacDougall.

Photo courtesy of Jimmy Hamelin



Chantal Renaud, left, and Denis Coderre.

Photo courtesy of Denis Bernier



Ian and Linda Greenberg.

Photo courtesy of Jimmy Hamelin.

Rovinescu honoured at Weizmann Canada gala

Westmounter Calin Rovinescu, CEO of Air Canada, was honoured at Weizmann Canada's Leading Men gala in November.

The honorees chose projects that will bear their names and fund basic research in neuroscience, research and medical studies. The evening included presentations by Professor Oded Aharonson, a world leader in space research, Professor Daniel Zajfman, president, Weizmann In-

stitute of Science and actor and philanthropist, William Shatner, who was one of the "leading men."

Said Rovinescu in his acceptance speech "Your brain is brilliant. It's bright, clever, thoughtful, and can do more calculations than a supercomputer. We can create, inspire and charm.

"So you would think that by now we would have answers to the causes of age-related diseases – but the cures remain as elusive as ever. Today, at the Weizmann Institute, an extraordinary think tank made up of scientists, thinkers and researchers, is delving into the mysteries of the memory and memory loss, looking for answers that might someday change the world."

– *Veronica Redgrave*

Westmounter, 2 others caught on camera

Public Security officials said a 32-year-old Westmount man and two friends from Montreal and Ottawa were each ticketed \$76 January 16 for possession of alcohol in Stayner Park. They were caught on a surveillance camera at 9 am in the comfort station reportedly drinking from cans of beer found in their possession when patrollers confronted them shortly after.

Lost woman driven 'safely home'

A young woman was driven "safely home" to St. Henri by public safety officers January 10, Public Security officials said. A caller at 3:55 am had stated a woman needed assistance. Patrollers found her alone and crying outside 3 Church Hill at Côte St. Antoine Rd. Described as intoxicated, lost and cold, she said she had been trying to make her way home from Old Montreal.



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DOWNTOWN,

1455 Sherbrooke Apt 2904 \$2,995,000
Port-Royal, Magnificent contemporary corner unit
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Mountain. MLS 9994743



WESTMOUNT ADJ

3066 Trafalgar \$2,975,000
Stunning home with views from large decks in great
location with a pool! MLS 10545075



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2 Westmount Square #18A \$2,195,000
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3 bath on two levels with astonishing views from
18 & 19th floor.



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12 Windsor, Westmount \$1,495,000
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A great life style house!!



WESTMOUNT

451 Mountain \$1,495,000
Beautiful historical 2 bdr home designed by Scott
Yetman. Perfect Downsize home. MLS 19256838



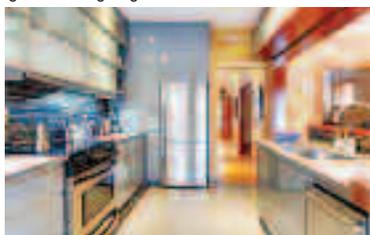
WESTMOUNT

490 Argyle \$1,195,000
Charming semi with tons of potential!
MLS 24526789



DOWNTOWN

23 Redpath Place \$1,185,000
Fabulous townhouse near Museum of fine arts
MLS 20033668



WESTMOUNT ADJ

4692 Av. Victoria \$959,000
Steps to Westmount, this contemporary yet
traditional renovated 4 bdr semi detached, offers
lovely garden, parking included. MLS 15297413



NEW

WESTMOUNT

459 Av. Grosvenor \$659,000
Magnificent, spacious and bright 1287 SF 4 bed-
room condo in Victoria Village, lovely garden &
parking. MLS 19708105



ÎLES DES SOEURS

Verrières V 19th floor \$645,000
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50 Berlioz Apt 105 \$519,000
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80 Berlioz Apt 208 \$395,000
A country like setting in this 1 bdr+den, large
balcony over manicured garden. MLS 27875756



MT-ROYAL PARK

2721 Hill Park Circle \$1,025,000
Lovely 3 bdr townhouse w/garage MLS 10035953.



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3987 Rue Mentana \$539,000
Unique, renovated 1300 SF 2 Bdr condo, Steps to
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128 Montée des Samares \$589,000
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snowshoeing.



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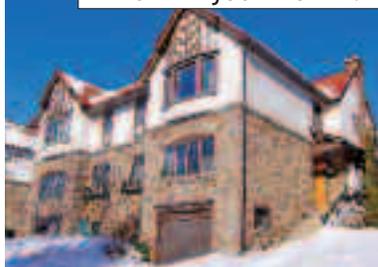
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Westmount, 765 Upper-Belmont Ave. Amongst the finest S/D homes. Quality construction + IMPECCABLY maintained. PRIME location + IMPECCABLY maintained. PRIME location. Large extension at rear. Exquisite details. 5 bdrs, 2 car garage. **\$1,498,000**

ANOTHER JUST RENTED!



Westmount, 3764 The Boulevard Ideal executive rental. A lovely, detached stone house well located in mid level Westmount. Occupancy July 1st. **\$4,500 / month**



Westmount, 234 Metcalfe Ave. STUNNING, architectural marvel blending 21st c. cutting edge design with Victorian elegance. Renov. from top to bottom. 5 bdrm, 4½ baths. 2 car garage + pkg. **\$1,450,000**



Westmount adj., 3027 de Breslay Ave. GLORIOUSLY sun filled 3 (or 4) bdr s/d townhouse desirably located near Sherbrooke St. Spectacular courtyard garden. Large kitchen/family room. 2 car garage. Very attractively priced! **\$1,598,000**



Westmount, 796 Upper-Lansdowne Ave. Fabulous 3+1 bedroom fully renovated home opposite park. Dream kitchen! A/C! 2 car garage! **\$1,475,000**



Westmount, 7 Douglas Ave. Fully renovated, "John Hand" built home. Exceptional woodwork/stained glass. Peaceful, family friendly location. 4 bdrms, 3½ bathrooms. Garage and garden. **\$1,398,000**



Westmount, 651 Roslyn Ave. Impeccably renovated and dramatically extended DETACHED home. Every luxury and convenience! 5 bedrooms, 4½ bathrooms, A/C. **\$2,688,000**



Westmount, 649 Roslyn Ave. Here's an OPPORTUNITY! Detached, updated 1904 home featuring central A/C, 2 car garage, 4+1 bedrooms, 3½ baths! **\$1,699,000**



Westmount, 210 Cote Saint-Antoine Prime location! Ideally situated, this 4 bedroom s/d home overlooks beautiful King George Park. Now available. **\$4,800/month**



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Ville-Marie, 1218 Alexandre-DeSève Exceptionally beautiful 2 bedroom ground floor apartment desirably situated on Alexandre-DeSève, facing a park. Large private outdoor space. COMPLETELY renovated in 2012. **\$390,000**



West Bolton, ET, 271 Spicer Rd. Idyllic 39 acre estate. Ponds, swimming pool, tennis court, main house + guest cottage. No finer combination of comfort, privacy, + privilege at this price. **\$1,495,000**



SOLD by Brian in 3 days @ 99%!

Westmount adj., 3031 ch. de Breslay Urban chic! This 4 bedroom, 3½ bathroom townhouse features every luxury and convenience. Peaceful AAA location. Delightful garden/patio. 2 car garage. **\$1,495,000**



SOLD by Brian in 11 days @ 97%!

Westmount, 547 Lansdowne Ave. Exquisite Victorian jewel! This delightful 1900 townhouse features EXCEPTIONAL architectural details. 3 spacious bdrms, 2½ baths. IMPECCABLE condition. **\$985,000**



SOLD by Brian @ 100%!

Westmount, 200 Lansdowne, #407 1,900 sq.ft. impeccable 3 bedroom, 2½ bathroom corner unit condo in a well managed, tranquil building. 2 garages! **\$739,000**



SOLD @ 94%!

Westmount, 77 Chesterfield Ave. The perfect Westmount family home exists! **\$1,295,000**



SOLD!

Westmount, 53 Chesterfield Ave. AAA LOCATION! **\$979,000**



Listed and SOLD in 19 days @ 97%!

Westmount, 345 Grosvenor Ave. Elegant S/D 1905 home 5 bdr. **\$939,000**



SOLD in 34 days @ 99%!

Westmount, 465 Clarke Ave. Mid century modern townhouse. **\$1,250,000**



Listed & SOLD over asking in 7 days!

Westmount, 25 Renfrew Ave. Renovated to the HIGHEST standards. Virtually nothing was overlooked! Exquisite woodwork, stained glass, + details! Desirable, ultra PEACEFUL location. **\$1,498,000**

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