

Consultations on Westmount Park

Vic Hall meeting set for Nov. 13, survey for Oct. 28

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The consultation process on rehabilitating Westmount Park is gearing up with an online user survey going out October 28 followed by a “major” public meeting at Victoria Hall Wednesday, November 13.

The dates were announced at the coun-

City council

- proclaims Rabbi Shuchat day, p. 3
- moves ahead on greenhouse reno, p. 11
- picks parks superintendent Patry, p. 11

cil meeting October 7 by Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who is spearheading the project and who has been asked at previous sessions how the consultation process would unfold.

The online survey will be using a different format from others used by the city. She expected to have more details in a week, to be included in a councillor column in the *Independent* October 22.

The meeting at Victoria Hall will be very “interactive, participatory and hands on,” she explained. It is to provide various aspects of the project. These will be depicted around the room in various “charrettes,” typically used in planning strategies to show possible ideas or solutions. “I hope everyone will participate in that.”

Fall means fox ‘hunting’



Westmounter Nicolas Matossian (not pictured) invited the *Independent* out to a fox “hunt” last week. (Killing foxes is not the goal in Canadian hunts.) From left, François Vinet (whip) and Frank Seguin (huntsman) of the Lake of Two Mountains Hunt Club on October 9 in Glen Robertson, Ontario. See p. 26 for story.

PHOTO: DAVID PRICE

Grid adopted for feasibility study tenders

‘Next important step’ on the way to an indoor pool

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Advocates and opponents of an indoor municipal pool for Westmount, take note: An evaluation grid was adopted at the council meeting October 7 for assessing consultants bidding in a tender process for an upcoming feasibility study.

Councillor Mary Gallery, commissioner

of library, culture, sports and recreation, said a feasibility study was “the next important step” in making a decision on a potential pool.

The tender call is being worked on, city director general Benoit Hurtubise told the *Independent*. “I’m currently working with a consultant to finalize the tender document. I do not

continued on p. 3

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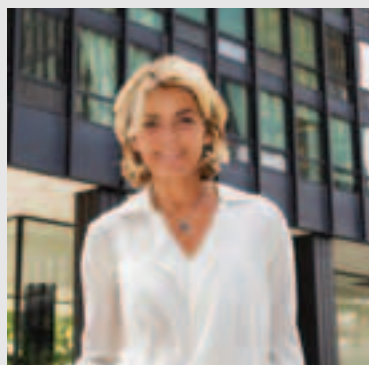
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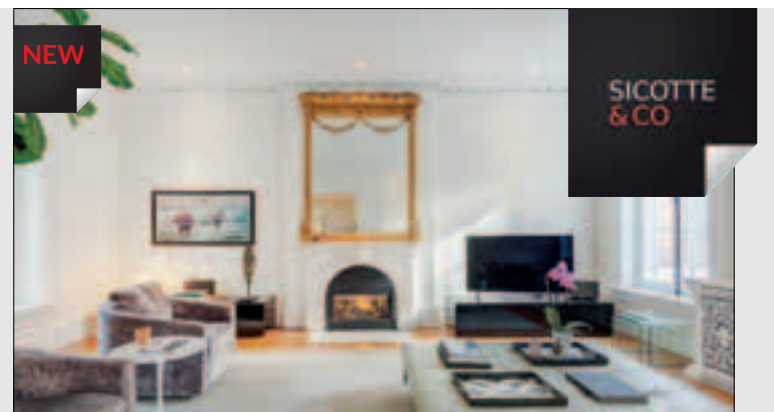
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Last week, Chabad of Westmount, located in Westmount Square, used its regular Friday lunch with the Project Light club of Dawson College to “give support,” in the words of Rabbi Ariel Stern, to mourners of two people who were murdered outside a synagogue in Halle, Saxony-Anhalt, Germany on October 9. Local office neighbours also attended to add their voices.

PHOTO COURTESY OF A. STERN.

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WILLIAM GONG

Cited for contribution to the community

City proclaims special day in tribute to Rabbi Shuchat

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

October 9, 2019 was proclaimed by city council at its meeting two days earlier as a day of tribute to the late Dr. Wilfred Shuchat, who served as spiritual leader of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue from 1946 until retirement in 1993. He died December 27, 2018, at age 98.

In a resolution honouring his work, the rabbi was described as having guided and shepherded his community with devotion, dignity and distinction that touched the lives of generations of Westmount residents.

'Served this community'

"He was man who had served this community," and the city recalled with gratitude his legacy, said Mayor Christina Smith.

The tribute request had been received by the Shaar for October 9, she said, the solemn day of Yom Kippur, when the *yizkor* prayer recalls those who have passed.

Shuchat regularly represented the Jewish community at formal and government occasions, founded the Montreal Board of Jewish Ministers (now called the Board of Rabbis), initiated the Pavilion of Judaism at Expo 67 and established countless programs promoting Jewish values.

After his retirement, he became rabbi emeritus of the Shaar until his death.

Overheard: Meditations on age, talking back

Young child to caregiver, August 5 at 4 pm on Claremont: "I'm not a baby anymore."

Caregiver: "I know."

One woman to another woman at the TD Bank at Claremont, July 9, 1 pm: "We are not spring chickens anymore."

Caregiver to young child, September 5 at 11:30 am at de Maisonneuve and Grosvenor: "Can you stop arguing?"

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Dodge on September real estate, p. 19

9 Lives, p. 20

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Social Notes (MUHC/ Fix Broken Hearts), p. 25

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Pool, cont'd. from p.1

have a specific date on when this tender will be published but I expect that it will be out sometime in November."

The feasibility study follows receipt of an assessment study that found the city was "right on the line" for being "underserved" by an indoor pool. This resulted in a decision to go forward to the feasibility aspect to identify possible locations, costs, operation and management (see story July 9, p. 1).

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A Westmount Resident — A Success Story!

I would like to congratulate my sister, Anie Rouleau for her appearance last week on CBC's Dragons' Den in Toronto and for landing major national distribution in Canadian Tire stores across Canada.

Martin Rouleau



Photo credit: Pété Photographie

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ONE MORE BUILDING
WITH ELEVATOR ISSUES

I read with great interest the article about seniors' residence elevator challenges in your October 1 edition (p. 8). Although where I live is not a seniors' residence, a great number of the tenants are seniors. Our service elevator (more than 50 years old, I think) has broken down at least 24 times in the last five months. On more than one occasion, people were trapped for many minutes. I dread to take that elevator, the only one that leads to the garages, from fear that I would be trapped in it.

Having repairmen come to fix the problem so many times seems to warrant the replacement of this old elevator, but management seems to think otherwise. I ask the city of Westmount and the fire department (they came on at least two occasions to free people stuck in the elevator) what it takes to revoke the permit for a defective elevator. And to the administrators of my building, will the elevator be replaced only after something serious happens to one of the tenants, especially an older one?

VIVIANE AGIA, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

Editor's note: The *Independent* has covered issues with buildings, especially ones with tenants, since its founding in 2007. I encourage anyone with a possible regulatory issue at their building to look into the possible provincial and agglomeration aspects of their problem and not rely only on the city of Westmount, which regulates some aspects of buildings, but not all. I make this statement to inform, without endors-

MONEY CHANGERS IN THE TEMPLE?



It saddens me to see that religious institutional buildings need to resort to such commercial activity to pay for upkeep.

PATRICK MARTIN, THE BOULEVARD

ing (or criticizing) the content of any municipal by-law or provincial law or regulation. – DP.

LOOK AROUND BEFORE YOU
JUMP OFF YOUR JUMP

Are there consequences to Jump bike

users when they leave their bicycles parked in a *private* driveway, thus blocking part of the entrance? Or is there a new rule that we don't know about? By the way, Public Security was called [in my case] and checked out the situation and left! The bike remained in place for several hours!

NATHALIE ALLARD, PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

Follow-up: The Jump bike was picked up at around 6:15 pm by someone on October 8 after being left in the driveway all afternoon.

CITY, RESIDENTS: PLEASE SLOW
DOWN ON WINDSOR

For many years, drivers who are rushed in the morning use Windsor Ave., a small and narrow residential street, to avoid traffic on Sherbrooke in the morning.

The sign at right was seen next to the city sign at left. It basically asks drivers to reduce their speed and stop for the sake of the 30 kids that live on this street.

At rush hour in the morning, drivers chronically drive by the stop sign on the corner of Windsor and Prince Albert.

As residents, may we ask them to get up earlier so they are not in a rush and not speed on our street – or simply use another one!!!

Thank you to the city, which has implanted safety calming measures with these signs, but drivers don't seem to see



them and blaze through them.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS EMMANUEL,
WINDSOR AVE.

UNDER-, OVER-ZEALOUS PARKING
INSPECTORS ON IRVINE

I wanted to call attention to the over-zealous parking inspectors who patrol Irvine Ave., who allow certain vehicles to circumvent the laws (like repair trucks blocking the alley for hours or taking up residents' parking over the allotted times), and then sit and wait to catch residents. I was parked for a matter of moments on the corner of the street in front of my home (there was no parking available) and as I removed my child from his car seat and passed him to my wife waiting at the open door, I was given a ticket as I returned immediately to move my car to another street.

Is this necessary? Is Westmount so hard up for cash that common decency doesn't come into play when doling out tickets? Disgusting.

RAPHAEL KERWIN, IRVINE AVE.

Clarifications

Interviewee Johnson: Hydro Westmount grid to blame. In our story on elevators, "Local seniors' challenges remain unresolved" (October 1, p. 8), interviewee Paul Johnson would like to clarify that he blames Westmount Hydro's *grid* for the electrical/elevator issues at his building, not a *transformer*, as we stated.

Public Security can ticket for riding in parks. In my editor's note of October 1 (p. 6), I said that Public Security cannot ticket for moving violations. A reader has correctly pointed out that I was too broad in my statement. It can ticket anyone for violating municipal by-laws (including riding a bike in the park), but it cannot ticket for most "Highway Act" offences, even if they are by bicyclists. – DP.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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Rouleau slays two Dragons, scores Canadian Tire deal

Westmounter Anie Rouleau was on the *Dragons' Den* TV show last week, pitching her business, The Unscented Company, to the six venture capital personalities. It makes soaps and detergents that are unscented.

She celebrated the event with a live viewing at her Côte St. Antoine house October 10. Approximately 60 well-wishers crammed in to her living and dining rooms to watch her segment, booing Montreal Dragon Vince Guzzo's criticism of her "tech valuation," and cheering for her minimal packaging approach and two offered deals.

Two offers

Dragons Arlene Dickinson and Michele Romanow came in at the same price level: 20 percent of her company for a \$300,000 investment, down from Rouleau's initial ask of only 10 percent for the same amount. Rouleau went with Romanow's offer.

An added bonus was announced in a connected commercial segment right after: Canadian Tire will stock the company's products in all of its 500 stores. One well-wisher was heard to say that this was the real score of the night, as the investment deal is not yet finalized.



Watching live: second from left Anie Rouleau with son Henri-William; to the right, husband Steven Balit and brother Martin Rouleau. Inset: a celebratory family hug as the deal was announced.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT

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Comin' Up

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

The Women's Canadian Club of Montreal presents a conversation-lecture between Anna Porter and Sylvia Fraser. \$10. Sandwich lunch \$8 from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm. Victoria Hall. Lecture: 12.30 pm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

"A Seven-Week Sharing and Learning Group for Survivors of Suicide Loss" by certified life coach Z. Nelly Martinez (z.martinez@mcgill.ca (514) 933-0292). Free. Westmount YMCA, 4585 Sherbrooke St. 6:30 pm. *Continues for six more weeks.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

► "An Introduction to Alzheimer's disease and communication strategies," by Jessica Gozlan of the Alzheimer Society. Free, but register at 514.369.3000. Château Westmount, 4860 de Maisonneuve. 6 pm.

► The Westmount Historical Association presents a lecture on the late former mayor of Westmount (1987-91), May Cutler by her son, Adam, and former mayor Peter Trent. \$5. Westmount Public Library. 7 to 9 pm.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

► St. Matthias' Anglican Church annual fall rummage sale. 131 Côte St. Antoine, corner Metcalfe. 10 am to 1 pm.

► "Celebrating Life" with the Senior Staff band. No entrance fee, but donations for the Council on Palliative Care appreciated. Atwater Library, 4023 Tupper St. 7:30 pm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

Regular, mid-month city council meeting. City hall. 5:30 pm.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

Peace concert by the Montreal Music Collective in support of the Westmount Park United Church community centre. Tickets: bit.ly/31TGIRP. 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. Reception: 6.45 pm, concert: 7.30 pm.

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To include your Westmount event in Comin' Up, please write us a brief note in the above format (date, event, price, location, time of day) to editor@westmountindependent.com.



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cumulative emissions will continue to contribute to global warming well beyond our lifetimes.

As a climate scientist with Environment and Climate Change Canada, I spent over 30 years working with global observations from satellites, ships and surface stations used in weather forecasts and for monitoring the global climate system. The evidence of human-induced warming is startlingly evident in key environmental indicators such as global average air temperatures, sea level, snow and ice cover, and melt loss from the Greenland ice sheet. The impacts of global warming are already widespread, and in Canada include increases in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, increased risks of flooding, damage to infrastructure from thawing permafrost, and increased risk of coastal erosion in some regions from rising sea levels and loss of sea ice.

So, how do we go about reducing our carbon footprint?

First, get an idea of how much carbon we produce. There are two ways we produce greenhouse gases: direct production when we burn fossil fuels to generate elec-

tricity, heat our homes, fill up our cars and when we fly; and indirect production when we buy food, clothing and products whose production generated greenhouse gases.

Online tools

There are a number of online tools for doing this such as carbonfootprint.com, and this exercise really hits home what the big carbon ticket items are: automobile use, air travel, consumer purchases, and food choices (vegan and vegetarian food choices are less CO₂ intensive).

Second, make choices that reduce your carbon footprint. For transport (the major contributor to GHG emissions in Quebec), fly and drive as little as possible (favour public transportation, biking or walking when practicable), and opt for more fuel efficient or electric vehicles. The electric vehicle option in Quebec is particularly attractive because the vehicles are virtually emission free, and the electricity is relatively green and inexpensive. Also, drive smarter (avoid sharp accelerations); limit idling time (observe Westmount's three-minute maximum idling limit); buy more local *continued on p. 20*

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Junior soccer fields resodded for play next spring



Seen October 7, the old turf on the fenced-in junior soccer field in Westmount Park had already been removed and piled up for resodding.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The fenced-in junior soccer pitch alongside Academy Rd. in Westmount Park underwent a complete resodding last week for the first time in several years, according to Sports and Recreation director Dave Lapointe.

Known as the “west” field, it is one large

pitch that gets divided into two for the city’s springtime program that attracts some 1,000 players.

Removal of the old turf along with new earth to cover the field and the laying of new sod was expected to take just over a week.

The “east” open-playing field in front of Westmount Park School is used for soccer

only a couple of times a week by the youngest players, at the Termite level, and is re-seeded on an ongoing basis, Lapointe said. “It’s already grown in quite a bit,” and appears uniformly green, indicating most that of its wear and tear comes from the school’s use, he said.

Westmount Park School is now closed for two years.

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City now has parks team in place: Lulham

Park maintenance to pick up with appointment of Patry



Sophie Patry awaits her appointment at the council meeting also attended by (in background from left) Public Works director Robert Talarico and assistant director Frederic Isabel.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Sophie Patry was appointed by city council October 7 as superintendent of parks and greenspaces for Public Works with a role to oversee their maintenance. She starts October 28.

Patry, who attended the meeting, found out firsthand about some of the work cut out for her. Councillor Cynthia Lulham told meeting questioners on the need for improved maintenance in Westmount Park and Summit Woods that the city now has Patry to look after it.

The city has gone through the summer with a vacancy in this position but now has a team in place consisting of an arborist, horticulturist and parks superintendent, said Councillor Lulham, adding it was largest parks team assembled, at least in recent years.

Patry who has 26 years of professional experience, including in her own business, was introduced by Mayor Christina Smith. She has been working as a parks superintendent for the city of Montreal in the St. Léonard borough and previously in the Southwest.

Restoration project gets shot in arm

Greenhouse project moves ahead under new contract

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The long saga of greenhouse restoration picked up steam October 7, when council awarded a professional services contract to the architectural firm of Affleck de la Riva for a maximum of \$591,603.

Affleck's mandate calls for a multidisciplinary team to continue the project, including inspections, development of a retained interior option and the reconstruction specifications so that tenders can be called in the spring for work to start in the summer. The mandate then involves supervision of the site.

The project "has taken a very, very long time," acknowledged Councillor Cynthia Lulham, whose commissionership includes parks.

The 1927 greenhouse complex was closed in September 2015 for safety reasons.

While the architectural firm of Nadeau, Nadeau, Blondin had created an interior design concept adopted by the council late last year, Lulham explained. Its mandate ended when the cost of this preferred op-

tion of three ballooned to some \$4.3 million and "sent us back to tender" for the remaining work (see story April 2, p. 7).

While the same firm submitted a bid to continue the work, the evaluation process led to Affleck winning the remainder of the professional services' role.

Risk analyses

Following closure of the complex, it underwent several iterations of assessments, risk analyses and the type of work required owing to a scarcity of expertise in the field of historic cascade greenhouses. The production greenhouses at the back are not part of the current project.

Among the possibilities had been total demolition and rebuilding though it was finally decided to retain structurally sound portions.

Seeing the project through to its completion was one of Lulham's main stated reasons for seeking re-election in 2017 to a seventh council term, along with the rehabilitation of Westmount Park (see separate story, p. 1).

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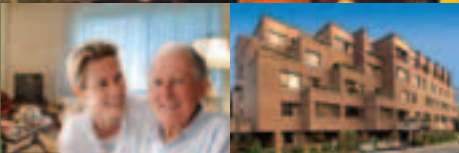


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1,000+ people visit Art Westmount 2019



Pierrette Bornais-Hill and John Hill with artist Laurence Pineault.

BY HEATHER BLACK

On October 5 and 6, Victoria Hall was the lively scene of Art Westmount 2019, the exhibition – and sale – of art and books by local residents. Art works included a range of subjects from florals by Catherine Benny or Roxanne Dyer to landscapes by

Sara Colby or newcomer Laurence Pineault. Local scenes included Ronald Poole’s “Tai Chi in Westmount Park,” Maureen Tracey’s “Park Dog Sculpture,” and Jennifer Goddard’s “Park Pond.” Goddard said of the event, “It is a great window to show new paintings or additional bodies of work.”

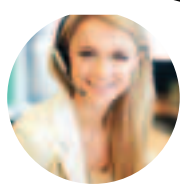
Other subjects included playful figures by Anna Gedalof or Caroline Benchetrit, stylized zebras by Pierre Desjardins and colourful horses by Bruce Roberts and Sharon Sutherland. Work in other media included photographs by Lucie Lacava or Shahrzad Ghaffari, quilted art by Lily Lam and ce- *continued on p. 22*



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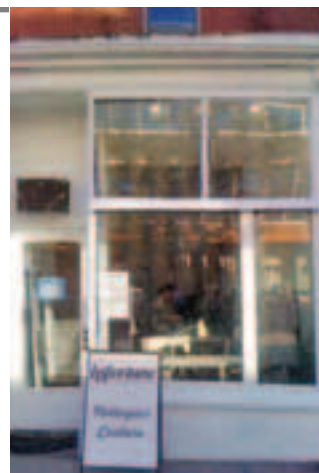
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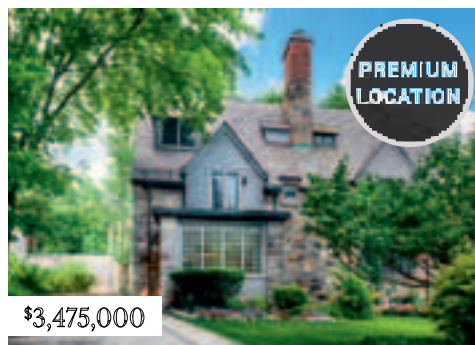
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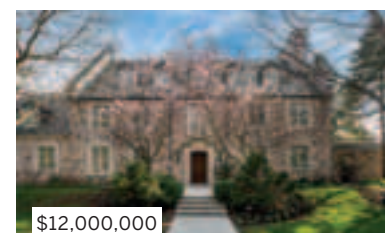
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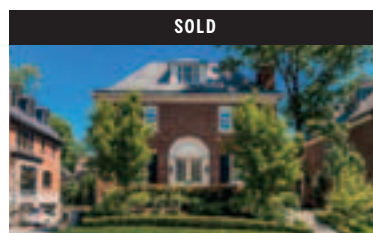
Spectacular estate, Westmount
BED: 6+1 BATH: 5+2 MLS 11780148
Kaufman Group† 514.379.1333



INTRODUCING

\$6,495,000

Majestic stone residence, Westmount
BED: 7 BATH: 4+2 MLS 15604893
Joseph Montanaro* 514.660.3050



SOLD

Magnificent residence, Westmount
BED: 5 BATH: 4+2
Anne Ben-Ami (Madar)* 514.726.3037



INTRODUCING

\$2,950,000

Elegant & classic, Westmount
BED: 4 BATH: 3+1 MLS 26007131
Cyrille Girard* 514.582.2810

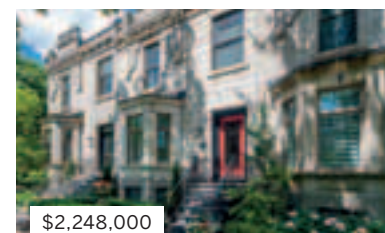


NEW PRICE

\$2,250,000

Desirable location, Westmount
BED: 5 BATH: 3+1 MLS 15494784
Saul Ciecha* 514.941.6248

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\$2,248,000

Renovated Victorian townhouse, Westmount
BED: 4 BATH: 3+1 MLS 15557358
Penelope Vilagos 514.779.5122**



\$4,880,000

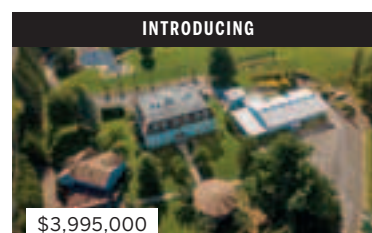
Location, view & quality, Beaconsfield
BED: 5 BATH: 6+1 MLS 12320576
Barbara Baudinet 514.825.9890**



INTRODUCING

\$4,200,000

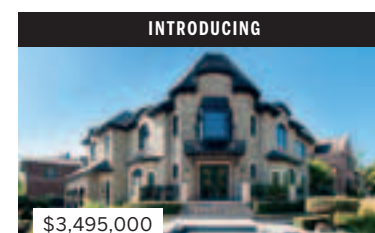
Majestic stone residence, Senneville
BED: 5 BATH: 4+1 MLS 28878255
Randy Naami 514.743.5000**



INTRODUCING

\$3,995,000

Domaine Castor et Pollux, Lachute
+90 ACRES MLS 26768150
Gabriele Di Iorio 514.267.8596**



INTRODUCING

\$3,495,000

Immaculate residence, DDO
BED: 7 BATH: 4+1 MLS 20362725
Stefano Bizzotto^ 514.962.3539

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\$3,387,000

Somptuous residence, Outremont
BED: 6 BATH: 3+1 MLS 11618564
Monica Genest* Victoria Marinacci* 514.400.0280



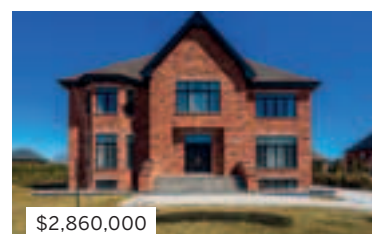
\$3,000,000

World at your doorstep, Dorval
BED: 5 BATH: 4 MLS 28751957
Miguel Escobar 514.953.9797**



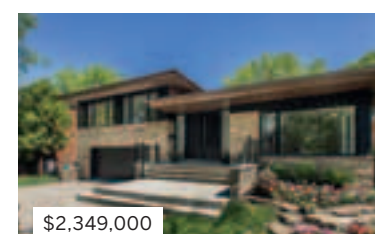
\$2,900,000

Fantastic family home, Brossard
BED: 4 BATH: 3+1 MLS 10634197
Martin Bilodeau* 438.871.1030



\$2,860,000

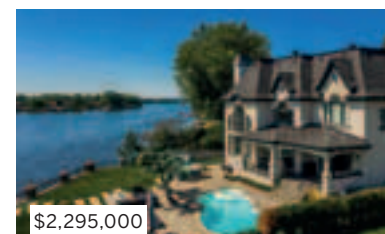
Prestigious residence, Brossard
BED: 7+1 BATH: 5 MLS 23184090
Bo Shi Li^ 514.998.1835



\$2,349,000

Spectacular turnkey home, Hampstead
BED: 5 BATH: 3+1 MLS 26073258
Laurie Tenebaum* 514.248.7272

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Beautiful waterfront, Ste-Dorothee
BED: 4 BATH: 3+1 MLS 13547820
Vincent Chaput* 514.264.3555



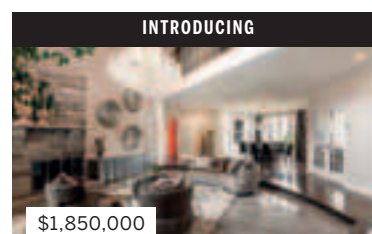
\$1,985,000

Tudor-style cottage, Hampstead
BED: 5 BATH: 4+1 PMLS 14253099
Maureen Brosseau* 514.995.4597 Jill Shpritsner 514.691.0800**



\$1,899,000

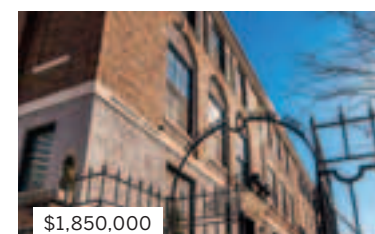
Immense corner property, DDO
BED: 6 BATH: 4+1 MLS 22477519
Anna-Maria Allushi^ 514.594.1363



INTRODUCING

\$1,850,000

Fantastic property, Kirkland
BED: 4 BATH: 4+2 MLS 23054752
Jeisi Zhou^ 514.262.7709



\$1,850,000

Georgian-style townhouse, Golden Mile
BED: 3 BATH: 3+1 MLS 14413894
Jill Shpritsner 514.691.0800 Maureen Brosseau* 514.995.4597**

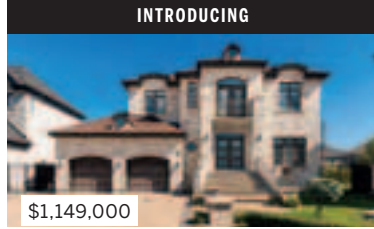
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Spectacular home, Bois-Franc
BED: 4 BATH: 2+1 MLS 15413474
Géraldine Libraty* 514.962.5563



INTRODUCING

\$1,149,000

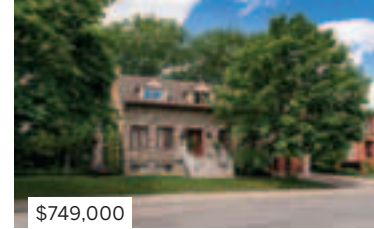
Magnificent residence, Ste-Dorothée
BED: 5 BATH: 3+1 MLS 9160114
Mia Drymousis^A 514.668.5164



INTRODUCING

\$849,900

Luxurious townhouse, Nuns' Island
BED: 3 BATH: 1+1 MLS 16592521
Marie-Josée Rouleau* 514.660.6682



\$749,000

Magnificent cottage, Mercier
BED: 4 BATH: 3 MLS 28420965
Pina Pizzi* 514.781.4826



SOLD

Immaculate split-level, DDO
BED: 3+1 BATH: 1+1
Jessica Di Re^A 514.465.4197
John Di Pietro* 514.726.1400

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Oasis of tranquility, Terrasse-Vaudreuil
BED: 4 BATH: 2 MLS 9887976
Cassandra Aurora** 514.293.2277



NEW PRICE

\$635,000

Beautifully landscaped, Hudson
BED: 4 BATH: 3+1 MLS 23375247
Linda Noseworthy* 514.830.2288



INTRODUCING

\$589,900

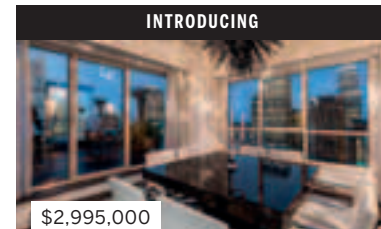
Renovated cottage, DDO
BED: 4 BATH: 2+1 MLS 14241473
Nancy Salanueva* 514.793.5619



INTRODUCING

\$1,175,000

#1 Wood, well renovated, Westmount
BED: 2 BATH: 2 GAR: 1 FT²: 1,417 MLS 18101921
Karen Karpman* 514.497.8218

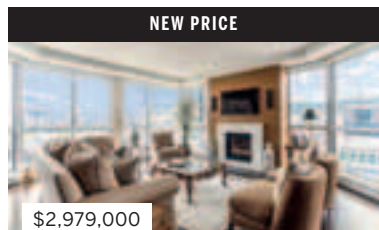


INTRODUCING

\$2,995,000

Le 1200 Ouest PH, Golden Square Mile
BED: 2 BATH: 2 GAR: 2 MLS 10796250
Phyllis A. Tellier** 514.924.4062

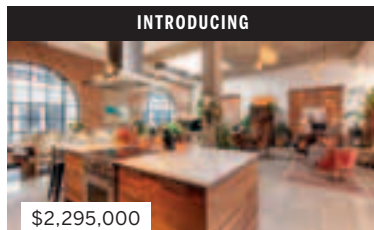
« CONDOS »



NEW PRICE

\$2,979,000

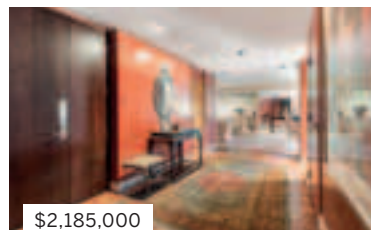
Nice home at Le Crystal, Ville-Marie
BED: 3 BATH: 3 GAR: 4 MLS 19983041
Louise Latreille* 514.577.2009



INTRODUCING

\$2,295,000

Spectacular New York style PH, Ville-Marie
BED: 3 BATH: 2 GAR: 2 MLS 25547228
Saguy Elbaz* 514.892.7653



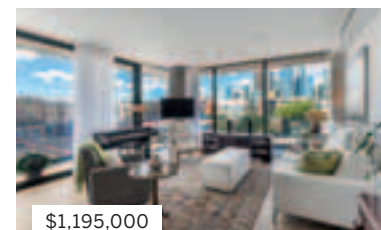
\$2,185,000

Chic corner suite, Golden Square Mile
BED: 3 BATH: 2+1 GAR: 2 MLS 14578459
JJ Jacobs** 514.817.7020



\$2,100,000

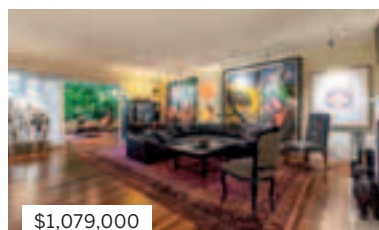
Magnificent PH, Ville-Marie
BED: 3 BATH: 2 GAR: 2 MLS 13416323
Pierre Brunet** 514.248.8032
Anne Gascon* 514.592.5520



\$1,195,000

Vibrant & trendy, Griffintown
BED: 2 BATH: 2 GAR: 1 MLS 13530611
Diane Oliver** 514.893.9872

« CONDOS »



\$1,079,000

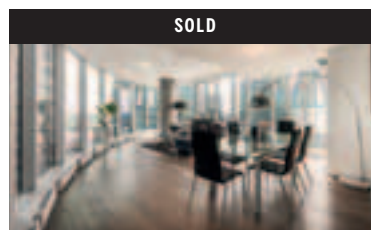
Tropiques Nord, Cité du Havre
BED: 3 BATH: 2+1 GAR: 1 MLS 21354818
David Wilkes* 514.947.5152



REVISED PRICE

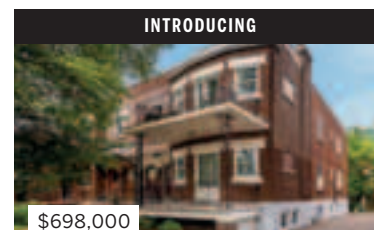
\$1,025,000

Somptuous condo, Nuns' Island
BED: 2 BATH: 2 GAR: 2 MLS 18387404
Johanne Turenne** 514.909.9029



SOLD

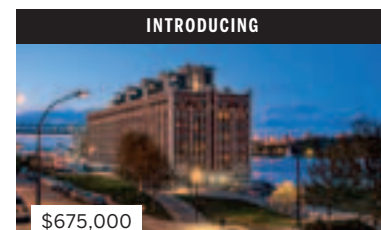
Stunning views, Downtown
BED: 3 BATH: 2 GAR: 1
Patrick Vaillant** 514.774.6917



INTRODUCING

\$698,000

Charming lower duplex, Monkland
BED: 3 BATH: 1 MLS 16455010
Karine Doche* 514.677.6244
Nayla Saleh* 514.941.6244



INTRODUCING

\$675,000

Water view, Old Montreal
BED: 1 BATH: 1 MLS 23379295
Patricia Lallier** 514.239.1898

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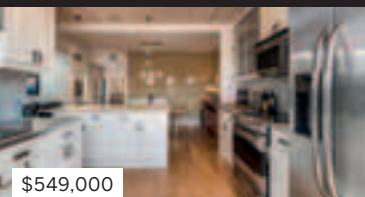
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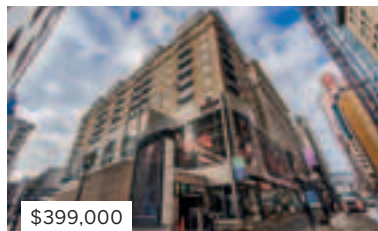


\$549,000

Renovated condo, Ville-Marie

BED: 3 BATH: 2 PARK: 1 MLS 10438819

Kevin Perreault* 514.774.5932
Vincent G. Bussière[▲] 514.816.3231



\$399,000

Cours Mont-Royal, Ville-Marie

BED: 1 BATH: 1+1 MLS 24419829

Jessica Lombard* 514.476.9700
Elizabeth Cox* 514.577.2737



\$9,950,000

Beautiful mansion, Mont-Tremblant

BED: 5 BATH: 8+2 MLS 24984550

Herbert Ratsch^{††} 819.429.9019



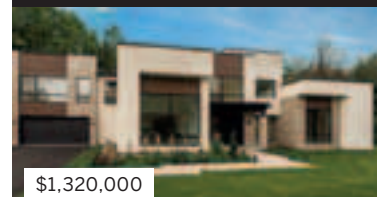
\$1,795,000

Lac Cabane, St-Adolphe-d'Howard

BED: 5 BATH: 3+1 MLS 12406225

Marsha Hanna* 819.425.0619

INTRODUCING



\$1,320,000

Grand new build, St-Sauveur

BED: 6 BATH: 3+2 MLS 18614989

Sophie Le Guerrier* 514.655.0773

« COUNTRY PROPERTIES/LAND »



\$1,200,000

Unique design, Frelighsburg

BED: 3 BATH: 3 MLS 23629591

Marie-Piers Barsalou** 450.577.0272
Johanne Meunier* 514.926.5626

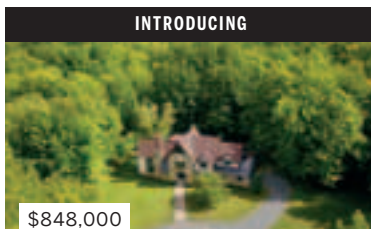


\$898,000

Lac des Sables, Ste-Agathe-des-Monts

BED: 5 BATH: 2+1 MLS 16517348

Melanie Clarke* 450.694.0678



INTRODUCING

\$848,000

14-acre estate, Rigaud

BED: 4 BATH: 2+1 MLS 11566809

Bea Jarzynska[▲] 438.989.8912



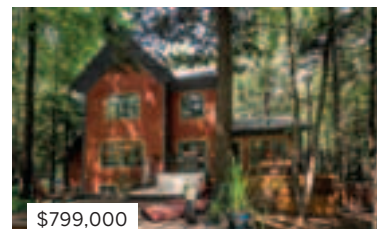
NEW PRICE

\$838,000

Shuttle to Resort, Mont-Tremblant

BED: 5 BATH: 2+1 MLS 23830512

Rachelle Demers* 514.378.8630



\$799,000

Beautiful cozy residence, Blainville

BED: 4 BATH: 3+1 MLS 24751790

Lynne Leclair* 514.570.8998

« COUNTRY PROPERTIES/LAND »



INTRODUCING

\$789,900

234 ft on Stukely Lake, Eastman

BED: 6 BATH: 1+1 MLS 13444187

Marie-Josée Hotte** 819.560.2111
Andréanne Rousseau[▲] 819.578.0633

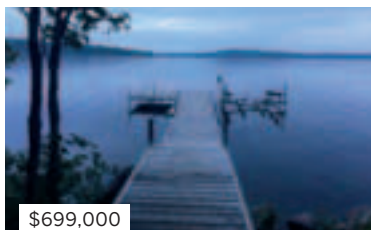


\$725,000

Lac Rougeaud access, St-Faustin/Lac-Carré

BED: 3 BATH: 3 MLS 26049643

Cody Ratcliffe 819.429.1834



\$699,000

Nomingue Lake, Nomingue

BED: 3 BATH: 2+1 MLS 16095780

Raymond Dalbec** 819.425.4568



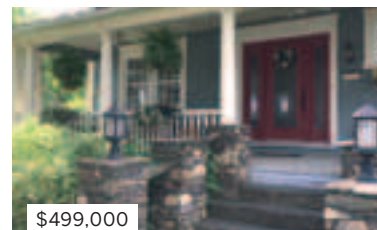
NEW PRICE

\$649,000

View | Ski Chanteclerc, Sainte-Adèle

BED: 5 BATH: 3 MLS 24722151

Stéphane Larrivée* 514.809.8466



\$499,000

Commercial & residential, Standstead-Ville

BED: 5 BATH: 1+1 MLS 15774345

Monique Boudreau* 819.823.2769

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Police Report

Police urge driver caution after bike path collision

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Following a recent collision on the de Maisonneuve Blvd. bike path between a bicyclist and a car driver, staff at the Montreal police department's Station 12 are cautioning motorists who make turns through bicycle paths to be extra cautious.

In a case of "car versus cyclist," Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière described how a cyclist was driving westward along the de Maisonneuve bicycle path near the intersection of Claremont Ave. on October 5 around 6:30 pm.

At the same time, the driver of a car was approaching in the same direction from behind to make a left-hand turn into the driveway of the 4998 de Maisonneuve building.

According to Laperrière, the cyclist was struck in the right arm by the car's driver-side rear view mirror. As well, the car's left-front tire damaged the front wheel of the bike.

Even though they were both headed in the same direction, Laperrière suggested the motorist may have failed to see the cyclist because of a driver's left-side visual blind spot while making the turn. However, he also said there may have been extenuating circumstances.

While noting that the police report didn't mention whether the cyclist was using a front-end headlight, he added, "Around that time, at 6:30 in the evening, it's starting to slowly get dark. We can wonder if the dusk might have had anything to do with it – the fact that it was getting darker."

But Laperrière also agreed that car drivers "do need to be more cautious and more aware of what's happening around them – especially at this time of the year

when it's getting darker a lot faster."

Fortunately, the cyclist wasn't seriously injured and Urgences Santé paramedics didn't have to be called. "He complained of pain in his right wrist," said Laperrière.

This isn't the first time there has been a collision between a motorist and a cyclist along the de Maisonneuve Blvd. bike path.

According to *Independent* files, a cyclist had to be treated for injuries following a November 2015 collision between his bicycle and a car making a left-hand turn at Wood and de Maisonneuve through the bike path.

Identity theft on Desjardins client

Police at Station 12 believe that a case of identity theft perpetrated against a Westmount resident may be linked to a recent personal information breach that compromised nearly three million Caisse Desjardins accounts.

According to Laperrière, the resident received a call from his bank on October 2 asking whether he had completed a credit card transaction with a Quebec City retailer.

Saying that he hadn't, he was informed that an unknown perpetrator had tried to obtain a Capital One credit card branded by Costco using his stolen identity.

Laperrière said the victim's personal information was found to be part of the massive batch of computer data stolen from Desjardins.

However, the fact that the victim had previously registered with credit reporting agencies TransUnion and Equifax allowed the attempted fraud to be detected and prevented, he added.

Unlocked front door

Following a household continued on p. 22



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Westmounters line up to discard hazardous stuff

BY RALPH THOMPSON

October 5 was the semi-annual day for Westmounters to discard their hazardous waste, from 9 am until 5 pm. Popular items included batteries, paint, stains and corrosive material, propane cans, aerosols, electronic and electrical items such as printers and microwave ovens. Functioning equipment was separated and, if appropriate, given to the Salvation Army.

Anyone who missed the collection can take their hazardous waste to multiple Écocentres around the island of Montreal. See www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/ecocentre.



A lot of electronic and electrical equipment, including a VCR, reel-to-reel tape recorder, printers and outdated computers with floppy disk drives.



One drop-off point was for the Salvation Army for anything that could be reused.



A large amount of unused paint, varnish and stain was collected.



Residents were still lining up at 3 pm to discard their hazardous waste.

October Promotion

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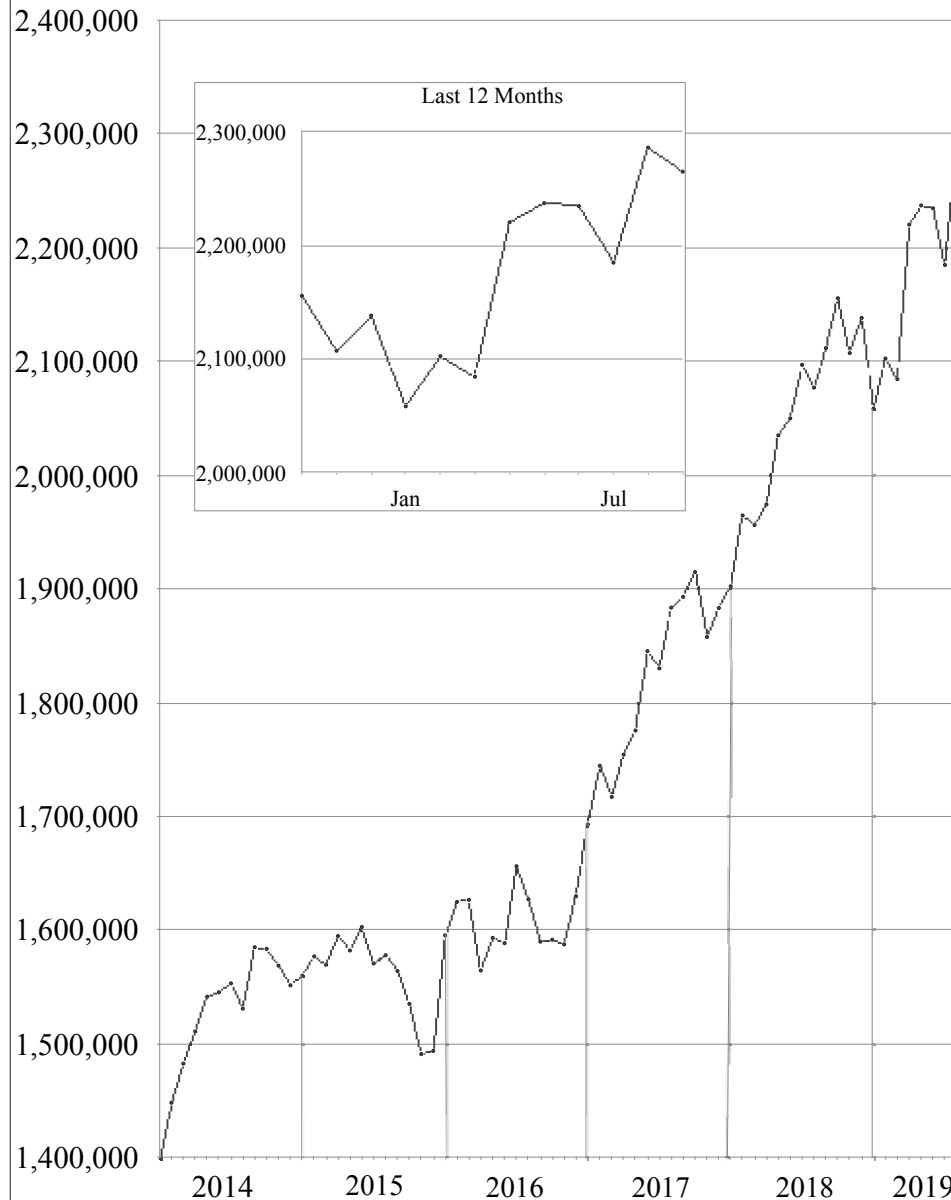


Real Estate

ANDY DODGE,
CRA (RET.)

September sales: Crazy autumn

Average adjusted price for 'typical' Westmount house, by month, January 2014 to August 2019, based on accepted offer dates



Note: The following article relates to offers to purchase Westmount residential dwellings that were reported by local real estate agents as having been accepted in September 2019. Because they are not final registered sales, the addresses cannot be made public, but give a good idea of current trends in local real estate activity. The graph at right offers a picture of these trends over time.

Three sales over \$3 million and one more over \$4 million graced the top of Westmount's sales list in September, and the lowest price of the month involved a duplex that was put on the market asking \$999,000 and sold nine days later for \$1,220,000.

Thus it is obvious we have gotten into the fall selling season in a rush, turning a slow summer into a crazy autumn.

Nine one- and two-family properties were reported sold in September for an average price of \$2,510,556, while in August among seven sales the average was \$1,271,786, and the highest price was only \$1,650,000.

More importantly, the nine houses sold in September went for an average 35.6 percent more than their municipal evaluations, slightly higher than in August, when the figure was 31.5 percent. Still, that 35.6 percent figure included one multi-million house that sold for almost 12 percent less than the tax assessment, heavily influencing the average. Another house sold for more than double its valuation and three others were more than 50-percent mark-ups, more proof that the market is storming ahead.

On the other hand, three of the nine sales had been on the market for more than a year and one more for almost eight months, moving up the average days-on-market to 262 days compared to only 98 days in *continued on p. 20*

Any and all Donations will be gratefully accepted!

The Auxiliary of the Montreal General Hospital

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**October 31:
9:30 am – 4 pm
& November 1:
9:30 am – 2 pm**

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Westmount A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

The worst is over. These small dogs, pups and a cat are now safe from the neglectful environment they were in and

After the rescue: our turn to help

were taken in by the volunteers at Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions.

Safety, health care, fostering, adoption: this non-profit rescue group is working diligently at ensuring that all these steps are in place for each and every tiny dog that was saved.

These dogs are mostly Yorkies, with a bonded pair of Chihuahuas, fragile little

ones that were living outside, in an unfenced backyard near a road. A lone cat is also in need of support in the next steps of his placement.

Please reach out to Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions to consider donating to their dedicated veterinary care fund for vaccinations, deworming, spaying, neutering, grooming and boarding, or reach out now

to foster or adopt as home visits have started.

You can find out more about this seizure and the next steps through their website gerdysrescue.org/urgent-help-required/ or email at info@gerdysrescue.org.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

He is such a handsome hunk, lovable and ready for family life. Bear Paw was abandoned outside and was taken in by Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions for vetting and adoption. This classic grey-and-black tabby has striking green eyes that contrast with his kissable pink nose. He is approxi-

Bear Paw: Big feet and huge heart

mately three years old, healthy and up to date with all his vetting (inoculations, treatments, neutering).

Since he is polydactyl, he had one front paw that was extremely large and he had surgery to be able to walk better. Bear Paw is nimble now on his large feet, with extra cute pink toes too, and he hangs around looking cuddly and focused on affection.

This very companionable young fellow is ready for adoption in our neighborhood, and you can find out more about him on Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions Facebook page or email them at info@gerdysrescue.org.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



Greenhouse gas, cont'd. from p. 9

products, and reuse, recycle and compost as much as possible (see Westmount's waste management website for useful information westmount.org/en/environment/waste-management/).

To quote from Jane Goodall. "You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

The Westmount Healthy City Project, in collaboration with the city council and the administration, initiates short and long-term sustainability projects for the achievement of a broadly defined healthy urban environment.

Classifieds in the Independent

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Real estate, cont'd. from p. 19
August and 71 days in July.

Condos & adjacent Westmount

Four condominiums sold in September, boosting the third-quarter total to 14 sales with an average price of \$931,929 and an average mark-up of 34.8 percent compared to municipal evaluation, up from 31.4 percent in the second quarter and 16.5 percent in the first quarter of 2019.

Four houses sold in the adjacent-Westmount sector of NDG, where the average price so far this year is \$1,372,058, and three sold in the southern part of Côte des Neiges, where the 2019 average is

\$1,603,765, closing in on the averages for east-of-Westmount (\$1,758,500) and the Square Mile (\$1,728,750). In fact, the latter two averages are lower than 2018, while in Côte des Neiges and NDG they are higher.

The volume of house listings changed very little in the past month, but the 131 homes available in Westmount is substantially higher than it was at this time last year (97 listings).

One more house rental was posted in September, bringing the year's total through September to 34, of which four had rates over \$10,000 per month. None of the 47 house rentals posted in 2018 made the \$10,000-plus range.

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2019.10.15 • Vol. 7/19

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infoWestmount

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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Rôle d'évaluation foncière 2020-2021-2022

Le nouveau rôle triennal d'évaluation foncière a été déposé le 11 septembre 2019. Consultez-le en ligne ou en personne à l'hôtel de ville. westmount.org.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Atelier de poésie

Mercredi 16 octobre, 10 h 15, Bibliothèque. Avec Ann Lloyd. Bienvenue à tous. 514 989-5299.

La semaine projection

Mercredi 16 octobre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *Moving Through Grief with Words and Images* par Victoria Leblanc. En anglais. Billets requis. 514 989-5226.

Festival interculturel du conte de Montréal

Samedi 19 octobre, 20 h, Victoria Hall : GALA D'OUVERTURE, 15 \$. 514 989-5226.

Dimanche 20 octobre, 14 h-15 h, Bibliothèque : LA CLÉ DU ROYAUME avec la conteuse Marta Singh (familles et enfants de 6 ans et plus). 514 989-5229.

Club de lecture en français

Lundi 21 octobre, 13 h, Bibliothèque. Œuvres de Jean Désy. Animé par Gisèle Magny. 514 989-5299.

Club de tricot

Lundi 21 octobre, 16 h, Bibliothèque. Pour tous les niveaux et tous les âges. Inscription : 514 989-5299.

Ciné-club

Mardi 22 octobre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. *Wild Rose* (2018) Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture en anglais

Mardi 22 octobre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *Pachinko* de Min Jin Lee. 514 989-5299.

Après-midis conférences

Mercredi 23 octobre, 14 h, Bibliothèque. *Pirates, Monsoons, and Heartache: A Sea Voyage in Search of Paradise* avec Rita Pomade. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Rencontres d'auteurs

Mercredi 23 octobre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. Susan Doherty, auteure de *The Ghost Garden: Inside the Lives of Schizophrenia's Feared and Forgotten*. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Extravaganza de l'Halloween

Samedi 26 octobre, 15 h 30 – 16 h 30 (5 à 8 ans) et 19 h – 21 h (9 à 13 ans). Venez célébrer Harry Potter au

Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 4 novembre

Victoria Hall, qui sera transformé comme par magie en Poudlard ! Apportez votre citrouille décorée (aucun découpage svp!) à la Bibliothèque **au plus tard le 25 octobre** et recevez votre billet gratuit. Billets requis; places limitées. 514 989-5229.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Galerie du Victoria Hall : Exposition

Du 24 octobre au 26 novembre : œuvres de Marcel Pinchevsky et Colin Thomson. Vernissage : mercredi 23 octobre, 18 h; Club de la Galerie d'art : mardi 29 octobre, 14 h. 514 989-5265.

Samedi cinéma

Samedi 26 octobre, 14 h, Bibliothèque. *The Public* (2018). Billets gratuits : Bibliothèque ou Victoria Hall.

Parlons Opera!

Dimanche 27 octobre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. *Lucia di Lammermoor* de Donizetti. Veuillez vous inscrire à operademontreal.com.

Une soirée avec Margaret Trudeau

Mercredi 30 octobre, 19 h, Victoria Hall. L'icône canadienne racontera son histoire personnelle pour rappeler aux autres l'importance de la santé du corps et de l'esprit. Billets : 20 \$. 514 989-5226.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Maison hantée 2019

Judi 31 octobre, 17 h 30 à 20 h, pavillon du bowling. L'équipe de la Sécurité publique vous invite à visiter la chapelle hantée. Frissons garantis. Contributions acceptées au profit de Leucan.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Incroyables comestibles : période de récolte

Jusqu'au 20 octobre, les résidents sont invités à récolter des légumes des plates-bandes ornementales de la Ville. Consultez westmount.org pour connaître les endroits et des recettes.

Collecte de feuilles et de résidus de jardin

Les feuilles et les résidus de jardin placés en bordure de rue dans des sacs de papier ou dans des contenants ouverts sont ramassés par la Ville régulièrement. Le dépôt du ch. Belvédère est aussi ouvert aux résidents (avec preuve de résidence) et aux entrepreneurs détenteurs d'un permis de la Ville du lundi au vendredi entre 7 h et 17 h **jusqu'au 15 novembre**.

Sign up TO WESTMOUNT E-NEWSLETTER

Visit westmount.org/ewestmount to subscribe and receive the latest news by email from your City!

CITY HALL

2020-2021-2022 Valuation roll

The new three-year valuation roll was tabled on September 11, 2019. Consult it online, or in person at City Hall. westmount.org.

LIBRARY

Poetry workshop

Wednesday, October 16, 10:15, Library. With Ann Lloyd. Everyone welcome. 514 989-5299.

Projection Week

Wednesday, October, 7 p.m., Library. *Moving Through Grief with Words and Images* with Victoria Leblanc. Tickets required. 514 989-5226.

Montreal Intercultural Storytelling Festival

Saturday, October 19, 8 p.m., Victoria Hall. OPENING NIGHT GALA, \$15. 514 989-5226.

Sunday, October 20, 2-3 p.m., Library. THE KEY TO THE KINGDOM with storyteller Marta Singh (for families and children 6+ years). 514 989-5229.

French Book Club

Monday, October 21, 1 p.m., Library. Works by Jean Désy. Led by Gisèle Magny. 514 989-5299.

Knitting Club

Monday, October 21, 4 p.m., Library. For all levels and ages. Registration: 514 989-5299.

Film Club

Tuesday, October 22, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. *Wild Rose* (2018). Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

English Book Club

Tuesday, October 22, 7 p.m., Library. *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee. 514 989-5299.

2 O'clock Lecture Series

Wednesday, October 23, 2 p.m., Library. *Pirates, Monsoons, and Heartache: A Sea Voyage in Search of Paradise* with Rita Pomade. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

Author Lecture Series

Wednesday, October 23, 7 p.m., Library. Susan Doherty, author of *The Ghost Garden: Inside the Lives of Schizophrenia's Feared and Forgotten*. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

Halloween Extravaganza

Saturday, October 26, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (5-8 yrs) & 7-9 p.m. (9-13 yrs), Come celebrate Harry Potter at

Next Council Meeting Monday, November 4

Victoria Hall, which will be magically transformed into Hogwarts! Bring a decorated pumpkin (no carving, please!) to the Library **on or before October 25th** to receive your free ticket. Tickets required; space is limited. 514 989-5229.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Gallery at Victoria Hall: Exhibition

October 24 to November 26: Works by Marcel Pinchevsky and Colin Thomson. Vernissage: Wednesday, October 23, 6 p.m.; Art Gallery Club: Tuesday, October 29, 2 p.m. 514 989-5265.

Saturday Cinema

Saturday, October 26, 2 p.m., Library. *The Public* (2018) Free tickets: Library and Victoria Hall.

Let's Talk Opera!

Sunday, October 27, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. *Lucia di Lammermoor* by Donizetti. Please register at operademontreal.com.

An evening with Margaret Trudeau

Wednesday, October 30, 7 p.m., Victoria Hall. The Canadian icon will share her personal stories to remind others of the importance of nurturing the body, mind, and spirit. Tickets: \$20. 514 989-5226.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Haunted house 2019

Thursday, October 31st, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Lawn bowling clubhouse. The Public Safety team invites you to visit the spooky Haunted Chapel. Contributions for Leucan accepted at the door.

PUBLIC WORKS

Incredible Edibles: harvest period

From now until October 20, residents are invited to harvest vegetables growing in the City's ornamental flower beds. Consult westmount.org for the locations of the plants and some recipes.

Leaf and garden waste collection

Leaves and garden waste placed curbside in paper bags or open containers will be collected by the City regularly. The Belvedere Rd. depot is open to residents (with proof of residence) and to contractors with a City permit Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. **until November 15.**



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CHRISTIE'S
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Art Westmount, cont'd. from p. 12

ramic wall hangings by Nathalie Guez. A fourth-time participant at Art Westmount, Guez commented, "We are able to speak directly with collectors and gain valuable insights on our work."

Books – poetry, novels, biographies and a culinary dictionary – were also showcased by Westmount writers. These included new publications *Seeker, A Sea Odyssey* by Rita Pomade, *Duet of Angels* by Irene Reiches Roth, *Plus fort ! – L'histoire de Madame Audet* by Muriel Gold and *Lexique français-anglais de la cuisine et de la restauration* by Diana Bruno.

Five writers, including Cora Siré and Claire Sherwood, also gave readings of their work. Organized by the city's Community Events division, over 1,000 members of the public visited the two-day event.

Police report, cont'd. from p. 17

burglary incident in August when a thief took advantage of an unlocked front door, yet another case with a similar pattern is being reported.

On October 9, the 71-year-old owner of a home located north of Sherbrooke St. on the east side of Westmount entered her dwelling around 8:30 pm and casually left a handbag next to the front entrance, while neglecting to lock the door.

From the second floor, she heard her dog barking. Returning to the front entrance area, she then saw the handbag was gone.

"Most probably a person came in very silently, grabbed the bag and left," Laperrière speculated. The bag contained personal items.

This follows a similar incident in August, as reported by the *Independent*, at a Grosvenor Ave. home.

In that instance, police speculated that the owners neglected to lock their front door. The perpetrator had only to reach into the front entranceway to steal a car key (and the car parked outside), a house key and a wallet.



Cora Siré and other authors with landscapes by Carlos Martinez in background.



Ronald Poole with "Tai Chi in Westmount Park"

BECKERATH ORGAN ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

October 19, 2019 – 4:00 p.m.

John Grew, Real Gauthier
Margaret de Castro, Rafael de Castro

works by/œuvres de

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Milhaud, Praetorius, Scheidemann

Tickets \$15.00

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Lansdowne at the Boulevard, Westmount, QC

Convergence

October 26 7:30 pm | 26 octobre à 19h30

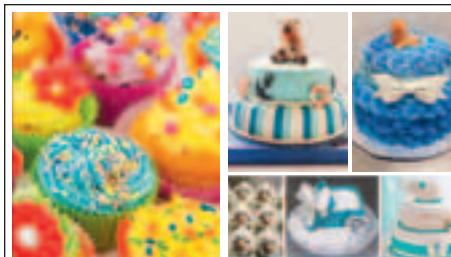
6:45 pm Pre-concert Reception | Réception d'avant-concert à 18h45

String Quartet – Montreal Music Collective | Program | Programme:

Gabriela Lena Frank *Leyendas: An Andean Walkabout/promènes de dans les Andes* • Caroline Shaw *Valencia* • Erich Wolfgang Korngold *String Quartet No. 2 in Eb Maj. Op 26/Quatuor à cordes n° 2 en mi bémol majeur, op. 26*

Billets disponible: EventBrite.ca Convergence - tickets - Montreal
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A candelabra in front

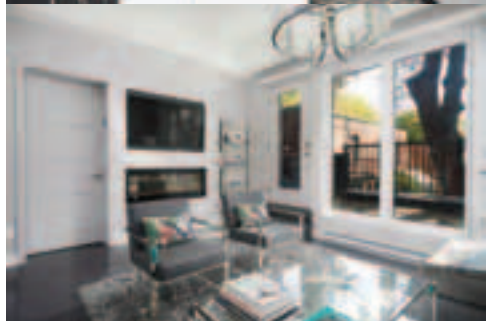


“Did Liberace make a return visit to Westmount?” quipped one Westmounter. This item was spotted on the sidewalk outside 4398 de Maisonneuve October 6 around 4 pm. PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

Green plate, green message



This Tesla Model 3's licence plate was photographed on Burton Ave. on September 18. Electric cars have green-ink plates in Quebec. PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.



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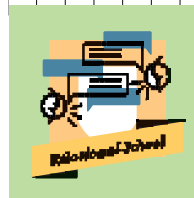


Family

Selwyn House School :

8:30 am

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- > Thursday, November 21
- > Monday, January 20
- > Tuesday, March 24
- > Friday, April 24

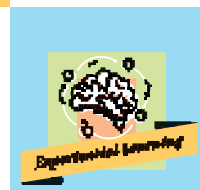


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MUHC announces \$18-million donation to fix broken hearts



Sam Reda, Patricia Saputo and Patrick Shea.



John Klein with his physician Dr. Nadia Giannetti.



Peter Kruyt and Dr. Pierre Gfeller.



Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

On a beautiful Indian summer day, MUHC Foundation president **Julie Quenneville** welcomed guests to the massive Elspeth McConnell Atrium to announce an \$18-million donation to Fix Broken Hearts.

A phrase often used vis-à-vis a forlorn Valentine, this is a tad more serious: a real

broken heart. It refers to the MUHC's \$50-million fundraising campaign to transform cardiovascular care and discovery.

The hospital's mission is to stop the progression of heart disease across people's lifespans using precision medicine, continuous care *continued on p. 27*

The *Westmount Independent's* fall-winter social calendar will be published soon. Please send information (date, time, info, address, ticket price and contact) to redgrave@videotron.ca.


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‘Fox hunting’ with Lake of Two Mountains Hunt



From left, Westmounters Christine Kivenko Molson, Peter Gillett, Nicolas Matossian and Suzy Carsley enjoying a shot glass of wine before the hunt.

BY DAVID PRICE

Last week, Westmouter and former city councillor (1991-2001) Nicolas Matossian invited the *Independent* out to “fox hunt” at the home stables of the Lake of Two Mountains Hunt Club, the Forever Green Stables in Glen Robertson, Ontario (just west of Hudson, Quebec).

In fact, riders do not hunt anything and

only follow dogs (always called “hounds” – “dogs” is a “no-no,” Matossian explained) as they pick up the scent of various wild animals, especially foxes and coyotes.

“In my 20 years’ experience, the hounds have only once ever killed anything, a wild turkey.”

The club also puts on drag hunts (where hunters follow a scent put out deliberately beforehand), but not normally, “It is more

fun if you don’t know what is going to happen.”

The day, October 9, started at 8 am with Matossian picking me up. I have only ridden twice and the plan was for me to follow the hunt in a tracking vehicle used to monitor the day’s events and to provide help, for instance if a hound is injured.

Matossian used the car ride to explain the history of the club, founded in 1946 by H. J. O’Connell, and how a hunt works. Everyone, it seems, has a role to play, from helping with “cubbing” (training new hounds in the summer) to specific tasks on hunt days, “It is a community effort.”

Clothing, too, is strictly mandated: “pinks” (red jackets supposedly named for a historical tailor, Mr. Pinque) for men and black jackets for women, with club colours (air force blue) at the collar.

“It is almost a military exercise,” summed up Matossian.

Chain of command

Indeed, there is a near-military chain of command from the master of the foxhounds (who rides where he wills and whom riders should not pass), to the huntsman (who leads the hounds), to the whips (who corral the hounds) and the two fieldmasters, who ride ahead of the first and second “fields” (groups of riders). The first squad is composed of the more advanced, ambitious equestrians and the second of the less so.

Despite all the rules and tradition, more than one club member made the comment that their group is one “without pretence,” as Matossian put it. Indeed, the atmosphere was very welcoming and convivial.

The club has 24 Penn-Marydel foxhounds, described by hunters as 12 “couples,” about half of whom hunted this time.

Matossian is very keen on all aspects of the sport and also quick to point that the price need not break the bank: \$1,035 buys one a membership for the year, with the cost of (owned or rented) horses on top. One-time riders can participate for a “capping” fee of \$50. A horse rental can cost \$75 to \$100.

The club rides from August to December, twice a week.

He is almost mystical when talking about the bond between rider and horse, and between one hunter and the group. “You become one with the horse and the hunt.”

He later explained his view that horses have a very high emotional intelligence, for instance picking up (negatively) on nervous or stressed riders.

Age and newcomers

The *Independent* does not normally ask people’s ages, but it seemed relevant given the activity here. Matossian is 78 and admits, “It is getting hard to stay on.

“Actually, I popped off the other day,” he said, but a self-inflating vest attached to his saddle made it so he “didn’t feel a thing.”

The various riders out on this day had a variety of experience, with one Westmouter, Christine Kivenko Molson (profiled September 12, 2017, p. 32), being relatively new to the sport (but not to riding). Another, whip Benoit Theriault, started riding at age 40 and hunting six months later. Westmouter Peter Gillett, a former master of the foxhounds, started at age 60.

It does not seem to be an activity open only to those who have ridden since childhood, if you are willing to put in the time to learn.

The hunt begins

An hour or so later, we arrived at the stables, Matossian greeted his horse – Willy – and the hunt was under way at about 10 am, but not before a customary shot glass of wine per rider (and reporter). There were nine riders, versus a usual total of 20 to 30, especially on weekends.

I rode in a pick-up truck on public roads with former master of the foxhounds Julien Allard, now 83 and no longer riding.

The hunt crossed and used several public roads as it went from farm to farm, and



Nicolas Matossian greeting Willy.



Canada's answer to The Shire.

private lane to private lane.

With how many farms does the club have “friendly agreements” (as Matossian described these non-leases)?

“40 to 50,” said Allard.

“One landowner approached me with a gun the first time that I went by to ask permission,” but that couple is now a longtime “yes” and they are “really nice people,” according to Allard. Another farm was a resolute “no,” until a chance encounter and a



Julien Allard bugling for a lost hound.

polite greeting as the hunt passed turned its owners into a “yes.”

“You can’t push it,” said Allard.

Hunters work not to trample unharvested crops.

I have always found this area of Ontario to be Canada’s answer to The Shire from Tolkien’s *Lord of the Rings*: lots of very gentle hills and British-style square fields and laneways. It turns out that this aspect makes it ideal for fox hunting. The lack of animal husbandry means there are few fences and many open fields. And more become available as fall progresses and each crop is taken off.

Allard, who retired from the Montreal police department after 35 years, has managed not just the club’s land agreements, but the wild animals. In the past, he fed the local coyotes dead chicks injected with deworming medicine to keep them healthy. “There are fewer wild animals now,” he lamented.

He also used to lay out the drag hunts, taking pride in choosing a slightly different route than the one asked for. Riders used to think they had come across a real fox on top of the artificial scent.

“I’m the fox,” said Allard with a grin.

End of the day

In the end, two hounds were lost temporarily (and found with the help of a bugle), the riders enjoyed “a great hunt” and everyone tucked into a game “breakfast” at about 12:30 pm.

Matossian gave a brief toast, hoping the group had proved to the press that the activity did not consist of “bloodthirsty people beating peasants.”

Mission accomplished.

Social notes, cont'd. from p. 25

and mathematical models to redesign hearts and re-grow damaged tissue, and to develop new standards of care for heart patients around the world.

Westmounter **Dr. Nadia Giannetti**, MUHC chief of cardiology, stated “in 10 years, Montreal will have the lowest rate of hospitalization and fewest deaths due to heart disease in Canada.”

The Courtois Foundation kick-started the fundraiser with an \$18-million donation, the largest single gift in the foundation’s history. With this gift, the hospital’s

cardiology division has developed a comprehensive new study to change the way health teams treat heart disease.

The money has already been used to purchase a state-of-the-art cardiac MRI machine. Launched at the reception was the flagship Courtois Signature Study, a 10-year project tackling some of the most troubling questions doctors face.

Addressing the packed room, foundation chair **Norman Steinberg** noted that the MUHC was the number 1 research hospital in Quebec.

The Fix Broken Hearts Campaign co-chairs are **Sam Reda**, vice chair Fiera Capital; **Patricia Saputo**, CFO Placements Italcant Inc., and **Patrick Shea**, partner, McCarthy Tétrault LLP.

Among the 300 guests were cardiology patient **John Klein**, **Mary-Anne Ferguson**, **Peter Kruyt**, the MUHC’s **Dr. Pierre Gfeller**, and assistant director communications **Kate Shingler**, whose pretty ballerina shoes sent still-summer signals with their pastel petals.



Norman Steinberg.



Julie Quenneville.



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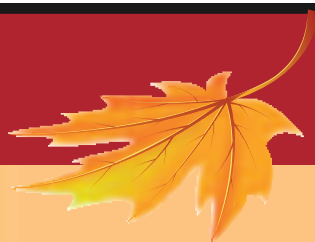
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"DECK AND COVER"...

Remove all leaves from your wooden DECK to avoid premature wear of your wood. You can also extend the life of your air-conditioning unit by COVERING it to protect it from the outdoor elements. Does not apply to heat pumps!

"LEAVE" IT ALONE...

Don't rake your leaves, but wait until they all fall and mow your lawn either after they have fallen, or in spring. The leaves will form a mulch and protect your grass all winter long!

"DON'T BE A DRAIN"...

Don't forget to DRAIN your hose before you put it away. Remember to close all exterior valves and drain both them and your irrigation system of any water.



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