We are Westmount Weekly Vol. 19 No. 8d August 26, 2025

Pool use increases 15% in heat wave

Fall activities' sign-up ongoing, M12 girls' hockey created

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The pool never had to turn away users during the recent two-week heatwave.

"Although the pool was very busy, we never had to close [for reaching] capacity," said Dave Lapointe, Sports and Recreation director. Compared to last year, however, "there was a slight increase of 15 percent

Municipal election news

In the race

coverage to come:

- Michael Stern (mayoral candidate)
- Pierre Monaghan (District 1)

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in pool use over the last two weeks," he reported August 18.

At the same time, the department's registration for fall activities was under way with the only change for this year being in girls' hockey, he said. This resulted from Hockey Quebec's elimination of the M11 and M13 levels and creating one for M12.

This was done, he explained, in order to increase the number of teams that can be created in each league. "So, basically, they split the 12- and 13-year-olds (M13), so now the 10-, 11- and 12-year-olds play together in the M12 level, and the 13-, 14and 15-year-olds play in the M15 level."

The city's full range of standard fall activities can be consulted online for youth, adults and seniors.

Among the many courses in the youth catcontinued on p. 19

Dolphins swim team racks up 'huge win'



The Westmount Dolphins with their first-place ALPS trophies at the Pincourt pool on August 16. See story on p. 6. PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTMOUNT SPORTS AND RECREATION

Important information omitted in original article

Insurer compensated city for theft of 'Mother and Child' statue, city paid owner

By David Price, Editor

In our story "Council moves to compensate creator of stolen 'Mother and Child' statue" (August 12, p. 10), we omitted a key

As clearly explained during the July 7 council meeting by Councillor Jeff Shamie, "following the theft of the statue, the city received compensation from its insurer" (timestamp 2:15:40).

The city then voted to compensate the statue's owner as described in our original story (but not the headline, which incorrectly referenced the creator).

I am very unhappy that this insurancepayment information was not included in the original story. Its absence gives a wrong impression to the reader.

I apologize to city council.

I also apologize to two letter writers who

CARL FONTAINE 514.726.2077 crfontaine@profusion.global

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piece of information.

continued on p. 15



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190 Davenport Road 416.233.0339 www.klinkhoff.ca info@klinkhoff.ca Director McBain: Park away from school entrances

Watch out for returning students: **Public Security**

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With various schools starting back to class at different times over the next couple of weeks after the summer holidays, Public Security officials have issued safety pointers for parents and those driving students. It's worth noting that Westmount has over a dozen public and private schools on its territory.

"It's hectic for the first few weeks," said Public Security director Greg McBain.

"Be vigilant, reduce speed in and near school zones, drop off and pick kids up at safe distances from school entrances, and park well away from school zones."

"We'd like to see all motorists be vigilant. Don't obstruct driveways. Leave a few minutes earlier than usual and take extra time around the many construction sites that are being rushed to finish."

Parents should also teach children roadsafety rules and ensure they have a safe route to school, McBain said.

Public Security is also issuing the following additional safety tips:

Come to a complete stop when a school

bus has its flashing lights on and stopsign extended;

- Put mobile phones away and focus on road and pedestrian activity;
- Use designated drop-off areas and avoid double parking;
- Ensure that children walk with an adult until they are at least age 10;
- Drop children off on the same side of the street as the school or on a side street away from traffic.
- Remind children not to cross between parked cars or behind buses, and to always follow a crossing-guard's signal.

Letters to the Editor (general), p. 4 Letters to the Editor (southeast), p. 8 Dodge on July

real estate market, p. 12 Police Report, p. 14

Pet page, *p.* 16

Social Notes:

Children's ball, p. 17



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - GENERAL MAIL

WHERE DO WE DRAW THE LINE?

A few days after watching the Radio-Canada reportage "La Capitale du Canada débordée par les drogues" ["The capital of Canada overwhelmed by drugs"] by Thomas Gerbet and Patrick André, which showed how public spaces in Ottawa have become littered with syringes and how children have been exposed to contaminated needles, I had my own shock much closer to home. While picking up my kids at Queen Elizabeth Park, I looked down at the grass where daycare children often play, and there it was: a syringe, the kind commonly used for fentanyl consumption (see photo below).

My reaction was one of shock and deep concern. Children running on that same grass could easily be pricked by a contaminated needle. As highlighted in the Ottawa case shown in the reportage, such incidents can force a child to undergo urgent medical evaluation and prophylactic treatment for conditions like HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C. Do we really want to wait



for such a tragedy to happen here in Westmount before taking action?

As long-time residents and citizens, we have to ask ourselves: where do we draw the line? Parks should be safe havens for families, not places where daycare staff, parents or simply visitors must scan the ground with worry of being pricked by contaminated needles.

When I expressed my outrage over the past days, I was told we must "learn to live with this." But that mindset is precisely what allowed Ottawa's crisis to escalate to the point of being "overwhelmed." No, we cannot and should not learn to live with something that so clearly violates decency, public health, safety, and common sense. To accept this would be to normalize the unacceptable.

If we do not draw the line here, then where?

Adrián Noriega de la Colina, Mountain Ave.

Editor's note: Unfortunately, this is not the first case of syringes being found locally. See November 13, 2018, p. 6 and March 19, 2019, p. 3. – DP.

'THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING WESTMOUNT'

What did Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde say about how in downtown Montreal we amuse ourselves, while out here in Westmount we amuse each other?

Consider last week's ridicule (p. 7) of shut-ins sending surveillance photos of young men to Public Security (original story: July 8, p. 5). Those young men rang their doorbells trying to make an honest living washing windows.

Meanwhile, my noble Dawson colleague (letter, August 19, p. 6) is going round in circles with the 911 dispatcher who asks him to check if a couple in Queen Elizabeth Park, who want to enjoy freshair coitus, are still at it or not started yet.

Let us rejoice, and just as I was about to write some sententious conclusion about not laughing people in order to scorn (instead seek to laugh with good humour), when who should ring my own doorbell but Mary Gallery and her helper, Olivia.

God's blessing and mine on politicians all!

VICTOR YELVERTON HAINES II, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

Editor's note: For the literary (and less literary) minded, the original quotation from *The Importance of Being Earnest* is: "When one is in town one amuses oneself. When one is in the country one amuses other people." – DP.

REGARDING DISTRICT 5, LET'S TALK DETAILS

On the heels of District 5 candidate James Murphy calling for new leadership in the city (August 19, p. 4), a radio host caught my ear when he noted that leadership emerges *after* the issues have been identified.

The issues as Mr. Murphy sees them include infrastructure, building housing for seniors, streamlining the permit process and more green space.

A father of two working in IT, Mr. Murphy, 38, can be commended for wanting a seat on council; the current emotionally charged climate (by no means restricted to Westmount) has torpedoed the political ambitions of many others, either to stay in office or to consider a run.

But as issues go? What Mr. Murphy describes can easily apply to most any district in Westmount, and quite likely elsewhere on the island of Montreal.

As a 25-year homeowner here, I hear almost nothing from him *specific* to District 5, but rather a "big picture" agenda on which council decides, not just one voice.

It would take an entire page in this paper to outline what D5 residents have put up with, and continue to put up with, often with minimal or no help from council, in the last 13 or so years. I think it's safe to say none of us signed on for this, and that our frustration is compounded when we're left to "suck it up" or forced to deal with a problem by intervening personally, chasing down a civil servant who can help or assembling a petition to force a mayor to change a situation.

When did that become our responsibility, Mr. Murphy? When did indifference become acceptable to deal with those of us who refuse to back down when our quality of life has been compromised beyond reason?

Do you live in D5? If so, how long? Walk much in the neighbourhood? If so, what do you see that demands your immediate attention as a councillor? If you'd like to discuss any of this, I'm happy to make your acquaintance and elaborate.

DOROTHY LIPOVENKO, YORK ST.

GALA TO CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF CAMP NOMININGUE

Calling all current and former campers, staff, parents and friends who have been fortunate enough to spend time on the sandy shores of Petit Lac Nominingue. Camp Nominingue is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2025 with a reunion gala on Thursday, October 23 at Lower Canada College.

Event organizers have been busy reaching out to alumni to invite them to this special evening of remembrance and reconnection. The evening will bring alumni together to re-live camp memories of time spent in the craft shop, perfecting fire-building skills at campcraft, refining paddle strokes in canoeing, and more. Please attend and explore the canoe trip logs to find your name and reminisce about the splendours of nature and wildlife from past canoe trips of three, five and 10 days in Parc La Verendrye or Papineau-Labelle.

If you or anyone you know would like to attend the 100th anniversary evening and dinner or would like more information, please visit: camp-nominingue. square.site/product/-100th-anniversary-reunion-/130?cs=true&cst=custom or contact me at Hill892669@gmail.com.

We hope to see you there!

BRUCE HILL, OTTAWA

Editor's note

Letters to the editor policy for end of election period

In keeping with our practice during the previous four municipal election campaigns, letters to the editor published in our last issue (October 28) before the November 2 election that mention a candidate *will be shown* to that candidate for possible rebuttal in the same issue. There will be no second "right of reply" to this possible reply. – DP

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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

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Running for District 6 council seat

'Lots to be done to make city best place to live:' Jeremy Jonas

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

While Westmount is "a fantastic place to live and work...the world keeps moving along and there is still lots to be done," said longtime resident Jeremy Jonas, in announcing his candidacy for city council in District 6. He grew up on Metcalfe and has lived on Kensington Ave. for many years.

Through involvement in community soccer over many years, he added, "I end up talking to a lot of parents and men's soccer friends about Westmount life, and I find the tone has changed in the last couple of years."

He cites "more dissatisfaction with aspects of Westmount life, especially daily considerations like road and field conditions." But, he adds, "it takes two-way communication and I'm stepping up to help

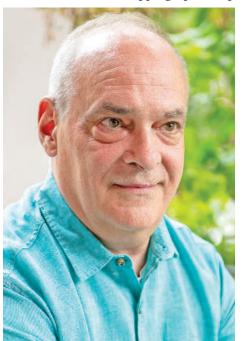


PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON

with this."

While many issues being discussed now in Westmount "appear centered elsewhere like the Claremont renewal or southeast renewal," Jonas said, "District 6 residents are in these areas every day and what happens there affects us too and should incorporate our views," he explained. "With my background, this is something I can help with, too."

Jonas has had a long business career, including as a management consultant at McKinsey and senior positions with Bombardier and Alcan. Jonas said last week that he had the "tool kit" to help Westmount advance. This is his professional business experience in "strategy, planning, major projects, market research and communication to help Westmount advance its digital presence, market research and tech platforms."

Involved in community

Jonas is a founding board member of the Westmount Soccer Club, which is separate from the city's soccer program. He is also an active board member of the St. Leon School Foundation involved in creating new community activities, fundraising and establishing formal parameters for its year-to-year use of funds.

He holds a BSc degree from McGill and an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in market research, communications and transactions. These are "elements" of his professional profile that he considers would be very helpful on council. "I can help us get a deep feel for what matters, what priorities to set, what trade-offs to make."

And, back to the main season he is running, he said, is that "I believe I can represent this area well with deep knowledge and empathy."



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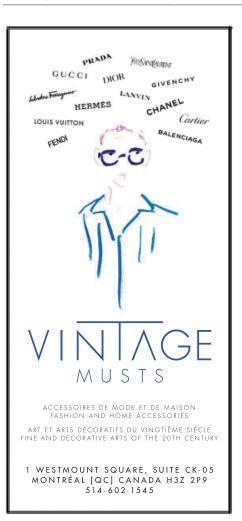


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Swimming to victory

Westmount Dolphins win first place in 21-team ALPS league

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

It was described as a "huge win" when the Westmount Dolphins Aquatics Club won top place August 16 at the finals of the 21-member Association of Lakeshore Pools (ALPs) held at the Pincourt pool.

The volunteer-run program took home the John Pratt Swimming Finals Trophy for the second consecutive year, as well as the trophy for the 10-and-under age cat-

"It was a perfect day to cap off an outstanding season," said Michèle Lefaivre, a resident of Bruce Ave. and president of the Dolphins' volunteer nine-member parentrun executive. "A special shout-out goes to our newly recreated artistic swimming team, who made a splash in their first season after a break by placing sixth at the finals for this section August 14.

"I would confidently argue that this season we have reached new heights," she added. "We had a record-breaking 184 swimmers registered with the team. Many were newcomers."

Since 1993, the Westmount Dolphins

has offered summer aquatics programs run entirely by parent-volunteers.

Based at the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) pool, the Dolphins program provides ages 5 to 17 with an opportunity to develop skills in one or all of the four aquatic disciplines: competitive swimming, water polo, diving and artistic swimming. The program runs from June to mid-August, training at the WRC pool in the early morning and participating in Wednesday-night meets.

"It is always amazing to see any organization from Westmount win in their respective sport," said Andrew Maislin, the city's division head, operations and sports facilities. "The Dolphins organization works tirelessly to deliver a quality activity to the community and is always striving to do better."

He told the *Independent* August 20 that this year had been one of the "best organized operations I have seen. Strong coaches, strong work ethic and dedication from the committee, coaches, swimmers and parents." He said he "looked forward to working with them in the future."

Salon Olivier & Gabriele walks against ovarian cancer



The staff at Salon Olivier & Gabriele is raising money and walking on September 7 to combat ovarian cancer. The hair salon is on St. Catherine east of Greene. "The group is named 'Beau sourire' after our co-worker Marisa who lost the battle to ovarian cancer," said spokesperson Rosanna Gauthier. "It is our 10th year this year walking for the cause." Photo courtesy of Salon Olivier & Gabriele

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City's Action Plan includes local access guide

Council adopts accessibility goals for 2025, looks back and ahead

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city's 2025 Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities was adopted by city council August 4 identifying new needs or "obstacles" and those ongoing from previous years such as wider sidewalks and park paths or replacing elevators in city buildings.

Among obstacles and measures identified by various departments over the years, the report deals with those that include easier access for people pushing baby carriages or experiencing temporary mobility challenges (see also March 21, 2023, p. 4).

Ranging in size and expense, one objective "aimed at fall 2025," is for the city's Urban Planning department to "plan a redesign of the public space that meets universal criteria in the [proposed] Southeast Special Planning program" currently being considered by council.

Another, for example, is replacing a computer keyboard for use by the public at the library with larger letters for use by those needing easier visual access.

One of the "successes" identified as met



in 2024 was the installation of a new ground-level entrance to Westmount Public Library (as inaugurated October 18, 2024) and many smaller ones such as the ■The basement entrance to the Westmount Public Library on August 25. It was opened October 18 of last year in conjunction with a new makerspace (see October 22, 2024, p.1). The scaffolding appears to be for roof work.

ongoing accessibility of playground equipment.

The Action Plan is required yearly by Quebec as part of the Office des personnes handicapées du Québec (OPHQ) for municipalities of more than 15,000 residents.

The Westmount plan, however, adds an "Access Guide" to accessibility of many commercial locations such as banks, restaurants and other facilities. This stemmed from a survey initiated many years ago by the city's then Healthy City Project as reported by the Independent (see March 27, 2016, p. 1).

The 2025 Westmount Access Plan is described on the city's website as "a collection of ongoing initiatives and plans related to accessibility, development, and urban planning in Westmount" regarding various departments including Public Security and Public Works. It can be accessed on the city's website under "accessibility."



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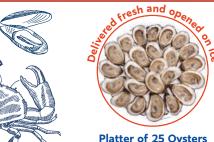


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - SOUTHEAST

LETTER CAMPAIGNERS SHOULD **BE MORE ORIGINAL**

Participants in an organized letter writing campaign should make some effort, aside from offering platitudes and generalities, to make their letters look original. Two letters last week from Desmarais and Grivakis (p. 19) failed to do so, using the same opening and closing sentences. Hardly original or persuasive contributions to the debate.

RICHARD SCHULTZ, CLANDEBOYE AVE.

REMEMBER ANOTHER SOUTHEAST CONTROVERSY

As council comes to decide the developmental fate of the southeastern portion of the city at its September 8 meeting, it might be useful for all to remember another controversial development nearby.

In an earlier issue of this newspaper, the most distinguished voice in Canadian architecture, Phyllis Lambert, exhorted decision-makers to approve a development plan that respected the distinctive achievement of neighbouring Westmount Square (January 28, p. 4).

Lambert's letter to the editor prompted me to review the circumstances out of which that project arose 60 years ago. Per-



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mit me to quote one discussion, which comes from Montréal's Little Mountain/La Petite Montagne: A Portrait of/Un Portrait de Westmount, the valuable history of Westmount architecture by Aline Gubbay and Sally Hooff, published 40 years ago (p. 122–

The most dramatic new addition to Westmount's skyline came with the building of Westmount Square. Work began on this project in 1964. Designed by the great architect Mies Van der Rohe, the concept was controversial from the outset in spite of the distinction of its creator.

The three towers, originally conceived as a group of four, were the first buildings of such height permitted in the district and it was feared the project would inevitably and irreversibly alter the character, scale and way of life of the area. Together, the towers form one of the most striking examples anywhere of the so-called "International style" which Mies helped make famous.

Elegant in concept and execution, the three buildings lie in subtle relationship to one another, forming changing patterns like moving sculpture as the passer-by moves along the streets or looks down from the upper slopes of the mountain.

Nevertheless, the price paid for this work of art in environmental terms has been high. The towers rise like dark punctuation marks along Westmount's eastern boundary, overshadowing the streets and houses in their immediate vicinity. They introduce the dimension of a large-scale city architecture which could overwhelm the human scale of urban building established over the three hundred years of growth in this remarkable but vulnerable municipality of Westmount.

I.S. MacLaren, Grosvenor Ave.

DISTRICT 8 HAS BEEN MAKING SUGGESTIONS FOR AGES...

District 8 has given the city and council many suggestions over the 50 years I have been living here. We have met in person and written letters to that effect. In 2021, a small group of long-time residents opposed to the AGIL plan hit on an idea, which would cost the city nothing but fresh ideas!!

We contacted McGill University's School of Urban Planning and asked if they would/could use the Dorchester-Tupper lots for a graduate student project, within the scope of urban renewal/revitalization. It was thought by the school to be an excellent idea and they undertook it.

We met in person and also followed the students regularly on Zoom until its completion. The project was based on an indepth study of the site-specific ecology, history, demographics (income, education, etc.) and resulted in three different plans for the Dorchester-Tupper lots that were proposed and clearly discussed.

The 90-page final report, in digital form, was transmitted to each member of council and to the city director. We received neither acknowledgment nor feedback. The report was simply ignored or never read.

And now four years later on August 4, Mayor Smith says publicly that if, we, the residents of District 8 come up with some useful ideas, she might consider them!

I wish to know where she and the council have been these four long years!

Honor Robertson, Clandeboye Ave.

A MODEST PROPOSAL*

The city of Westmount is in debt. But it is not without resources. It has some land - the Summit Woods, our jewel in the crown - that can be developed to pay off its debt.

We can settle at once the long-festering dispute between the leashed and the unleashed dogs, and bring Westmount back

into the black. We can pave over the woods and have developers build tall glass towers, perhaps a gated community of exclusive condos for those of the one-percent who like glass-penthouse living. We can pave over the woods and build as much as is necessary to satisfy the density requirements around the not-all-that-distant Snowdon Metro station and we can build sky-high to be in line with the height of the not-so-distant St. Joseph's Oratory.

We can build not just enough to get us out of debt but we can create a large enough tax base to allay the suffering in our southeast sector. On the south side of St. Catherine St. and perhaps with MP Anna Gainey's help to secure some federal funding, we can build low-rise social housing, a clinic and even a needle exchange facility to relieve St. Henri's burden (no nearby schools here). Westmount can share its bounty with the less privileged and serve as a magnet to the homeless, addicted and mentally ill so we will have no trouble satisfying supposed density requirements.

On Tupper and Dorchester, we can have an idyllic new neighbourhood. We can build green, affordable, family-sized, lowrise housing (like in Copenhagen and Helsinki) where the sunlight is not blocked by skyscrapers and the only disputes will be over building an indoor pool or a dog run.

Our city council should have vision and be brave, and make the citizens of Westmount proud.

> LILLIAN FOX, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD./ DISTRICT 8

*Editor's note: For less literary Westmounters, "A Modest Proposal" was the title of an essay by master satirist Jonathan Swift (1667-1745). In it, he proposed that poor people in Ireland sell their babies as food, thereby skewering callous attitudes towards the Irish and, less famously, Bernard Mandeville's The Fable of the Bees, which attempted to show how private vices resulted in public goods. – DP.





Homme Men

Femme Enfants Women Children

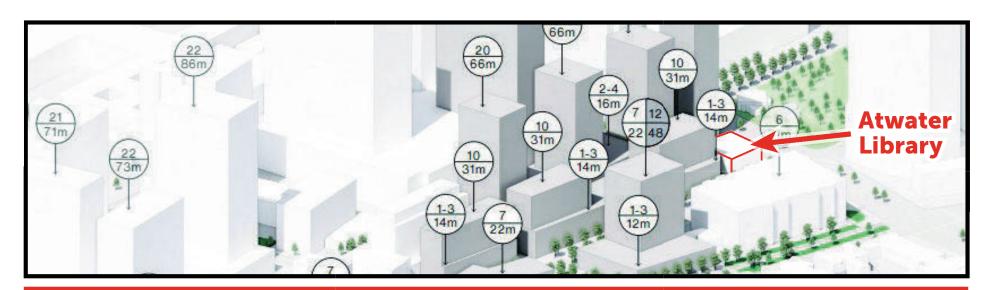
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Is This the Westmount We Want?

Let Citizens Have Their Say on Southeast Redevelopment

On Sept. 8, Westmount is scheduled to adopt the controversial rezoning plan for the southeast sector.

The **Atwater Library and Computer Centre** joins its voice to a chorus of citizens and experts demanding that City Council delay this important decision until after the Nov. 2 municipal election.

- We all agree Westmount's southeast sector needs revitalization. But the current redevelopment plan, calling for a forest of high-rises rising 20 to 29 storeys at Ste-Catherine St. W. and Atwater Ave., is not the answer. Do we really want a replica of the skyscrapers on the former Montreal Children's Hospital site?
- The redevelopment plan is not ready for adoption. Where are greenery, affordability, families, community, livability, forward thinking and creativity? Where is the cost-benefits analysis taxpayers have a right to expect? Rather than a developer-driven project, Westmounters deserve one we can be proud of for generations to come.

We call on City Council to leave this crucial decision to the next administration. We urge Westmounters to ask their local councillors to hold off on this controversial plan until citizens have spoken in the Nov. 2 election.



to sign our petition.

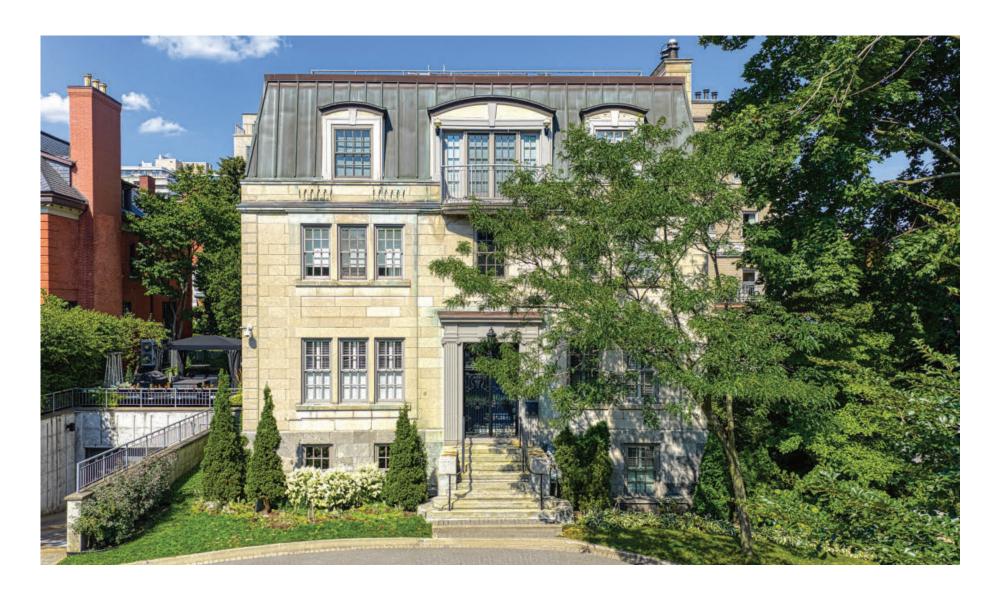


The Atwater Library and Computer Centre – entirely located in Westmount – is a National Historic Site and a hub of English-language community life. The 20-storey tower proposed for the corner of Ste-Catherine would dwarf and diminish this heritage gem that anchors the eastern boundary of Westmount.

"Sadly, the current planning proposal ignores the history and heritage status of the Atwater Library as well as its longstanding support of community activity. The Library is an important heritage gateway to the city and merits significant and appropriate spatial and programmatic attention."

 Peter Jacobs, Westmount resident, Emeritus Professor of Landscape Architecture, Université de Montréal

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Real Estate ANDY DODGE

Note: The following article relates to offers to purchase Westmount residential dwellings that were reported by local real estate agents as having been accepted in July 2025. Because they are not final registered sales, the addresses cannot be made public, but give a good idea of current trends in local real estate activity. The graph at right offers a picture of these trends over time.

July is usually one of the weakest months to sell houses in Westmount, but not so this year. Agents posted 16 one- and twofamily dwelling sales in July (including two duplexes), and added another four to the June list, making that month's 16 sales the busiest June since 2017; this year was the busiest July since 2001.

"Busy," of course, is supposed to help prices: the 16 sales in June included nine at or over \$2 million and three over \$3 million, but in July there were only six over \$2 million, three of those over \$3 million, including one that brought \$4 million and another almost \$7 million.

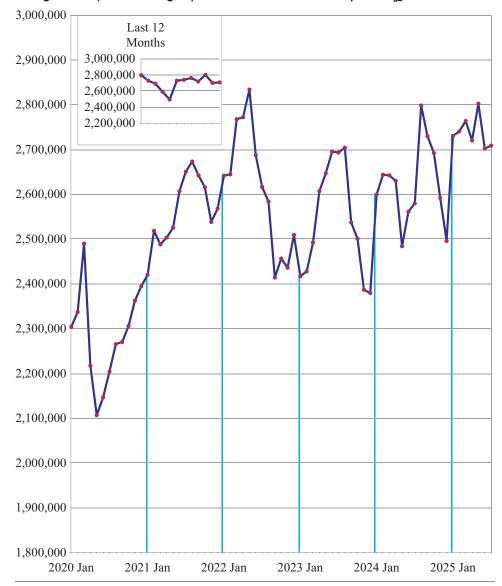
Valuations on low side

Comparing the prices to their respective municipal valuations, on the other hand, showed that buyers are still wary about paying too much for the local fare. The total price of the 16 July transactions was a mere four percent above the total tax assessment; 10 of them were for less than valuation and the highest-priced property also boasted the highest mark-up over valuation, at 44 percent.

When the extreme prices and mark-ups are removed, the figure dips to -1.2 percent, just about the same level as it has been at through most of this calendar year. At the lower end of the chart, one July sale was for less than \$1 million, making it the fourth sale this year to be priced so low, the

July sales: Volume strong, prices mixed

Average adjusted price for 'typical' Westmount house, by month, January 2020 to July 2025, based on accepted offer dates



same number as all of last year.

Condos

In June, the average price of condominiums was seriously distorted by one \$3,300,000 sale at 1 Wood Ave. The same can be said about a \$4,300,000 sale in the same building in July. Looking at the entire second quarter (April-June) of 2025, the average of 11 condo sales stayed below \$1 million; with only four sales in July to count in the third quarter so far, the average is \$1,634,750, but the median cuts that in half, to \$825,000, with the lowest of the four prices at \$589,000 for a small unit on York St.

Co-operative apartments are becoming more popular this year, with 11 sales to report in 2025 (though no sales in July and only one in June). While seven of the 11 were in either 2 or 3 Westmount Square, units were selling at 388 Olivier Ave., 376 Redfern Ave. and 4444 Sherbrooke St.

Most triplexes in Westmount have now been divided as condos or co-ops, but two entire buildings have sold so far this year, one in March on St. Antoine St. and one (in May, just posted) on Thornhill Ave.

Adjacently...

The market has been much slower in the adjacent-Westmount districts, with four recent house sales in the southern Côte des Neiges district but only one each in the areas just east of Westmount and in the Square Mile section of Montreal, nothing recent in eastern NDG.

Five more houses were added to Westmount's "rented" list; at last report there were 18 houses looking for tenants, with rates from \$4,500 to \$25,000 per month.

The number of houses for sale at last report had dropped to 132 from 146 in mid-July, with 10 fewer in the \$1-million to \$2million price category.

Ruth Stalker Antiques



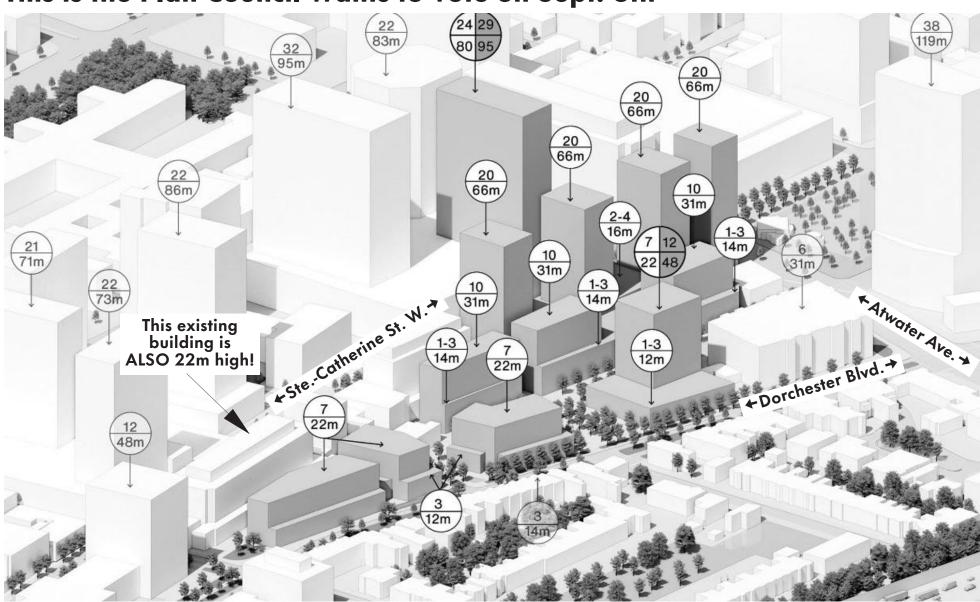
Jamie and Alison Stalker 514 931-0822 alison.stalker@bellnet.ca

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We Are the Residents of Westmount's Southeast

We WANT Change. We WANT Revitalization. But we want it done RIGHT. We're NOT Anti-Growth. We're NOT Anti-Modernization. We are PRO-Community.

This is the Plan Council Wants to Vote on Sept. 8th



A Forest of High-Rises – Does this look like Westmount to YOU?

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Police Report

Police investigating break-in at Korean consular residence

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Investigators at the Montreal police's Station 12 on Stanton St. are scrutinizing images taken by security cameras at a vacant house on Summit Circle formerly occupied by the consul general for the Republic of Korea following a break-in overnight last month.

According to a spokesperson for Station 12, the home had been empty since June 30 when the country's consular representative in Montreal moved out, leaving it vacant until the arrival of a new consul general.

A cleaning crew that arrived on July 16 to prepare the dwelling for the new occupant discovered a broken ground-floor window, said Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit.

The Montreal police's forensics experts, who do on-scene investigation for finger-prints, DNA and other evidence, were scheduled last week to visit the residence and check for clues around the window area, added Yigit.

Although the intruders managed to get in, nothing was stolen "because there was nothing there to steal," added Yigit, noting there was furniture in the dwelling "but no objects of value," he said.

Pickpocketting under investigation

In an update on an ongoing investigation of a pickpocketing problem that has impacted retailers for months in Westmount's Vic village, staff at Station 12 are reporting progress in uncovering the identity of "distraction thieves" who were specifically targeting customers at the Metro supermarket.

According to Cst. Yigit, a customer who was in the Metro store on July 4 witnessed two suspects who seemed to be attempting to distract another client. The witness trailed the suspects out and jotted down the licence plate number of a car they got into.

"He found them suspicious and followed them outside where he wrote down the licence plate of the vehicle," Yigit said. "So, we now have a licence plate and it's an ongoing investigation."

According to some incident reports issued by Station 12 last spring, a woman who was sitting in a Victoria Ave. café around 5 pm on March 28 had her wallet snatched out of her purse while she was having a cup of coffee.

When Station 12 investigators examined captured security video taken inside the café, they saw a couple sit down at a table next to her, after which a heavyset female suspect was seen surreptitiously withdrawing a wallet from the victim's purse.

Later on that same day, according to a complaint filed by the victim, there was at least one attempt to make a purchase with the stolen banking and credit cards, although it was declined by the victim's financial institution before the transaction could be processed.

In another similar incident, near the corner of Sherbrooke St. and Victoria Ave., a pickpocket managed to steal a \$20 bill out of the purse of a female victim on April 2 around 1:30 in the afternoon.

This followed at least one previously reported pickpocketing incident at the Metro store, where a retiree's wallet and smartphone were stolen from her purse by a suspect who distracted her briefly under the guise of making conversation.







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THE SOUTH SHORE



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From left, front row: artist Léa Vivot, statue owner Claudine Levy and Mayor Christina Smith; back row: Frédérique El Kaim and Samuel El Kaim, the owner's children, with the statue on September 28, 2022. It had been unveiled on April 11 of that year.

'Mother and Child', cont'd from p. 1

made the natural inference from the text of the story that the city did not have insurance covering this incident.

We will work to do better.

*

The statue is formally called "La mère et l'enfant" and it was sculpted by Léa Vivot. It was on long-term loan to the city from owner Claudine Levy (see April 19, 2022, p. 12, October 4, 2022, p. 14).

It was stolen in November of last year (December 10, 2024, p. 23).



Arthur Younanian

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Saturday, September 6, 2025

Races begin at 9:00 a.m.

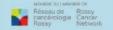
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Merlin and Floki, looking for loving homes



Westmount A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

Striking Merlin and Floki are similar in looks due to their common breed, coton de Tuléar, but unique in personalities by their sweet hearts.

Merlin is a senior with a strong personality that keeps him in fun walkies and sweet cuddles in his thirteenth year. He is a friendly fellow who notices quite a lot. Yes, I always wonder how an older dog who should not have sharp hearing or perfect sight belies this concept by reacting to the doorbell and anyone entering the room! Even when curled up or being snuggled like a baby, he misses nothing. Merlin is a great friend to all and enjoys the company of older children. He enjoys his walks, play-



Merlin and Floki are available for adoption separately or together, for your consideration.

They are both very healthy, up to date with their inoculations, neutered and microchipped.

Please do not hesitate to enquire about Merlin and Floki at the Gerdy's Rescues & Adoption email info@gerdysrescue.org and by going to the rescue's website www. gerdysrescue.org, and filling out an application form at the link gerdysrescue.org/ gerdys-adoption-form/ to start your conversation about adoption in your hearts and in your family.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



ing fetch and has used pee pads in the past.



Young Tiggy Panda Bear



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

So cute and affectionate, Tiggy Panda Bear is waiting for a family to share love with as he is now at the Montreal SPCA

Adorable with his tabby mask and cap, his huge green eyes follow everything for the opportunity to play. A young cuddle bug, Tiggy Panda Bear is two years old, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped.

Please search for the Montreal SPCA website at www.spca.com, then scroll to his information page by his identification number, 200074611.

You can then make plans to visit Tiggy at the cattery and meet with coordinators to discuss adopting him. They are open every day, from Monday to Friday from 3 pm to 8 pm, with 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.

Just a reminder to pack your cat carrier if you have one. No worries if you need one, though, as you can choose a model from the great selection at the shelter's inhouse boutique. They also stock foods, accessories and toys for all pets.

Tiggy is a sweet little fellow. Please consider bringing him home. He would be a great buddy to all in your family.

Let's make animals part of Quebec's emergency plans

I received this email appeal from the Montreal SPCA first thing Saturday morning, and I started sharing with everyone I know who has a pet. Now I am sharing with you so you can join in and add your voice in turn as well.

I was a bit shocked that this needed to be addressed to start with, but, if there is a lack and there is, let there be restructuring and implementation through the updating of our legislation.

To this effect, the Montreal SPCA is presenting a request for a legislative update to ensure that the Quebec government includes animals in emergency management plans. Our companions, our animals, are often overlooked in times of cri-



sis, left out of provincial emergency planning and response frameworks, to be left to the goodwill of municipal authorities, which are under no obligation to include animals in their evacuation or relief plans.

So, please join us in adding your signatures and voices to the letter prepared by the SPCA to the Quebec minister of Public Security as a catalyst for change. Through its website at www.spca.com, you can link to the program around this project and its group appeal.

After all, would you leave your beloved pets behind in case of emergency? Or, worse, be forced to leave them behind?

Your neighbour, Lysanne



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Social Notes VERONICA REDGRAVE

Having covered black-tie galas for many years, I don't think I've ever used the adjective "epic." However, it well describes the recent Bal des Tannants for The Children's.

(Habitués are used to the name of this Children's Hospital event ("Brat's Ball"), but for people new to the topic, organizers chose the name "because a bratty kid is a healthy kid.")

The 24th annual gala was a super success. Themed "Elegant with a dash of mischief," the event brought out glamour with a "bratty" twist. Some ladies paired plastic tiaras with couture gowns. Glow-in-thedark bowties shone on bespoke tuxedos.

Ball honorary co-presidents were Abe Adham, managing director and head Quebec investment banking, chair, Quebec market - TD Bank Group; Deep Khosla, co-head Canadian corporate and investment banking, Bank of America Merrill Lynch; and Eve Laurier, vp communications, marketing and public affairs, Bombardier.

Ball committee members were Cather-

Children's hosts epic Bal des Tannants



Ben Mulroney, Ève Laurier, Deep Khosla, Abe Adham, Norman Hébert, Renée Vézina, Dr. Lucie Opatrny and Jamie Silver.

ine Beaudoin, Véronique Black, Christine Boivin, Jennifer Cosgrove, Juliana Lima-Arsenault, Jamie Silver and Audrey Vallières.

Ben Mulroney acted as emcee. American Idol contestant Olivier Bergeron drove all the way from his hometown in northern New Brunswick to sing at the ball - and wowed the crowd.

Noted guests included The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation's president Renée Vézina; board chair Norman Hébert, executive chair Park Avenue Group Inc.; and Kim Fraser, vp marketing, communications and community rela-

Amidst the glamorous guests were Carole and Yves Fortier, honorary chair of The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation campaign cabinet; as well as Lucie Opatrny, president, McGill University Health Centre; Sharon Stern, Heidi Doctor, Alexandra MacBain, Kim Thomassin, Jocelyn Lefebvre, Isabelle Marcoux and Philippe Olivier.

Held at Starlink Aviation, where an airplane continued on p. 18





Marie-Claude Baribeau, Véronique Black, Sacha Haque, Juliana Lima-Arsenault, Deep Khosla, Sharon Stern, Jamie Silver, Christine Jamie Silver, Kim Fraser, Jennifer Cosgrove and Catherine Boivin, Heidi Doctor, Alexandra MacBain, Alessia Di Giorgio and Melissa Mastrogiuseppe.



Beaudoin.

Social notes, cont'd from p. 17

hangar was magically transformed into a glittering ballroom, the ball raised \$1,609,581. Proceeds go to The Montreal Children's Hospital's Healthy Kids Fund, working to give the hospital the means and flexibility to purchase urgently needed equipment, improve patient care, and advance life-changing pediatric research.

Apologies for spelling Bunny Berke's name incorrectly last week.

►Line Boivin, Guy Carbonneau, Mylene Gagnon, Marc Laflamme, Marie-Sophie Taillefer, Phil Morin, Marlene Castonguay, Dary Laflamme, France-Margaret Bélanger, Dr. Lucie Opatrny and Vincent Damphousse.



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Temple works to go green with geothermal climate control system

BY JENNIFER BALL

Work has begun at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom to address its aging infrastructure needs by installing a geothermal climate control system. Temple is located on Sherbrooke between Wood Ave. and Elm Ave.

In a press release dated June 16, senior rabbi Lisa Grushcow said, "Care for the planet is a Jewish value...

"As a synagogue, we are committed to reducing our footprint and increasing our impact when it comes to the environ-

"Another strong Jewish value is our commitment to future generations. By taking these steps, we are ensuring that our building and community will continue to thrive and be a welcoming spiritual home for many years to come."

The new geothermal system draws heat from the ground, offering long-term predictability and minimal maintenance. The system is expected to reduce operating costs by at least \$40,000 annually.

Funding, in part, came from an interest-free loan from the Jewish environmental organization Adamah ("planet" or

Fall activities, cont'd from p. 1

egory are babies on the move, baby-sitting, basketball, ballet, break dance, ballet, creative writing and skating instruction.

Courses for adults include badminton. choir, karate, pickleball, indoor soccer, skating, yoga, ballet, ballroom and belly dance, plus some courses geared to seniors such as gentle yoga.

Among the many hockey programs are the categories of: Senior (over 18), Executive A and B, Competitive Old Timers, men's and women's recreational play, coed instructional and Old Timers.



Drilling the first well for Temple's geothermal climate control system on July 14.

"earth" in Hebrew).

Marmott Energies, a Quebec-based leader in geothermal systems, is undertaking the work.

Drilling on the first well commenced the week of July 7 and project is expected to be completed within the next 12 to 18



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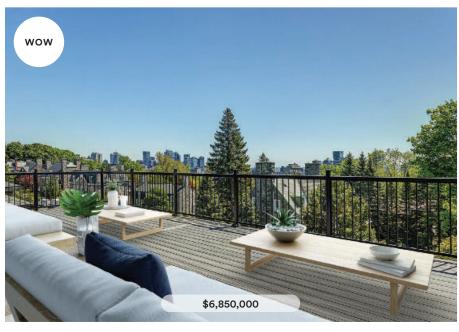
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Westmount 30 SUNNYSIDE AV.





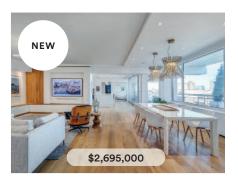


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