

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 15 No. 11a

We are Westmount

November 2, 2021

## ▶ Plate commemorates Westmount's war hospital

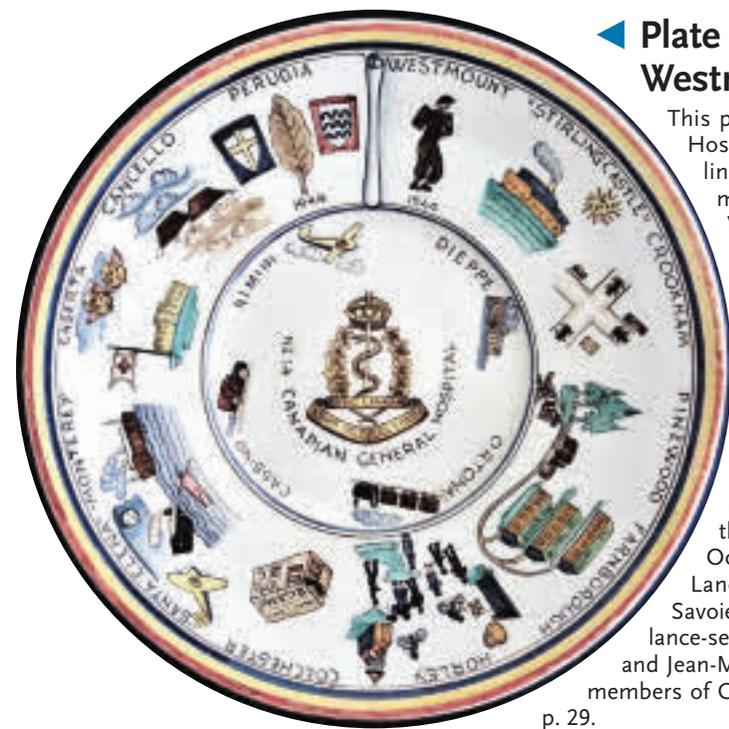
This plate of the No. 14 Canadian General Hospital, illustrated by Major Jules Gosse- lin, was made in Perugia, Italy to commemorate the unit's experience in World War II, which began in Westmount. See p. 28 for story.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DONALD V. MACDOUGALL

## ▶ Coming to city's Nov. 6 Remembrance: period uniforms

Six members of the volunteer Westmount Battery re-enactment group display the recently created uniforms they will wear November 6. From left, October 10, are: Sergeant Frédéric Lanoes, Master Warrant Officer Thomas Savoie, Sergeant-Major Jocelyn Blanchet and lance-sergeants Nai Hammond, Benoit Dion and Jean-Marc Côté. All are also current or past members of Canada's actual military. For story, see p. 29.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WESTMOUNT BATTERY.



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## Don't Miss It

*Municipal election*  
for councillors in Districts 1, 2, 5, 7 and 8

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District 5: Victoria Hall  
Districts 7 & 8: Centre Greene

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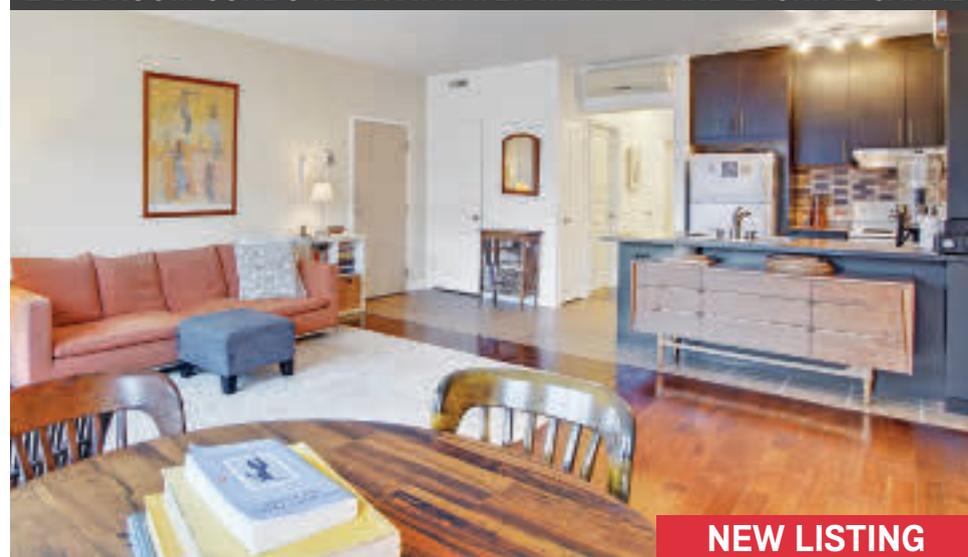
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### 2 BEDROOM CONDO NEAR ATWATER MARKET AND LACHINE CANAL



**NEW LISTING**

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### 2 BEDROOM & 2 BATHROOM CONDO



**FEATURED**

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**NEW PRICE**

Côte-des-Neiges | 4923 Rue Jean-Talon O., apt. 806 | \$445,000

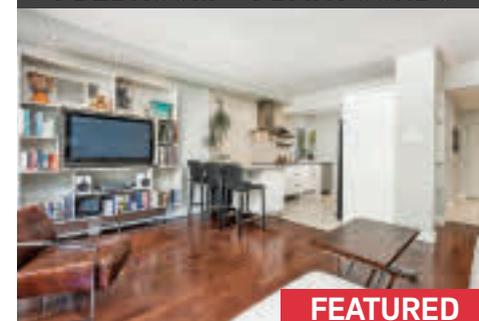
### FULLY RENOVATED CONDO IN HEART OF MONTREAL



**FEATURED**

Little Burgundy | 2220 Rue St-Antoine O., apt. A | \$495,000

### 1 BEDROOM + 1 BATH CONDO



**FEATURED**

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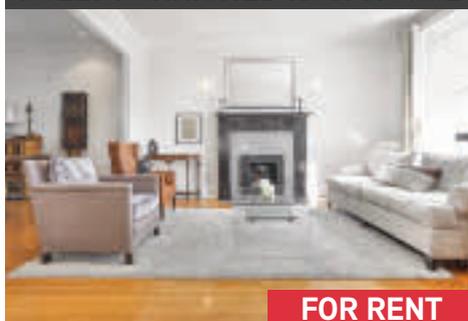
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## Parking inspector assists woman with head injury

A city parking inspector went to the assistance of a 70-year-old woman who had fallen on the sidewalk facing 1215 Greene near the post office, Public Security officials said. She was reported to have suffered excessive bleeding from a head injury, for which the inspector tried to keep her quiet and distracted from moving around.

Urgences Santé was called and she was believed to have been taken to a hospital. It was not known what caused her to fall, but a soft drink can was found on the sidewalk beside her. She was identified as living in Montreal.

“This shows the important role the parking inspectors play,” department director Greg McBain said. “They do much more than issue tickets. They are all trained to intervene.”

## Opening of de M. delayed

The Société de transport de Montréal now foresees finishing its work on de Maisonneuve between Atwater and Wood for Monday, November 8, the *Independent* learned by emailed press release October 29. “The city of Westmount will continue working in the area to finish installing road signage. When this work is finished, de Maisonneuve Blvd. will once again be open to traffic between Atwater and Wood,” concluded the communication.

## Inebriated wedding guest escorted home

A public safety officer patrolling along St. Catherine October 24 reported finding an older man lying on the north sidewalk between Clarke and Redfern at 2:21 am, Public Security officials said. He appeared to be sleeping but when she was able to waken him, he sat up, excused himself, and stated that he had been going home from a wedding and had had too much to drink.

He was conscious and alert but began staggering and had trouble walking. He was escorted home to his residence nearby, right up to his apartment door.

## Dog found in bus shelter, returned home

A dog was found sitting alone in a bus shelter at Westmount Ave. and Grosvenor October 27 at 1:39 pm, Public Security officials said. When called, the golden doodle came to the officer, who was able to trace it to a home nearby using the city’s online dog permits management system called Emili. The owner was found in the backyard whistling for it. He explained the high wind had blown the gate open.

The web-based Emili tool was introduced almost exactly five years ago on November 1 (see story September 27, 2016, p. 1).

## Truck gets hung up on city flower planter

A container truck hit and got lodged on a city cement planter outside 4880 Sherbrooke near the Dairy Queen October 20, Public Security officials said. Efforts to free it caused “quite a commotion” during afternoon rush hour traffic. The truck’s dilemma was discovered at 5:30 pm by a patrolling public safety officer, who assisted in traffic control. A Public Works loader was finally required to lift the truck off the planter.

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Dodge on May real estate, p. 22

Pet Page, p. 30

Social Column: Lake of Two Mountains Hunt, p. 32



Retail Review:  
Global Foods, p. 33

InfoWestmount, p. 26



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# Westmounters air their views at WMA meet-the-candidates debate

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

With the exception of a momentary confrontation between the incumbent and the former city councillor for Westmount's District 8, there were no fireworks to speak of during a meet-the-candidates evening held by the Westmount Municipal Association at Victoria Hall on October 27.

The building's main event venue was less than half full for the more than two-hour long gathering on October 27.

**Absent: Silverstone Segal, Hopley**

District 1 candidate Jane Silverstone

Segal was unable to attend, as her husband was in hospital for surgery at the Montreal Heart Institute.

And it was a relatively easy evening for District 7 candidate Matt Aronson, as his opponent, Neil Hopley, couldn't be present "for a variety of reasons," said WMA interim-president Beryl Wajzman without elaborating. Instead, a statement submitted by Hopley was read out. (Hopley has previously explained to the *Independent* (October 19, p. 10) that he is not vaccinated against COVID-19 so would not be allowed into Victoria Hall, given a city policy for all of its facilities that requires it.)

Hopley said an issue of great concern for himself and others is the outgoing administration's proposed plan to modify Westmount Park. He referred to it as "the defacing of an historic masterpiece that has been there for well over 100 years."

Other issues he raised included the deteriorating state of Westmount's laneways, as well as the sound barrier along the edge of the railway line and the Ville Marie expressway.

"Enough already, let's make this happen," Hopley said in his statement, noting that he'd heard nothing but reasons why the barrier doesn't get built since he moved

to Westmount in 2009.

## Indoor pool

District 5 resident Conor Sampson opened question period by noting that the city conducted a feasibility study a year ago looking at the possibility of building an indoor pool. "I'm interested in hearing constructive ideas from candidates for advancing this project," he said.

"I am a hundred percent behind you for an indoor pool," District 5 candidate Liz McCallum responded, adding that her daughter swam with the Barracudas and Dolphins, but that she had to go to Côte St. Luc because the city of Westmount has no indoor pool for workouts during the winter.

District 8 candidate Michael Mossop said he agreed "there is a need for a pool. I can see the benefits." However, "it would need to be a joint venture, because I know



◀ Seen here on stage, from left, in Victoria Hall during the WMA's meet-the-candidates evening are Antonio D'Amico (District 1), Marcy Katz (District 1), Elisabeth Roux (District 2), Paola Samuel (District 2), Anitra Bostock (District 5), Liz McCallum (District 5), Matt Aronson (District 7), Kathleen Kez (District 8) and Michael Mossop (District 8).

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CLAUDIA D'IGNAZIO, AGENTE OFFICIELLE IMPRIME PAR: MDVKREATIF

how expensive an indoor pool is,” he added. He said it should be a joint venture with either the YMCA or a school.

Incumbent District 5 candidate Anitra Bostock said that for Westmount’s seniors, an indoor pool “is probably the most important and excellent exercise to keep our seniors mobile. And so, an indoor pool is definitely part of what we need in our city and something that we can work with other organizations to make sure that it happens.”

Katherine Hope, also an avid swimmer and District 5 resident, said she wanted each candidate to state a date when Westmount might finally get an indoor public pool.

“It seems that the Americans were able to put a man on the moon in less time than it’s taking Westmount to build an indoor public pool,” she said. “We’re one of the wealthiest cities in Canada and we don’t have a basic facility like an indoor public pool.”

Kathleen Kez, the incumbent councillor in District 8, said an indoor pool is “something that has been discussed” by city officials “and at this point, before even coming to a date, we would have to find a location. So, that’s where it’s at now ... Locations are being evaluated. Absolutely.”

Matt Aronson said, “I would love to give you a specific date. But as I am just a resident like you, I can’t. I can’t because there isn’t enough transparency” at city hall.

He said that, if elected, he would make sure “you have that information so you don’t have to wait four years and come to a public meeting to ask people for a date. You should already know what it is.”

Other sports infrastructure also came up for discussion. Wading into the debate on “turf” for the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) playing field, Paola Samuel, running in District 2, argued in favour of turf made of artificial “grass,” but with organic infill (e.g. cork, coconut shells or wood). This organic substance, she contended, is very different from the tire/rubber infill commonly used, which was at one time the only kind available.

“Any kind of environmental issues do not exist with organic [infill] turf,” she said. “And any kind of danger to the lungs of our kids does not exist with organic [infill] turf. None of us want an artificial [infill] turf field. We want an organic [infill] field. And there’s a lot of misinformation going around about the organic turf [infill] field that we are advocating for.”

While suggesting that children today are increasingly suffering from health issues such as depression and diabetes, Samuel said the answer “is more sports. And organic turf [infill] fields will help do that. We don’t want to take green spaces away. We want to find a solution with everyone working together.”



Westmounter Tony Moffatt was one of the many city residents who raised questions and issues during the WMA’s meet-the-candidates evening held at Victoria Hall on the evening of Wednesday October 27. His question was about whether the city would continue its relationship with the Healthy City Project as an environment committee.

### *The environment*

Caroline Gendron of District 7 asked the panel to comment on her suggestion that Westmount should establish a “carbon budget” so that all city departments conduct operations on a sustainable and carbon-neutral basis.

Aronson replied, “We absolutely, without question, need to know how much damage we are doing to our environment and take bold, decisive action to reduce it as quickly and as efficiently as possible. In my mind, there is a lot of important stuff that a city council does. But all of us as citizens, as human beings, have a responsibility to deal with the climate crisis and to do so immediately.”

Antonio D’Amico, who is running for the District 1 seat, said he would like to introduce “green accounting” as part of a comprehensive review of the municipal taxation system.

As an example, he said property owners who use “smart” irrigation systems to monitor their water consumption should be rewarded by the city.

“Maybe if people do green measures they should be compensated – possibly through the tax system is one way of doing it,” said D’Amico who is a tax accountant.

Addressing the sustainability issue, District 1 candidate Marcy Katz said that if usage of personal transportation is still very high in Westmount, it is partly because some sections of the city are not readily accessible by public transit.

“Yet, that does not fully explain why we

have over 10,000 cars for almost 20,000 residents,” said Katz.

“So, I think a solution is to encourage the use of electrical cars, and we need to look at solutions that will let Westmount lead in terms of electrification of cars, and make it easier for our residents to use safe, clean electrical power. I’m proud that we are leaders in this clean energy and sustainability and I believe we need to continue in that direction.”

### *Samiotis weighs in against Kez*

Former District 8 city councillor Theodora Samiotis, who lost her seat to Kathleen Kez by three votes in the 2017 election, claimed that Kez has been taking credit during her campaign for improvements that started before she was elected.

Samiotis maintained that some were just “a matter of course for Public Works,” but also that a few “were actually initiated by the former council, for which she is now taking credit.”

Kez defended herself, reading from some of her campaign material, saying that “despite the challenges resulting from the pandemic, there have been some notable improvements in our district over the last four years.”

District 2 resident Lucien Savard asked the district’s two candidates to state whether they’d be willing to commit to doing all they can to have Claremont Ave. re-surfaced or re-built sometime soon. Both said they were aware that the street’s current state is seen as problematic by nearby residents and they pledged to do something about it.

### *Bikes and green transportation*

District 5 resident Zeela Kaufman, a Westmounter for the past 43 years, wanted to know whether the candidates in her area would advocate for special wardens to be posted in Westmount Park to guarantee the safety of young and old out walking, while bicyclists are straying off the bike path and using the park as a throughfare “and endangering everyone.”

McCallum replied, “I agree with you. I think there are issues with the bike path in Westmount Park a hundred percent. I also think that there has to be some kind of traffic mitigation that involves the bike path there. You have people that are speeding through, going through stop signs and going through red lights, for that matter. And you have people who have been hit by bicycles on the bike path.”

Bostock said the city has five patrollers who are dedicated to patrolling the parks through the summer months. “We need to have them in the park longer,” she added. “People are riding their bicycles and they’re in the park way longer, way into November and December. So, we need to look at extending that contract that we already

have with Public Security. So, we need to do a better job of getting them out there longer.”

When a District 1 resident asked what practical solutions could be implemented to encourage summit residents to use more sustainable modes of transportation (besides bicycling) to do some of their light shopping below the hill on Sherbrooke St., Katz suggested that an electric mini-bus might do.

“We don’t have the accessibility like other districts to public transportation,” added Katz. D’Amico suggested that an app could be developed to provide a ride-sharing service “for people who are going to the same place,” he said.

Elisabeth Roux, who is running in the neighbouring District 2, said, “It’s not realistic to think that we’re all going to be on bikes or walking. There’s no one who lives near The Boulevard who’s going to go get four liters of milk at Metro down the street on foot or on bike.”

She agreed that an hourly shuttle bus “would make sense” possibly to link the Victoria village to Greene Ave. along Sherbrooke St. “If it was electrical, it would help the environment, it would take cars off the street,” she said. “And if it was Westmount-run, then we could have something to do with the schedule and how many of them we have.”

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## CIVILITY, PLEASE

What has happened to civility in the city of Westmount?

October 27's meeting at Victoria Hall of the candidates running for election or re-election went very convivially until question period, when, after a few questions, we witnessed a shocking display in a nasty, uncalled-for personal attack on the incumbent councillor from District 8 by the former sitting councillor.

It displayed the characteristics we have come to see on TV at school meetings and in legislatures south of the border.

It should not be tolerated and we must call it out.

HONOR ROBERTSON, CLANDEBOYE AVE.

## MORE, EARLIER INFO DESIRED

This is Friday the 29th and I just found your October 26 issue in my mail box. Normally, I wouldn't mind the delay but this issue announced the October 27 meet-the-candidates night [at Victoria Hall]. I would have attended, either live or virtually, had I known about this meeting.

Unfortunately, I know nothing about the two candidates in District 5 except for what you wrote about them in the September 21 issue, which I kept. That is certainly not enough information on which to base a vote. I have encountered neither candidate on my many walks around the neighbourhood, nor have I seen any reference

to the meeting, even though I've been on the lookout.

Am I the only one being left in the dark? Did I miss something?

KATHLEEN DUNN, LANSDOWNE AVE.

**Editor's reply:** For clarity, your newspaper was not late. Canada Post has three days to deliver it, usually Wednesday to Friday, but longer when there is a postal holiday on one of those days. There are many complications with synching the delivery of the paper and news. If you are very keen, the best thing to do is read the paper online on Tuesdays. We did not run the debate, but the organizers did run an ad in our October 19 issue (p. 9). – DP.

IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?  
YOU'VE GOT MAIL

The other day Anitra Bostock (already four years in office) and Cynthia Lulham (25+ years of service) stopped by to talk about Anitra's candidature [for District 5].

Neither of them seemed to have any recollection of the importance of their function as council members when it comes to responding to email from their constituents.

Having been in contact with a number residents about the approaching elections, I've advised them to contact the members of council to make an educated decision when the time comes to vote. However, almost every single one of them responded

to me with some sort of, "I've emailed them all, but I never hear back. I don't think they're even reading the emails."

There are two potential reasons for the lack of a response to an email: either they didn't read it at all, or they didn't care enough to hit reply and say, "Thanks, I will make sure this problem is solved." Neither of these options is acceptable.

It is understandable that city councillors are busy – but as an elected member of city council, it is literally their job to "serve and be seen to serve their constituents in a conscientious and diligent manner [and] perform their duties in office in a manner that promotes public confidence."

This phrase appears in almost every code of conduct available on the internet. Failing to respond to emails from constituents does not qualify as diligent, nor does it promote confidence in how they are doing their jobs. If a council member routinely ignores his constituents' emails; maybe it is time to leave and assign the office to another elected council member.

It's important to vote, but I completely understand why people feel like their voice doesn't matter when even their elected city councillors don't bother to reply to an email. That is unfair, and is quite frankly unacceptable in a world in which email has become a standard method of communication. In the end, addressing the concerns of constituents should be the No. 1 priority of elected officials.

DIANA HERNANDEZ,  
ST. CATHERINE ST.

**Editor's note:** In keeping with our stated policy for this final pre-election issue, this letter was shown to District 5 candidate Anitra Bostock.

BOSTOCK: I RESPOND  
'TO ALL COMMUNICATION'

With all due respect to Ms. Hernandez, her claims are unsubstantiated and erroneous.

Since taking my seat at council four years ago I have received numerous emails and phone calls from Westmount residents, and to the best of my knowledge have responded to all communication directly addressed to me. In the unlikely eventuality that a resident did not receive a response, this would have been a case of human or technological error as it has been my policy since getting elected in 2017 to respond promptly to residents, no matter what the subject.

I am seeking re-election to council because I truly care about this community and its residents, as do my fellow councillors. I believe the record of my achievements on council over the past four years,

and my ongoing conversations and email interactions with residents from all eight Westmount districts, demonstrate my ongoing commitment to our city.

As such, if elected to a second term my top priority will be to address the traffic issues in District 5 that Ms. Hernandez has raised in her multiple emails to the city's traffic committee (all of which have been answered).

ANITRA. M. BOSTOCK

## APPRECIATION FOR KEZ

I am writing to express my appreciation for Councillor Kathleen Kez and hope that she will be re-elected as she has been a great asset to District 8. I have lived in the area for many years and have noticed all the improvements that have been done during her term.

One example is the electronic crosswalk at Clandeboye and Dorchester. As a senior, I now feel much safer when I cross there, which I often do. I am also happy that the terrace at 5 Saisons is indeed a public place that everyone can enjoy. There was some confusion about that, but Kathleen had a sign installed to make it official. And people I know who drive have been happy with the much-anticipated roadwork done on Dorchester.

Most importantly, Kathleen is always readily available to address residents' needs and concerns. She truly has worked hard for our district.

ROSALIND HALVORSEN, WEREDALE PARK

## THANK YOU, KEZ &amp; COUNCIL

I want to thank our council member Kathleen Kez for her commitment and effort and presence in our District 8 community.

In the last four years, many accomplishments have been realized, including putting new infrastructure under, and rebuilding, Clandeboye and Stayner streets; the creation of a new splash-pad in Stayner Park; the installation of a crosswalk on Dorchester; the re-affirmation of the public space just north of the 5 Saisons grocery store on Greene; strong representation of St. Antoine St. residents; progress on Selby Park and Prospect Park; helping our Greene Ave. merchants; supporting Centre Greene etc.

I know that this much progress is the result of teamwork, and so I'm grateful not just to Kathleen Kez but also to the other members of council and the mayor, of this council and earlier councils.

Thank you, Kathleen Kez and your fellow-leaders, for your unrelenting dedication to the citizens of Westmount.

WILLEM WESTENBERG, STAYNER ST.

## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount

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

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### KEEP THE WAG GREEN, ALIVE

At the meet-the-candidates event last Wednesday all candidates appeared unequivocal in their support of the need to preserve and protect Westmount's parks and green spaces. It was even suggested that a committee be established to evaluate the environmental impact of all decisions affecting the actions of our municipal government.

How does the concept by certain groups concerning the installation of artificial "turf" square with these objectives, whether this be made from a petroleum by-product or from "natural" materials?

The point is that a living surface is replaced by a biologically inert, lifeless one. The question of whether fencing would be required, restricting access, went unanswered. As the grounds are perfectly usable as is, one must consider cost effectiveness and maintenance factors as well. Let the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) continue its long history as a green, alive space.

MICHAEL HANNEN, HALLOWELL ST.

### FESTOONED GREENE IS GREEN, PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY

The letter last week (October 19) suggesting that [city council] forego festooning the historic and quaint Greene village byway with picnic benches, sunshade umbrellas, and outdoor restaurant dining tables and chairs during the warmer months, and instead allow one-way vehicular traffic to pass more quickly down this quiet promenade, is swimming against the current movement to promote a more pedestrian-friendly city that we all know is already accommodating too many cars, which, by the way, expel six gases, three of which are toxic.

Local readers, I'm sure, are aware moreover of the huge road digging and underground water pipe replacement road work that lasted through the spring and summer between Greene and Melville all along de Maisonneuve, but has now been completed in what appears to be record time. This project blocked not only sidewalks and bike lanes, to which not only drivers but pedestrians and bicyclists will attest, but streets feeding into de Maisonneuve, among those being Greene and Clarke, a close neighbour to the west.

Meanwhile, on the darker side, the pedestrian mall-in-progress in the other direction along de Maisonneuve between Wood Ave. and Atwater, and which also began with deep digging into the underground pipe network, but which construction workers have been fiddling with since well before the pandemic, is still blocked

off from Atwater west to Wood Ave.

Does anybody know why this project is taking so long? It currently looks as though it will still be thriving right through the winter, at least.\*

RICHARD ORLANDO & PAT QUILL,  
SHERBROOKE ST.

\**Editor's note:* Please see p. 3 for an update on the completion date, i.e. November 8. – DP.

### WHY CAN'T WE ACTUALLY USE THE BINS?

On my twice-daily walk around Westmount, I survey many new garbage containers that are well suited to some municipalities but not (sadly) for our citizenry!

Too often, I see garbage piled on top of both garbage and recycling sides [of these containers]. Folks find it too much to open the swivel tops to put away their trash. Sometimes I do the job for them and find a variety of items, including doggie poop, half-eaten fruit *et cetera*.

Westmount has plenty of simple bins with weather coverings that work perfectly.

BOYD WHITTALL, ST. CATHERINE ST.

### ATTACK OF THE LEAF BLOWERS

It's that time of year again: time for 7 am wake-up calls from leaf blowers, unleashed to destroy our environment in the name of pristine lawns.

Ironically, lawns would be much healthier if leaves were just left to decompose in peace. At the very least, some of the people who spend small fortunes on gym memberships and private trainers might think about picking up a rake and getting their exercise the old-fashioned way.

Perhaps if Lululemon came out with a Leaf Raking Collection, more Westmounters might hop on the trend. Or, even better, why not just let the leaves fall where they may and let Mother Nature do its thing – in silence.

ALAIN FORGET, ANWOTH RD.

### YES, TO SIDEWALKS – NO TO 'PARKWAY DESIGN'

To limit traffic on de Maisonneuve to residents only between Melville and Olivier is another of Dan Lambert's recent requests to city council (see story October 12, p. 10). I do not agree.

I prefer sidewalks to "parkway designs." In my view, they are essential to the safety and security of pedestrians – especially seniors, who represent 20 to 25 percent of Westmount's citizenry.

Because of summer construction, sidewalks on both sides of de Maisonneuve between Melville and Greene were inaccessible. I used this "parkway design" only

once. Only once.

It was beyond hazardous as too many cyclists – inconsiderate, reckless, entitled – narrowly collided with pedestrians (and, I report, by inches).

It is fair to say that one cannot underestimate the impact of a collision that a speeding bicycle will have on anyone – especially seniors and children who suddenly release themselves from a parent's grip and spontaneously dart off.

Hospital emergency rooms are not looking for clients. Lives do not have to be changed forever.

Pedestrians on sidewalks. Cyclists on bicycle paths. Cars on roads. We can all co-exist.

ZEELE KAUFMAN,  
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

### FORGET NEW MEASURES, ENFORCE EXISTING ONES ON DE MAISONNEUVE

I'm the fourth generation of my family to live on Western Ave. (now called de Maisonneuve) between Elm and Metcalfe. I can recall the empty field in the 1950s that the 4300 apartment building now occupies. I feel close to this stretch of road and I don't think that it should be tampered with.

For much of this summer, sidewalks were blocked and it was necessary to walk in the street. This was in no way more pleasant, in fact, there was greater hazard of being hit by cyclists and particularly, electric scooters and bikes. Any notion of COVID safety through additional distancing when walking outdoors has been trashed by science. Limiting access and changing traffic flow direction, as proposed, would be confusing to some and very inconvenient for access by de Maisonneuve homeowners, tenants and visitors, as well as by the very many daily deliveries and emergency vehicle trips.

As with the poorly thought out Greene tables and benches, modifying de Maisonneuve will not be an improvement. If the mayor would like to diminish fear and prevent bodily damage to those walking on de Maisonneuve, then perhaps she could see to it that the laws regarding stops and speeding on de Maisonneuve, between Olivier and Melville are stringently enforced by the police, since they are disregarded entirely by most cyclists and particularly electric bike and scooter users, at great hazard to themselves and pedestrians.

STEPHEN COHEN,  
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

SAMEDI 6 NOVEMBRE 2021 À 11 H

## 95<sup>E</sup> CÉRÉMONIE JOUR DU SOUVENIR AU CÉNOTAPHE EN DIRECT SUR FACEBOOK

La mairesse et les conseillers de la Ville de Westmount vous prient d'assister à la cérémonie commémorative. Veuillez respecter les mesures sanitaires en vigueur en portant un masque facial et en gardant une distance sociale.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2021 AT 11 A.M.

## 95<sup>TH</sup> REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY AT THE CENOTAPH LIVE ON FACEBOOK

The Mayor and Councillors of the City of Westmount invite you to the Remembrance Day Commemorative Service. Please respect current health measures by wearing a face mask and social distancing.

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Lest we forget...*

## Police Report

# SWAT arrests burglar connected to multiple Westmount break-ins

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A break-in and burglary artist who had become a menace since the summer not only in Westmount but in other Montreal neighbourhoods was finally arrested on October 22, says a police official at Station 12.

Since August, the suspect had committed forced entries and burglaries not only on Station 12 territory, but also in areas overseen by Station 20 (downtown

Montreal), Station 15 (Ville Émard), Station 21 (east-central Montreal) and Station 9 (Côte St. Luc/Montreal West/NDG).

In all, there were 20 break-ins, said Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel. In the majority, the suspect used the same *modus operandi*: entering a back yard and forcing a rear door to gain access to a residence or business.

According to Pimentel, the arrested suspect was an individual who was accosted recently by a few alert Westmounters, who spotted him as he was casing homes while astride a bicycle in several back yards he entered.

A good number of images of the suspect captured by security cameras at several locations he broke into helped to positively identify him, Pimentel added.

On Station 12's territory alone (which includes the city of Westmount and part of downtown Montreal), the suspect had been linked by the police to break-ins that took place on September 29, October 15 (three on this date) and October 16.

According to the police, the male suspect, age 55, is a city of Montreal resident. While Pimentel wouldn't comment on the suspect's relatively-advanced age for a bur-

glar, he acknowledged, "It wasn't his first time."

He said the investigators faced some initial challenges locating the suspect, who had no fixed address and had been moving for years from one location to another, where he lived with friends or acquaintances.

Because of the nature of the alleged offences, a specialized police department unit was mandated to carry out the arrest after a warrant was obtained. "Because of all the break-ins and so forth, once they had the warrant it was actually the SWAT team that did the intervention," Pimentel said.

### Ladder used for break-in attempt

The owners of a home in upper Westmount between Edgehill and Sunnyside avenues became aware there'd been a break-in after they returned from a three-day absence to find the automated garage door would no longer open.

After being away between October 21 to 24, they found that a ladder had been placed up against the house in the back, leading up to the second storey.

After entering the home and going up-

stairs, one of the owners saw that a second-floor window had been broken.

The police investigators were able to determine that the ladder didn't belong to the home's owner.

"It could have belonged to a neighbour. It could have belonged to the suspects," said Pimentel.

However, what was certain in the end was that the perpetrators were unable to get in because the window they tried to force open wouldn't give by more than a few inches because of a locking device that limited its movement.

### BMW stolen, found, lost

A BMW parked near the corner of Sherbrooke St. and Grosvenor Ave. from around 4 pm October 24 and the morning of October 25 was stolen, but couldn't be recovered even after the police initially located it.

According to Pimentel, the police were able to log into an on-board location system in the vehicle to determine that it was parked by the perpetrators somewhere in Montreal's East End.

"They found out where it was," he said. "But when a police car went to check a few hours later, the car was gone."

However, the investigators are hoping that images captured by peripheral security cameras around the areas where the car was initially and then later parked will help identify a suspect.

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RESIDENCE

## WEEKEND CONSTRUCTION WORK

CORNER OF DE MAISONNEUVE AND STE-CATHERINE

With our commitment to maintaining transparent and ongoing communication with residents of NDG and Westmount, **Le Groupe Maurice** wishes to inform you that construction work will still be taking place on weekends.

We are well aware of the inconvenience this may cause and are committed to make every effort to keep the disturbances to a minimum during construction.

We once again thank the residents of this area for their collaboration and understanding. **Le Groupe Maurice** welcomes feedback and citizens are encouraged to address any comments they may have to: [info@residenceliz.com](mailto:info@residenceliz.com)

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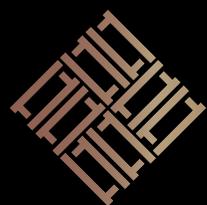
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## Cites possible indoor pool, artificial turf field

# What's ahead for District 6 and all city: Cllr. Gallery

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

District 6 councillor Mary Gallery said last week her acclamation to a second term on the council means that she can now use experience from the past four years to build on many projects to benefit the district as well as all residents.

“As we emerge from the pandemic and look ahead optimistically, we still have much work to do,” she told the *Independent*. “This is why I ran for a second term. I can continue to move forward on key files with renewed momentum, and preparation.

“I feel strongly that we need to continue exploring the possibility of building an indoor pool and/or installing an artificial turf field. Both of these forward-looking projects will have a positive impact on our community, by attracting new families and improving and extending our recreational programs.”

Gallery, who has been commissioner of the library, community events and sports and recreation, explained that this spring will include the installation of a “pump-track” (an up-and-down circular track for cyclists, skateboarders and rollerbladers, see July 6, p. 7) possibly in Westmount Park but



Mary Gallery on November 1. PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

to be decided by the new council. Also on the agenda will be the ongoing transformation of the Urban Planning department and revitalization of Westmount Park.

District 6 consists of the territory be-

tween Melville and the east city limits and from Sherbrooke south to de Maisonneuve with a “bump out” down to St. Catherine that includes the large apartment buildings at 250 Clarke and 4300 de Maisonneuve as well as another involving the condos at 215 Redfern.

### District challenges

Among the direct-impact projects within District 6 are the start of composting in larger apartment buildings, of which there are many and “continuing to ensure safety and traffic flow around the construction worksite at École St. Léon.

“We know that living through construction is difficult for everyone in the neighbourhood,” she said. “The city plans to continue working with the school, police, our Public Security and our traffic committee and Urban Planning department regarding safe drop-off and pick-up points.”

The work is expected to be completed for the start of the 2022 school year, Gallery said.

With many large apartment and condo buildings in District 6, “I will focus on the completion of the phase 2 composting rollout and implement our phases 3 and 4 roll-

out. The latter phase includes buildings of 100 units or more.”

Gallery said it is “very important that we expand our compost program into our larger buildings. We will be collaborating with the building managers to give them the support they need to make this happen.”

### Ongoing projects

On the broader front, she explained that residents in all districts will benefit from the re-opening of the Westmount Public Library, completion of the greenhouse project and the new council being “fiscally responsible in investing in the upgrading of our infrastructure” such as streets, sidewalks and utilities.

Particular highlights within her commissionership in her previous term were the creation of the refrigerated rink in Westmount Park and the machine grooming of the toboggan run in King George (Murray) Park both of which are continuing features for this coming winter.

The ways in which the council, city and community stepped up to respond to the COVID crisis “was inspiring,” she said. “I am so proud of what we accomplished together.”

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## Many affected trees to be cut down

# Beetle bores into black locust trees in Murray Park

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Users of King George (Murray) Park may have noticed large chunks or long “slices” of tree bark that have fallen from some of the trees. In some cases, it may look as if the bark had been knocked off by vandalism or damage.

But the reason, in this case, turns out to be a borer insect that affects the black locust trees (also known as pseudo acacia). This is “a fast growing but not long lived tree,” explains landscape architect Anna Polspoel, who works in the city’s Public Works department as a project manager.

“The ones in KGP are affected by a locust borer beetle that separates the bark from the trunk,” she said last week. “The felling of the dead trees should take place over the course of 2022-2023 with a re-planting plan of various tree species to follow in the same

years.”

An assessment of the trees was being done last week, she said. “Many are affected and will be cut down. The borer is

the cause of the mortality.”

According to information from Natural Resources Canada, the *megacyllene robiniae* is a native insect that attacks black locust

(*robinia pseudoacacia*).

“Trees growing in the open (e.g. along roadsides) or planted in badly eroded soils or in nutrient-deficient soils provide an ideal environment for the locust borer and pave the way for subsequent severe attacks,” it states.

“Drought-weakened trees are especially subject to attack. Injury is caused by the larvae mining in the inner bark and sapwood, and later burrowing into the solid wood.”

The insect, a longhorn beetle, lays its eggs into the bark, which mature by mid-August and transform into pupae at the end of their tunnels, the information explains. These become active again in the spring and bore deeper into the tree trunk as development progresses.

◀ Some of Murray Park’s trees on November 1.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.



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## Trees, branches fall in heavy winds



de Maisonneuve west of Victoria on October 27.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICK VRINIOTIS.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

High wind on several days last week brought down branches and trees, keeping Public Works and tree crews busy, Public Security officials report.

Among many incidents was the fall of a large tree October 27 at 4865 de Maisonneuve across from the Château Westmount long-term care residence near the corner of Victoria. A parked car had its sun roof and windows broken as well as other damage. A city lamp post was also damaged.

Officers were called at 10:27 am and special tree contractors were immediately called in. The tree was reported down at 12:27 pm.

Another tree had to be taken down in King George (Murray) Park after a woman at the dog run heard it “crack” around 8:14 am.

No injuries were reported in either of these two incidents.

On the same day at 8:38 am, a branch was reported hanging over a house and the public stairs at 157 Edgehill. As public safety officers attended, they saw the branch fall onto the roof, requiring a large crane to remove it.

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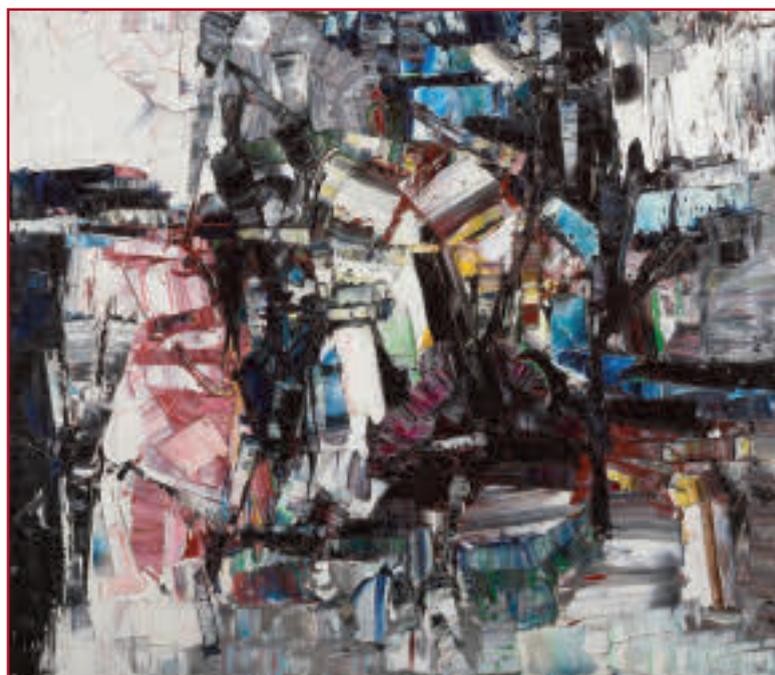
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## Manoir Westmount receives medal from province



Front row, from left, Mayor Christina Smith, Naomi Cohen, Gina D'Angelo, Susan Buscemi and Jennifer Maccarone.

BY HEATHER BLACK

Jennifer Maccarone, provincial legislator for Westmount-St. Louis, presented Gina D'Angelo, manager of Manoir Westmount, with the Medal of the National Assembly on October 15.

Awarded during a lunchtime ceremony attended by residents, the medal is a recognition of the dedication demonstrated by Manoir management and staff to resident care throughout the pandemic.

Introduced by Simona Buth, leisure department supervisor, Maccarone thanked management and staff and for their courage, dedication, humility, sacrifice, humanity, bravery and love.

Unlike many facilities for seniors, there was only one COVID case and – as that person was immediately isolated – no

other incidents and no deaths. Maccarone said: “The Manoir is the gold standard for caring for residents. No losses, that was exceptional.”

On accepting the award, D'Angelo acknowledged the efforts of the previous manager, Tom Thompson, in containing the pandemic in 2020.

Rotary Club of Westmount president, Susan Buscemi, also thanked Manoir Westmount's management and staff as well as “the good grace of all the residents in the face of all the measures that had to be taken.” The club built the Manoir and members continue to serve on its board.

Mayor Christina Smith, who also attended the event, said: “The Manoir shone and excelled in the protection of their seniors.”



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## 'Boom'! Greene panel is back



As promised by the provincial ministry of Transport (MTQ) last week (p. 10), the boom or panel warning northbound trucks about the height of the Greene Ave. rail bridge is back, as seen October 27. It is located between St. Antoine and Dorchester.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARJORIE GRIFFIN.

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# Château Westmount receives medal from province

By RALPH THOMPSON

Jennifer Maccarone, provincial legislator for Westmount-St. Louis was at Château Westmount October 22 to present an award to the private, non-commercial residential and long-term care centre (CHSLD) for "... crisis, trauma, unusual circumstances, unimaginable demands, strains on mental health, physical health, especially for those who care for seniors day in and day out," said Maccarone.

Referring to the staff, she went on to say: "You put your lives on the line every day.... The daily efforts you made throughout the pandemic – the dedication, compassion, the kindness, perseverance, the time away from your own families – it hasn't gone unnoticed.... I'm proud to be presenting you, the staff at Château Westmount, the medal of the National Assembly of Quebec. It's the highest honour that can be awarded by a member of the National Assembly."



Hassan Lari, president of the Château Westmount users' committee with Jennifer Maccarone, provincial legislator for Westmount-St. Louis (centre) and Zara Pilian, general manager of Château Westmount.

Maccarone presented the medal to Zara Pilian, general manager of the facility, who then went on to give an emotional presentation about their experiences over the past 18 months. She thanked Maccarone for the award and for her support.

Pilian and the next speaker, Yves Vincelette, clinical consultant at Château Westmount, both talked about how all the staff were incredible, extraordinary and unwavering in their efforts during the pandemic. Although no residents were affected during the first wave, a number were impacted subsequently.

Pilian requested a few moments silence for the victims and their families.

Hassan Lari, president of the Château Westmount users' committee, was the final speaker. Clearly an upbeat spirit among residents, he talked about the pro-

fessional response and precautions taken by all the staff, giving special mention to the kitchen staff, who prepared "a special treat" occasionally: "delicious fancy desserts."

The maintenance personnel made sure visiting areas were cleaned inside and out, and the activity staff brought their offerings to each floor. He praised administration members, who quickly established Zoom facilities and rolled up their sleeves to help clean residents' rooms.

Maccarone personally requested the awards be given to the following five long-term care facilities in her riding: St. Margaret Residential Centre, Manoir Westmount, Place Kensington, the Montreal Chinese Hospital and Château Westmount.

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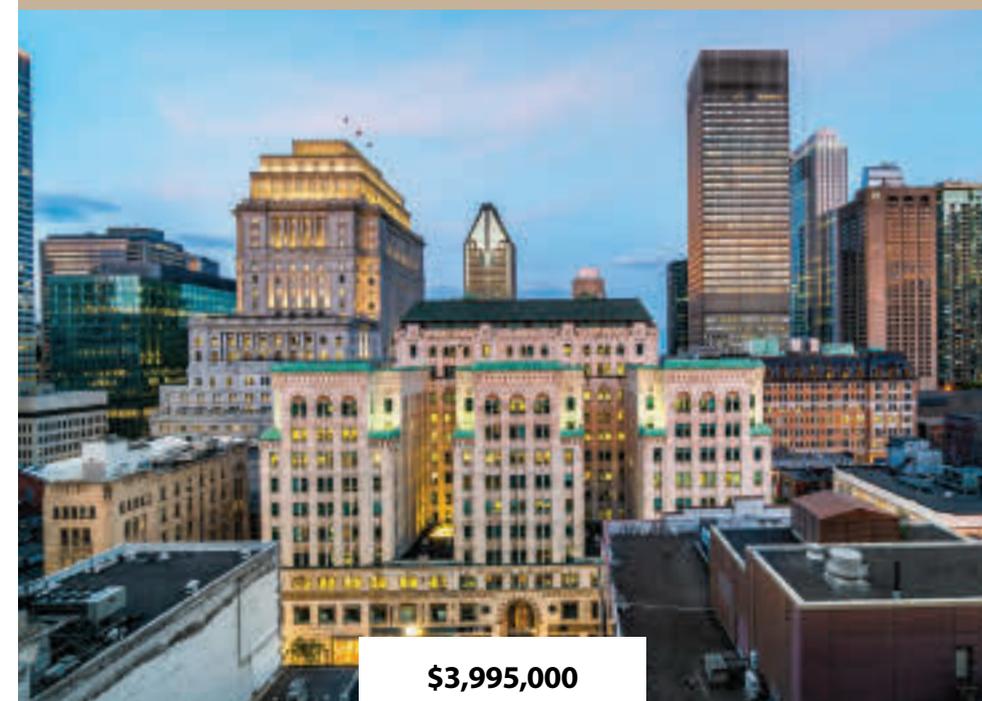
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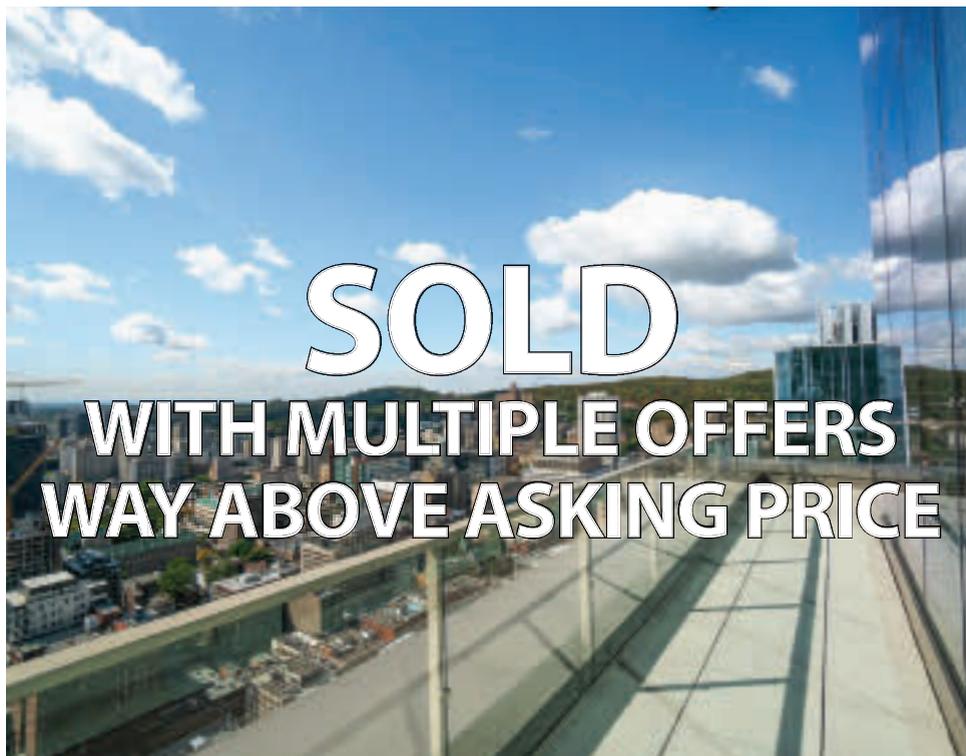
## PRESTIGIOUS APARTMENTS & IMPORTANT RECENT SALE

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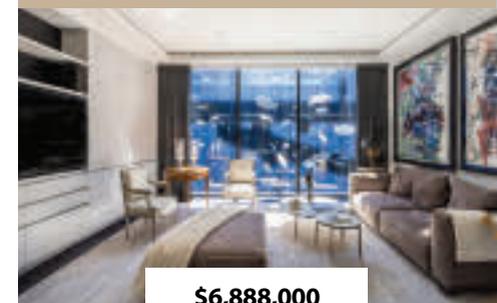
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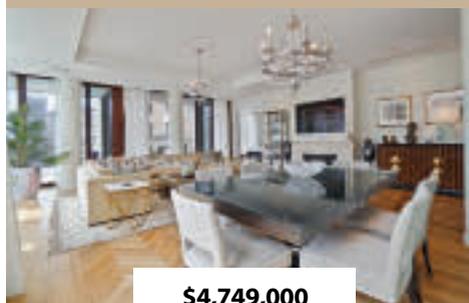
IMMENSE ROOFTOP TERRACE WITH SUPERB WATER VIEWS



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**“SOLANO”, OLD PORT**

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**“RITZ-CARLTON”, GOLDEN SQUARE MILE**

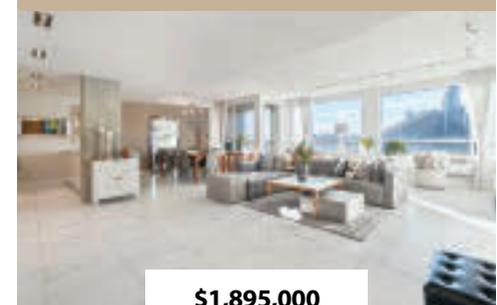
4,161 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE | 3 GARAGES | 3 LOCKERS



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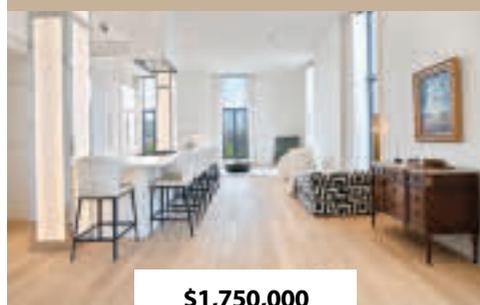
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**“LOFTS REDPATH”, SOUTH-WEST**

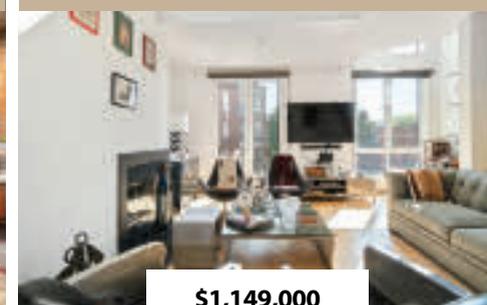
CONTEMPORARY STYLED CORNER UNIT | OPEN CONCEPT



**\$1,295,000**

**“LOFTS SOUTHAM”, FINANCIAL DISTRICT**

CROSSING APARTMENT ON 2 FLOORS | 2 TERRACES



**\$1,149,000**

**“LES JARDINS DUCHARME”, OUTREMONT**

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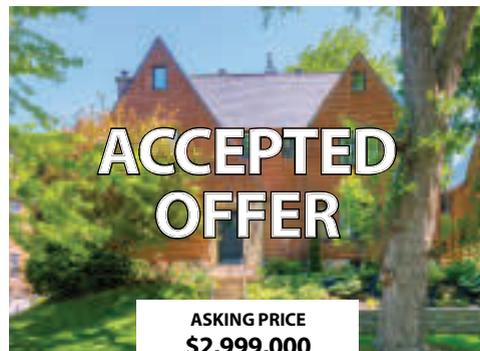
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**AV. WOOD, WESTMOUNT**



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Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

# May: Modest volume – record average mark-up

continued to move upward last May, in a list of sales smaller than experienced in April, but with higher prices, and the average mark-up over valuation reached its highest level since the 2020 valuation roll came into force.

Nine residential sales were registered in May, down from 14 in April, but prices ranged from \$1,225,000 to \$3,890,000, up from the \$1,175,000-\$3,025,000 range re-

corded in April.

The highest price involved a detached stone house at 52 St. Sulpice Rd. near Westmount's eastern border, which at \$3,890,000 sold for more than 2.5 times its previous sale price back in 2007. It turns out the buyers also happened to sell the lowest-priced house in May, for \$1,225,000; in both cases, the houses sold for well above May's average 38 percent mark-up

on municipal valuation.,

The highest mark-up was 70.2 percent for 34 Holton Ave., a semi-detached house close to Wood Ave. which sold for \$2,110,000, up 20 percent from what its owners had purchased it for two years earlier. The lowest mark-up – a mere one percent – involved another nearby house, 3999 Montrose Ave., which was ..... in fact the second-highest *continued on p. 25*

*Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in May 2021, gleaned from non-city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 23.*

The average price of Westmount houses



116 Lewis, lowest price, \$1,225,000, on October 27.



34 Holton, biggest mark-up, 70.2 percent, on October 27.



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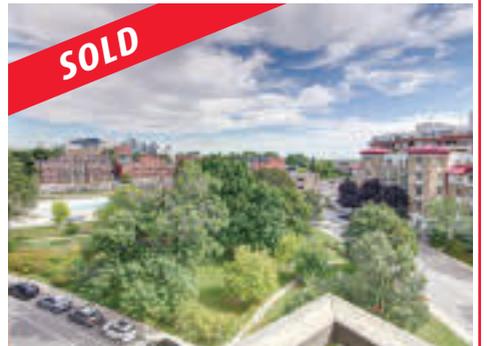
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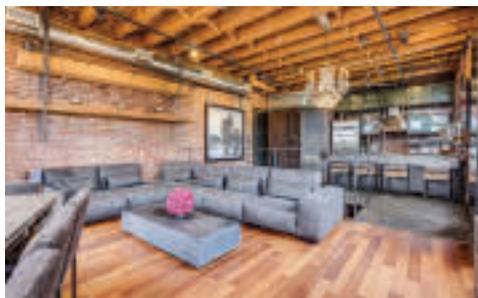
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# Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in May 2021

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2020 VAL	RATIO (%)
1120 Greene	Hans Eric Dedekam	\$1,325,000	\$967,600	36.9%
34 Holton	Parker Donaldson	\$2,110,000	\$1,239,800	70.2%
116 Lewis	Elizabeth Gomery & Stefan Fews	\$1,225,000	\$779,000	57.3%
3999 Montrose	Marjorie Jill McConnell Price	\$2,600,000	\$2,568,800	1.2%
364 Olivier	estate Winifred Scott Whittier	\$1,850,000	\$1,439,600	28.5%
52 St. Sulpice	Brett Miller & Ioanna Vondjidis	\$3,890,000	\$2,626,700	48.1%
32 Somerville	Monte Perlman & Randi Gilbert	\$1,938,500	\$1,500,000	29.2%
28 Thornhill	Marc André Lefebvre & Caroline Blouin	\$2,135,000	\$1,313,300	62.6%
572 Victoria	Eric Johnston & Irene Bucheli	\$1,640,000	\$1,139,300	43.9%
<b>CONDOMINIUMS</b>				
4210 de Maisonneuve #3	4371724 Canada (Anita Dhani, pres.)	\$1,090,000	\$903,700	20.6%
200 Lansdowne #405	Johanna Laurentina Mechielsen	\$915,000	\$665,900	37.4%
3161 St. Antoine	Johanne Pothel	\$460,600	\$400,000	15.2%
4700 St. Catherine #605	Denis Gregory O'Brien & Susan Catherine Wood	\$1,725,000	\$1,157,000	49.1%
4700 St. Catherine #707	David Fraenkel	\$930,000	\$619,500	50.1%
1 Wood #609 (PH9)	Claudette Couture-Laurin	\$2,050,000	\$1,486,000 <sup>1</sup>	38.0%

<sup>1</sup>Valuation is a combination of \$1,474,600 for the apartment and one garage, \$11,400 for an extra locker space.



56 TURGEON, LE SUD-OUEST  
ASKING \$1,995,000

215 AV. REDFERN #406, WESTMOUNT  
ASKING \$1,675,000

394 AV. LANSDOWNE, WESTMOUNT  
ASKING \$1,145,000

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## New list detailed for Goode House preservation

# City sets aside \$100k to offset cost of heritage studies

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Updating and restorations may not come cheap for older Westmount houses but this is especially so for one whose interior is cited by the city for heritage protection.

In this regard, two by-laws were recently adopted specifically aimed at the interior of Goode House.

One, By-law 1579 adopted on October 4, covers the cost of certain required heritage studies by professionals up to \$100,000 for the year up to December 1, 2022.

Another, By-law 1580 adopted October 7, amends a list of features in By-law 1552 to be conserved in renovation work at the Goode House.

### First in Quebec

This distinctive house at 178 Côte St. Antoine is also the first in Quebec to have its interior recognized for its heritage, though its exterior has been protected for some time by the city as a Category I\* property (see story July 7, 2020, p. 8).

The two new by-laws work hand in hand since heritage studies had already been required for the Goode House before

its interior designation, Councillor Cynthia Lulham explained on their adoption as the council's representative on the city's Local Heritage Council.

In establishing a financial assistance program, By-law 1579 aims to support owners of Westmount heritage buildings involved in carrying out required heritage studies, assessment reports or technical audits of physical interventions by a professional.

### Six features to be preserved

On the other hand, By-law 1580 lists six heritage features at the Goode House to be restored to their original condition whenever possible.

This results from some enforcement issues being raised by the owner of the Goode House, the city administration and council that required additional criteria, the by-law explains.

Among them are the location of the original staircase between the ground floor and the bedroom floor, its dimensions, decorative motifs, materials, and finishes, including balusters that are to be preserved or restored to their original condition.

Another is the original plaster moldings

and woodwork, which are to be "preserved or faithfully reproduced. All new mouldings and woodwork in the original building must respect the hierarchy and style of the original components."

As well, the original interior doors and interior window shutters are to be preserved or restored to their original condition.

"A new door inside the original building must have similar characteristics in order to preserve the coherence of the original interior," the by-law states.

Fireplaces are also covered such that "any intervention to the fireplaces and their chimneys allows their functions to be maintained while adapting these functions to modern safety and performance requirements while preserving as much as possible their decorative elements."

Any intervention to the softwood floor is aimed to preserve its original character or, failing this, "is ideally reversible (varnish, paint, covering, etc.)."

And last of the six is the cast iron radiator covers, which are to be preserved and any intervention to the heating system is to be realized in accordance with the style of these radiator covers.

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## Public information meeting

Presentation of CIUSSS West-Central Montreal's highlights, financial statements, information on our general services and question period for the public.

To get the Zoom link for this meeting:  
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For more information:  
[ciusswestcentral.ca/public-information-meeting-2021](http://ciusswestcentral.ca/public-information-meeting-2021)

**Dodge on May real estate, cont'd from p. 22**

price of the month, \$2,600,000.

The 38-percent average mark-up follows the April average of 35 percent; both were far higher than the previous high mark-up, in March of 2020, when nine sales sold for an average just under 27 percent.

The next valuation roll (2023) will be based on the market conditions of July 1, 2021, so it looks like Westmount homeowners had better brace themselves for another strong hike in tax assessments (though this does not always translate into

a tax increase).

**Condos**

Condominiums increased in popularity in May, after only two sales were registered in April. Another six condo sales in May brought the total for the second quarter of the year to eight, with an average price of \$1,221,325, the highest quarterly average (pending the June sales) since a powerful \$1,402,500 was registered in the fourth

quarter of 2018.

In fact, the two April sales (see October 5, p. 22) formed the book-ends for the second quarter of 2021 so far with a range from \$400,000 to \$2,200,000; all the May sales ranged between those two.

The average mark-up for the quarter so far is 29.1 percent, lower than the average for the May residential sales but in line with the overall residential average for 2021, at 26 percent.



52 St. Sulpice, highest price, \$3,890,000, on October 27.



3999 Montrose, lowest mark-up, 1.2 percent, on October 27.

Another  
extraordinary sale\*

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\*Condominium sale in Westmount, as per Centris

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## NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL  
MEETINGMonday, November 15<sup>th</sup>

## Élections municipales le dimanche 7 novembre

Les lieux de votation seront ouverts de 9 h 30 à 20 h le jour du scrutin. Pour connaître le lieu de votation pour votre district, consultez la carte de rappel qui vous a été envoyée par la poste ou visitez [westmount.org/vote](http://westmount.org/vote).



## Municipal election Sunday, November 7

Polling places will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on voting day. To find the location of the polling place for your district, consult the reminder card that was sent to you by mail or visit [westmount.org/vote](http://westmount.org/vote).

### Cérémonie Jour du Souvenir

le samedi 6 novembre à 11 h

La mairesse et les conseillers municipaux vous invitent à assister à cette cérémonie commémorative annuelle au Cénotaphe de Westmount. Veuillez respecter les mesures sanitaires en portant un masque facial et en gardant une distance sociale.

### Élections municipales : CORRECTION

Dans l'annonce du 26 octobre 2021 au sujet des élections municipales, madame Anitra Bostock, candidate pour le district 5, avait été identifiée en tant que « sortante de ce poste ». Le texte aurait dû indiquer « sortante d'un autre poste ».

### Élections municipales 2021

Lorsque vous irez voter, assurez-vous d'apporter votre carte de rappel et une des cinq pièces

d'identité acceptées. Renseignez-vous à [westmount.org/vote](http://westmount.org/vote).

### Grippe saisonnière : pas de clinique de vaccination à Westmount en 2021

Il n'y aura pas de clinique de vaccination mobile au Victoria Hall cet automne. Le CLSC Métro offrira la vaccination contre l'influenza sur rendez-vous seulement dans 4 sites. Réservez dès maintenant à [clicsante.ca](http://clicsante.ca) ou à 514 270-1536. [ciusscentreouest.ca](http://ciusscentreouest.ca)

### Passport vaccinal COVID-19

Vous devez présenter une preuve de vaccination contre la COVID-19 pour avoir accès à certaines activités au Centre des loisirs de Westmount, à la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount et au Victoria Hall. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

### Remembrance Day Ceremony

Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m.

The Mayor and Councillors invite you to attend this annual commemorative service at the Westmount Cenotaph. Please respect health measures by wearing a mask and social distancing.

### Municipal election: CORRECTION

In the October 26 election ad, District 5 candidate Ms. Anitra Bostock was identified as "outgoing from this position". The text should have read "outgoing from another position".

### 2021 municipal election

When you go to vote, be sure to bring your voter reminder card and one of the five pieces of identification accepted. Find out more at [westmount.org/vote](http://westmount.org/vote).

### Seasonal flu vaccination: no clinic in Westmount in 2021

There will not be a mobile vaccination clinic at Victoria Hall this fall. The CLSC Métro will offer the flu vaccination by appointment only at 4 sites on its territory. Book your appointment now at [clicsante.ca](http://clicsante.ca) or 514 270-1536. [ciusscentreouest.ca](http://ciusscentreouest.ca)

### COVID-19 vaccination passport

You must present proof of vaccination against COVID-19 to have access to certain activities that take place at the Westmount Recreation Centre, the Westmount Public Library, and Victoria Hall. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Nouvelle phase de réouverture

Les documents suivants sont requis pour entrer à la Bibliothèque :

- carte de membre valide
- passeport vaccinal (13 ans et +)
- pièce d'identité avec photo (13 ans et +)

Vous devez accepter les exigences et conditions avant de vous présenter. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Système de réservations libre-service

**Nouveau!** Le service de cueillette de documents sera remplacé par un système de réservations en libre-service à partir du 1er novembre. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

**Jusqu'au 8 novembre.** Œuvres d'Anabel Burin, Sharzad Ghaffari et Arnaud Hug. Passeport vaccinal requis.

### Concert : Univers Enchantés

**Mercredi 3 novembre, 19 h,** Victoria Hall. Chloé Dominguez (violoncelle) et Janelle Fung (piano) présentent des œuvres de

Stravinsky, Mozart et Chopin. En collaboration avec le Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée. Inscription et passeport vaccinal obligatoires. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org)

### Atelier d'écriture (9 à 12 ans)

**Jeudi 4 novembre, 16 h,** via Zoom. Avec Andrew Katz, M.A. en création littéraire. En anglais. Inscription requise. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Devinez qui remportera le prix Giller

**Samedi, 6 novembre, 19 h,** Victoria Hall. Shelley Pomerance et le personnel de la Bibliothèque discuteront des livres sur la liste préliminaire pour le prix Giller de la Banque Scotia. Inscription et passeport vaccinal requis. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Artisans Westmount 2021

**Samedi et dimanche 13 et 14 novembre, 10 h 30 à 17 h,** Victoria Hall. Entrée : denrées non-périssables ou 2 \$. Passeport vaccinal requis. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org)

## LIBRARY

### Next phase of Library reopening

The following documents are required to enter the Library:

- valid membership card
- vaccine passport (ages 13+)
- photo ID (ages 13+)

You must agree to the requirements and conditions prior to your arrival. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Self-Serve Pickup System

**New!** The Curbside Pickup service is being replaced by a self-serve pickup model on November 1st. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Gallery at Victoria Hall: exhibition

**Until November 8<sup>th</sup>.** Works by artists Anabel Burin, Sharzad Ghaffari and Arnaud Hug. Vaccination passport required.

### Concert: Univers Enchantés

**Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7 p.m.,** Victoria Hall. Chloé Dominguez, cello and Janelle Fung, piano, present works by Stravinsky, Mozart and Chopin. In collaboration with the Conseil des

arts de Montréal en tournée. Registration and vaccination passport required. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org)

### Writing Workshop (9-12 year-olds)

**Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 4p.m.** on Zoom. With Andrew Katz, M.A. in Creative Writing. Registration required. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Guess the Giller

**Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.,** Victoria Hall. Shelley Pomerance and Library staff will discuss the books that have been shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. Registration and vaccination passport required. [westlib.org](http://westlib.org)

### Artisans Westmount 2021

**Saturday & Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.,** Victoria Hall. Admission: non-perishable food or \$2. Vaccination passport required. [westmount.org](http://westmount.org)



## Here today, gone tomorrow



Last week, we wrote (p. SL-10) the following caption for a photo: "314-316 Lansdowne on October 25, still standing even though the city has allowed its demolition." The very next day, the house was taken down! Photo contributor Marc Dagenais calls the photo at bottom left "King of the Castle."

TOP ROW PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT, BOTTOM LEFT COURTESY OF M. DAGENAIS, BOTTOM RIGHT COURTESY OF PATRICK MARTIN.

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No. 14 General Hospital, R.C.A.M.C. (CASF)

Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps No. 14 Canadian General Hospital poses on the Westmount Athletic Grounds' viewing stands in 1941. The stands were demolished in 1961 when the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal constructed the new Westmount High School. The two men in light uniforms are Sergeant Majors Richard Hardy (left) and Wally Plumpton (right).

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HARDY FAMILY COLLECTION.

## Westmount's war hospital

BY DONALD V. MACDOUGALL

After World War II was declared in September 1939, Westmount soon became the site of the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps No. 14 Canadian General Hospital, a 1,200-bed unit that was activated in June 1940 in Montreal at the Westmount Athletic Grounds.

During the war, the athletic grounds adjacent to present-day Westmount High

School between Hollowell and Hillside were turned over to the military for use as barracks and a militia training centre.

The grounds and MAAA clubhouse, since demolished to make room for the current Westmount High building, were used for reviewing areas, offices and long rows of wooden barracks for troops.

Some 600 bunks were stacked inside the clubhouse. Extra kitchens and toilet facilities were added and the area was de-



The great granddaughters of Richard ("Dick") Hardy, Bella and Zoe, attend Roslyn Elementary School.

clared off limits to all but authorized personnel.

These preparations for active duty had been quietly going forward, following a secret mobilization order dated July 18, 1939.

### Departure for Europe

It wasn't until June 1941 that the unit left Montreal for Halifax by train and across the Atlantic on board the *Stirling Castle*.

Before No. 14 Canadian General Hospital returned to Canada from Italy at the end of the war, the unit had a commemorative plate made in Perugia, its last posting. Illustrated by artist Major Jules Gosselin, it depicts the unit's journey from Westmount to Perugia and four of the major battles

they supported. (*See p. 1 for photo.*)

One of the plates survives in the family of Richard Ernest (Dick) Hardy, who was a quarter master sergeant with the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps and was posted to No. 14 Canadian General Hospital in Westmount.

His two great-granddaughters are now students at Roslyn Elementary School.

Copyright © 2021 by Donald V. Macdougall. No part of this article may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without the prior written permission of the author, except in the cases of brief quotations embodied in reviews. donvmac@gmail.com (Macdougall is Richard Hardy's son-in-law). Used by the *Westmount Independent* with permission. Further information can be found in: Madeline Shavallier's article "Nursing Memories" (*Legion Magazine* November 1, 2003) and Aline Gubbay's book *A View of Their Own – The Story of Westmount* (1998) p. 88 & 113.



On June 19, 1941, No. 14 Canadian General Hospital mobilized at Montreal's Bonaventure Station for departure to Europe.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HARDY FAMILY COLLECTION.

**City's Remembrance Day service Nov. 6****Historic uniforms to be unveiled with restored cannon**

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

When Westmount's annual Remembrance Day cenotaph service takes place Saturday, November 6, at 11 am, historically replicated artillery dress uniforms will be unveiled by "re-enactment" volunteers displaying the city's restored 1810 cannon that once stood in Westmount Park.

The 12-pounder cannon will be brought to the service by a two-year-old volunteer group of military members, veterans and cadets involved in the Westmount Battery, which takes its name from an artillery battery based in Westmount during World Wars I and II.

"This is the first time that the meticulously created uniforms will be presented publicly," said former city councillor Patrick Martin, who has spearheaded the cannon restoration project along with Charles de Kovachich, former honorary colonel of the 2nd Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery. This regiment is now stationed just outside Westmount on Côte des Neiges Rd. opposite Belvedere.

Every component of the uniforms had to be specially made or created to conform to the dress – or ceremonial – uniforms

worn by the Canadian artillery militia dating from the 1860s when the 12-pounder cannon would have been in use for ceremonial purposes, Martin said. The Westmount pair have been described by the Royal Artillery as of the type continually in service with the British crown from 1750 to 1860.

These uniform features include the brass buttons obtained from England, the white pith helmets with their spike, intricate gold braid and epaulettes.

The Westmount cannon are believed to be the ones, or similar to those, fired by the artillery June 21, 1897 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign. This took place in open ground in front of St. George's Snowshoe Club at the top of Aberdeen (see photo, September 29, 2015, p. 17). This is the current location of St. George's Elementary School.

**Unique pair**

Removed from service as obsolete, this pair of cannon's sequential identification

markings showed they had been together for more than 210 years, Martin said. Believed to be the only ones remaining together, they were donated to Westmount by the Sons of England, Westmount Lodge.

They were installed in the park in 1899 where many children played on them until removed in 2006 for refurbishment due to rotting wooden wheels and gun carriages. This led to the start of their restoration instigated by then city councillor George Bowser (see April 1, 2009, p. 3).

Despite several delays, this process was continued by Martin as public works commissioner and then as a private citizen after his retirement from the council in 2017 (see September 3, 2019, p. 8).

While all Westmount Battery members are certified to fire the restored 1810 cannon for ceremonial purposes, he said, this will not take place November 6 because of the confined built-up city environment.

Further information can be by contacting westmountbattery@gmail.com.

See photo on p. 1.

**'Guess the Giller' becomes city's first post COVID event to feature refreshments**

A wine-and-cheese component of the city's "Guess the Giller" meeting November 6 at 7 pm will be the first time after pandemic restrictions that the city will provide refreshments at an event, according to Westmount librarian Daniel Miguez de Luca. It is also the first time since COVID that "Guess the Giller" will take place in person at Victoria Hall.

Writer Shelley Pomerance and library staff will discuss the books that have been shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, Canada's largest literary prize.

They are: *What Strange Paradise* by Omar El Akkad, *Glorious Frazzled Beings* by Angélique Lalonde, *The Son of The House* by Cheluchi Onyemelukwe-Onuobia, *The Listeners* by Jordan Tannahill and *Fight Night* by Miriam Toews.

Registration is required at guess-the-giller.eventbrite.ca along with vaccination passports.

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9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

## Paolo love



One look at Paolo and it's love. He is such a delight, yes a most curious, affectionate and interactive young fellow. Stunning with his long black and white fur, contrasting with his huge light green eyes. He is so cuddly, a caring companion who will join in the family routine very easily. Paolo is in foster care for the grassroots volunteer animal rescue group Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions. He is a year and a half old, very healthy, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped. You can find out more about Paolo by contacting the volunteers at Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions at their email [info@gerdysrescue.org](mailto:info@gerdysrescue.org).

Your neighbour,  
Lysanne



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

## Brave Eiley



Some types of circumstances in a rescue always make my blood boil. I am just furious and I am certain you will be too.

Eiley was kicked out of a car and left on a road to fend for herself. They just drove off... Poor Eiley was picked up by a kind passer-by and was driven to safety.

Never looking back, our brave girlie is now in foster care for the grassroots volunteer organization Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions. She is moving forward in life with them for adoption in order to take her place in a loving, and, yes, safe family en-

vironment.

A bit over a year old, she is so loving and playful. Also the cutest black-and-white youngster, with her little freckles and warm brown eyes that show her interest in companionship. She will be at her happiest and grow confidently in a family with an active lifestyle, playing in the house or in the fenced backyard, walking and fetching as well.

Eiley is very healthy, up to date with her vaccinations, spayed and microchipped. You can find out more about adorable Eiley and have a peek at the photograph album of her by referring to the rescue's information page for her adoption on their website [www.gerdysrescue.org](http://www.gerdysrescue.org) and contacting them at their email [info@gerdysrescue.org](mailto:info@gerdysrescue.org).

Your neighbour, Lysanne

## Election pamphlets stolen with car on Melville

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

When Matt Aronson of Melville Ave. discovered his car had been stolen from in front of his house overnight October 26-27, his great dismay was losing what was in the trunk: the flyers he had yet to distribute in his election campaign as a candidate in District 7.

"It's a shame because I've lost a day to hand them out door to door plus I don't yet know whether the cost of re-printing them will be an allowable campaign expense," he said. If not, he'll have to cut costs elsewhere.

He said he had reported the theft of the insured Honda CRV to police and he recalled reading in the *Independent* a few weeks ago that a similar model had also been taken from close by. "So I hope other residents who may have a car like mine will be especially vigilant."

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### Found

On October 21, a gold necklace near Prince Albert & Sherbrooke, now in the hands of Public Security.

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE

#### Demolition Application

1. The City of Westmount has received an application for a demolition permit, and for a preliminary program for the immovable located at 45 Summit Crescent;
2. A public sitting of the Demolition Committee will take place on December 9, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. and will be broadcasted live on the City's website: <https://westmount.org/demolition-committee>

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

[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)

# St. Margaret's awarded medal by the province

The St. Margaret Residential Centre, located on Hillside behind Westmount High, was awarded the Medal of the National Assembly October 22. Provincial legislator for Westmount-St. Louis Jennifer Maccarone visited to present the honour.

"It is rare that this award is offered to organizations," CIUSSS West-Central Montreal's spokesman Barry Morgan informed the *Independent* via email afterwards.

"Your dedication, your caring, your courage and the love that you offer your residents – our seniors – is remarkable," said Maccarone. "All the work that you did throughout the pandemic has not gone unnoticed. The work that you do today and that you continue to do is essential."

Barbra Gold, director of the CIUSSS's support program for the autonomy of seniors, thanked her, adding "To our team at St. Margaret Residential Centre – and to our 'guardian angels' across CIUSSS West-Central – thank you for all that you do. Your untold hours, dedication, compassion and kindness does not go unrecognized. A well-deserved award!"



Provincial legislator for Westmount-St. Louis Jennifer Maccarone, centre, presenting the Medal of the National Assembly to St. Margaret's nurse Maryam Gharamani.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CIUSSS WEST-CENTRAL MONTREAL.

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## Sports &amp; Social Column

## Westmounters win big at Lake of Two Mountains Hunt trials

The Lake of Two Mountains Hunt, a registered no-kill, drag “fox” hunt, held its trials in Glen Robertson, Ontario on the occasion of its 75th birthday, field secretary and former Westmount city councillor **Nicolas Matossian** told the *Independent* October 25. Riders had come from Quebec and Ontario to enjoy the course set up “beautifully” by **Christine Allard**, master of the foxhounds.

“It was a splendid spectacle of horse and rider with the mounts shiny and braided and raring to go, and the Hunt riders in their scarlet coats, and all other riders in their formal and best equestrian competition attire,” said Matossian.

“The atmosphere was competitive and cordial with the senior, junior and open events heavily attended, and staggered in rapid succession,” for a total of 45 riders competing in 11 events.

Allard, while also busy running the show, led by example and went on to earn two first places. The Hunt’s junior contingent swept its events.

Notably, Westmounter **Elisabeth Molson**, a 10-year-old ECS

student, rode away with the Ross Trophy for junior hunters, outperforming 15 of her competitors.

It was a particularly rewarding day for Elisabeth’s mother, **Christine Kivenko Molson**, a long time member who was awarded her Hunt colours, and grandmother, **Candice Kivenko**, who had come out for a day’s outing and picnic, and received her own award for the best laid out picnic table at the event.

“The Lake of Two Mountains Hunt has

always had an important membership from Westmount, starting from its inception and continuing to make a solid contribution to the Hunt’s development,” related Matossian.

Among others, present were Westmounters **Eric and Linda Lenczner**, **Peter and Paula Gillett**, their daughter **Alwyn** with husband **William Tretiak**, and their daughter, **Lucy Tretiak**, who won two blue ribbons.

Matossian himself won major trophies

in the scheduled events, starting with the Angus Memorial.

“It was particularly rewarding to win the Julien Allard Senior Hunt Trophy,” shared Matossian, “He was my Hunt mentor, role model and fellow rider for countless hunts. He always brought out the best aspects of a hunt and the excitement of its often unexpected evolution.”

Matossian was particularly proud of the Hunt’s work with younger riders, “the interest in the sport is growing as young riders find a new outlet for their skills and look to a challenge outside the riding ring.”

In this spirit, the Hunt has instituted a junior certification program, complete with financial aid, which is awarded each year to riders who have achieved competence in horsemanship, riding skills and horse management, knowledge of hunting rules and etiquette, safety, field first aid and Hunt history, and completed five actual hunts. It recently graduated 15 junior hunters.

“Tally ho,” concluded Matossian.



Elisabeth Molson.



Nicolas Matossian on Cruiser.



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## Retail Review

VERONICA REDGRAVE

# Global Pet Foods gets local at former Clifford's site

"Our food products contain no by-products – no corn or soy – just healthy grains. We also carry raw frozen foods, which are very healthy for animals. We support local

industries and buy local produce when we can."

A fun neighbourhood note? One of his suppliers went to Westmount High. Be-

cause Elia spent many years working in the airline industry, not only does he "understand customer service," but he has been giving animal transport advice to his clients as well as selling the crates.

"I had planned a grooming service but as I simply could not find any dog groomers, I have switched to renting that space. There is a bath, dryer and shampoo. No back aches from bath-tub bending," he laughs.

"We cater to dogs, cats and rodents. We are actually the only shop in Westmount for rodent supplies. And what has been very helpful for pet owners is the free parking right beside my store. And, of course, we deliver."

He has affiliated with Global Canada, whose shops across Canada mean purchasing power and "therefore good prices for my customers. We have a frequent buyer program for animal food, and we take air miles."

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Clifford's grocery store, a neighbourhood institution, sat empty for three years after closing. Today, the 2,400-square-foot space looks fabulous with new floors and ventilation.

"I saw the space and loved it," explained Elia Akkouche, proprietor of Pitou Minou & Compagnons Global Pet Foods. Owner of two dogs, a German pointer ("Jambon") and an Italian greyhound ("Crevette"), he loved Global Foods products so much he went into business with his own store.

And what a store it is. Leashes are available in the same trendy colours as fashion collections. Fuchsia, tennis ball chartreuse and acid green are customer favourites as well as the "print collection, which includes a mini-beige plaid and sushi images."

And then there are the garments. Well, really just great clothing for cold days and dog-friendly chest harnesses to replace those awful neck collars.

Toys and accessories abound. There is even a cuddly tent that a small dog or cat would love to make their home.



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# Classic and vintage automobiles on parade

BY JENNIFER BALL

When Westmount residents John and Janet Cheffins drove up my quiet Priest's Farm street, heads turned, smiles came out and cameras suddenly clicked. After all, the Cheffins Derby Bentley B52KT is the only one in the province of Quebec.

A classic car, it was the Bentley that the UK-based automobile maker Rolls Royce made after it bought Bentley – the eponymous company founded by the English engineer Walter Owen Bentley in 1919.

“He actually said that this was the best car to bear his name. Allegedly – because I am not even sure if that is true – but it is certainly something that is quoted quite a lot. It is called the Derby Bentley because it was built on Nightingale Rd. in Derby,” said John Cheffins.

Cheffins worked for Rolls Royce his 40-years-plus career, but for the airplane division, not the car one. His present “industry” is creating a coffee table book with the car photographed in front of Montreal's art deco buildings, which include Hogan Bath on Wellington St., the Atwater Market, St. Henri Fire Station and the Aldred building.

Unlike some classic car owners, John and Janet don't own their Bentley to cruise for photo ops. Indeed, they took it to New Zealand for a 4,000-mile odyssey and the

day after we met, they had a long motoring day planned.

So how does the car run some 80-plus years after it rolled off the line? “What I like about it is that when you drive it, it just lollops along like a big old horse. It bounces,” he said. “Believe it or not, it has shock absorbers that you can adjust. Extraordinary! From 1937 and it had ride control! No power steering though, you have to be a weight-lifter to park it.”

Should you happen to see the Cheffins in their spruce-green Bentley in the lane next to you, please do not follow a startling trend and honk at them! The mature car and its driver want to continue to drive safely on the roads for many years to come.

Westmounter Ann Lloyd, on the other hand, is looking to sell her vintage car: a 1936 Austin Nippy with a speedy engine. After seeing the *Independent's* original photo of the Cheffins' Bentley (Oct. 12, p. 19) and getting in touch with them through the paper, she was in discussion with them about purchasing it, but they decided to pass. For now, it will be stored by a neigh-

John Cheffins with his Bentley on October 22.



bour in the Algoma district of Ontario, until Lloyd finds a buyer.

Herbert Austin was essentially Britain's Henry Ford. He wanted to build a small car and while he did not sell as many cars as Ford did, he came pretty close. “I got it for my 21st birthday. It was a reasonably priced car at the time,” Lloyd told me.

“I called her Heffalump, from the Winnie the Pooh stories, as just like Heffalump we seemed never to get caught!” With the exception being an encounter in London when Lloyd beat out a truck driver at a stop light. When he caught up to her, at the next one, he chided her: “You think you're so clever in that cat's whisker of yours, don't you?”

Lloyd had the Austin re-built in the UK before she shipped it to Canada and it was working perfectly when she last drove it to St. Joseph's Island, in the Algoma district of Ontario. “It went up the hill just fine. I entered it into a few community events there and it won best in show.” An apt sobriquet for a grand dame who imbues a sense of adventure.



Ann Lloyd in her Austin.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF A. LLOYD.

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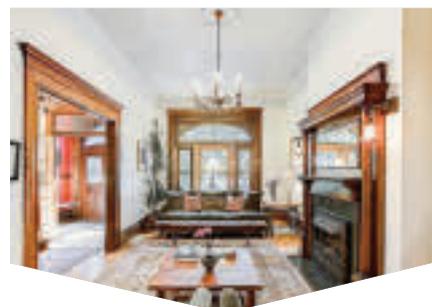
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