

City's Remembrance Day ceremony: Sun., Nov. 10 at 2 pm Historic note recalls Westmount flyer Gordon Campbell's World War I sacrifice



Mary Bradley points to the name of her great-uncle, Duncan Gordon Campbell, which is one of dozens inscribed on the city of Westmount's war cenotaph.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

While Remembrance Day each year is a reminder to the community of the sacrifices made by soldiers who fought and died in wars, for some Westmounters it has a more personal impact.

In a handwritten note written "in the field" in February 1918, Major E. H. Johnston of the Royal Flying Corps' 20 Flying Squadron described the deaths of aircraft pilot Lt. D. G. Campbell, a Westmounter whose parents lived at 536 Côte St. Antoine Rd., and *continued on p. 20*

A new look to Independent's delivery

Due to the possibility of a Canada Post labour disruption, houses and duplexes may not get the *Independent* at home, although we have mailed them.

Look for the paper at our usual drop locations around town and, above Sherbrooke, at newspaper boxes like this one at Côte St. Antoine/Victoria (northwest corner). Others include Sunnyside/Upper Lansdowne (southeast), entrance to Summit Woods (at Oakland/Summit Circle), The Boulevard/Aberdeen (southeast), Montrose/Mt. Pleasant (northeast), entrance to Murray Park (Montrose/Murray), entrance to Murray Park (Westmount Ave./Murray Hill), The Boulevard at the Roslyn/Upper Roslyn steps (north side) and the entrance to Queen Elizabeth Gardens (Barat/Vignal).

Condominium and apartment buildings should get special drops of copies to their lobbies. Issues? Call David at 514.935.4537.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



188 decorated pumpkins received

Hallowe'en winners announced at the Extravaganza

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As part of the 27th edition of the Hallowe'en Extravaganza event October 26, a total of 188 decorated pumpkins were submitted to the Westmount Public Library, for which a total of 12 winners were announced in various categories.

These were presented after staff and volunteers performed a short skit on "The

Haunted Library" in front of four groups totalling 85 attendees. The children were asked to become "fairytale detectives" and challenged to find hidden storybook characters and put them "back in their book."

"Everyone who participated in the contest received a little reward and some special treats," said children's librarian Wendy Wayling.

"Challenges included *continued on p. 7*



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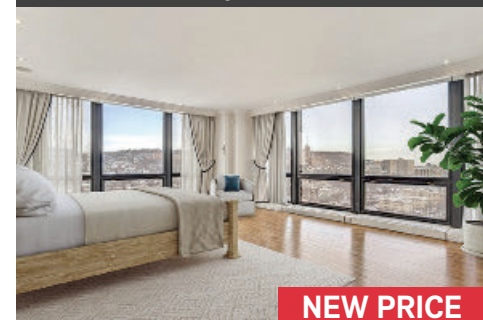
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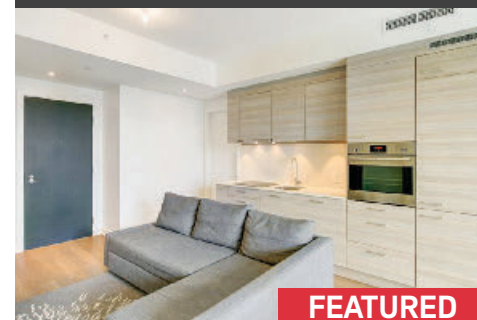
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Public Security blocks streets during smoky St. Catherine fire

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A fire October 27 in the three-storey apartment building at 4556 St. Catherine caused the evacuation of residents, Public Security officials said. Overnight sheltering was provided by the Red Cross to those requiring it. The fire generated heavy smoke seen billowing from the top of the building on arrival of officers.

Starting in a second-floor apartment of the building located near Park Place, the fire required officers to direct traffic away from the area after the call for assistance was received at 12:38 pm. No one was reported injured.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE SUTHERLAND

woman, who reported she had had hip replacement surgery.

Explaining she had fallen on “slippery leaves,” she was stabilized and seated on a chair while awaiting an ambulance.

Woman falls on slippery leaves

A 78-year-old Westmount woman was taken to LaSalle hospital by Urgences Santé October 27 at 11:14 am after falling on the southern sidewalk on Sherbrooke at Westmount Park, Public Security officials said. When officers arrived, they found two passers-by tending to the

Lansdowne driver: Sun blinded me

A southbound Jeep on Lansdowne south of Côte St. Antoine October 22 “clipped” one parked car and smashed into a second one, according to Public Security officials. The incident occurred at 2 pm. The driver stated she had been “blinded by the sun.” All three vehicles belonged to Westmount residents.

Many out for warm but orderly Hallowe'en

While many trick-or-treaters were out on Westmount streets on Hallowe'en, October 31, no major incidents were reported by Public Security.

A total of six patrollers were assigned to provide safety for all sectors, according to Public Security director Greg McBain, who said some firecrackers had been heard but not found at King George (Murray) Park.

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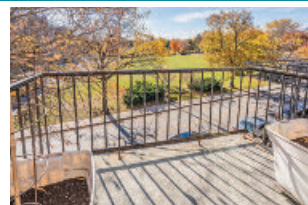
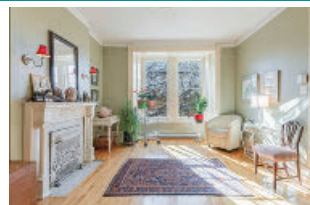
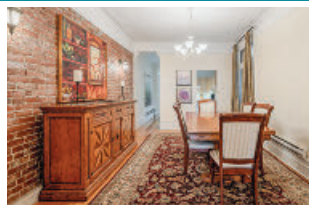
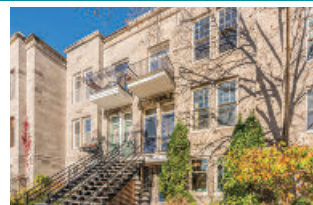


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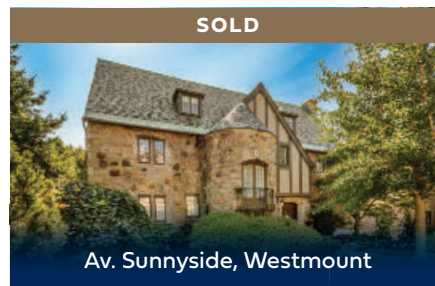
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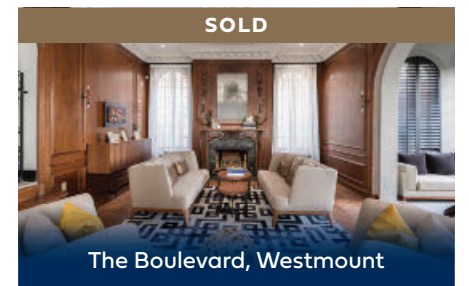
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SOLD

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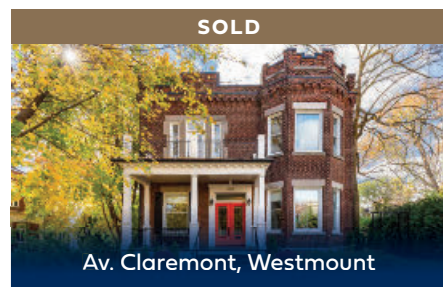
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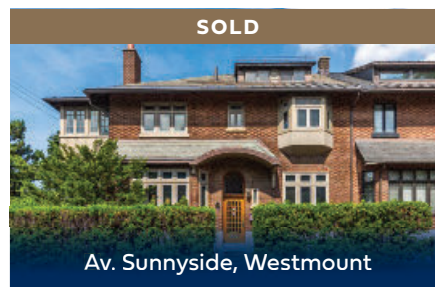
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'Building a community': Mayor Smith

80th Quarter Century banquet honours many for long service

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

The Quarter Century Club, one of Westmount's oldest traditions, recognizes long service of employees. It held its 80th anniversary banquet October 27 at Victoria Hall. Four were inducted into the "club" for achieving 25 years of service.

Along with the 25-year inductees this year were those – still working or retired – who had an opportunity to share stories with each other and employees marking other milestones of 15, 20 and even 30, 35 and 45 years.

Welcoming all at the opening, Mayor Christina Smith referred to the many people who have made the city "a great place" to live.

"You who are present here this evening are a part of the long line of women and men who, in the ordinary course of daily life, have participated in the extraordinary achievement of building a community," she explained.

She said she was "amazed by how many keep coming back" to the banquet year after year. Some included retired director general Bruce St. Louis, former Public Works directors Fred Caluori and Marianne Zalzal, former Public Security director Dave Sedg-



Left photo: Mayor Christina Smith (left) and city director general Julie Mandeville (second from right) with 25-year city employees Réjean Binette (second from left), superintendent of the roads and parks, and Matthew Ciampini (right), specialized leader labourer, known for driving the Zamboni. Right photo: Former city councillor Victor Drury and former councillor and mayor Karin Marks.



wick and a large Public Security cohort.

"If Westmount is what it is today, it is, in great part, thanks to you. This city proudly bears the imprint of your efforts, your leadership, your sense of public service, your smiles and your passions. Westmount has been a part of your lives and you are part of the life and history of this community."

Those inducted into the club this year for their quarter century of service were

Réjean Binette (superintendent of roads and parks); Shawn Reeves (telecommunications clerk); Matthew Ciampini (specialized lead labourer, who is well known as the Zamboni driver at the Westmount recreation centre), and Todd Séguin (Hydro Westmount linesman-splicer B).

45, 35, 30 years

Already inducted into the club but fêted for even longer service were, for 45 years:

Mai Jay, information services librarian (see story Oct. 2, 1991, p. 1); for 35 years, Maria Antonia Ippolio, microcomputer environment technician; and for 30 years: library assistant Faith Holness, parking inspector Richard Lamer, library assistant Gayle White and recently retired firefighter Gianni D'Argenio.

20 years

Lora Baiocco, online services and



Public Security was well represented at the banquet.

archives librarian; Sgt. Jennifer Chabot, Public Security; and Antonio Ragozzino, chief of group, roads and parks.

15 years

Pierre Bacon and Marc Franceschini, Public Security officers; Sebastian Samuel, retired communications director; Ashley Baker, communication officer; Salah Bouziane, Hydro Westmount director; Justin Cavanagh, operator A; Saveria Falbo, accounts payable and administrative support clerk; Hugues Louis, switchboard operator and maintenance; Cindy Richard, administrative secretary; Rocco Tedonen chief of group, roads and parks; Urs Widmern switchboard operator and maintenance.

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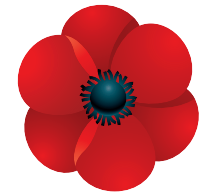
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Friends of the Westmount Public Library

Remembrance Day is Monday, November 11th



For those who would like to observe Remembrance Day at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, there will be an unofficial gathering at 11 a.m. at the Westmount Cenotaph on Monday, November 11th. All are welcome.

Catherine Duff Caron
de Maisonneuve Blvd.W.



Library staff and volunteers at the Hallowe'en Extravaganza October 26.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTMOUNT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Hallowe'en, cont'd from p. 1

finding two wandering ghosts and asking their ages, spinning a wheel at Sleeping Beauty's castle, diving for gold with Captain Hook and Tinker Bell, learning table etiquette with Beauty and the Beast, and eating 'disgusting' candy with the witch at the Gingerbread House!"

The 12 winners were awarded in four categories (first, second, third, and honourable mention):

6-7 Years:

- 1: Gia Achkar
- 2: Porter Rahowski
- 3: Aadlhay Sabrinath
- HM: Lucia Sandino De La Cuadra

8-9 Years:

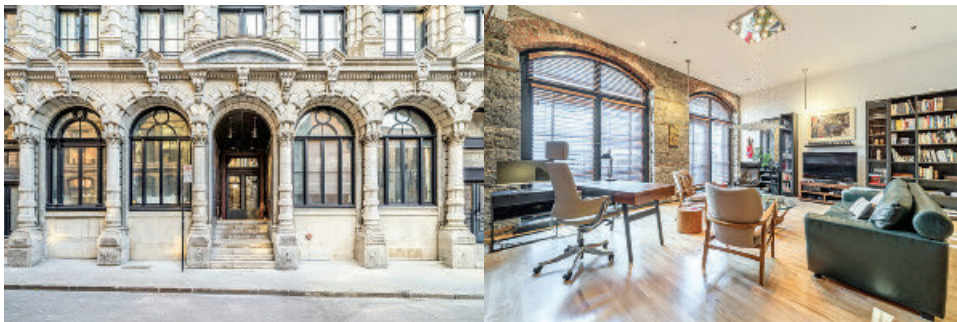
- 1: Mikel Mauricio Osorio Castro
- 2: Tea Okawa
- 3: Ada Rakowski
- HM: Astrid Waschke

10-11 Years:

- 1: Aya Okawa
- 2: Delphine Gélinas-Piché
- 3: Suzie Park
- HM: Sophia Zhao

Family:

- 1: Purmal Family
- 2: Lee Family,
- 3: Reed Family
- HM: Kondetti Family.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CITY'S PUBLIC TREE
REMOVAL GREAT

I wanted to highlight an excellent experience that I had this year with Westmount's Public Tree Inspection service. This spring, we noticed that the very large tree in our front yard was likely dead. The cost of removing the tree would be in the thousands, but I remembered a friend telling me years ago that some trees that border public sidewalks are Westmount's property.

I went to the city's website and found that this is not only the case, but the city has an inventory of every tree in Westmount and who owns it (the private property owner or the city).

I looked up our tree and discovered it was owned by the city. I used the city's online form to report that it needed to be inspected. A few months later, we received notice that it was dead and that they would remove it at no cost to us and gave us a date range for the service.

While they came a few days after the date indicated, the tree was removed quickly and without fuss. A few weeks after that, they came and removed the stump and re-seeded the lawn. I commend the city's seamless service and wanted to write to let others know that it is available.

CATHERINE MCKENZIE, PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

Editor's note: McKenzie is the wife of the *Independent's* editor. – DP.

CLLR. D'AMICO READS ROOM
ON GARBAGE PICK-UP FIASCO

I think the editor is doing a good job leading the *Westmount Independent*. Two suggestions:

- provide as much detail as possible when reporting crimes in particular (e.g. not "a car was stolen from Wood Ave." but "a car was stolen from Wood Ave. near St. Catherine,"
- re the complaint on published advertising (October 1, p. 10), if there is ANY doubt, despite multiple clues, as to whether an item is advertising, put "Paid advertisement" beside it.

My impression re Westmount's mayor and councilmen/women is that not only are they generally indulging their ideologies, contrary to the wishes of their electorate, but they are seriously deficient in being able to read the room – an essential talent for politicians as well as comedians.

The best example of all this is the garbage pick-up fiasco.

And I was happy to read on the front page of the *Independent's* October 15 edition that at least one councillor, Antonio D'Amico, is attempting to ameliorate matters. Perhaps he should consider higher office.

By the way, when are our next elections? Asking for a friend.

Keep up the good work.

ALEX SIMONELIS, SHERBROOKE ST.

EMBRACE CHANGE, TWICE-
MONTHLY GARBAGE COLLECTION

Two recent news items released recently should inspire Westmounters to be less critical of Westmount's reduced garbage collection frequency.

The UN's Annual Emissions Gap Report revealed that greenhouse gases reached a record high in 2023, with a 1.3-percent increase from 2022. These findings underscore the growing challenge of meeting the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C.

Closer to home, the Montreal borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve (MHM) released the results from a study examining the impact of its shift from weekly to bi-weekly garbage collection.

Encouragingly, the study indicates that this change led to a reduction of 2,445 tons of waste sent to landfills. In addition, participation in organic waste collection increased significantly, with composted materials rising by 31 percent. This is vital, as effective sorting prevents organic material from decomposing in landfills and producing methane, a potent greenhouse gas that significantly contributes to climate change.

Given that Westmount's population is about one-seventh the size of MHM's, proportionally our city could see a reduction of around 350 tons of waste sent yearly to landfills with the new measures of bi-weekly garbage pick-up.

Critics of Westmount's new garbage collection policy seem to overlook the broader goal. This initiative isn't necessarily about cost savings. It aims to reduce waste, landfill use and greenhouse gas emissions. In adopting this approach, we are aligning ourselves with many other major Canadian cities, including Toronto, Vancouver, and 62 of the 82 municipalities in the greater Montreal area.

Let's embrace change.

RICHARD DUFOUR, ANWOTH RD.

BRAVO ON NEW PLAYGROUND,
BUT PLANT TREES PLEASE

The new playground is wonderful!

The sight of all the children playing again is such a pleasure and the sound of glee has certainly been in the air. Thank goodness for a little more time left before the play-in-the-park season ends. Bravo to the city of Westmount.

When I saw the drone pictures in the October 22 issue of the *Westmount Independent* (p. SL-18), the extent to the expansion was clearly revealed. There is a lot of space for the children to run around, but I worry that the middle of the park may be a "hotspot" without trees. The way the park

has been built means that this very open space could trap and radiate heat, making it several degrees warmer than the surrounding area. I realize that most of the currently mulched empty spots are awaiting landscaping and hope that the city considers planting two or three trees, strategically placed in these two areas.

In future summers, shaded areas within the playground will be welcome as temperatures rise more than we are used to. This would also make up for trees removed in the renovation process. Let's keep the park fun and green!

TAMAR GRANOVSKY, SHERBROOKE ST.

NEW PLAYGROUND
A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

Playgrounds should be lifespan positive! Westmount Park's new playground is not!!

Primarily geared to infants and toddlers, very few activities would interest elementary school-age children, teens, adults or seniors. What a missed opportunity!!!

For example, the new swings are useful for toddlers, but only two for pre-school children. They are not wide or sturdy enough for people over seven. There is one swing for a handicapped child but it is misplaced in the toddler area. What school-age child wants to swing in the baby area?

Where is the bench-style swing? A *Québec* porch standard for infants who need soothing, grandparents with toddlers, courting teenagers and adults, and seniors who enjoy the memories and rhythm of swinging!!

Safety issues are a concern. The toddler-size entrances to the tiny houses' climbing equipment are too narrow for supervising adults to reach children who fall. New benches, stylish and sturdy, are too far from actual child activity.

In the sandbox area, a toddler struggling with a heavy, awkward metal sand lifter may finally swing it ... but into a nearby child?

A small, low wall surrounding the sandbox is needed to seat supervising caregivers. The great space between activity areas is aesthetically pleasing, but I pity the poor parent with several toddlers to supervise at the same time! There are no gated areas where very young children can be happily contained with caregivers much closer.

The inset trampolines are fine for school-age children with trampoline experience. However, to think a bilingual sign listing safety measures will prevent younger children from bouncing out and injuring themselves is unrealistic. These measures provide more legal safety for the city of Westmount than they do for children.

The greatest lack of foresight was not

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

using this opportunity to build a new public washroom for the playground and park users. Water fountains existed prior to the renovations so plumbing could have been developed further. The current Westmount Park public washroom is a disgrace. Park users and child caregivers need help in this area!

Westmount's lack of serious consultation on playgrounds is obvious. Prince Albert and Somerville parks are glaring examples. Always insufficient emphasis on lifespan use and real function.

Westmount needs to consult seriously with parents and caregivers of playground users. And, specifically to engage with healthcare professionals and occupational therapists who specialize in lifespan normal growth and development as well as the needs and function of individuals who are physically and/or cognitively challenged.

Playgrounds should be lifespan positive.

BEVERLEA TALLANT, WINDSOR AVE.

HOW FAR CAN WE KICK THE CAN DOWN THE ROAD?

Last week's *Independent* reported (p.1/10) that the 2025 capital works program of \$39 million will be funded by \$12 million

is taxes, \$4 million from accumulated surplus and \$2 million from grants, requiring an additional \$21 million – or more than half the total budget and almost twice what is raised for this purpose in taxes – to be funded by a loan.

It was explained that “a loan by-law for 2025 results from the city's ‘inability’ to generate new incomes without ‘massively’ increasing property taxes or new real estate development.”

While there are opportunities for development, they also incur costs for the city and probably cannot be brought to fruition, and generate revenue, in the next two years.

Projections for capital works rise to almost \$44 million for 2026 and almost \$47 million for 2027.

Assuming that all accumulated surplus is spent in 2025 and that grants in the next two years are similar to this year, it would appear that the city will need to borrow an additional \$30 million in 2026 and \$33 million in 2027.

Can council explain where the funds to repay those loans will come from?

I am not disputing that the city fell behind in maintaining our infrastructure and no one likes more taxes, but taking out

loans of this size appears to me to be simply delaying the inevitable.

If they are concerned about “massive” increases in property taxes now, how large will future tax increases be in order to pay back all these loans? We have a history of “pay as you go” and should raise taxes and/or reduce spending in order to not create future problems. Lacking some kind of specific, sound explanation from council regarding future funding, I hope that everyone will seriously consider whether any incumbent who voted for this budget is behaving responsibly and is deserving of re-election next year.

JIM RICHARDS, DORCHESTER BLVD.

THANK YOU, FIREFIGHTERS, FOR COMPASSION TO ALL

I am writing this letter with the hope its message can find its way to the firefighters who battled the blaze in the apartment building at 4556 St. Catherine St. on Sunday, October 27.

Despite the size of the fire and the threat it posed to neighbouring buildings, the firefighters found the time to rescue a cat from the flames and carefully place the creature's inert body onto a bench beside the bus shelter at the corner of Park Place.

Shortly thereafter, another firefighter donned a pair of latex gloves, attached a breathing tube to a CPR mask and proceeded to administer CPR to the cat. A bystander joined the firefighter, and performed compressions on the pet. The efforts to resuscitate the cat lasted for about five minutes, until it was determined that it had succumbed to its injuries. The firefighter then produced a small body bag into which he carefully placed the dead creature.

I was stricken by the compassionate and respectful actions of the firefighters, despite all of the other variables transpiring at the scene. They are heroes, not just because they risk their lives running into burning buildings to save people, but because they care enough to even try to save the victims' pets.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our firefighters for their daily acts of bravery and selflessness!

CLAIRE PANET-RAYMOND,
BLENHEIM PLACE

MOUNTAINSIDE RESIDENTIAL PROJECT WON'T DISAPPOINT

The *Independent's* Spotlight on Real Estate sec- continued on p. 10



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT



IMAGINE WESTMOUNT SUD-EST

Le public, notamment les personnes qui vivent dans le secteur Sud-Est et à proximité, est invité à participer à une seconde consultation publique afin de découvrir et de s'exprimer sur le nouveau concept d'aménagement préliminaire conçu dans le cadre du projet Imagine Westmount Sud-Est. Ce projet, qui s'inscrit dans une démarche de participation citoyenne, vise à élaborer un Plan particulier d'urbanisme (PPU) pour la revitalisation de ce secteur de la Ville.

Jeudi 14 novembre 2024 à 18 h

Victoria Hall, 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest

Confirmez votre présence et consultez les informations relatives au projet sur engage.westmount.org/westmountsudest

IMAGINE WESTMOUNT SOUTHEAST

The public, particularly those living in and around the southeast sector, is invited to participate in a second public consultation to discover and comment on the new preliminary design concept for the Imagine Westmount Southeast project. Through a community engagement process, this project aims to develop a Special Planning Programme (SPP) to revitalize this sector of the City.

Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 6 p.m.

Victoria Hall, 4626 Rue Sherbrooke Ouest

To confirm your attendance and discover project details, go to engage.westmount.org/westmountsoutheast

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

..... tion of October 22 includ-
continued from p. 9 ed two articles written by
Jennifer Ball regarding future uses for
former Westmount church buildings (see
p. SL-8 and SL-10). The commonality is the
adaptive re-use of formerly religious-use
buildings for residential occupancy, albeit
with zoning approval required for such
use.

With reference to the former St. Stephen's
Church building, the headline and overline
read "City: Permit coming soon for former
St. Stephen's Church" for "17 housing units
planned." The article mentions the city's
disappointment that the developer had
been "very slow" and "delaying."

I cannot restrain my dual reactions to
that project: primarily of satisfaction for
the principle established of the conversion
to housing occupancy of former religious
buildings – unquestionably establishing
such precedent – and secondarily, my own
impatience to have Westmount council de-
clare acceptance of a similar adaptive re-
use for the former Mountainside United
Church property, along with the city's en-
acting the required regulatory/zoning
modifications to permit building for resi-
dential occupancy.

Our own optimism is highlighted in the
other article entitled "Mountainside's own-
er optimistic but still waiting on city's
okay."

I emphasize the long period of waiting.
However, I can commit on behalf of M.
Revah, the owner, that when zoning, and
ultimately the permits are finally issued,
the city will suffer no disappointment in
how long it will take to complete the entire
project.

FRW Architects have worked for many
years with the city and we have now achiev-
ed the stage where we are on the verge of

recognition and acceptance for the devel-
opment proposal that has been submitted.

Together with FRW, I am most eager to
proceed with designing the various inno-
vative residences and getting PAC (Plan-
ning Advisory Committee) acceptance to
build them with the pre-requisite re-zoning
to residential use granted.

The city will not be left waiting, unlike
other residential building projects that are
also mentioned in the Spotlight on Real
Estate: in one case citing an unexplained
slowdown during construction and in an-
other the lack of progress in development
in spite of approvals having been obtained.

M. Revah is most eager to develop his
property and has shown remarkable elean-
gance notwithstanding his impatience to
proceed.

We do believe that the city will now react
positively to the development proposal sub-
mitted mid-summer and approve the re-
zoning for residential occupancy.

When that finally does happen officially,
without excessive delays, the designs and
efficient execution of the entire project will
prove to be rewarding for all of Westmount.

THOMAS ROBERT REINER, DEVELOPMENT
CONSULTANT TO DANIEL REVAH &
CONSULTANT DESIGN ARCHITECT TO
FRW ARCHITECTS

THANKS TO RALPH AND DAVID

Many thanks to Ralph Thompson, long
time *Independent* photographer, for docu-
menting the inauguration of the new
mural at Concordia University honouring
my lifelong work of photography.

And to David Price for publishing
Ralph's photograph on p. SL-2 of the Oct-
ober 22 edition and article in the October
15 issue (p. 17).

Every time our local newspaper pub-
lishes information about the accomplish-
ments of Westmounters, we learn more
about our neighbours, which leads to a
stronger community.

GABOR SZILASI, GROSVENOR AVE.

City's list includes daycare at church – Why?

Municipal government moves to
sell 43 properties for unpaid taxes

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city's list of properties for sale for
non-payment of taxes as published Oct-
ober 29 in the *Montreal Gazette* with
names and addresses regarding 43 prop-
erties was much longer than in recent
years.

Approved at the city council meeting
October 7, the sale by public auction is
scheduled to take place in the council
chamber December 9 at 10 am for those
properties on which taxes remain unpaid
at that time. An updated list is expected
this week.

The city website stated early in the day
October 31 that to avoid names and
addresses being published in the press,
taxes due should be paid by November 1 at
4:30 pm, but these had already been pub-
lished in the advertisement of October 29.
The website was changed later on October
31 to say that these would be published if
the taxes were unpaid by November 5.

Curiously, one of those on the first list
was published as Garderie Fun Academy
Inc. at 4691 de Maisonneuve. This is a day-
care in the basement of the well-known
Westmount Park United Church at de Mai-
sonneuve and Lansdowne.

So how does an occupant of a tax-
exempt church owe property taxes?

City explains

According to Maitre Paule Geoffroy
Béliveau, assistant city clerk, the building
involves two distinct tax roll units. The day-
care "Fun Academy Inc. occupies the base-
ment of 4691 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West,
while the upper floors are owned by West-
mount Park Church Trustees," she explain-
ed.

The trustees, she continued, "do not pay
property taxes due to exemptions provided
for buildings where the predominant use
is religious.... (but) the daycare which
occupies the basement under a different
tax roll number is subject to property taxes."

In the absence of information last week
from the daycare owner on the current
situation, however, sources at the church
said the daycare has a 10-year lease, though
the church was believed to have deferred
some rent over the time of COVID.

Once the government-permitted day-
care for 60 children was allowed to open,
it was hailed as good news for the church
"whose existence depends largely on the
rental revenue of its large basement quar-
ters" (see story August 21, 2018, p. 1).



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Precious Mika is in need of a family
once again.

She is such a beautiful tortoiseshell,
multicoloured on her face and back, while
her paws and tummy are a contrasting
snowy white.

She is presently at the Montreal SPCA
in foster care with a volunteer family. At a
healthy and active 16 years of age, she had
a long relationship with her previous own-
er, and now she is to be taken in the arms
and hearts of an understanding family.

Times are different now, and senior life-
styles lead to re-homing for more and more
senior pets. Senior pet adoption is a pride
and a kindness.

Mika is very healthy and active, up to
date with her inoculations, spayed and
microchipped. For more information on
her, please refer to the Montreal SPCA
website at www.sPCA.com, scroll to her
information page from her identification

Magnificent Mika



number, 2000126149, and click on the black
"Fill out the form" on the upper right-hand
side of the page. You will provide basic con-
tact information by which the adoption
coordinators can contact you back to dis-
cuss your interest and find out more from
the details provided by Mika's foster family.

Please reach out, Mika is a wonderful
tortoiseshell kittie, affectionate and play-
ful.

Your neighbour, Lysanne

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Great minds think alike?

Looking for Kamala – Finding Isaac

This issue of the *Independent* went to press before the US election on November 5. A few weeks ago, editor David Price had hoped to use the Westmount Public Library's old Lovell's telephone directories to figure out which house (or houses) Democratic candidate and Westmount High graduate Kamala Harris had lived in as a young person in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

His idea and timing were exactly the same as that of CBC reporter Isaac Olson, who was the chief reporter of the *Independent's* sister paper, the *Free Press* of NDG, Hampstead and Côte St. Luc, for its whole lifespan (2009-2017).

"What are the odds?" asked Price, "I have only seen Isaac once in the last seven years! He was a great supplier to the *Free Press* and I am glad that he is thriving at



From left, presidential historians David Price and Isaac Olson at the Westmount Public Library on October 24.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

the CBC.

"Neither of us found anything at the library, but I like this chance-meeting story better anyway."



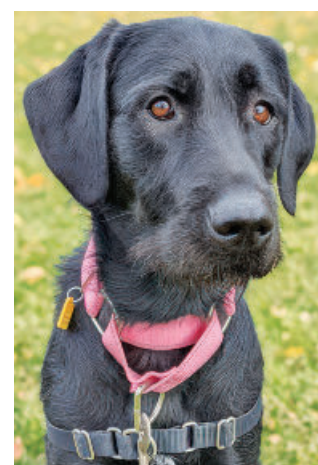
Westmount A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

Miss Summer

search for the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com, search for her information page through her identification number, A2000200597, then consider the opening hours of the SPCA, which is open every day to adopters. You can plan your visit with Summer and meeting with the adoption coordinators as soon as possible. The shelter's doors are open for adoption visits from Monday to Friday from 3 pm to 8 pm, and on Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm. The SPCA is located at 5215 Jean Talon St. West, Côte des Neiges, Montreal H4P 1X4. Please do not hesitate to show your interest. Summer is a delightful beauty who will bring much joy to her new family.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



Shall we agree "What a pretty face"? Yes, quite! A beautiful black Labrador type with the softest brown eyes, Summer is tall and sporting, with a joyous tail wag for all.

A friendly and active girlie, she is presently at the Montreal SPCA kennel waiting for a family from our neighbourhood. She would fall into place amongst the playful dogs who enjoy a great lifestyle in Westmount.

Summer is a very healthy three-year-old, up to date with her inoculations, spayed and microchipped. Please

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99 AV. ARLINGTON, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,650,000**



652 AV. MURRAY HILL, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 2+2 BATHS | **\$2,545,000**



4315 AV. MONTROSE, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 2+1 BATHS | **\$2,498,000**



3015 CH. DE BRESLAY, VILLE-MARIE
3 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,398,000**



17 CH. DE CASSON, WESTMOUNT
6 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,190,000**



NEWLY PRICED

433 AV. WOOD, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$1,995,000**



INTRODUCING

4628 RUE STE-CATHERINE O., WESTMOUNT
3+1 BEDS, 2+2 BATHS | **\$1,795,000**



NEWLY PRICED

4205 AV. BEACONSFIELD, CDN/NDG
3+1 BEDS, 2+1 BATHS | **\$1,159,000**

Police Report**Authorities investigate after suspects, drone spotted on Roslyn**

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Police investigators at Station 12 on Stanton St. are looking into complaints filed by residents of Westmount's Roslyn Ave. after suspects were seen last week lurking on a property as well as on the street, while an aerial drone was spotted hovering overhead.

Around 3 pm on October 27, witnesses observed a suspect jump a fence on a Roslyn Ave. neighbour's property, after which the suspect was seen approaching the house and looking in through the windows.

According to an incident report filed by a Station 12 investigator, a second suspect, at the wheel of a car at one point, was seen as he maneuvered an aerial drone above Roslyn.

However, Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit said the police aren't certain the two sightings are connected. "They're wondering whether or not the two incidents are related," he said.

The situation came to the attention of the police partly because the neighbours maintain a social media chat channel – "and they've been talking about this," said Yigit. He said the drone had been spotted

more than once recently.

Although there was no evidence of burglary or forced entry, he said the police still want to clarify what happened. "There was no break-in, but somebody did trespass on the property and they're wondering if that person with the drone was related," said Yigit.

While the incident report did not include a description of the suspects, the report hadn't been completed as of late last week and more information could be forthcoming, according to Cst. Yigit.

He said this was the first time Station 12 received a complaint about the use of an aerial drone.

But at the same time, he acknowledged that police in some other Montreal neighborhoods, including the Southwest Borough, have received complaints about aerial drones being used to snoop and potentially breach residents' personal privacy.

RAV4 stolen

Station 12 reported just one other crime-related incident last week: the theft of a vehicle on an upper Westmount street.

The Toyota RAV4 compact crossover SUV was parked on October 29 on Cedar

Ave. near Mount Pleasant Ave. Around 2:30 am, it disappeared without a trace or any signs of forced entry.

The Toyota RAV4 ranked No. 6 on a 2022 Canadian insurance industry list of the most stolen vehicles in Quebec.

Skull fractured, can't work**Bixi strike victim adds detail, contests account**

BY DAVID PRICE

The woman who was struck by a Bixi on Atwater Ave. last month has contacted the *Independent* to contest the police report's account of the incident (see October 29, p. 4 for our coverage).

According to her, the incident occurred on October 17 (not October 18) at 3:45 pm (not "a little after midnight"). She also says that she did not jump at all (versus jumping to "the wrong side" while trying to avoid being hit).

She confirms that "yes, I am out of danger, but that violent accident left me with a skull fracture and a severe concussion, and I am unable to work for an undetermined period."

Who was the cyclist? What happened?

"The boy who hit me hard is 17 years old. He wasn't wearing a helmet and was rolling down the Atwater hill like he was racing. Not a care in the world. Of course, he wasn't even hurt the slightest in the accident, unlike me who was bleeding like hell on the ground."

Summing up the legal treatment of the whole affair, she said: "It is still ruled [...] an accident. So it is what it is."

Tim's opens

The new Tim Horton's on Greene below de Maisonneuve is now open.

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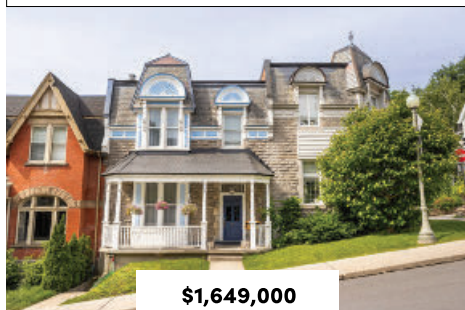
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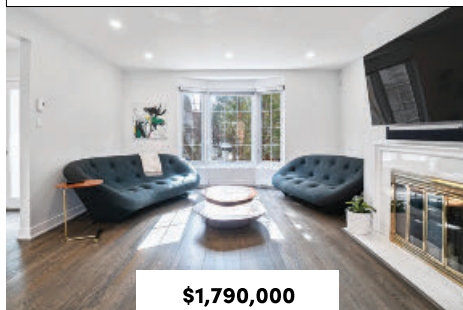
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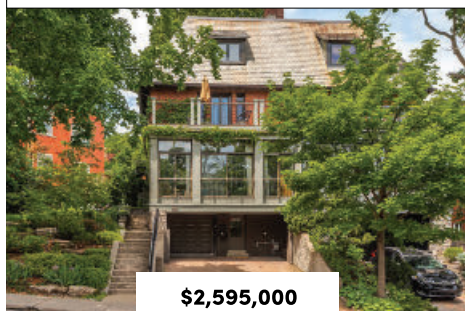


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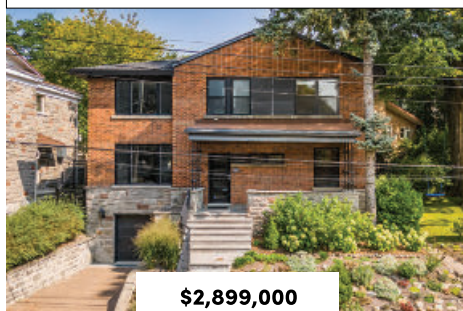
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Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

July transfers: The market explodes

nine mark-ups were double-digit.

Top price went for 3243 The Boulevard, a semi-detached home near the corner of Braeside Place, at \$8,340,000 the second-highest price registered (to date) in 2024.

The lowest price of \$1,200,000 involved 36 Burton Ave., a much higher price than a neighbouring house on the other side of the street, 33 Burton, which sold for \$700,000 in April. The top mark-up of 79.9 percent involved a detached brick house at 4400 Montrose Ave., built in 1974 next to one of Westmount's heritage properties at 85 Church Hill.

And the only mark-down in July came when 540 Roslyn Ave., a majestic brick property just south of Côte St. Antoine, sold for \$4,765,000 while evaluated at \$5,121,700.

Condos

The high mark-ups found their way into the condominium sales registered in July, as well, as the upper level of a former duplex on Grosvenor Ave. sold for a cool \$1,607,500, 42.4 percent above its municipi-



4400 Montrose, biggest mark-up, at 79.9 percent.

pal tax value, representing both the highest price and highest mark-up of the month.

The lowest mark-up of the month was 7.5 percent for one of the townhouses on St. Catherine St. in front of the Westmount railway station, all of which share common land and thus are condominiums.

With a ground-floor apartment at 11 Hillside Ave. selling for the lowest price at \$420,000, the three had an average mark-up of 24 percent, only slightly lower than the mark-up for single-family dwellings.

Two shares of property also registered sales in July, including both a 55-percent share of a duplex on Melville Ave., with rights to 231 Melville, and a 10.382-percent share of a double-apartment at 388 Olivier Ave., a 17-unit building which only recently became a co-owned building.

Odds & ends

The city's latest list of transfer taxes also

included one more sale signed in May, for 60 Delavigne Rd., owned by the French government since 1989, which changed hands for \$2,500,000, a mark-down of 30 percent from its municipal valuation.

Also, there were two more house sales in June including 51 Chesterfield Ave. which sold out of an estate for \$1,241,000, and 1123 Greene Ave. for \$1,400,000 – those two became the lowest sale prices in the June list – and one condominium at the old Pom Bakery building, 4700 St. Catherine St.

Also sold in June were two semi-commercial properties that were part of a 10-property exchange involving buildings both on and off the island of Montreal. The two in Westmount had declared prices of \$850,000 each, less than half their municipal valuations; the 10 sales totalled \$9 million going from one corporate entity to another.



3241 The Boulevard, month's highest price, at \$8,340,000.

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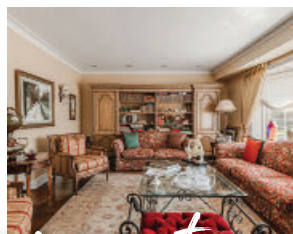
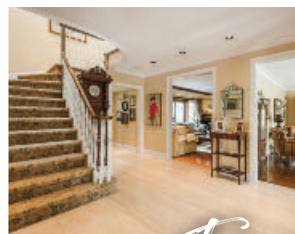
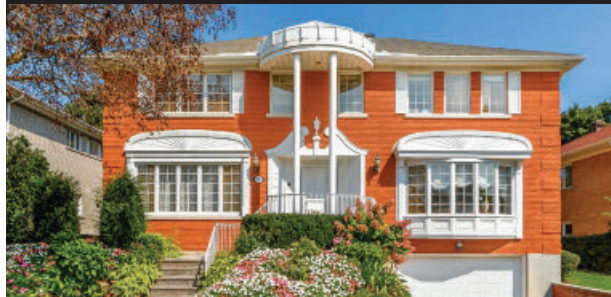
Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in July+

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2023 VAL	RATIO (±%)
60 Delavigne (May)	L'Etat Français	\$2,500,000	\$3,571,300	-30.0%
417 Claremont/4945 Sherbrooke (Jun)	Investissement Rainbow Capital Ltée	\$850,000	\$1,885,100	-54.9%
4873-73A Sherbrooke (Jun)	Investissement Rainbow Capital Ltée	\$850,000	\$1,764,100	-51.8%
51 Chesterfield (Jun)	estate Dierdre Waldron	\$1,241,000	\$1,381,400	-10.2%
1123 Greene (Jun)	George Fourniotis & Vivian Alissandratos	\$1,400,000	\$1,248,400	12.1%
4700 St. Catherine #304 (Jun)	estate Monique Lafontaine	\$989,000	\$1,000,900	-1.2%
HOME TRANSFERS IN JULY 2024				
429 Argyle	Daniel Holmes & Laura Somerville	\$3,625,000	\$2,800,000	29.5%
36 Burton	Denis Biro & Kersti Sunne	\$1,200,000	\$1,094,800	9.6%
669 Grosvenor	LBQuébecImmo Part. Inc.	\$2,425,000	\$2,194,800	10.5%
4400 Montrose	Nicolas Ellis	\$4,200,000	\$2,334,800	79.9%
530 Mount Pleasant	Barbara Manus	\$2,875,000	\$2,466,700	16.6%
656 Murray Hill	Paul Li & Yen My Giang	\$3,280,000	\$2,383,200	37.6%
540 Roslyn	Andrew Schwartz	\$4,765,000	\$5,121,700	-7.0%
3243 The Boulevard	Robyn Cohen	\$8,340,000	\$5,137,100	62.3%
25 Willow	Christopher Young & Paraskevi-Eleni Papanagnu	\$2,370,000	\$2,189,100	8.3%
CONDOMINIUMS				
556 Grosvenor	Jason Berkofsky & Ashley Kassab	\$1,607,500	\$1,128,800	42.4%
11 Hillside #114	Zoé Valérie Martin	\$420,000	\$377,100	11.4%
4854 St. Catherine	estate Joseph Molony	\$1,045,000	\$972,400	7.5%
SHARE SALES				
231-33 Melville, 55%	Jennifer Gold	\$850,000	\$898,535 ¹	-5.4%
388 Olivier, 10.382%	Anne Moore	\$875,000	\$1,057,116 ²	-17.2%

¹Valuation is 55 percent of \$1,633,700. Occupancy of 231 Melville.

²Valuation is 10.382 percent of \$10,182,200. Occupancy of Apt. 8/1

121 Rue Finchley, Hampstead



MLS# 19796732

Two or more storey

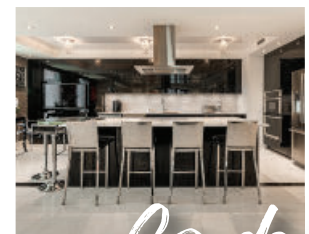
132 Rue Finchley, Hampstead



MLS# 11448513

Split-level

801-4175 Rue Ste-Catherine O., Westmount



MLS# 26088829

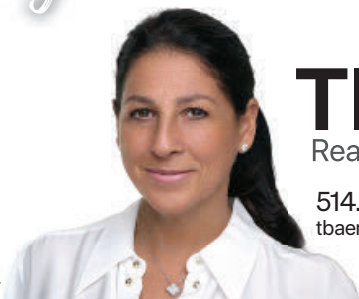
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NOUVELLES

PROCHAINE SÉANCE
DU CONSEIL

Lundi 2 décembre

NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING

Monday, December 2



Cérémonie jour du Souvenir au Cénotaphe le 10 novembre

Les membres du conseil municipal de Westmount vous invitent à assister à la cérémonie commémorative annuelle du jour du Souvenir le **dimanche 10 novembre, à 14 h**, au Cénotaphe.



Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Cenotaph on November 10

The Mayor and Councillors of the City of Westmount invite you to attend the annual Remembrance Day Commemorative Service on **Sunday, November 10, at 2 p.m.**, at the Cenotaph.

Seconde consultation publique : Imagine Westmount Sud-Est

14 novembre, 18 h, Victoria Hall. Le public est invité à découvrir et à commenter un nouveau concept d'aménagement préliminaire pour le projet Imagine Westmount Sud-Est. engage.westmount.org/westmountsudest

Horaires pour chiens sans laisse au bois Summit

Du 1^{er} novembre au 15 avril, l'horaire des périodes sans laisse au bois Summit change. Les chiens peuvent être sans laisse de 5 h à minuit. Restez à l'affût de la réglementation relative aux chiens à Westmount. westmount.org

Bénévoles recherchés pour le tournoi de hockey Sal Grasso

Du 8 au 10 novembre, Westmount accueillera le 30^e tournoi Sal Grasso. Des bénévoles sont recherchés pour cet événement. Si vous êtes intéressé, contactez Gabrielle Jay à gjay@westmount.org ou au 514 989-5320.

Retard dans la collecte des résidus de jardin

En raison des opérations de nettoyage en cours, il y a des retards dans la collecte des résidus de jardins. Veuillez laisser vos résidus verts en bordure de rue et nos équipes les ramasseront dès que possible. westmount.org/residusverts

Second public consultation: Imagine Westmount Southeast

November 14, 6 p.m., Victoria Hall. The public is invited to discover and comment on a new preliminary design concept for the Imagine Westmount Southeast project. engage.westmount.org/westmountsoutheast

Schedule for dogs without leash at Summit Woods

From November 1 to April 15, the schedule for off-leash hours at Summit Woods changes. Dogs may be off-leash from 5 a.m. to midnight. Stay informed about dog regulations in Westmount. westmount.org

Volunteers needed for the Sal Grasso Memorial Hockey Tournament

From November 8 to 10, Westmount will host the 30th Sal Grasso Tournament. Volunteers are needed for this event. If you are interested, please contact Gabrielle Jay at gjay@westmount.org or 514 989-5320.

Garden waste collection delays

Due to the many ongoing street cleaning operations, the City wishes to advise you that there will be delays in the garden waste collection. Please leave your green waste bags by the street or lane side and our crews will pick it up as soon as possible. westmount.org/greenwaste

BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Conférence : Westmount et les deux guerres mondiales (1914-1919, 1939-1945)

7 novembre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. En anglais. Avec Anthony Chiasson. BA, MA, Sc. PhD. Cette conférence portera sur le rôle de la Ville de Westmount durant les deux guerres mondiales. westmount.org



Artisans Westmount 2024

Les samedi et dimanche 9 et 10 novembre, de 10 h 30 à 17 h, Victoria Hall. Le salon Artisans Westmount est l'endroit idéal pour dénicher des créations uniques. Nos artisans vous proposeront des œuvres de joaillerie et de céramique, des articles de papeterie, des accessoires et bien plus. westmount.org

Concert : Banitsa

13 novembre, 19 h, Victoria Hall. Banitsa est un groupe de musique instrumentale formé de cinq musiciens montréalais. Leur répertoire est composé de musique originale juxtaposant des caractéristiques mélodiques et rythmiques des Balkans, des mélodies folkloriques du Québec ainsi que des influences jazz. En collaboration avec le Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée. westmount.org

Devinez qui remportera le prix Giller

18 novembre, 19 h, Salle Westmount. En anglais. Shelley Pomerance et le personnel de la Bibliothèque publique discuteront des livres de la liste préliminaire du prix Giller, le prix littéraire le plus prestigieux au Canada. westlib.org

Glissement temporel – Soirée en fête (18+)

23 novembre, 19 h, Bibliothèque publique. 125 ans d'histoire prennent vie alors que nous célébrons notre anniversaire avec des performances musicales, des activités ludiques, des cocktails (bar payant) et des hors-d'œuvre spécifiques à chaque époque. Une boisson gratuite sera offerte par billet. westlib.org

LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS



Concert: Banitsa

November 13, 7 p.m., Victoria Hall. Banitsa is an instrumental music group of five Montreal musicians. Their repertoire consists of original music that juxtaposes Balkan melodies and rhythms, Quebec folk tunes, and jazz influences. In collaboration with Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée. westmount.org

Lecture: Westmount and the two World Wars (1914-1919, 1939-1945)

November 7, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. With Anthony Chiasson. BA, MA, Sc. PhD. This conference will focus on the role of the City of Westmount during the two world wars. westmount.org

Guess the Giller

November 18, 7 p.m., Westmount Room. Shelley Pomerance and Library staff will discuss the books that have been shortlisted for the Giller Prize, Canada's largest literary prize. westlib.org

Artisans Westmount 2024

Saturday and Sunday, November 9 and 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Victoria Hall. Artisans Westmount is the perfect place to discover one-of-a-kind creations. Come admire the wonderful variety of quality items for sale by this year's fantastic artisans. Jewelry, ceramics, stationary, accessories, and more. westmount.org

Time Slip – Afterhours Party (18+)

November 23, 7 p.m., Public Library. 125 years of history comes alive as we celebrate our anniversary through musical performances, fun activities, and era-specific cocktails (cash bar) and hors d'œuvres. A free drink will be offered per ticket. westlib.org

Humour, heartbreak in Grundy's *Mad Sisters* memoir



From left, Westmounters Valorie Finnie and Sharyn Scott were among the 50 or so guests who attended the October 24 launch of *Mad Sisters*, a memoir written by Susan Grundy (right).

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

At one point during the launch for *Mad Sisters*, Susan Grundy's heartbreaking yet humorous memoir of her decades spent caregiving for her mentally challenged sister Nancy, she lamented the current state of psychiatric care, and how things might have been different for Nancy.

"A lot of what's wrong with Nancy is the system," Grundy, a Westmounter, exclaimed while answering questions from some of the 40 or so friends and supporters who turned up. "I mean, this could have all turned out very differently," she said.

Mad Sisters (Ronsdale Press) was published in early October, around a week before this year's World Mental Health Day. An official launch, held on October 24 at the Espace Drawn & Quarterly bookstore in Montreal's Mile End neighbourhood, was attended by several Westmounters.

Valorie Finnie, a Westmount business owner who read the book, noted there are numerous references in it to Susan and Nancy Grundy's experiences growing up and attending school in Westmount.

Another Westmounter, Sharyn Scott, a member of the board at l'Abri en Ville, which supports persons with major mental illnesses, said *Mad Sisters* reminded her of the problems mentally-challenged persons

and their caregivers face on a regular basis.

Dr. Henry Olders, a retired psychiatrist also from Westmount, said he found the subject of Grundy's book especially intriguing because of his experiences working for more than a decade at the Douglas Hospital.

"I'm interested in seeing what a caregiver's impression is of psychiatry and the services that a hospital provides," he said, while adding, "I know I have my own impressions of the mental health system and how it diagnoses and treats people. And they're not necessarily all favourable."

Mad Sisters moves back and forth in time over five decades, as it explores the shifts within a family impacted by mental illness.

As an adolescent, according to Susan, Nancy had a lot of promise. But after a move from Toronto to Westmount in 1967, she was diagnosed with schizoaffective-bipolar disorder.

In her memoir, Susan alternates between reacting to her sister's resentful and jealous moods and feeling sympathy for her, as well as guilt.

She turned to writing following a career in marketing. Her work has been published in *The Danforth Review* as well as *Montréal Writes*. During the launch, she was interviewed by CBC senior producer Carrie Haber, another Westmounter.

Rotary report

Doherty introduces *Monday Rent Boy's* dark themes

BY JENNIFER BALL

Monday Rent Boy by local author Susan Doherty Hannaford debuted in March 2024, and it is an easy read of difficult terrain.

The author, who publishes under the name "Susan Doherty," delivered a talk to Westmount Rotarians on September 18 and confided that there were times she was not sure she would even permit the novel to be published.

"I did have some nightmares and one week before the book went to press, I considered pulling the plug. I just thought 'Is anybody going to read this book?'"

"It is actually very readable...but I did have many hard moments."

Not your usual dedication

The flyleaf of the book, which is published by Random House Canada, features a dedication to William Ashby-Hall: "Without you, there would be no book."

Ashby-Hall, a 20-something truckdriver from England, was Doherty's stem cell donor.

In 2016, she was gravely ill with a rare blood disorder that required a stem cell transplant at the Royal Victoria Hospital. She has made a full recovery and said "in time, I came to see that my survival was somehow predicated on probing the darkest recesses of humanity..."

"My part of the bargain for being given a second chance was to lift certain subjects a little closer to the light."

History of dark themes

Doherty has found critical success with her earlier works *The Ghost Garden* with schizophrenia as the crux and *A Secret Music* about music and madness.

For her latest work, she chose to write a novel about the sexual predation of children.

"At its core [*Monday Rent Boy* is about] the magnificent friendship between two teenage boys who keep a secret, Arthur Barnes and Ernie Castlefrank. They are lovable bad guys, verging on semi-degen-



Susan Doherty Hannaford discusses her latest book *Monday Rent Boy* at the Westmount Rotary club on September 18.

eracy...

"But you root for them anyway, because as the reader your own empathy for children who have suffered an injustice will help shape your perspective."

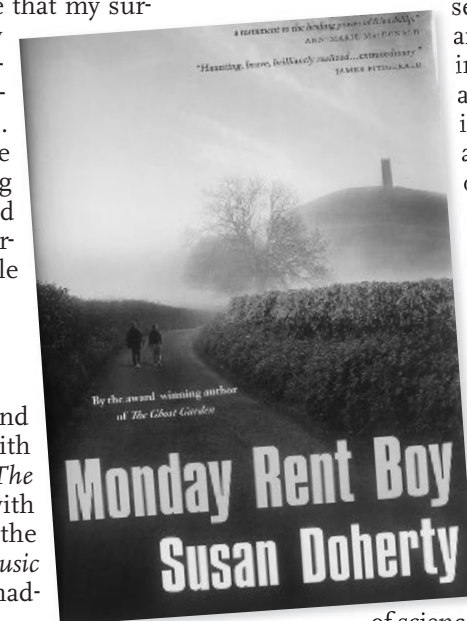
In Doherty's hands, the novel is a bravely imagined and deeply empathetic story of two adolescent boys bound by a terrible secret who then go down different life paths.

Before describing her agonizing research in detail, Doherty amused Rotarians by saying that she has "written about depression, bipolarity, psychotic disorders and so as I bring another difficult topic to the page, I have decided for my next book I will be writing about the multiple uses of dryer lint or the riveting history of office supplies."

Doherty is well known in Westmount as her husband Hal Hannaford served as headmaster of Selwyn House from 2009 to 2020.

She has a bachelor of science from Concordia University and studied journalism at Ryerson. She has written for *Maclean's* magazine, the *International Herald Tribune* and *The Independent* in London, England.

Doherty has numerous volunteer affiliations in the YMCA Douglas Institute and as a volunteer on the psychotic disorder unit at the Douglas Institute.



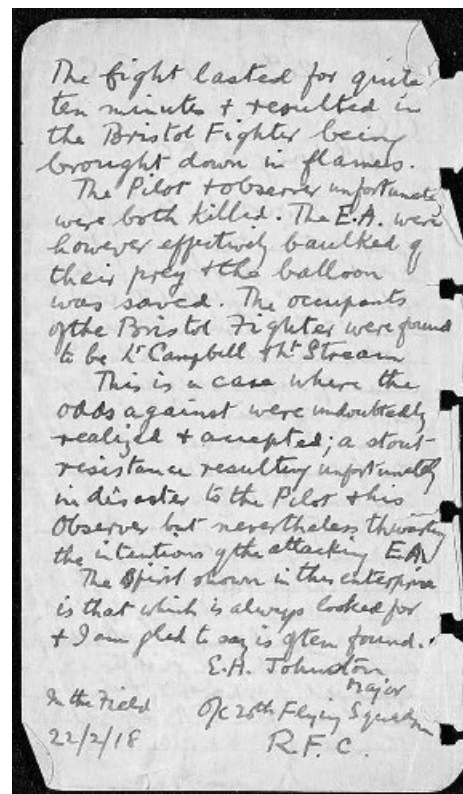
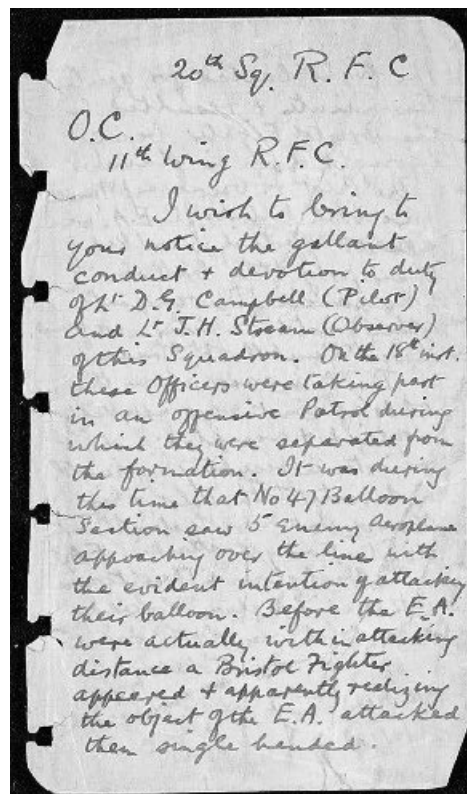
Gordon Campbell, cont'd from p. 1

Lt. J. H. Stream, a British officer.

Both were stationed in France and Belgium near the front and had been protecting an RFC observation balloon from five enemy aircraft while in a two-seat reconnaissance biplane - referred to simply as a Bristol Fighter.

Known casually among relatives and friends as "Gordon," Lt. Campbell had just turned 20, while Lt. Stream was around two years younger. At 6' 2", Lt. Campbell was considered tall for the time. He told a relative that the only plane he could fit into was the Bristol F.2B Fighter.

Mary Bradley of Hallowell Ave., whose



Pages from Major E. H. Johnston's note commending lieutenants Campbell and Stream for their bravery.

great-uncle was Lt. Campbell, learned only recently about the handwritten note from her cousin, Rob Campbell, a former Westmounter now living in Alberta.

He came upon it while researching the history of his family. (As an interesting aside, Rob Campbell's brother is former city of Westmount director-general Duncan Campbell.)

According to Bradley, Lt. Duncan Gordon Campbell decided to sign up for military service at age 19, but within a year had been killed in battle.

Lieutenants Campbell and Stream had been taking part in an offensive patrol, when observers in the RFC balloon spotted five enemy aircraft ("E. A.") approaching "with the evident intention of attacking ...

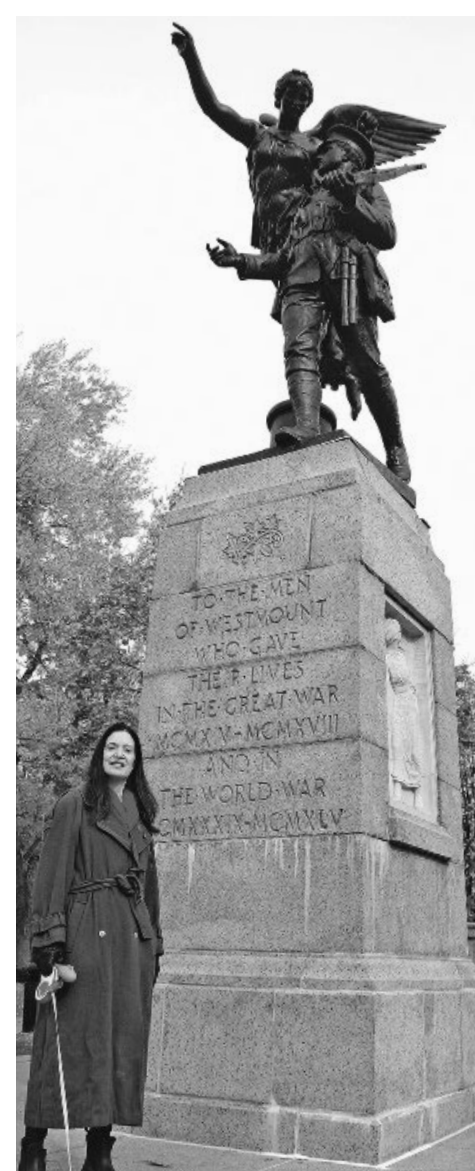
"Before the E.A. were actually within attacking distance[,] a Bristol Fighter appeared + apparently realizing the object of

the E.A.[.] attacked them single handed," Major Johnston added.

The air fight lasted "for quite ten minutes," he continued, until ultimately the Bristol Fighter and its occupants went down in flames. "The Pilot + observer unfortunately were both killed," although the enemy was deprived of its prey and the balloon and its crew were saved.

Lt. D. G. Campbell's name is one of dozens that are inscribed on the sides of the Westmount war cenotaph on Sherbrooke St. at Argyle. A few years ago, Bradley, with help from relatives, as well as from Westmount city councillor Kathleen Kez, persuaded the city to repair some of the metal lettering spelling out Campbell's name on the monument.

With the city of Westmount's Remembrance Day observances scheduled for 2 pm on Sunday, November 10 at the ceno-



Mary Bradley, seen here on October 29 at the city of Westmount's cenotaph on Sherbrooke St. at Argyle.

taph in front of city hall, Bradley said her great-uncle's story "is really emblematic" of the sacrifice made by all the soldiers in the wars in which Canada participated for the preservation of freedom for future generations.

Many Westmount residents attend an unofficial event on November 11 at 11 am, also at the Sherbrooke and Argyle cenotaph.

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Passing the torch

George Hogg talks succession at Vic village's Hogg Hardware

BY JENNIFER BALL

Hogg Hardware opened its doors in 1992 and with over 30 years of experience under their tool belts, George Hogg and his wife Gigi Russ are starting to consider what a succession plan would look like for the family business.

The plan will be executed gradually and will work to make the business a second-generation success story. The couple's two sons, Alexander and Tyler, and their daughter Zoë are all currently working in the store, which is found on Sherbrooke at the corner of Victoria Ave.

Hogg, who is turning 64 this year, said "We're looking at slowing down quite a bit..."

"Hopefully [my three children] will be able to take over and I don't see why not. They know just about everything [about] the business."

When asked if Hogg was a Home Hardware franchisee, he replied "Home Hardware is a tricky beast..."

"We do own some shares in Home Hardware. They supply us with about 30 percent of our stock and for that we need to put their name up front, but we do not self identify as Home Hardware. We self identify as Hogg Hardware."

Continuity and change

Throughout the years, there have been changes in the business, including a location switch. From founding until 15 years ago, the store had been where the SAQ is now, 4833 Sherbrooke. The two switched places in 2009 (see May 19-20, 2009, p. 1).

There has also been a shift away from the stereotypical nuts and bolts of the industry. Nowadays, you are as likely to find Lego, British delicacies or the perfect kitchen accoutrement at the store as you are the right spanner.

"You need to perform for your cus-



From left: George Hogg, Gigi Russ and Alexander Hogg outside their store on October 28. Hogg Hardware is found at Sherbrooke on corner of Victoria Ave.

tomers," Hogg said, and this means customer service, knowing what to stock that will sell well, and how to prevent potential customers going on-line to shop or to a big-box store.

Hogg said when "Home Depot moved in [to St. Henri at the foot of Lansdowne/Glen Rd.], seven years into our existence (1999), it didn't hurt the first year, but it started to [affect us] so we had to do something."

When Hogg opened, it was 100 percent hardware, he said, with an entire aisle just for screws. This was in keeping with the site's history. It had been a Pascal's branch,

whose parent company was founded by Jacob Pascal. Pascal's operated for nearly 90 years before going bankrupt in 1991.

The economics of having a business in Westmount – with high tax and high rent – played into Hogg's decision to diversify its merchandise.

It all starts with buying...

Now, all three children have taken an interest in buying. "[Alexander] has been doing it the longest, so he's probably the most experienced at it..."

"It's important to understand – even if you're not buying everything – how to buy

it and how to deal with the paperwork and the money.

Hogg concedes he is proud to be able to eventually offer his children a successful business to run.

"As a parent, you often have conversations with other parents: 'How is your kid?' 'Oh, he is in California?' 'Oh, she is in Toronto?'..."

"I see my kids every day and I am so grateful for that."

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Former police commander at Station 12

Beaudet leaves PDQ 12 to head up the Montreal Metro unit

BY JENNIFER BALL

Angélique Beaudet's last day as the police commander of Westmount's Station 12 (PDQ 12) was October 12.

She introduced the new police commander Marie-Eve Lamarche to her team as one of her last duties, she said, while ensuring that the important files and issues affecting the district were taken care of.

Beaudet started her mandate as the police commander of PDQ 12 on October 2, 2023, so she was in the role locally for just over a year (see November 21, 2023, p. 3.)

She is leaving PDQ 12 because "I will be the head of the Montreal Metro unit."

Beaudet provided her statement in French, and it was translated by DeepL translator.

The SPVM's Metro section is assigned to Montreal's public transit network. The subway officers are police officers whose duty is to control areas, platforms, shelters, trains and its surrounding areas.

The Metro officers watch out for public safety issues and intervene to resolve these problems. Their goal is to reduce the frequency of disruptive and inappropriate behaviours, and to enforce the laws and regulations in place. Their responsibilities also include ensuring the flow of Montreal's subway network.

Beaudet joined PDQ 12, which is on Stanton St., near Côte St. Antoine, just days before Hamas' attack on Israel that has resulted in a year of regular protests on Wood Ave. between St. Catherine St. and de Maisonneuve, where the building housing the Israeli consulate is located.

It is not surprising therefore that Beaudet lists the pro-Palestine demonstrations and its effect on citizens as having been



Police commander Angélique Beaudet inside PDQ/Station 12 on November 17 2023.

the greatest challenge of her mandate.

"The Israeli-Palestinian conflict brought its share of demonstrations. The residents and shopkeepers of 1 Westmount Square are very affected by the many demonstrations, and I've had to explain the SPVM's role in managing these events on several occasions..."

"I have developed a network of partners to provide the best possible information when disruption is expected."

Homelessness

The other pressing issue is homelessness, Beaudet said.

"This summer, we increased police presence by adding bicycle patrol officers..."

"Drug use and sales are also a problem, and I have directed my teams to work closely with the investigation units, which has led to a high crime-solving rate..."

"I took part in meetings with the residents [near] Stayner Park and with the residents of Shaughnessy village [just east of Westmount], and with [CIUSSS] employees to explain the different issues and roles of each [group] (SPVM, city, social services)."

As she leaves PDQ 12 to help keep Montreal's transit system running, Beaudet said: "I have fond memories of [SPVM, city, social services people] I met at these meetings, and I would like to thank them for their warm welcome."

Final pandemic measure to go?



The large plastic shield that has been at the courtesy counter of the Metro grocery store on Victoria since the COVID pandemic came down recently, as seen November 1. PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

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New police commander at Station 12

Lamarche arrives with experience in finding solutions to local problems

BY JENNIFER BALL

Marie-Ève Lamarche, the new police commander of Westmount's Station 12, took the helm just two days after her predecessor Angélique Beaudet left to be the head of the Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM)'s Montreal Metro unit.

Lamarche, who is a 21+ year veteran of the SPVM, started her tenure on October 14 at PDQ 12, which is located on Stanton St. near Côte St. Antoine.

She said that she did not follow the typical training path to become a police officer.

Lamarche provided her statement in French, and it was translated using DeepL translator.

"I completed a bachelor's degree in police studies and security at the Université de Montréal before joining the SPVM as a police officer. So, I entered the conventional programme with a university background."

To train to become a police officer in Quebec, an individual needs to obtain only a CEGEP diploma in police techniques issued by the minister of Education.

Lamarche worked her way up the ranks of policing one rung after another to qualify for the leadership role at PDQ 12.

"I was a sergeant for 10 years, six of which

were spent working on a team dedicated to gathering intelligence, fighting crime and finding solutions to local problems...

"Then I was a lieutenant in the prevention and urban security division, where I developed my prevention vision, while at the same time being immersed in social issues on a daily basis..."

"I've always been a committed, motivated police officer with integrity and a spirit of justice and fairness."

Goal: 'Offer best service'

Lamarche said her immediate priority in the role of police commander of PDQ 12 is "To offer the best possible service to the public..."

"My priorities focus mainly on safety, maintaining the bond of trust with citizens and crime prevention..."

"My aim is to collaborate closely with residents, shopkeepers and our partners to better understand the specific concerns and needs of the neighbourhood..."

"In fact, we have a team at PDQ 12 dedicated to solving local crime problems."

Lamarche was asked if she wanted to share a message about the role of the police within the context of the many pro-Palestinian protests outside the Israeli consulate on Wood Ave. since the 2023 start of the war in the Middle East.

"I would like to stress that Montreal is a very safe city where tolerance and respect for differences are paramount. Hateful or violent acts have no place here..."

"If you have any concerns about your safety or if you witness an illegal act, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our mission is to protect all citizens, regardless of their origin."



Marie-Ève Lamarche outside the SPVM's PDQ 12 on October 28.

What about another perennial Westmount issue, especially in the southeast?

Homelessness

In April, the Atwater Metro entrance to Cabot Square at the corner of Atwater Ave. and St. Catherine St. was closed temporarily and the Montreal Transit Company (STM) told the *Independent* the closure was to safeguard Metro users and its staff.

Responding to a request for comment on the action of the STM, a spokesperson for the PDQ 12 said, "For Square Cabot, it's generally known that there's a lot of vulnerable people that hang out in the area [due to the] number of resources that are there."

Lamarche has this to say on the issue: "Like most large cities, Montreal is affected

by complex social issues. Homelessness is one of them, and we are extremely sensitive to the various issues of cohabitation that are brought to our attention..."

"Intervening with vulnerable people can be tricky. At the SPVM, we try to avoid unnecessary legal proceedings. Instead, we rely on consultation and mediation..."

"In more serious cases, we must make arrests. This can happen if someone is aggressive, refuses to cooperate or poses a risk to public safety."

Lamarche knows that community relations will be an important part of this new chapter in her career in law enforcement. "It's by working together that the SPVM and the public can preserve the peace and quiet in our neighbourhoods and put a stop to crime."

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City marks its 150th – part *deux* of coverage



Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

What a fabulous moment!

Westmount celebrated its 150th year with a cocktail *dinatoire* at Victoria Hall. The sold-out *soirée* lured stylish citizens into elegant attire.

Lots of LBDWP (little black dresses with pearls) were seen but also colourful patterns (Martha Matossian and artist Ann McCall). Some wore long, floor-trailing skirts and gowns. (“It’s dress-up time!”)

Noted arriving were city councillors Jeff Shamie, Mary Gallery, Conrad Peart, Matt Aronson, Antonio D’Amico, Elisabeth Roux and Anitra Bostock.

Also present were past Westmount mayor Karin Marks, as well as former councillors Cynthia Lulham, Victor Drury, Gary Ikeman and Nick Matossian.

Guests were in awe of Victoria Hall’s transformation due to Erika Ludwick and her team.

Amidst the crowd were Denise Burke-Price, Kim Drummond, Cynthia Lulham and David Hanna, Susan Doherty and Hal Hanna- *continued on p. 26*



Mayor Christina Smith, MP Anna Gainey and provincial legislator Jennifer Maccarone.



Karin Marks and Betsy Mitchell.



Gurveen Chadha and Varun Hasija.



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Social notes 150th, cont'd from p. 24

ford, Victor Drury, Gwen Nacos, Donna and Ross Fraser, Maria Longo and Miguel Escobar and Nancy Gallery.

Mayor Christina Smith praised MP Anna Gainey; gave a "gold star for public service" to Bruce St. Louis, and thanked the 150th committee co-chairs Nicole Forbes and Mitch Joel, along with Christian Matossian, Anne Garshagen, Tori Schofield and Barry Garber.

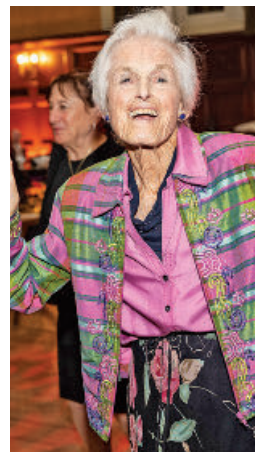
In particular, Smith expressed appreciation to families who "were instrumental in making this night a success: Stephen and Claudine Bronfman and Marie Michele and Paul Pathy."



Erika Ludwick, Anne Garschagen, Barry Garber, Mitch Joel, Christina Smith, Nicole Forbes, Christian Matossian, Tori Schofield, Mary Gallery and Jeff Shamie.



Hal Hannaford, Christophe Romery, Laurent Ferreira, Charlie Nicol.



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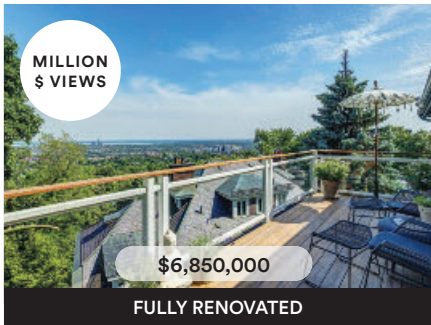
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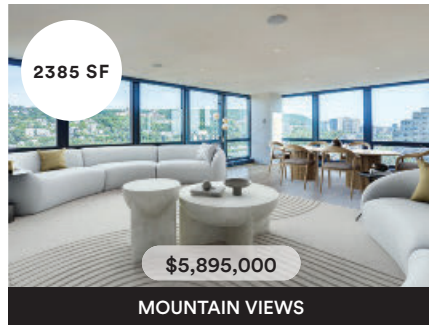


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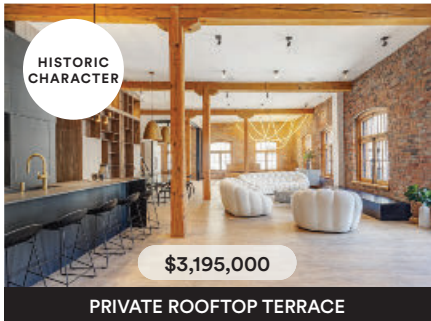


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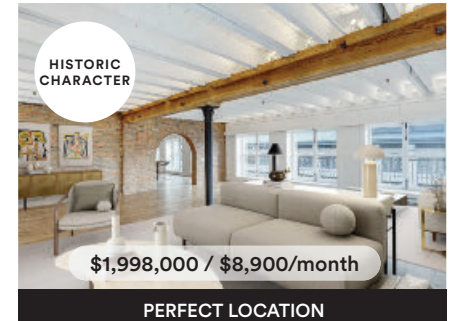


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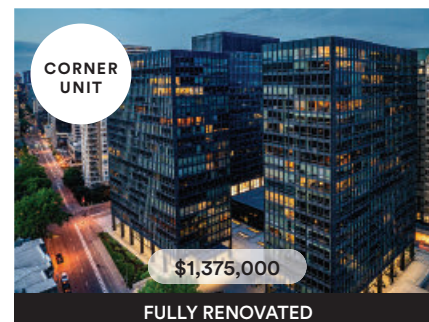
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