

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly Vol. 18 No. 7a

We are Westmount

July 2, 2024

Chang wins all-ages abacus nationals!

Gray turns 100!



Six-year-old Bruce Chang, who started learning how to use the abacus only a few months ago, is seen here on June 25 with the abacus that he learned on as well as trophies he has won. See story on p. 22.

PHOTO: MARTIN C. BARRY.



Ruth Gray (at centre wearing blue sash) is seen last month surrounded by relatives and friends at Pasta Casareccia in NDG, where they celebrated her 100th birthday. See story on p. 16.

PHOTO: MARTIN C. BARRY.

Greene, Victoria merchants unveil weekend concert series for July

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's east-end and west-end merchant associations announced last week a line-up of live music programs for

This issue is the second-to-last one before our usual summer break

every weekend in July. These are to take place on most Sundays, with an occasional one on Saturday in their respective squares.

Those in Quartier Greene take place at the corner of de Maisonneuve and Greene. In Victoria village, the venue is Prince Albert square at Sherbrooke and Prince Albert.

The plan is to provide the entertainment over the *continued on p. 20*



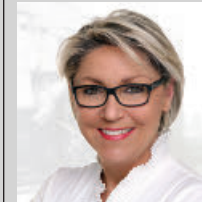
MAXWELL CASTLE
REAL ESTATE BROKER

+1-514-941-8802 maxwellcastle.com

Re/Max Action Inc., 1225 Greene Ave., Westmount

PROFUSION IMMOBILIER **Forbes** GLOBAL PROPERTIES

THRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE



CAROLE G. KENNEDY

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE BROKER

514.949.3230

Profusion Immobilier Inc. • Real Estate Agency



LUCIANICADILLAC.COM
4000 Jean-Talon W Montreal,
H4P 1V5 / TEL. 514.731.7977

LUCIANIAUTO.COM
4040 Jean-Talon W Montreal,
H4P 1V5 / TEL. 514.342.2222

Top 1%
in Canada



ÉQUIPE COURTIER IMMOBILIER

BÉATRICE BAUDINET

REAL ESTATE BROKER TEAM

B. 514.316.1482
 C. 514.912.1482
 baudinet@royallepage.ca
 www.baudinet.ca



Diamond Award Winner
 Top 10 team
 for Royal
 LePage
 Quebec.
 2009-2017



ROYAL LEPAGE
 HERITAGE
 REAL ESTATE AGENCY
 INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

STUNNING NEWLY RENOVATED CONDO



NEW LISTING

Côte-des-Veiges | 4901 Av. Grosvenor | \$1,100,000

BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL 4-BED HOME



FEATURED

Hampstead | 45 Rue Dufferin | \$949,000

LUXE CONDO IN ESTEEMED BLDG



FEATURED

Golden Square Mile | 1321 Rue Sherbrooke O., apt. D-21 | \$899,00

PENTHOUSE W/STUNNING VIEWS



FEATURED

Westmount | 2 Rue Westmount-Square, apt. PH-C | \$4,999,000

DUPLEX W/ENDLESS POTENTIAL



FEATURED

Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
4571-4573 Av. Marcil | \$1,400,000

AIRY CONDO ON 2 FLOORS



FEATURED

Ville-Marie
3577 Av. Atwater, apt. 518 | \$695,000

GORGEOUS FAMILY HOME



FEATURED

Westmount
621 Ch. de la Côte-St-Antoine | \$2,750,000

ELEGANT 1+1 BED CONDO



FEATURED

Golden Square Mile | 1455 Rue Sherbrooke O., apt. 512 | \$549,000

GENEROUS 2-STOREY PENTHOUSE



FEATURED

Golden Square Mile | 1455 Rue Sherbrooke O., apt. PH3 | \$2,200,000

SPACIOUS HOME W/POOL



FEATURED

Côte-des-Neiges
5026 Av. Iona | \$1,499,000

Police Report**Police arrest suspect connected to pick-pocketing incidents**

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Following the arrest of a suspect believed to be involved in a recent rash of pick-pocketing incidents in Westmount, police at Station 12 say the identification of additional suspects may follow.

A series of pick-pocketings began in early May, when a woman leaving the TD Canada Trust branch at the corner of Sherbrooke and Claremont was robbed of \$1,000 in cash by a trio of pick-pockets who followed her home and managed to steal a wallet from her purse (see May 14, p. 12).

In a similar incident later that month around the same area, a woman who was returning from shopping at the Metro supermarket on Victoria Ave. filed a complaint with police at Station 12 that she was followed by two men who stopped her to ask for information (see story June 4, p. 20).

Then on June 8, a woman driving a vehicle through the parking lot next to the Metro supermarket on Victoria Ave. was approached by a male suspect who claimed some fluid was leaking from her car's engine and that she needed to get out and look at it (see June 18, p. 19).

The woman later told police that she thought she was being distracted as the suspect was kneeling on the ground while pointing out the supposed leak.

She later realized that her wallet was missing after she received a call from her bank alerting her to the fact that at least one of her financial transaction cards had been used illegally.

And in yet another incident, on the morning of June 8, a woman who had been using one of the automated teller machines in the Royal Bank branch at the corner of Victoria and Sherbrooke filed a

complaint with the police about two suspicious individuals approached her in a seeming attempt to create a distraction (also see June 18, p. 19).

Last week, according to Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit, there was a breakthrough when undercover officers who were conducting surveillance while driving through the area were able to identify one of the suspects after recognizing him from security camera images recorded during the earlier incidents.

"We had images that we shared amongst us," he said, referring to some of the establishments, including the bank branches, where attempts or actual thefts are alleged to have taken place.

"The officers recognized one of the individuals from the images that were provided by one of the banks," said Yigit.

He said police investigators are still actively searching through security footage for evidence to link the various incidents together and to identify any other suspects.

Two vehicles stolen

Two high-end vehicles were stolen in Westmount last week, suggesting that a nationwide wave of car thefts isn't over yet.

In the first incident, a Toyota Sequoia full-size SUV (worth at least \$100,000) was stolen on Oakland Ave. in upper Westmount sometime during the night on June 26.

In the second incident, a Land Rover Defender (with an \$85,000 approximate price tag) was reported stolen on Metcalfe Ave.

According to the Station 12 incident report, the owner noticed the Defender was missing from its parking space at 7 am on June 27.



CARLY WENER FRIDMAN
Courtier immobilier • Real estate broker

TRUST IS THE KEY

Achieving your goals together

Whether you are looking to buy or sell,
it would be our pleasure to assist you

(514) 934-1818

1245 Av. Greene, Westmount
QC H3Z 2A4www.carlyfridman.com
info@carlyfridman.com**Coiffure Jean John**4897 Sherbrooke, Westmount
514-486-6261**NEW** online
appointments
now available!

saloncoiffurejeanjohn.com

Homme Men **Femme Women** **Enfants Children****Master Editions
Antiques & collectibles****Estate &
Moving Sales****We Provide**Professional Evaluations
Staging of your home
Courteous & bonded Staff
Clean-up after sale**Iona & Marvin**
514-501-9072**ARE YOU THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME?**

In a world where change is constant, having the right guidance can make all the difference. With 20 years of experience uniting buyers and sellers, my goal is to make your transition seamless. I navigate the challenges, so you can start your next chapter stress-free.

Call me! Let's write your next chapter together!

J|P
JILL PRÉVOST



jillprevost.com

REAL ESTATE BROKER

514.591.0804



Sutton
Groupe Sutton Centre-Ouest
Real Estate Agency

514.934.2480



GRUPE
CHRISTINA
MILLER

LOVEWHEREYOU LIVE



683 AV. GROSVENOR, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,998,000**



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



3773 BOUL. THE BOULEVARD, WESTMOUNT
3+1 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,625,000 or \$8,000 /mo**



39 RUE BELSIZE, HAMPSTEAD
3+1 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,599,000**



468 AV. MOUNTAIN, WESTMOUNT
4+1 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,595,000**



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



4822 BOUL. DE MAISONNEUVE O., WESTMOUNT
4+2 BEDS, 3+2 BATHS | **\$2,495,000**



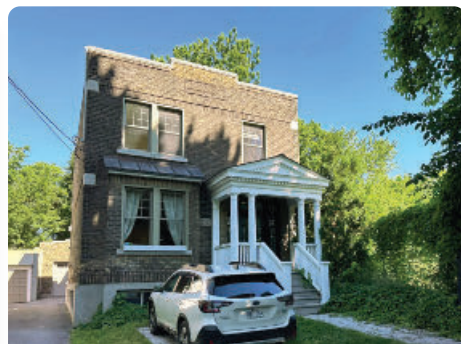
NEWLY PRICED

28 AV. ARLINGTON, WESTMOUNT
4+1 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,445,000**



INTRODUCING

16 PLACE ST-GEORGE'S, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 2 BATHS | **\$2,425,000**



5179 AV. BRILLON, CDN/NDG
3+2 BEDS, 2+1 BATHS | **\$2,395,000**



433 AV. WOOD, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,295,000**



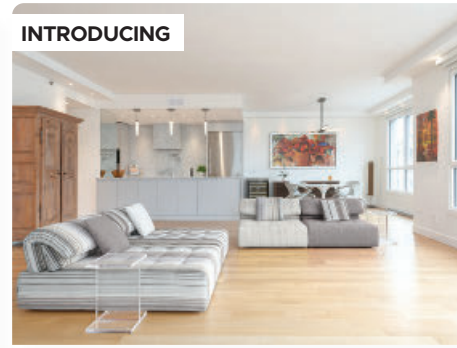
427 AV. LANSDOWNE, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 2+2 BATHS | **\$2,290,000**



607 AV. ROSLYN, WESTMOUNT
5+1 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$2,280,000** or **\$6,750 /mo**



4025 AV. DE MELROSE, CDN/NDG
4+1 BEDS, 2+1 BATHS | **\$2,075,000**



INTRODUCING

1210 BOUL. DE MAISONNEUVE O. #24B, VILLE-MARIE
2+1 BEDS, 2+1 BATHS | **\$2,045,000**



17 CH. DE CASSON, WESTMOUNT
6 BEDS, 3+1 BATHS | **\$1,995,000**



7 RUE ELLERDALE, HAMPSTEAD
3+3 BEDS, 4+1 BATHS | **\$1,849,000**



3858 AV. WILSON, CDN/NDG
4 BEDS, 2+1 BATHS | **\$1,795,000**



339 AV. GROSVENOR, WESTMOUNT
4 BEDS, 3 BATHS | **\$1,595,000**



INTRODUCING

3568 AV. MARLOWE, CDN/NDG
5+1 BEDS, 2+1 BATHS | **\$1,499,000**



3 RUE WESTMOUNT-SQUARE #516, WESTMOUNT
2 BEDS, 2 BATHS | **\$1,440,000**



NEWLY PRICED

4212 BOUL. DE MAISONNEUVE O. #1, WESTMOUNT
2 BEDS, 3 BATHS | **\$1,248,000**



4700 RUE STE-CATHERINE O. #613, WESTMOUNT
3 BEDS, 2 BATHS | **\$1,188,000**



200 AV. LANSDOWNE #605, WESTMOUNT
1 BED, 1+1 BATHS | **\$610,000**

Feel free to give us a call anytime at **514.934.2480** for a confidential appraisal of your home, or to discuss any of your buying or selling needs.



Scan here to view all of our Digital Brochures.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BEWARE OF PICK-POCKETS

I was in the Metro grocery store last week and this short woman with black hair and brown skin and a small “diamond” earring approached me to ask if the package that she was holding was good for diabetics.

I said “yes,” but she kept insisting I read the label (it was the instructions). For whatever reason, I turned around and a tall man with a COVID mask was standing directly behind me. I asked what he was doing. He grabbed something from the shelf and took off. She was gone too.

I spoke to a security guard and he mentioned that pick-pockets were everywhere. So, please be vigilant and do NOT leave your purse in a shopping cart as I’ve seen some women do.

SUE KHAN, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

Editor’s note: See also this issue’s Police Report on p. 3. – DP.

THANKS TO CITY FOR MURAL, GREENE WORK

In response to “Tony Westmount” (Joe Russo, June 25, p. 7) regarding the new mural and current state of Greene Ave., I couldn’t disagree more.

Art is certainly in the eye of the beholder. The lovely mural and branding of Quartier Greene adds colour and a sense of community to the street. That the city of Westmount commissioned this for its 150th anniversary is that much more sig-

nificant.

The city has also been instrumental in helping to “green” Greene with lovely parklets (the picnic tables are gone if the author of the letter had not noticed) and with much feedback from merchants and the public, only half the street is reduced to one lane in different sections, with beautiful planters the length of two blocks. There has been no noticeable traffic congestion and we do not lose one parking spot. Win-win if you ask me.

Having visited several commercial areas in the city so far this year, I would say Greene is now one of the prettiest. Low vacancy rates to boot.

We are grateful for the collaboration of the city in these regards to help our commercial sectors.

I, for one, appreciate a bright mural and documenting its progress with photos over the course of a week was fascinating.

ROB CALLARD – PRESIDENT,

QUARTIER GREENE MERCHANTS ASSOC.

RE-CONNECTING WITH MY MONTREAL ROOTS

It was such a lovely surprise to read the article that Sandra Feldman wrote about her mother Lily Kutzin in the *Westmount Independent* (May 7, p. 23).

Reading about people’s paths is always intriguing to me, which brings me to why I am writing to you today.

I was born in Montreal, grew up in Hampstead, moved to Westmount and

then re-located to Toronto in 1996, but I have never forgotten my roots.

After I hung up my copywriting hat in the advertising industry, I was lured to the solace of writing books as my schedule became flexible and allowed me to be at home with my children.

The premise of my third book, *The Most Amazing Department Store*, came out of left field, but I embraced this serendipity, as it impacted me greatly.

Sandra’s grandson invited my daughter Liv to his family’s *shabbat* table in Montreal, where Sandra was present, and informed Liv of our family’s connection:

My daughter’s great-grandmother and Sandra’s grandson’s great-grandmother were friends. Sandra’s mother, Lily, worked at Eaton’s, while my grandmother, also named Lily, worked at Simpson’s.

I froze in my tracks after hearing this coincidence, as questions swooshed into my mind like a tsunami. What were their days like? More importantly, how were they treated because they were both Jewish women? The only way I knew how to deal with this matter was to sit down and write a story.

It was during COVID that I took a deep dive and interviewed my grandmother’s children: my father and my aunt. What my grandmother used to tell me came back too and I also researched Montreal’s archives. Lastly, I had a great time with my imagination, as the book is historical fiction.

The story of *The Most Amazing Department Store* is set post-World War II in Montreal, where two independent young women face society’s expectations and anti-Semitism while they work at Sunderland’s – a fictional glamorous department store.

It is a timely story that has been well received, especially among those who appreciate vintage fashion, female friendships and the topic of facing adversity.

Getting back to the article that Sandra wrote, I am delighted to share that Sandra and I spoke on the phone last month for almost an hour, at which time she shared her mother’s stories and, most importantly, how she felt about her best friend Lil – my grandmother. Sandra was extremely grateful that I wrote *The Most Amazing Department Store*, as even though it is fiction, I brought her mother’s story to the surface, which will enable a gateway of conversation for her entire family.

The book is published by RE:BOOKS, a publishing house that celebrates female authors who write captivating stories. It is available at Indigo, Amazon and many independent bookstores.

SHARON NEISS ARBESS, TORONTO

DOES THE EDITOR EVEN READ THE PAPER?

Just curious if you do the simple act of reading through stories before printing.

Referring to the story about the pick-up truck that smashed into cars, trees and eventually flipped on Landsdowne [sic] in May 28 edition (p. 1).

On p. 1, the driver is identified as a 20-year-old man. In the turn on p. 17, he’s now a “minor.”

When I was a reporter, a minor was someone under 18 years of age. Which is it?

Inquiring readers want to know.

ANNE SUTHERLAND, METCALFE AVE.

Editor’s reply: Just curious if you read what we write. On p. 1, something in paragraph 1 is “described by Public Security,” which still applies by implication in the next paragraph, where the 20-year-old is mentioned.

In contrast, on p. 17 there is a subhead, **in bold** (to help you see it), that reads “Police’s view,” followed by a paragraph that starts “According to Station 12 community relations police officer...” in which the “minor” is mentioned.

The lesson? The truth? Sometimes different sources have different information. We are happy to share that with people. You just have to read. – DP.

LET’S BE INCLUSIVE AT THE POOL

As a parent of a young toddler, I realize just how restricted our access to the Westmount outdoor pool is (and specifically the separate baby pool/splash pad). Mornings are taken up by lessons and structured swim (even on weekends), and during senior and some adult lap swims, children must vacate the baby pool area.

Because very young children generally nap midday or into the afternoons, and go to sleep in the early evenings, options for pool use are limited. There is often variability in these young children’s schedules and routines.

As a geriatrician, I am acutely aware of the needs of the very old in our society and the ageism that often exists towards this demographic. However, I also believe that the very young (children under five) deserve our understanding and support, with public amenities enabling flexible access for these groups as much as possible.

I am not certain why the presence of the very young in a separate pool adjacent to the lap pool is seen as so disruptive, but perhaps the Westmount recreation centre leadership will consider a change to fit our current *continued on p. 7*

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount

Editor

David Price: 514.935.4537
editor@westmountindependent.com

Chief reporter

Laureen Sweeney

Graphics

Ted Sancton

Advertising sales

Arleen Candiotti: 514.223.3567
advertising@westmountindependent.com

Classified ads

514-664-6138

Accounting

Beth Hudson: 514.223.6138
office@westmountindependent.com

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

LETTERS: We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit them to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. Letter writers should not expect to be published in every issue, or in back-to-back issues, or repeatedly in the same season or on the same topic.

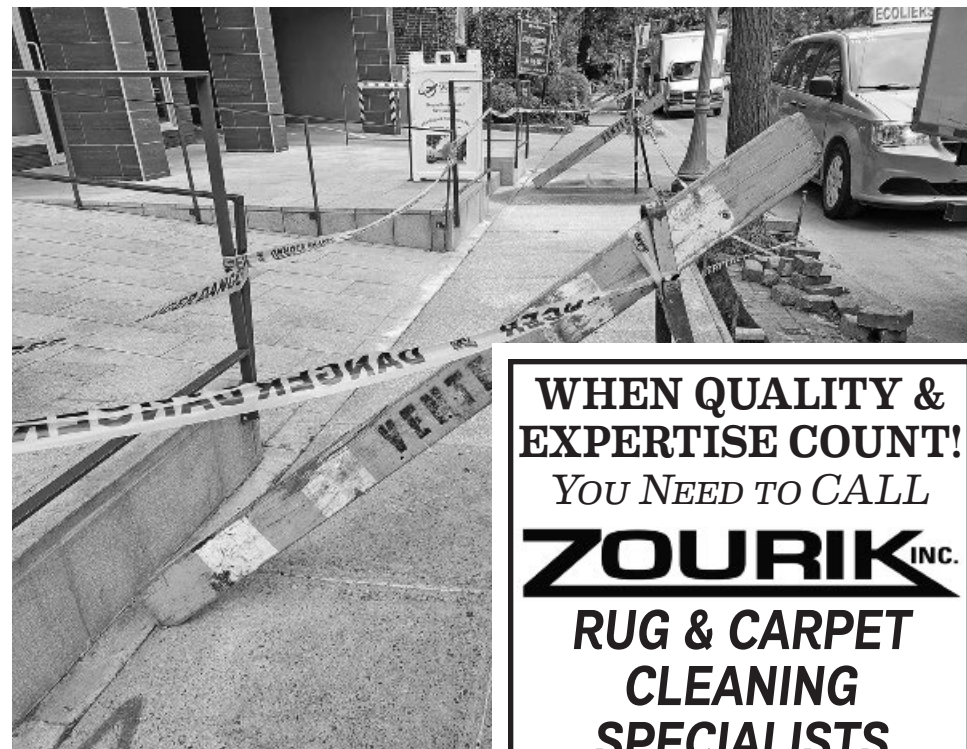
Please include your name and street for publication (or borough or municipality if you do not live in Westmount), but not your address (unless you want it published).

13,500+ physical copies DW, plus low-resolution email and web versions
Distribution: Tuesday to Friday (longer when interrupted by postal holidays)

OWNED AND PUBLISHED BY:

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

'Queen' Victoria gets a facelift



Last month, the city replaced portions of sidewalk on the east side of Victoria between de Maisonneuve and Sherbrooke, as seen June 17. The concrete work is now complete and the sidewalk open, although some brickwork between the sidewalk and the asphalt was still being put back when the *Independent* went by June 27 (not pictured).

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

times (or simply contemplate a trial for a few days).

Even as a young child growing up in Westmount, I recall being asked to leave the pool deck during the adult swim times. Times have changed (I hope!) and inclusion should be paramount. Additionally, there are known benefits to the health and well-being of all ages when younger and older persons interact. Let's be age-inclusive at the pool please!

DIANA ANDERSON, VICTORIA AVE.

Team McGuigan Pepin

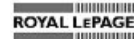
MOVING YOU TOWARD YOUR DREAMS

Scan the QR code for our Five-Star Reviews



514 824-4457

tim.mcguigan@royallepage.ca



514 953.6234

joan@mcguiganpepin.com

McGuiganPepin.com

WHEN QUALITY & EXPERTISE COUNT!

YOU NEED TO CALL

ZOURIK INC.

RUG & CARPET
CLEANING
SPECIALISTS

Hand wash & repairs
of new and
antique rugs

Furniture & Wall to Wall
Carpeting Experts

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

514-825-5500
zourikcleaning@gmail.com

REFERRED FOR A REASON

SMALLER NEST Downsizing

A gentle and personalized approach in helping seniors relocate

- ✔ Manage your entire move
- ✔ Plan your new layout on computer
- ✔ Empty an apartment or house
- ✔ Sell/donate unwanted items
- ✔ Arrange an estate sale
- ✔ Cancel/forward utilities, mail, etc...
- ✔ Arrange a moving company
- ✔ Pack & unpack your moving boxes
- ✔ Set up your new smaller nest

(514) 808-4248

kathleen@smallernest.com

www.smallernest.com

Party detritus at summit lookout



These photos were taken June 21 at the summit lookout off Summit Circle. The context is not known, but it was close in time to graduation season...

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT



LAMBERT INC. SINCE 1964

ROOFING • CHIMNEY & FIREPLACE SPECIALISTS



Summer is here... time to call us!

• Brick • Roofing • Chimney • Repairs

CALL TODAY!

514-484-0646



9631 rue Clement, LaSalle Qc H8R 4B4 • www.foyerlambert.com

New planters at summit lookout



As seen June 22, the day that they were placed.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.



EXPERT TREE SERVICES

Arborists you can trust

Expert Tree Services in Montreal and the West Island since 1992. Over the years, we have built a reputation for superior results and great customer service to residential and commercial customers.

- Pruning
- Dead Wooding
- Tree and Hedge Trimming
- Tree Removal and Planting
- Stump Grinding
- Cabling and Bracing

PREVENTATIVE TREATMENTS



514 831-8733

Emergency Work 24/7

Certified Arborist | arbo@strathmore.pro | www.strathmore.pro

LARGE
BRAND NEW
LUXURIOUS
APARTMENTS

> 2 Bedrooms
+ Den



lecartier.ca



From \$3,250

Discover
our Des Pins
& Sherbrooke
models

CONTACT >

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

Le Cartier
Corner of
Peel & Sherbrooke

The Greene parking-lot mural takes shape

PHOTOS: VERONICA REDGRAVE.

Manoir Westmount
A Project of The Rotary Club of Westmount



A great community, in a perfect location



Please contact us for details
Immediate Availability

Very affordable all inclusive rates...

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

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

For an appointment to view, please call
514.937.3943

www.manoirwestmount.ca



June 12 – outlines first!



June 12 – colouring inside the lines



June 16 – finishing touches

PRADA, GUCCI, DIOR, HERMES, LOUIS VUITTON, FENDI, YVES SAINT LAURENT, GIVENCHY, LANVIN, CHANEL, Cartier, BALENCIAGA

VINTAGE MUSTS

ACCESSOIRES DE MODE ET DE MAISON
FASHION AND HOME ACCESSORIES

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

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



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

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



BERTRAND COHEN TENOUDJI
pharmacie | pharmacy
5025 Sherbrooke West (west of Claremont)
Tel: 514-484-2222 | Fax: 514-484-2205

Eautech
Irrigation
Éclairage

Mike Nizzola
514-895-8077
info@irrigationeautech.com
www.irrigationeautech.com

Douglas art therapy group exhibits at Selwyn House



Art

VERONICA REDGRAVE



Westmount city councillor Mary Gallery.
Works sold raised money to purchase

art materials for the Douglas art therapy
program.

▲ Mary Gallery, Sarah Ivory, Christina Smith
and Laura Osborne.

The Douglas Hospital has run art therapy groups since 2018. Douglas volunteer Susan Doherty Hannaford, a long-time advocate for people with mental difficulties, recognized the need for more patient interaction. So she teamed up with Terry Williams and Tracy Woodward to come up with novel ideas for patient rehabilitation. And, just like that, an art therapy group was formed.

Working with volunteers Lucy Riddle, Lucy McGinnis, Alicia Hamilton, Jill Drummond, Sarah Ivory, Jeannie Miller, Caroline Dillon, Nicole Small, Pam Horne, Laura Osborne, Susan started facilitating art groups at the Douglas.

The works created were recently featured at an art vernissage held at Selwyn House's Rosy Agora. Mayor Christina Smith joined guests in admiration of the project. Among many seen appreciating the art were Kim McInnis, The Study's head of school; Andrew Ivory; Kelly Baxter; Jeannie Vondjidis; Alicia Latkovski; Caroline Dilon and her daughter Amanda Dilon; Bob Hendricks; Nadia Giannetti and

We are open, call us now and during the construction holiday for all your pool needs!



CHAUFFAGE DIRECT INC.
DIRECT HEATING INC.

Annual maintenance by a skilled and licenced technician will keep your gas-fired pool heater or heat pump working efficiently for many years to come. **514-990-1346**

TD Summer Reading Club goes 'To the Stars!'

Westmount chosen for program's 2024 national launch

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The national launch of this year's bilingual TD Summer Reading Club for children's libraries took place June 20 in Westmount. This was in recognition of the library's 125th anniversary. It is also the 20th year for the program across Canada.

"This is a real honour," said children's librarian Wendy Wayling, who organizes the city's local reading club's activities, for which the city won top prizes for member participation in 2013 and 2020 (see story, July 12, 2022, p. 18).

Among those invited to the launch celebrations in Victoria Hall were students in grades 2 and 3 from Westmount Park School (in the morning) and Roslyn (in the afternoon) along with representatives of many involved organizations including Library and Archives Canada.

"Today, we are all astronauts!" Wayling announced as librarians attired in white astronaut outfits distributed special T-shirts and name tags to the kids as they arrived. This was in keeping with this summer's national program theme of "To the Stars!"

The children later had the opportunity



Former astronaut Marc Garneau reading to the first of four groups of young potential astronauts from the book by his friend and fellow astronaut Chris Hadfield.

to meet with a real astronaut – Westmounter Marc Garneau, Canada's first person in outer space and the retired head of the Canadian Space Agency. He was also Westmount's MP and a federal cabinet minister for many years.

Inspiring messages

Garneau spent special morning and afternoon sessions reading to the students in smaller groups from the city's current StoryWalk in Westmount Park.

Called *The Darkest Dark*, it is a story written by former Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield about overcoming his childhood fear of night-time darkness to realize his own real-life dream in "the darkest dark" of space.

Garneau took time to interject his own motivational messages about persevering to realize personal goals in a manner that appeared to capture the special attention of the kids.

Planetarium 'visit'

Two other space-related activities were provided during both morning and afternoon sessions. These were an art session with Audrey Malo, the official illustrator of the TD Summer Reading Club 2024, and a visit inside a darkened portable inflatable planetarium that had been installed in Victoria Hall's concert hall.

The students stepped carefully into the darkened dome measuring 13 feet high and 24 feet in diameter to lie on their backs for viewing a presentation by PlateauAstro. This is an organization geared to school presentations and workshops on space and astronomy.

Summer reading

In launching the TD Summer Reading Club nationally, Mayor Christina Smith said, "We know from listening to parents and children in our community that the club inspires kids to explore the joy of reading over the summer months and fosters a life-long love of reading."

She then used a giant pair of scissors to cut the ribbon with the many representative officials on either side of her.

These included Councillor Elisabeth Roux, the city's library commissioner, and Councillor Mary Gallery as commissioner of sports and recreation, along with Jennifer Maccarone, the city's provincial legislative representative, and current MP Anna Gainey.



And this summer's TD Summer Reading Club is launched by Mayor Christina Smith for the whole country!

SERVING WESTMOUNT SINCE 2021

**pitou
minou
& COMPAGNONS
WESTMOUNT**

Healthy and holistic pet food, accessories,
grooming services & delivery

**4498 Ste. Catherine W
514-394-1114**

pitou-minou.ca

A SELECTION OF OUR LUXURY PROPERTIES

BRIGHT AND SPACIOUS RESIDENCE | BACKYARD POOL



\$2,999,000

CH. MIRA, WESTMOUNT ADJACENT

BEAUTIFUL THREE-STORY HOUSE | AUTHENTIC CHARM



\$2,749,000

AV. MOUNT-PLEASANT, WESTMOUNT

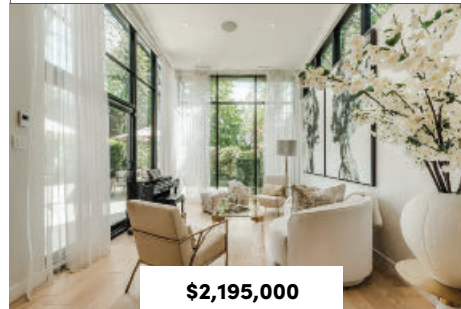
LUXURIOUS TOWNHOUSE | DOUBLE GARAGE



\$1,790,000

AV. LANSDOWNE, WESTMOUNT

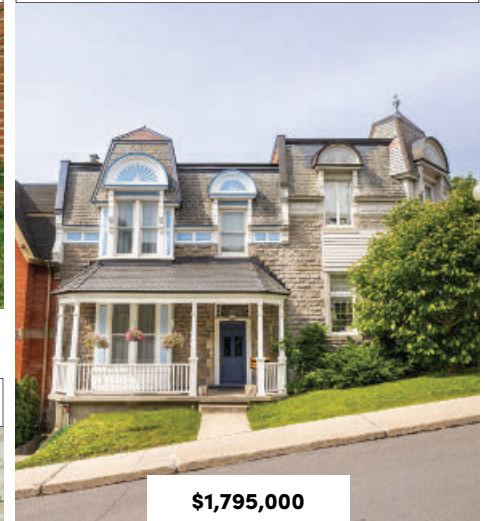
SPECTACULAR INTERIORS | LOVELY TERRACE



\$2,195,000

CH. MCDUGALL, WESTMOUNT ADJACENT

BEAUTIFUL HIGH CEILINGS | TERRACE | GARDEN



\$1,795,000

AV. ARGYLE, WESTMOUNT

RECENTLY RENOVATED | GARAGE | BRIGHT



\$3,295,000

AV. ARLINGTON, WESTMOUNT

ENDLESS POTENTIAL | SPACIOUS LIVING AREA



\$1,995,000

AV. WESTMOUNT, WESTMOUNT

ARCHITECTURAL MASTERPIECE | OVER 3,000 SQ.FT



\$3,900,000 | \$10,500/month

AV. VICTORIA, WESTMOUNT

IMMENSE LIVING AREA | DOUBLE GARAGE



\$7,495,000 | \$16,500/month

THE BOULEVARD, WESTMOUNT

LUXURY REAL ESTATE HAS A NAME

MARIE-YVONNE PAINT

MYPAIN.T.CA - 514 933 5888 - [f](#) [@](#) [in](#)



ROYAL LEPAGE HERITAGE - REAL ESTATE AGENCY INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED / MARIE-YVONNE PAINT - CHARTERED REAL ESTATE BROKER

HALL OF FAME ROYAL LEPAGE CANADA NO 1 ROYAL LEPAGE CANADA, 2005 (INDIV.) NO 1 ROYAL LEPAGE QUÉBEC 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001

REAL ESTATE BROKERS




Evi Ho
514 862-7718
evih@outlook.com

Anne-Marie Larue
514 919-0877
amlarue@uniserve.com

WE WILL EXCEED YOUR EXPECTATIONS!

RE/MAX ACTION INC AGENCY – WESTMOUNT



Real Estate
ANDY DODGE

March transfers: Expensive Lexington mansion leads the way, distorts the stats

Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in March 2024, gleaned from city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 15.

One of Westmount's most majestic mansions led the way for real estate transfers registered in March 2024 and distorted all the monthly statistics by selling for more than 50 percent above municipal valuation.

The huge stone mansion at 775 Lexington Ave., just north of Shorncliffe Ave., sold for \$16,750,000, the fourth-highest price in Westmount's history and the highest price since 9 Gordon Crescent sold for \$23,000,000 in October 2022.

The last sale of 775 Lexington was in May 2000, when it sold for \$2,700,000.

The huge dollar amount of the recent sale and the huge mark-up over valuation defied the fact that no other one- or two-family dwelling sold in March for more than its municipal tax value, and continued the trend of the previous three months where the average sale price was less than the average valuation.

Taking eight one- and two-family dwellings as a group, we find an average mark-up of 17.6 percent, but if we remove that one sale, the mark-down becomes 7.6 percent.

If this trend, with the odd exception, continues into the summer months – for registration dates – it will mean the next valuation roll, effective for 2026 based on the real estate market of July 1, 2024, could actually go down or at least stay the same.

Two complete duplexes sold

It was also quite surprising – in this day and age – to see two full duplexes turned over in one month, both for less than valu-



775 Lexington on June 28.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

ation. The stately 505-07 Roslyn Ave., nestled among mansions on Roslyn between Sherbrooke St. and Côte St. Antoine Rd., sold for 42 percent more than the more modestly-located 422 Prince Albert Ave.

A range of condos

Among condominiums, just three sales reflected the wide range of condo prices, all the way from just under \$600,000 to \$5,500,000, the latter for a penthouse condo at 1 Wood Ave. Even that, as well as the lowest-priced apartment at 4410 St. Catherine St., sold under valuation, reflecting the trend seen in one- and two-family dwellings. Adding the single condo sale in

February (430 Claremont Ave.), the four condo sales in the first quarter of 2024 split 2-2 between mark-ups and mark-downs, but the average mark-down was 7.5 percent.

One other sale in March reflected the first re-sale of a co-op apartment at 388 Olivier Ave., which had been transformed into a co-op building (owned by its residents) in June of 2022. As it turns out, the vendor was president of the association that had operated the three-storey building while the co-op status was being arranged. The same co-op arrangement was just completed last October for the much larger 376 Redfern Ave., just across Sherbrooke St. from city hall.

Simply... "Efficient"
Au plaisir!



Marie-José Aubin
Courtier immobilier résidentiel
514-296-8288

ROYAL LEPAGE
HERITAGE
514-934-1818




Ron Benveniste
514.942.9352

Toujours disponible à répondre à vos questions
Always available to answer your questions

RE/MAX Action Courtiers/Brokers



PROFUSION
I M M O B I L I E R

Bunny Berke
REAL STATE BROKER

bberke@profusion.global
514.347.1928

profusion.global
Profusion Immobilier Inc. • Real Estate Agency



Forbes
GLOBAL PROPERTIES

There has never been a better time to buy or sell.
Let my 20 years of experience guide you with all your real estate needs.

Our Unparalleled International Network



Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in March 2024

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2023 VAL	RATIO (±%)
4840 de Maisonneuve	On Nei Chong & Chi Fai Kwok	\$1,125,000	\$1,405,400	-20.0%
64 Forden Crescent	Li Ye Zhu	\$4,200,000	\$4,280,500	-1.9%
659 Lansdowne	Rosalie Boel	\$1,700,000	\$1,791,500	-5.1%
234 Metcalfe	Jing Peng	\$1,800,000	\$1,922,100	-6.4%
775 Lexington	Susan Hodan	\$16,750,000	\$10,997,400	52.3%
4862 St. Catherine	Julien Lavigne	\$1,021,250	\$1,032,200	-1.1%
DUPLEXES				
505-07 Roslyn	Maureen Habasch Brosseau & Alain Brosseau	\$2,488,000	\$2,969,700	-16.2%
422-22A Prince Albert	Winalou Aquino	\$1,750,000	\$1,831,600	-4.5%
CONDOMINIUMS				
4410 St. Catherine #4E	estate Jerbanoo Dinshaw Irani	\$590,500	\$672,000	-12.1%
4700 St. Catherine #314	142647 Canada Inc.	\$1,925,000	\$1,544,700	24.6%
1 Wood #2201	Cynthia Scott	\$5,500,000	\$6,590,600	-16.5%
OTHER				
388 Olivier, 7.257%	André Przybylowski	\$720,000	\$738,922 ¹	-2.6%

¹Valuation is 7.257 percent of \$10,182,200. Exclusive rights to Apt. 16.

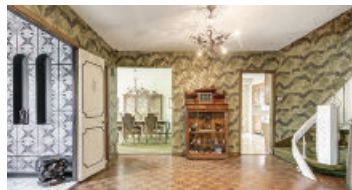
PROFUSION | **Forbes**
I M M O B I L I E R | GLOBAL PROPERTIES



4+1 3+1

45 Rue Glenmore
Hampstead

\$2,395,000

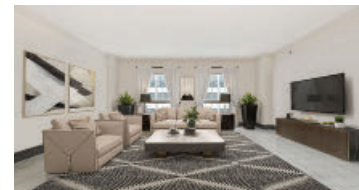


CHATEAU WESTMOUNT

2 2+1

4175 Rue Ste-Catherine O.,
app. 504 | Westmount

\$1,545,000



TINA BAER

Real Estate Broker

514.603.9870

tbaer@profusion.global

profusion.global

Profusion Immobilier Inc. • Real Estate Agency

Travel Column

Is Brooklyn old news, or New New York?

BY MARISSA DE MIGUEL

Brooklyn has been in its revival period since the start of this millennium. Originally it was artists, musicians and hipsters who flocked to this New York City borough, drawn by the promise of affordable rent and a blank canvas to express their creativity. Neighbourhoods like Williamsburg, Bushwick, and DUMBO became the epicentres of this cultural renaissance.

But as of late, other neighbourhoods within the borough have seen an influx of families, young professionals and entrepreneurs, shape-shifting a by-gone creative era into modern cultural hubs in their own right. Park Slope, Carroll Gardens, Fort Greene, Boerum Hill, Cobble Hill, Brooklyn Heights – just when you learned where SOHO ends and NOLITA starts, you've got to pick up a whole new neighbourhood mapping system!

And while they each have their own distinct character, architecture and vibe, all are beautifully picturesque, with tree-lined streets and quaint walk-ups that meet at the corner to open onto a local. Jay-Z and

Queen B are frequent diners at Lucali, a nondescript trattoria in Carroll Gardens. Devoid of a sign, it is recognizable only by its signature awning.

Many Manhattan favourites have Brooklyn outposts, so you never really have to cross the bridge. In fact, the best part about Brooklyn is looking out onto the city skyline from the edge of Brooklyn Heights! Frederick Olmsted, of Mount Royal and Central Park fame, brought his sensibility for “painting with nature” to Prospect Park. Industrie's hyped Christopher St. slice is available in Williamsburg. And if Michelin-star restaurants are your thing, Mads Refslund, who founded Noma, has partnered with Will Douillet of three-star Alinea Chicago for their most recent Greenpoint project, Ilis, which doesn't disappoint.

Brooklyn is a place where tradition and innovation coexist, where diversity is celebrated, and where every street has a story to tell. It was the first time I could picture myself living in another city, with a family – stoop life!

What a life!



Rucola, a northern Italian restaurant in Boerum Hill.

FREE EVALUATIONS*
\$700 UNLIMITED Dog Daycare per month

With Package:

- Walk-ins available
- EASY schedule changes
- NO cancellation fee

♥ **Dog Hotel** ■ **Pet Store**
Puppy Classes ■
Private Training

*Limited time only



**LES ANGES
GARDIENNES**

SERVICES ANIMALIERS ♥ PET SERVICES

lesangesmtl.com



514.817.3228

6791 Saint Jacques - NDG
930 Courcelle 2nd floor

Family, friends help celebrate Ruth Gray's 100th birthday

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

An intimate gathering of relatives and friends of former Westmounter Ruth Gray was held at Pasta Casareccia on Sherbrooke St. in NDG last month to celebrate her 100th birthday.

Some of her relatives flew in from as far away as England to be on hand for the unique and momentous occasion.

Gray, who lived for many years at the Château Maisonneuve apartments at the corner of Claremont, and who now resides at Westmount One just past the western edge of Westmount, worked for many years as an executive administrator at McGill University's department of engineering.

"It was really a good experience to work with engineers," she said in an interview with the *Independent*. "It was interesting,

because I'm basically an artsy kind of person.

"Working there, I learned to appreciate science and engineering," she continued, while noting that she had no previous interest in those topics. "But when I started to work there, I became interested, and it opened my mind."

When she was first hired, there were almost no women on the faculty or among the students in the department.

"But when I left, 20 percent were women," she said.

She attributes the shift to a change in attitude that came about following the 1989 mass shooting at the École Polytechnique engineering institute.

"Women started to enroll in engineering, despite the fact that this guy had killed 14 women," she said.

See photo on p. 1.

We welcome your letters

We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Email us at: editor@westmountindependent.com

The best hugger ever is Harvey!



Westmount
A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER



Yes – cuddling with family members at home or being stopped on the street during walkies to bring someone a moment of joy – that is the Harvey magic. By no fault of his own, he is now the Montreal SPCA kennel, which is full at this time of year because of moving season. Please think of adopting this loving companion, who possesses all the loving qualities of the St. Bernard type and the calmness of a doting companion.

Harvey is a very healthy middle-ager at nine years young, and is up to date with his inoculations, neutered and micro-chipped.

Once again, I am pleased to refer you to the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com, and suggest that you scroll to Harvey's information page by his identification number, A2000144375.

Since he is presently boarded at the kennel facility, please plan your visit as soon as possible since the SPCA is open every

day, from 3 pm to 8 pm on Monday to Friday, and from 11 am to 6 pm on Saturday and Sunday. It is located at 5215 Jean Talon St. West, in Côte des Neiges, Montreal, H4P 1X4.

Once in conversation with the adoption coordinators, you can discuss your family interest in adoption and visit with him to

meet. It is time to open heart and home to Harvey, a kind everyday buddy who will enjoy even the smallest moments of our neighbourhood life.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne,

P.S. In this issue, the 9 Lives cat-adoption column is on p. 19.



NOTARY | EST. 1988

Mtre.
**VALERIE
TEROUX**

WILLS
—
MANDATES
—
ESTATE SETTLEMENTS

—
HOMOLOGATION
OF MANDATES

—
PROTECTIVE SUPERVISION
(FOR INCAPACITY)

5517 Monkland Ave., Montreal
514 481 8838
valerie.teroux@notarius.net

davelo

At Davélo,
we have a bike
for everyone

SPECIALIZED

cervélo

GAZELLE

OPUS

FACTOR

SCOTT

evo

Come for a
test ride today

Price Match
Guarantee

930 Rue de Courcelle
Across from the Home Depot
Free Parking

514-937-8888
davelo.ca

SERVING WESTMOUNT SINCE 2021

pitou
minou
& COMPAGNONS
WESTMOUNT

Healthy and holistic pet food, accessories,
grooming services & delivery

4498 Ste. Catherine W
514-394-1114

pitou-minou.ca

May sales: Suffering a relapse



Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

of current trends in local real estate activity. The graph at right offers a picture of these trends over time.

The Westmount real estate market had a slight relapse in May after showing strong signs of a comeback in April. In fact, the April market ended up being far more exciting than we originally portrayed it, with four more sales added to the month's list, including one April 30 sale of a semi-detached house on The Boulevard for \$8,340,000, 10 of 14 sales in the month cleared \$2 million and three over \$3 million.

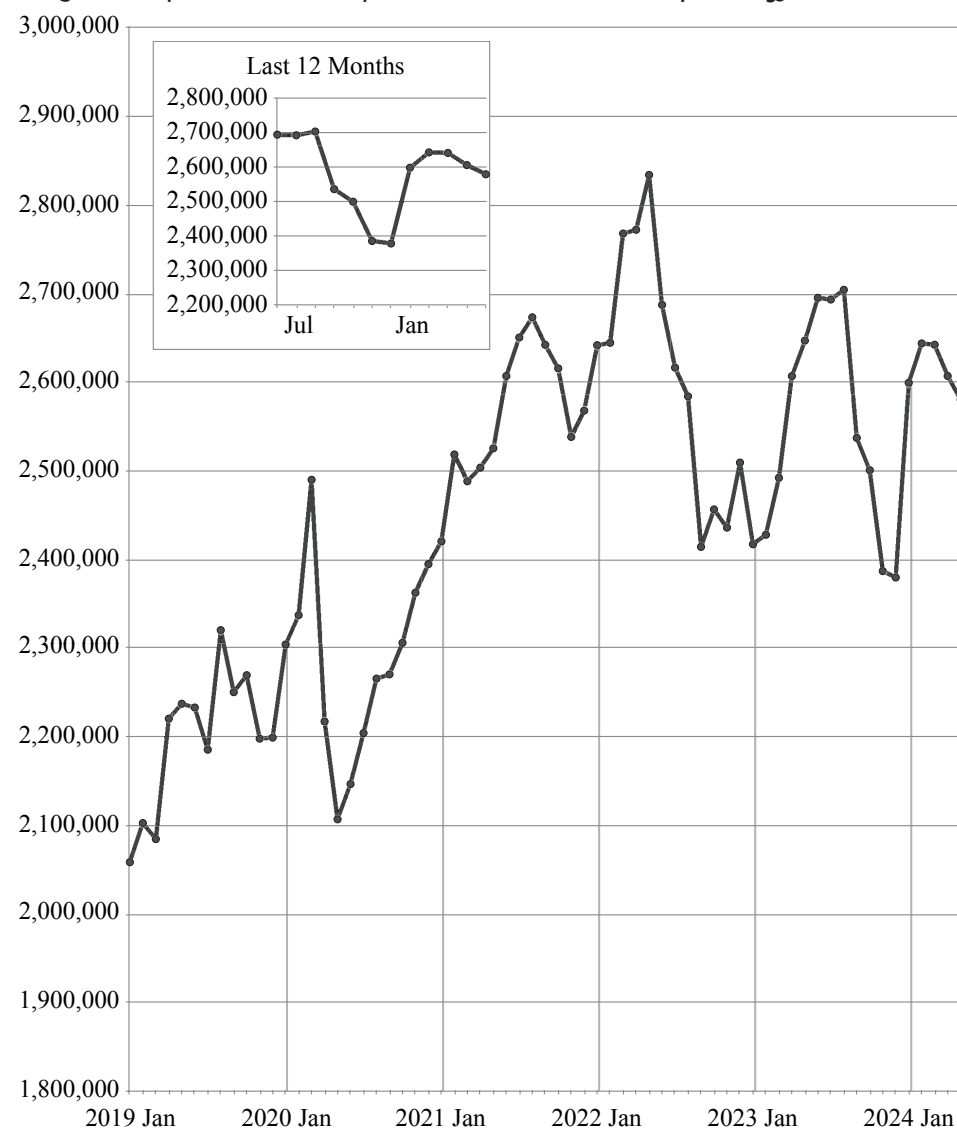
Then as the calendar turned to May, agents logged eight sales in a tight range from \$1,200,000 to \$2,425,000, only three for more than \$2 million, with mark-ups over valuation up to 10.5 percent and two with mark-downs below 10 percent. The average was a 3.3 percent mark-down, the first average mark-down since January. After adjusting for the extreme sales, the "typical" Westmount home value dipped even lower than it was in January, when we thought the market was preparing for a spring rebound.

Condos & adjacent

Five more condominiums were added to the second-quarter condo list, including one for \$600,000, the lowest price of the quarter (with June sales still to be added). The list so far includes four condo sales under \$1 million and four above that mark, up to more than \$2.3 million for an upper-floor apartment at 1 Wood Ave. Again, the price:valuation ratios are split evenly between those above valuation and those below, with an average mark-up of 1.4 percent.

The market was fairly weak in adjacent-Westmount areas, as well, with only two houses sold in the southern Côte des Neiges area; one house, a flat in a former duplex and another in an undivided triplex in eastern NDG; houses on Upper Trafalgar Place and Tupper St. to the east of the city, and then one condominium and two co-op apartments at the Trafalgar and

Average adjusted price for 'typical' Westmount house, by month, January 2019 to May 2024, based on accepted offer dates



Lamp Repairs

25 years' experience with Areuco Lighting in Westmount

- In-home service
- Free pick-up and delivery

Call Robert at EclairSol
514-582-3906

WOOD FINISHING

DOORS • FURNITURE • WOODWORK

ON-SITE SERVICE
• Specializing in stripping & staining
ENTRANCE DOORS



- also -

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

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

Ruth Stalker Antiques



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

155 Hillside Avenue
Westmount, Quebec
H3Z 1W1

Gleneagles apartment buildings on Côte des Neiges Rd.

Only one of all the adjacent-Westmount sales achieved a price more than \$2 million.

There are now – as of mid-June – four houses listed with asking prices under \$1 million, the most since November 2019.

The number of active listings for Westmount has climbed to 136 houses, the most since August 2016. While the sales in May were somewhat lacklustre, four of the new listings are asking between \$5 million and \$10 million, and a new listing asking \$23,900,000 has pushed up the top asking price in the city.

RB
RONDA BLY
ESTATE SALES
CERTIFIED APPRAISER

Expert Evaluations
Full Professional Setups
Complete Cleanup Available

514 236-4159
www.rondably.com
The Gold Standard in Estate Sales Since 1998

Painting | Decoration & Finishing

S
STUART
DEARLOVE
www.stuartdearlove.com

Standard & Restorative Painting
Plaster
Stripping, Wood Finishing
Interior & Exterior
Spray Paint and Fine Finish

f 514 482-5267
sdearlove@bell.net RBO 8328 8514 09
OVER 20 YEARS PAINTING EXPERIENCE



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Such a sweet and playful fellow!

Naboo was shy at his arrival in foster care for the Montreal SPCA, but he is now

Cuddly Naboo

quite relaxed in the temporary family environment he is basking in.

Naboo is a cuddly tabby, with the best heart for affection and interaction, as you can see him here waiting for a tummy rub. He is a very healthy seven-year-old, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped.

Please go to the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com, then scroll to his information page from his identification number, 37304541. You can read the glowing notes presented by his foster family and click on the "Fill out the form" black rectangle in order to provide your contact information to the adoption coordinators at the shelter. They will then get back to you to discuss your interest and details on adopting handsome Naboo, who is in need of a forever family.

So cute, this handsome companion is quite irresistible and charming.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

Yard Work

Yard work, garden cleaning, weeding, mulch 514-294-5562.

Housekeeping Available

Regular Residential Housekeeping, damage insurance \$2,000,000, some availability for summer and fall 2024, professional service, free estimate Marie 514-290-1673.

Painter Available

Excellent interior painter, meticulous, reasonable rates and references provided. Call Lucie 514-944-2763.

Maine Summer Rental

The world's best beach! Just 3 weeks remain at a great rental at Goose Rocks Beach, Kennebunkport, Maine. Book 6/22-29, 7/6-7/13 or 7/13-7/20 now and make this summer one to remember. 3-bedroom, 2-bath house with ocean and tidal river views, just 800 meters from the beach. Newly renovated kitchen, sleeps 11, fully equipped with canoe, 2 kayaks, stand-up paddle board, and 9 bicycles. The downstairs bunk room sleeps 4, has a pool table, Foosball and darts. The upstairs deck and grill extend your summer living outside. Contact Dennis Calcutt at (603) 491-0270 or dennis.calcutt@gmail.com. Visit our VRBO listing #1161659 to see pictures, but book with us directly for a discounted rate.

Lost Cat

Beloved companion missing. Fell from apartment window near Atwater and Sherbrooke. Possibly injured but is on the move. Two years old, dark grey with white underbelly. Tail twisted in a permanent knot. Answers to Max. Reward offered. Please call at 514 935 9207 or 438 345 2944 or e mail at jamie.mcq@gmail.com.

Classified in the

INDEPENDENT

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

Buy a classified in the
**WESTMOUNT
INDEPENDENT**

514-664-6138

Buy locally to sell locally



Retail Review

VERONICA REDGRAVE

After a major expansion, Radimed Westmount Square re-launched with a ribbon-cutting celebration.

Among those present were Mike Hamilton, president, GE Healthcare Canada; Eve La Rivière, general manager, GE Healthcare, Eastern Canada; and from Radimed: Dr. Adel Assaf, president and founder; Suzanne Roy, director; and Jean-Pierre Dallaire, vp finance and administration.

Collaborating for over 30 years with GE HealthCare, Radimed clinic offers new advanced equipment in MRI and ultrasound. The Senograph Pristina mammography/tomosynthesis device can help to enable more precise breast cancer screening, which can assist in reducing false positives and additional biopsies. The LOGIQ E10 ultrasound system enhances cardiology, gynecology and obstetrics exams with high-resolution images that aid diagnostic decision making. Radimed's flagship acquisition is two SIGMA Artist MRI machines with on-device AI applications, improving diagnostics for a variety of conditions, including cardiac pathologies.

Radimed specializations now include cardiac, neurological and oncological pathologies.

Radimed unveils expansion, new machines



Mike Hamilton, Eve La Rivière, Adel Assaf, Suzanne Roy and Jean-Pierre Dallaire.

iTutor

PRIVATE COMPUTER TRAINING

MAC • PC • iPad • iPhone
INTERNET • EMAIL • FACETIME • ZOOM
SAVE PHOTOS • CREATE ALBUMS



COMPUTER ORGANIZATION
UPDATES AND TRANSFERS

CALL CATHERINE
514.937.8267
CHOWICK@VIDEOTRON.CA

REMOTE SUPPORT AVAILABLE



Arthur Younanian
Notaire – Notary

4635 Sherbrooke West
Westmount, QC H3Z 1G2

Tel.: 514 931-2531
info@aynotary.ca
www.aynotary.ca

Another look at the unveiling of the Greene mural

BY RALPH THOMPSON

The mural of artist Adam Vieira in the Greene parking lot just below Sherbrooke was unveiled June 15 (see June 18, p. 1). The event took place under a perfectly clear blue sky, with a live DJ and free refreshments, as well as a cash bar and anniversary caps for sale at a small charge.

The mural is the first urban public art project commissioned by the city of Westmount, which it said “represented the dynamism, beauty and diversity of the city and its community.”

► City councillors Matt Aronson and Anitra Bostock, with poodle Ellie.



City councillor Jeff Shamie, left, and his father Emile, right, along with Corinne Asseraf, owner of Greene Ave.'s Gallerie 203.



Juggler Bekka Rose doing her own thing, left photo, and, right photo, giving a few pointers in juggling to Nelly (left) and Abby, daughters of Councillor Matt Aronson, just visible at left.

Music in the square, cont'd from p. 1

approximate time period of 12 noon to 3:30 pm, with an exceptional earlier ending for Bowser and Bowser after a concert from 12 noon to 2:30 pm.

The schedules are to be “boosted” on social media to people in a 40-mile radius to attract them to Westmount’s commercial districts at a time “when a number of local residents may be away over the summer holiday period,” explained Cynthia Lulham, general manager of both associations.

Under the theme of “Discover Quartier Greene and Discover Victoria Village,” the

programs launch this coming Saturday on Greene, with the whole schedule of musicians as follows:

Sat., July 6 on Greene:
“Double Tonic,” featuring guitarist Gary White and singer Stephanie Marcq,

Sun., July 7 on Greene:
Vocalist Sarah Vanderzone, bilingual folk-pop singer/song writer from Montreal’s South Shore,

Sat., July 13 on Greene:
From 12 noon to 2:30 pm, Bowser and

Bowser, featuring George Bowser of Bowser and Blue with his daughter Jeanne. The two play together “when and wherever” they can,

Sun., July 14, Victoria village:
Sarah Vanderzone again,

Sat., July 20, Victoria village:
Augie and Ron, known for acoustic renditions of rock, blues and soul music,

Sun., July 21 Greene:
Gary White (fun fact: “Gary plays the guitar upside down” according to a press

release),

Sat. July 27, Quartier Greene:
Tatum Quinn duo, “pop rock princess,”

Sun., July 28, Victoria village:
Mick O’Grady provides a finale to the summer programs in the west-end square with acoustic pop, folk and blues.

We welcome your letters

We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Email us at: editor@westmountindependent.com



Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Artist Lortie: ‘This is isn’t tech’



Corinne Asseraff and Marie-Ange Barbancourt.



Yan Fortier, Stephanie Boulay and Nicolas Raymond.



Malcolm Smith and Alex Prijic-Smith.

Galerie 203 was packed for the opening night vernissage of artist **Yan Lortie**. Ladies arrived dressed for the red carpet: bold was beautiful. One stand-out was a gold bomber jacket sprinkled with sparkles.

Sporting fabulous fuchsia, 203 owner **Corinne Asseraff** introduced arrivals to Yan, whose “real” job is with Toulon Development Corp. His show *This is Not Digital* comments on “finding balance and beauty in the chaos of everyday life. All around us is tech. This isn’t.”

His work invites us to explore. There are positive shapes in the negative spaces. Smidges of Keith Haring silhouettes seem to appear and fade. The work is somewhat labyrinthine, so take time to look carefully. Carefully crafted outlines draw you in with their energy. There is no narrative. The story is his use of colour and form.

Art is in his family. Son **Elliott Lortie** (“I’m nine”) had his own works featured, and proudly showed me his red dot (“SOLD!”) stickers. Brother **Quentin Lortie** and friend **Brixton Greer** enjoyed the

freshly-popped popcorn and candies – as did guests.

A huge hit was the Galerie 203-branded chips as well as the lobster rolls. Ensuring the scene flowed well, a DJ played great beats. Noted in the packed space were artist

Malcolm Smith, whose work recently premiered at Galerie 203, and his daughter jewellery designer **Alex Prijic-Smith**; **Mathieu Grenier**, **Stephanie Boulay** and **Nicolas Raymond**, **Philip Garcia**, **Marie-Hélène Bujold**, **Avi Marcovitch**, **Bahar Mir-**

zazadeh, **Taraneh Vahdati**, and director/actress **Marie-Ange Barbancourt**, “just back from Cannes.”

As guests departed, they were overheard admiring the sense of fun at Corinne’s gallery open- *continued on p. 22*



EMERALD & MOONSTONE

Choose from our Bouquet collection featuring individually hand-carved moonstones with emerald beads in 18k gold.



KAUFMANN de SUISSE
PASSIONATE JEWELLERY SINCE 1954

Patek Philippe · Parmigiani Fleurier · Carl F. Bucherer
Moritz Grossmann · Arnold & Son · Schwarz Etienne

18 hand-carved rainbow moonstones 8.30cts, 54 round cut emeralds 0.52ctw with 302 emerald beads 75.50ctw

2195 Crescent Street · 514.848.0595 · KaufmanndeSuisse.ca

Social notes, cont'd from p. 21

ings. It is in line with thinking out of Art Basel, the famed destination for the international art world. After all, there is the word “ART” in “PARTY.” Galerie 203 is renowned for spirited openings where talent shares space with a special sense of merriment.



Marie-Hélène Bujold.



Elliott Lortie.



Taraneh Vahdati and Bahar Mirzazadeh.

Started four months ago Six-year-old Chang is all-ages Grand Champ for Canada on abacus

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

For thousands of years, from the Mesopotamian era until well into the computer age, the abacus was acknowledged as one of the world's fastest and most efficient calculating tools.

Well up to the mid-20th century, when computers were relatively slow compared to now, experts on the abacus were still able to beat computers in speed at complex calculations.

Although today the abacus remains in use by some shopkeepers, merchants and traders in Asia, Africa, Russia and other regions, it is more commonly seen in educational settings where it is a tool for teaching elementary mathematics.

Tool for mental math

In Westmount, six-year-old Bruce Chang, who started learning how to use the abacus only a few months ago, recently became the abacus Grand Champion of Canada during the 2024 Universal Concept Mental Arithmetic System (UCMAS) National Competition.

UCMAS is an international program that helps young students develop mathematical skills through the use of an aba-

cus. Bruce was the top scorer in his category for the Quebec regionals and also the top scorer for the Canadian nationals (over 5,000 competitors).

Grand champion

He was also crowned the Grand Champion, meaning he scored the highest in any category and any age group. In the competitions that took place at a convention centre in Laval, competitors had eight minutes to solve 150 questions using mental math or an abacus.

Bruce started learning the abacus four months ago at the UCMAS's Van Horne location in Montreal. A resident of Westmount with his parents and four siblings, he attends St. George's elementary school.

Bruce's father, Arthur, told the *Independent* that it took Bruce just “a bit of prac-

lice” to become thoroughly familiar with the abacus. Since then, using it has become almost “a hobby and fun for him,” he said. “He looks forward to the practices.”

What's more, working extensively with a physical abacus leads eventually to the development of a visual method to carry out arithmetical calculations.

“The score sheet is 150 questions,” said Arthur. “When he first started, he would score maybe 20 to 30 of them. But now he can go all the way to 150 in four or five minutes and he beats me. We started learning

around the same time, but he's completely surpassed me now.”

Although it may be somewhat premature to speculate on what Bruce might do with his life, he is interested in music and is learning how to play the piano.

In the meantime, his parents are planning a family trip in December to India where Bruce will compete in the UCMA's international championships as Canada's official representative.

“We're going to have to practise hard,” said his father.

See photo on p. 1.

Indie's summer schedule

July 9: issue

July 16, 23 & 30 and August 6: no issues

August 13 & following: weekly until Christmas

Chinese Works of Art WANTED

Paintings, Jade, Buddha Figures, Censers, Snuff Bottles, Porcelain, Porcelain Plaque

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

INTRODUCING 2 BURTON RENOVATORS DREAM, AMAZING LOCATION!

THE RE/MAX COLLECTION

LORI SCHWARTZ
REAL ESTATE BROKER
514.651.5235
RE/MAX ACTION INC. AGENCE IMMOBILIERE



sicotte & co

Marie Sicotte
Real Estate Broker

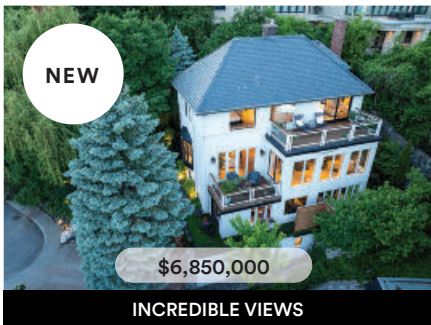
+1 514 953 9808
marie@mariesicotte.com
mariesicotte.com



Westmount

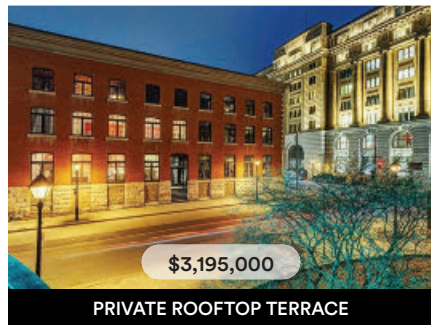
2 WESTMOUNT SQUARE, APT. 1303

2+1 🏠 2+1 🏠 1 🏠



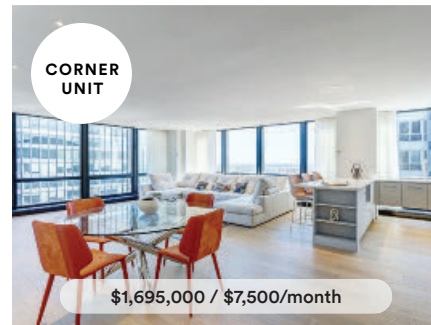
Westmount

25 BELLEVUE AV.



Old Montréal

599 RUE WELLINGTON #302-303



Westmount

3 WESTMOUNT-SQUARE, APT. 1912



Ville Marie

3940 CH. DE LA CÔTE-DES-NEIGES, #A52

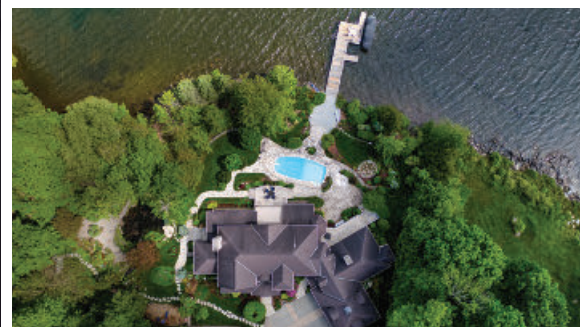


Scan me to know me!



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

ENGEL & VÖLKERS®



JUST LISTED! • HERMITAGE CLUB, LAC MEMPHREMAGOG

A once in a lifetime opportunity. The ULTIMATE waterfront property can now be yours. This magnificent estate, featuring 310 linear feet of PRIME waterfront, is situated in the prestigious Hermitage Club, on the shores of Lac Memphremagog. Built in 2002 by Mayton & Ass.,

Alain Bellevance Architect with the finest materials. 8,000 sq. ft. of living space, and garages for 5 vehicles. 81,670 sq. ft. of exquisitely landscaped gardens by Chantal Lambert. Professional evaluation and inspection report 2024.

Featuring the finest properties available in the Eastern Townships



THE MOST TRANQUIL AND BUCOLIC ESTATE • EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

Welcome to "Domaine des Fougères". Secluded from view, surrounded by 45 acres of rolling hills and breathtaking landscaped trails, the estate is built atop a hill offering spectacular - and unparalleled - views of Brome Lake. No effort has been spared to create this true icon of beauty and refinement: the estate includes a vast home representing the quintessence of comfort and convenience, sublime and inspiring outdoor spaces - ideal for relaxation and rejuvenation - with the added bonus of your own prestige sugar shack.
\$4,750,000

ST-ÉTIENNE-DE-BOLTON • EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

Discover the Trousers Estate spanning almost 40 acres of forest, groomed trails, and private lakes. The main residence boasts a gourmet kitchen, high ceilings, radiant heating, fireplaces, an exercise room, wine cellar, home cinema, and master suites of unparalleled luxury. Outdoors, enjoy a heated pool, spa, pickle-ball / basketball court, stable, equestrian facilities, shed, generator, and a triple garage. \$4,900,000. With an option to purchase the adjacent 59 acre lot with 297 linear feet of PRIME lake frontage on prestigious, ecological LAKE TROUSERS.

BRIAN DUTCH

Real Estate Broker & Advisor • Private Office

T. 514-386-2902 | briandutch.com | brian.dutch@evrealestate.com

EDOUARD GAMACHE

Residential Real Estate Broker & Advisor

T. 514-571-2345 | edouard.gamache@evrealestate.com