

City's first-ever Seniors' Fair attracts an estimated 300

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Councillor Paul Levine opened the city's first-ever Seniors' Fair to a packed room of some 300 at Victoria Hall September 30 where the attendees were already crowding

around the many kiosks eager to learn about what they offered.

It was believed to be the first time so much information was centralized.

The exhibitors ranged from a quilting guild and other leisure-time activities to various emergency and long-term care services.

Approximately 20 exhibits

The 20-some exhibits included those not only from the city's own services such as the library and from the Montreal agglomeration such as fire and police, but also from many non-governmental organizations and groups.

These included Lifeline Medical Alert, Nova Home Care, the Westmount YMCA, the Prostate Cancer Support Group, Lianas Services, Simply Won-
derful catering, Centre *continued on p. 8*



The city of Westmount's Seniors' Fair on September 30 organizers, from left: Rachel Conover of Community Events, Public Security assistant director Kimberley Colquhoun and Emily Gamble of Community Events.

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InfoWestmount, p. 16

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Already spent by city: \$227,639

Another \$46,000 approved in city's 10-year lawsuit against CPR

LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council September 9 added close to \$46,000 to continue long-standing legal proceedings in an ongoing legal battle in which Westmount and the Montreal transit commission (STM) are arguing the Canadian Pacific Railway contributed to contamination of the site where Home Depot is now located (see story May 10,

2016, p. 1).

This is where a city snow melter had initially been located on land used by Hydro Westmount and Public Works.

"The city has spent \$227,638.57 since June 2016 when [the legal] proceedings began," Councillor Kathleen Kez said after the council meeting. The city also continues to be represented
by the legal firm of *continued on p. 5*



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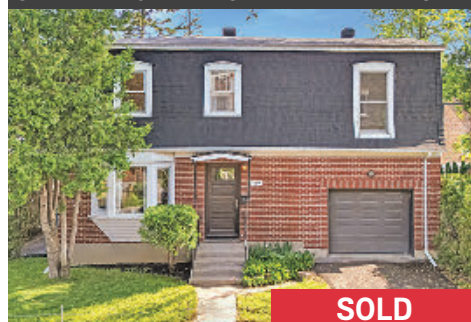
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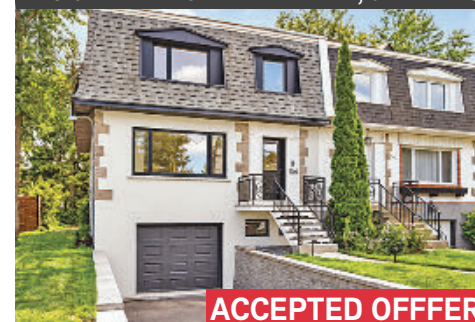
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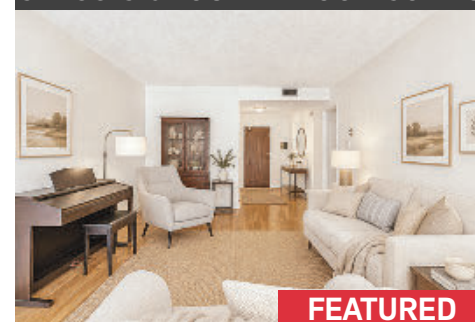
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Two-car accident sends man to hospital at construction site

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A two-car accident September 29 on St. Catherine near Lansdowne sent a 68-year-old man to hospital suffering pain in the chest from hitting the steering wheel, Public Security officials said.

The impact occurred about 10:32 am where construction work had reduced traffic to one side.

A Hyundai sustained heavy damage to the front end, could not be driven and had to be towed away.

The other car, described as a grey BMW, also sustained damage to the front end but was “driveable.”

The area was closed to traffic and Public Security attended to the victim while await-

ing arrival of Urgences Santé, the fire department and police. The man was transported to hospital.

Octogenarian falls on Sherbrooke

An 83-year-old Westmount woman fell September 27 at 3:54 pm at Sherbrooke and Melville, Public Security officials said. Passers-by were attending to her when officers arrived.

Reported to have sustained facial injuries and confusion, the resident of Sherbrooke was given first aid while awaiting an ambulance and transportation to the nearby Royal Victoria Hospital at the Glen site.



Sherbrooke and Melville on October 2.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



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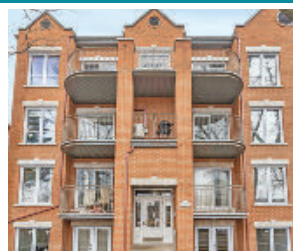
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Baby loses shoe!



As seen on Victoria Ave. above de Maisonneuve September 29.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



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No evidence presented – Substantive hearing set for Oct. 21-23

Admissibility of recording takes centre stage at procedural hearing in mayor's ethics case

By DAVID PRICE

Nothing much has been decided in Mayor Michael Stern's ethics allegation case, but the issues and timing are coming into focus. We still don't know what he is alleged to have said and done, nor what he says he said and did, nor how each side is characterizing those things.

A complicated preliminary hearing took place September 16 regarding the case. The allegations – which are being heard before the Quebec Municipal Commission ("CMQ" from its French initials) – are regulatory in nature. They concern events at closed-door committee meetings between him and city employees April 8, 9 and May 22 (see August 11, p. 1 for more coverage).

The hearing took place entirely in French. The *Independent* obtained an audio recording of it from the CMQ, although a public Zoom video had been available live.

At issue at the hearing was the admissibility as evidence of the second portion of a recording capturing a conversation between Stern and councillors Jeff Shamie and Paul Levine, after other people have left the room. The *Independent* infers that these other people are municipal employees and that the meeting in question was that of May 22, which is the only one described by the prosecutors' original July 13 citation as one where two city council-

lors were present.

No mention was made regarding whether the second portion of the May 22 meeting was taped intentionally or by happenstance.

No decision on tape until hearing in mid-October

In the first minutes of the hearing, the tribunal's judge mused that it might be premature, given that the recording had not been filed by the prosecutors and was not in her *dossier*. In the end, a decision about it was indeed delayed.

The earlier portion of the tape, when city employees were still present, is not being challenged as evidence and was described by the prosecutors as a recording of "a work meeting" using "Teams" – presumably the Microsoft Teams conferencing software – and as "the best proof" in the *dossier* (timestamp 21:01).

No content of the recording was quoted during the hearing, nor was it played.

The mayor's lawyer, Frédéric Legendre of the Fasken law firm, contended that the prosecutors of the Direction des enquêtes et des poursuites en intégrité municipale (DEPM) "should never have possessed" the second part of the tape and that formally excluding it was important, unless they agreed not to use it.

The prosecutors held firm on their right to wait until October 2 to divulge all the evidence that they would in fact use at the substantive hearing, as per a trial schedule set on July 29.

The lawyers and judge had a complicated discussion about this issue, whether eventual evidence would be presented by affidavit or live witnesses, the prosecutors' duty to divulge in a timely and continuous manner, the use of translators at future hearings and scheduling.

The upshot was the following schedule:

- October 2: deadline for the prosecutors to present which evidence they will use at the substantive hearing,
- October 13: a hearing on the admissibility of the contested portion of the tape, in the event that the prosecutors want to use it,
- October 21-23: the likely dates of the substantive hearing on the actual allegations against Stern, with a possibility of starting October 20 depending on events.

An eventual decision by the judge would likely be issued after all of these dates.

Lawsuit, cont'd from p. 1

Irving Mitchell Kalichman (IMK)

While a decontamination process had been initiated in 1992, it was ultimately taken over by Transport Québec in exchange for the expropriation of Westmount land for the Turcot/Autoroute 136 project (see story November 24, 2015, p. 1).

Interestingly, the city's director general during earlier stages of the dispute had been Duncan Campbell before his retirement from the city. At the same September 9 meeting, Campbell was named by city council as temporary acting director general in the absence of current DG Julie Mandeville (see story September 15, p. 2).

Indeed, in our February 25, 2014 issue (p. 5), we wrote: "It was even suggested the contaminants could have come from the Glen rail yards, now the site of the super-hospital, a theory held by some, including city director general Duncan Campbell."

See photos beginning at top left.

April 7, 2018

The destruction of the original 136/720 overpass over Glen Rd. begins.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON

February 2014

October 2, 2026

PHOTO: L. SWEENEY

When this overpass over the Glen Rd. for Autoroute 136 (the former 720) was re-built beginning in April 2018, it disturbed an arrangement that had existed since 1992 whereby Westmount and the Société de transport de Montréal (STM) shared the costs of pumping hydrocarbons out of the ground on or near the boundary between Hydro Westmount's facility (the parking of which is visible at left in the middle photo) and the STM's (where the Home Depot now is, part of whose parking lot is visible in the bottom photo). The inset photo shows the pumping *cabane*, whose work had to be accelerated because it had to be dismantled to make room for the new version of the highway. It was located in the northwest corner of the Home Depot lot, i.e. the part visible in the present-day picture. According to the *Independent's* coverage, \$4 to \$5 million had been spent by the city by early 2014. The cost of the final pumping work was taken over by the province's ministry of Transport because it needed a bit of Westmount's land for the refurbished 136/720.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANK YOU FOR METCALFE AVE. CHANGES – THEY WORK

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the city and its teams for implementing the recent traffic-calming measures, particularly along Metcalfe Ave.

The impact is already evident: vehicle speeds have decreased, visibility has improved and compliance with stop signs has increased significantly. We have observed that drop-offs at school are much smoother with fewer U-turns and less honking.

Having witnessed and heard of numerous incidents in the area, we believe it was clearly time for meaningful action to improve safety in our community. We are grateful to the city for recognizing the need for change and taking concrete steps including a thorough due diligence assessment to address these concerns.

We recognize that, as with any change, there will be different opinions. We wanted to share our experience: for our families, the changes have been overwhelmingly positive. The painted markings and traffic-calming features serve as a clear visual reminder for everyone to slow down and pay attention.

Yes, our drive home may take a little longer now – but we believe that is a small price to pay for a safer neighbourhood. We are happy to make that trade-off for the benefit of pedestrians, cyclists, children and drivers alike.

MICHELLE LITTLE, METCALFE AVE. AND
JULIE BERGERON, METCALFE AVE.

REGULATION OF PROVINCIAL CANDIDATES’ SIGNS COVERED BY MORE THAN ELECTION ACT

The article “The city says these signs are legal” (September 22, p. 6) explains the city clerk’s restrictive view of the Elections Act as a finite set of rules. The reality – and the long-standing practice – is more complex.

The Elections Act rule is designed to preclude blanket bans on electoral signs, which some municipalities attempted to enforce in the past. It is not, however, a *carte blanche* to place signs anywhere one wants. There are many restrictions, most of which are not contained in the Elections Act.

The city clerk’s logic would allow political parties to place an electoral sign, even dozens or hundreds of such signs, on our soccer fields, tennis courts, floating on platforms in the lagoon or the swimming pool, suspended from a municipal power line or affixed to the kids’ zip-line or swings.

None of these scenarios, of course, can be found anywhere in the Elections Act, but each is unquestionably offside. The clerk’s logic also ignores decades of practice, Elections Quebec’s own statements and the purposive rule of statutory interpretation (which is beyond the scope of a letter to the editor).

Why are these situations not mentioned in the Elections Act? Because the signage rules in the Elections Act are general rules. They do not purport to regulate every possible scenario.

That is why Elections Quebec has always recognized the primacy of the ministry of Transport’s road safety rules (nowhere mentioned in the Elections Act*).

Elections Quebec explicitly defers to the ministry’s detailed rules regarding signage and road safety and to municipalities for specifically local conditions, which are as diverse and varied as Quebec’s municipalities. Elections Quebec made that explicit in a 2022 press release (“*la réglementation municipale s’applique*”).

Most of these detailed rules are not mentioned anywhere in the Elections Act or its regulations. Elections Quebec itself has enumerated detailed restrictions on signage that cannot be found in the Elections Act.

All of this is overwhelming evidence that the Elections Act provisions cited by the city clerk are not a finite universe of rules; not the last word on electoral signage. They are the starting point for more detailed elaborations and restrictions, including our by-laws and overarching safety rules.

Our city clerk clearly does not want to cross swords with any political party during an election. Unless things get completely out of hand, that is wise, even if the legal reasoning underpinning that decision is flawed.

There is enough other more important work for our city clerk to tackle to make enduring improvements for Westmount residents.

PETER F. HOFFMANN,
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD. WEST

***Editor’s note:** Perhaps not explicitly, but 259.3 does say: “Election posters and billboards must be placed so as not to hinder vehicular or pedestrian traffic, interfere visually with road signs or compromise road safety or public security.” – DP.

WHY NOT SAVE ENVIRONMENT, AND MONEY?

I agree with Virginia Elliott’s letter (“Shoddy management leading to greenhouses’ slated demolition,” September 22, p. 7) concerning the city’s decision to tear down part of Westmount’s greenhouse complex. A large amount of money – \$125,545 – is being spent to demolish greenhouse sections that are actually an important part of Westmount’s history.

I also agree with the good sense of Richard Dufour’s letter last week (p. 6) on the city’s environmentally backward steps concerning a relaxation of restrictions on gasoline-powered leaf blowers and a restoration of weekly garbage collection instead of the bi-weekly schedule.

We are living through the effects on the climate of our treatment of the environment. Why add to the problems?

And these environmental decisions give us yet another example of council’s willingness to spend money unnecessarily, in the case of the garbage pick-up: \$100,000 [annually].

The right decision would be to save the money, and the environment too.

MARILYNN GILLIES, MELVILLE AVE.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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BIXI station gone



According to its website, on October 1, the city removed the BIXI station that had been at Westmount Ave. and Roslyn since August 7. It was not popular with its immediate neighbours. This photo is from October 3.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Police Report

There were three car thefts last week in Westmount

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Police at Station 12 on Stanton St. are reporting the theft of three vehicles in Westmount last week.

During the early morning hours of September 25, a Lexus GX 550 luxury SUV was stolen near Gordon Crescent in upper Westmount.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit, security cameras outside the owner's home captured images around 1:20 am of three suspects.

They arrived in their own vehicle while dressed in black, approached the targeted car, then left with the target vehicle after five minutes.

As the theft took place within a short space of time and there were no signs the car was broken into, the police are assuming a remote electronic means was used to bypass the vehicle's security and engine

ignition systems.

Honda CR-V stolen

Sometime overnight between September 24-25, a Honda CR-V compact SUV was stolen from a parking spot near the corner of Abbott Ave. and St. Catherine St. in lower Westmount.

According to Cst. Yigit, investigators at Station 12 were still verifying late last week whether any images of the incident were recorded by nearby security cameras.

Audi A4 stolen

Finally, on September 30 in broad daylight, an Audi A4 luxury compact executive car parked on Tupper St. not far from Westmount's eastern limits at Atwater Ave. was stolen.

According to a complaint filed by the owner who went to Station 12 to make a report, the vehicle was parked around 3:30 pm while she went to a medical appoint-

ment.

But by the time her appointment was over at 5:30, it was gone. "When she came

back, the car was no longer there," said Yigit.



The Honda CR-V is the third most stolen car model in Canada, according to the 2024 information of the Equité Association insurance industry fraud and crime group. There is evidence of that "popularity" locally, including this week and when city councillor Matt Aronson had his CR-V stolen (and recovered) twice, namely during the municipal election of 2021 and the next year (see May 3, 2022, p. 3). He is pictured above in that time period.

PHOTO COURTESY OF M. ARONSON.

Facing six charges

Temple arson defendant to appear in court October 16

BY JENNIFER BALL

A 38-year-old man will appear at the Montreal courthouse on October 16 to face numerous charges related to attempted arson at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom.

On June 5, an incendiary object was thrown at Temple, which – police investigators said in a June 6 statement – was classified as "arson" not a "hate-crime" (see June 9, p. 1).

Temple is located at 4100 Sherbrooke, corner of Wood Ave., and the Centre de la Petite Enfance Narnia is located in the same building. It is a non-denominational

daycare for children aged 18 months to 5 years.

According to a spokesperson for the director of criminal and penal prosecutions (DPPC), who spoke to the *Independent* on September 25, defendant Steven Luu will be appearing at the Montreal courthouse on October 16.

The *Independent* obtained court documents from the Montreal courthouse on October 1 that indicated that Luu faces six charges including arson, possessing incendiary materials, using an explosive substance and possessing a weapon for a dangerous purpose.

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Photo: Cannon in Westmount Park, circa 1960, WHA Archives

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Attendees at the city's September 30 Seniors' Fair at Victoria Hall gather information including, at top left, fire-prevention tips from Montreal fire department agents.

PHOTOS: LAUREEN SWEENEY.

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Seniors' fair, cont'd from p. 1

Greene, the Dramatis Personae theatre group and the Atwater Library.
“We need to think about accessibility, mobility, housing, healthcare, isolation, caregivers and how our city’s services and infrastructure respond to changing needs,” Councillor Levine said in opening the event.

28 percent of Westmount is over 65

“More than 28 percent of our residents are now 65 or older,” he said. “That is why for the first time in Westmount’s history, we created the role of commissioner for seniors,” which he holds.
“I’m a senior, too, and a Contactivity volunteer,” he shared.
Organized by the city’s Rachel Conover and Emily Gamble of Community Events and Public Security’s assistant director Kimberley Colquhoun, the event’s opening also featured a request to attendees from Levine.

Cllr Levine: What is working?

“Tell us what is working. Tell us what isn’t. Tell us what you need. And tell us what you think we could be doing better... so that your experiences and priorities can help us shape what we do next.”

Is Doc Brown in town?



As seen on Claremont Ave. near Windsor Ave. September 29. The DMC DeLorean in the 1985 time-travel movie *Back to the Future* had the same licence plate.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



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BANQUE NATIONALE



City of Westmount TPs itself?



“It appears the city is fixing the streets with tar and toilet paper. Single ply?! As seen today on Bruce and Columbia. Very bizarre and unsightly,” wrote reader Anne-Marie Caron October 1 when she sent the photo at left. The *Independent* had already noticed the same type of repair job at Prince Albert and York on September 29, right, and confirmed that the covering was either toilet paper or something very much like it. At least one other spot was similarly repaired, namely Metcalfe above St. Catherine St. See p.11 for a follow-up photo.

PHOTO COURTESY OF A-M CARON (LEFT) AND BY INDEPENDENT.



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City's 'TP' disappears after light rain



As seen on p. 10, the city recently covered repair work on road cracks with toilet paper-like covering. It only took some light rain at nightfall October 1 to make most of it disappear. The intersection at Prince Albert and York is pictured here the afternoon of October 2 when heavier rain that morning had also had an effect. Indeed, everything happened as predicted by the city September 25 on its website: "Following completion of the crack-filling work, the contractor will apply a biodegradable tissue-like paper over the filled cracks. This temporary material will naturally biodegrade within a short period of time."

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

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Tennis Bracelet Girls celebrate three years with pink champagne



Social Notes
VERONICA REDGRAVE

It was a who-what-wear afternoon as Tennis Bracelet Girls (TBG) Jaclyn Griner and Kelly Griner celebrated their three-year anniversary.

Greeting one and all at Gorski on Greene Ave., the sisters had invited Chris from Adrenaline to pierce ears for free, the better to wear a few more sparkles.

One little shopper was thrilled. There with her mother, the young girl opted for just that.

It was a crowded fashion moment. Ladies arrived in wide pants and tiny cropped tops, tights and Jane shoes; tiny skirts or trendy jeans: Despite the heat, the “it” jacket of the moment was noted: fall’s funnel-necked top.

Converse, Chanel, ballet flats and Samba shoes reigned. Handbags were runway ready, initials signalling their trendy

provenance.

Sisters were a contrast in black and white; accented with glamorous glitter.

The collection was originally launched on the idea of stacked diamond bracelets and many ladies had obviously loved that idea as wrists glistened in the sunlit boutique.

Guests enjoyed pink Veuve Clicquot while munching on cute cupcakes and macaroons.

Shown amidst the twinkling new collection were a range of classics: pearl necklaces attracted admiration, as did a turquoise choker. But the stars were definitely the celebrity-looking diamonds.

The mid-afternoon event featured the New Showroom Collection and Piercing Party, which shone amidst racks of must-have puffy jackets and fur boas for fall: the season just around the corner.

TBG COLLECTION,
tennisbraceletgirls.com
Also at Gorski,
1355 Greene Ave.

► Jaclyn and Kelly Griner.





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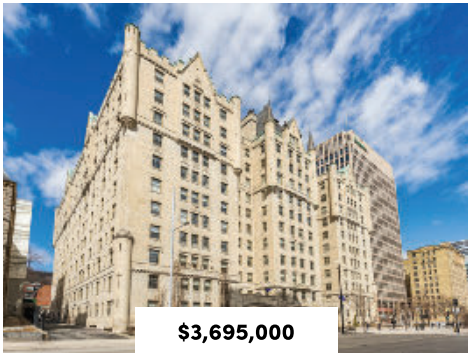
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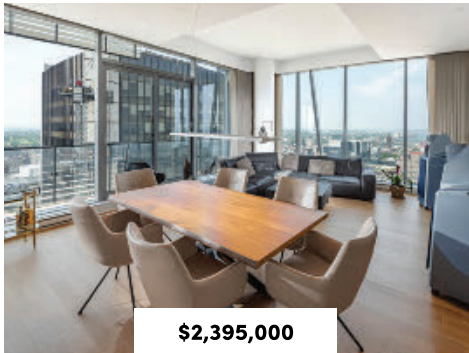
\$3,398,000

3940 CH. DE LA CÔTE-DES-NEIGES #PH-D52
WESTMOUNT ADJACENT



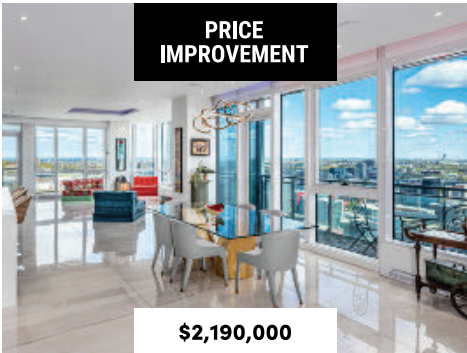
\$3,695,000

1321 RUE SHERBROOKE O. #E30-31
GOLDEN SQUARE MILE



\$2,395,000

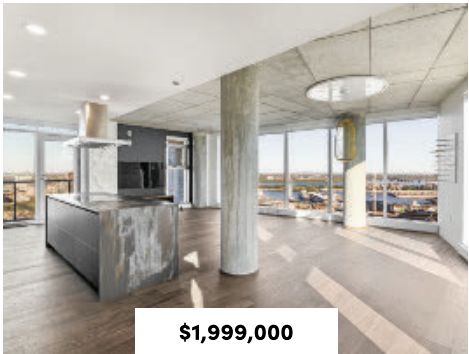
720 RUE ST-JACQUES #PH5401
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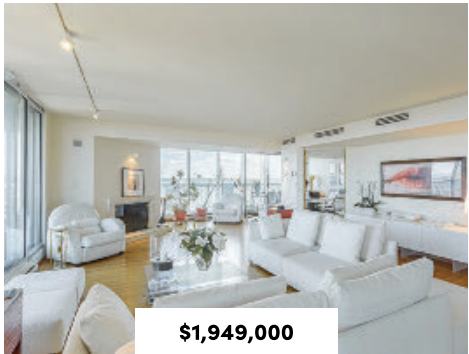
\$2,190,000

1188 AV. UNION #PH-3907
DOWNTOWN



\$1,999,000

1030 RUE DE BLEURY #2901
INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT



\$1,949,000

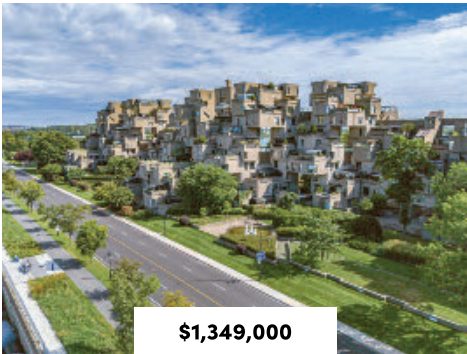
30 RUE BERLIOZ #PH2-3
ÎLE-DES-SOEURS



PRICE
IMPROVEMENT

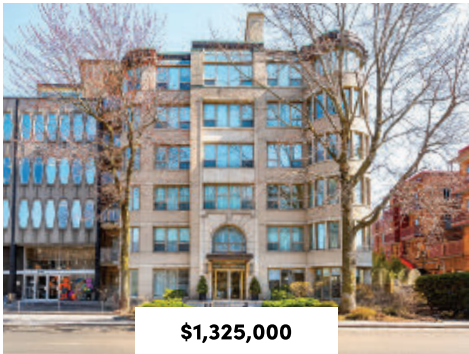
\$2,995,000

1650 RUE SHERBROOKE O. #17E
GOLDEN SQUARE MILE



\$1,349,000

2600 AV. PIERRE-DUPUY #620
CITÉ DU HAVRE



\$1,325,000

4160 RUE SHERBROOKE O. #302
WESTMOUNT



SOLD

2333 RUE SHERBROOKE O. #514
WESTMOUNT ADJACENT



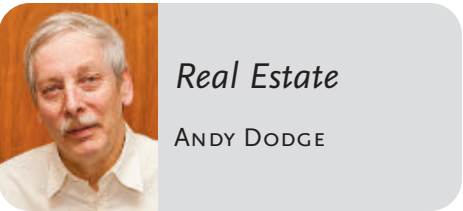
A journey into the world of luxury real estate

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TOP 1% CANADA

(pour / for Royal LePage)





Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in May 2026, gleaned from city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 15.

May’s list of Westmount real estate sales more than doubled the number of closings in any of the previous four months, but in fact the volume was slightly lower than the list in May of 2025.

Twenty residential sales, including 17 single-family homes and three duplexes, were transferred to new owners in May. Volume varied between eight and 10 sales in each of the first four months this year, but May, June and July last year reported 23, 25 and 22 sales, respectively. It is natural for families to sign deeds and move to their new houses in the summer months, but last year was more pronounced and this year seems to be developing in the same way.

The highest price in May of this year involved 3 Forden Ave., a stately detached



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May transfers: Volume way up, from recently

brick mansion just north of Côte St. Antoine Rd., whose \$5,750,000 prize narrowly surpassed the \$5,570,000 paid out for 501-03 Roslyn Ave., which was totally renovated and re-made as a single-family dwelling in 2009, but the city still counts it as a duplex.

The lowest price was \$1,100,000 for a small row house at 329 Victoria, in fact the lowest of 11 houses that sold for less than \$2 million.

In the higher price bracket were, besides the two in the \$5-million range, 538 Argyle, which sold for \$4,275,000, and 1 Hudson Ave., which brought \$3,250,000.

Five others sold between \$2 and \$3 million, but with so many even less than that, the average for 20 sales was \$2,393,525, compared to a five-month average of \$2,688,571.

Valuations up

Only four of the 20 sale prices were lower than the 2026 municipal valuation, and another seven exceeded the valuation by more than 10 percent. The end result was a 7.5 percent mark-up over valuation, more than double the 3.1 percent average mark-up in April or the 2.9 percent average for the year through May.

The highest mark-up went in the sale of 120 Lewis Ave for 31.2 percent over tax value; the only double-digit mark-down came in the sale of 198 Côte St. Antoine – opposite King George (Murray) Park – for \$2,500,000, almost 16 percent less than its valuation of \$2,967,900.

Condos, commercial

Nine condominiums changed hands in May, adding to three others in April to make 12 in the second quarter of 2016. At least four were sold out of estates, including the highest-priced condo of the quarter, at 1250 Greene Ave., apt. 302, which went in April for \$3,184,000, and the lowest-priced condo of the quarter, 4700 St. Catherine St., Apt. 503, whose price was \$600,000, some 24.5 percent less than valu-



370 Victoria. All photos taken September 28.

ation in the May list. Also worthy of note in the May list is Apt. 1704 at Château Westmount Square, 4175 St. Catherine St., which brought \$2,925,000, and Apt. 303 at 1 Wood Ave., whose sale price is 38 percent above valuation.

The only commercial property to sell in May was the huge building at 370-82 Vic-

toria Ave., the makeover of the old Westmount Garage, which went for \$18,550,000, some 51.8 percent above valuation. The valuation roll says there are 13 commercial establishments on four floors of the building, which is just south of Sherbrooke St. The deed lists five addresses that have storefronts.



198 Côte St. Antoine



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Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in May

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2023 VAL	RATIO (%)
110 Abbott	Pierre Plante	\$1,365,000	\$1,285,800	6.2%
538 Argyle	Dean Mendel	\$4,275,000	\$3,768,600	13.4%
637 Belmont	Anita Louise Patton	\$2,100,000	\$1,992,300	5.4%
51 Clandeboye	Kastriot Refatllari & Catherine Argyriou	\$1,720,000	\$1,569,900	9.6%
321 Claremont	Nathalie Barrette	\$1,850,000	\$1,775,600	4.2%
436 Clarke	Vincent Eugène Mooser	\$1,787,500	\$1,687,900	5.9%
198 Côte St. Antoine	Michel Zaidan & Amanda Wolfe	\$2,500,000	\$2,967,900	-15.8%
590 Côte St. Antoine	Thomas Apffel & Ariane Douyon	\$1,825,000	\$1,950,700	-6.4%
655 Côte St. Antoine	Srinivasan Krishnamurthy & Indurekha Raghavan	\$2,295,000	\$2,012,500	14.0%
447 Elm	Peter Stutman & Beth Seitz-Stutman	\$2,250,000	\$2,418,500	-7.0%
3 Forden	Tracy Robinson	\$5,750,000	\$5,221,600	10.1%
563 Grosvenor	Yvette Torres	\$2,000,000	\$2,177,100	-8.1%
1 Hudson	Jordanna Feifer	\$3,250,000	\$2,765,800	17.5%
461 Lansdowne	Zainab Ahmed	\$1,892,500	\$1,845,200	2.6%
120 Lewis	Elizabeth Bartolomucci & Maxime Derbier	\$1,465,000	\$1,116,600	31.2%
3737 The Boulevard	Marcy Bick	\$1,908,000	\$1,671,300	14.2%
329 Victoria	Graham Bell & Susan Rosinger	\$1,100,000	\$1,077,400	2.1%
DUPLEXES				
4132 Dorchester	Tania Raquel Brand	\$1,567,500	\$1,556,000	0.7%
124-26 Irvine	Carrie Elizabeth Haber	\$1,400,000	\$1,312,100	6.7%
501-03 Roslyn	Estate Suzanne Montagnac	\$5,570,000	\$4,355,000	27.9%
CONDOMINIUMS				
399 Clarke #405	Sondra Green Wener	\$747,000	\$738,000	1.2%
200 Lansdowne #209	Michèle Bergevin & Alain Royer	\$675,000	\$761,000	-11.3%
200 Lansdowne #404	estate Dorothy Finestone	\$895,000	\$859,000	4.2%
267 Olivier #103	estate Ahouva Bendavid	\$640,000	\$789,500	-18.9%
4175 St. Catherine #1704	Roger Southin & Nicole Senecal	\$2,925,000	\$2,499,500	17.0%
4410 St. Catherine #6A	Yasmine Rafie Defouni	\$960,000	\$750,400	27.9%
4700 St. Catherine #302	Ying Wang	\$1,275,000	\$1,142,000	11.6%
4700 St. Catherine #503	estate Aimi Kuura	\$600,000	\$794,800	-24.5%
1 Wood #303	11942794 Canada Inc.	\$1,389,000	\$1,006,200	38.0%
OTHER				
370-82 Victoria	376 Victoria Holdings Inc.	\$18,550,000	\$12,220,000	51.8%

INTRODUCING



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VILLE DE | CITY OF
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NOUVELLES

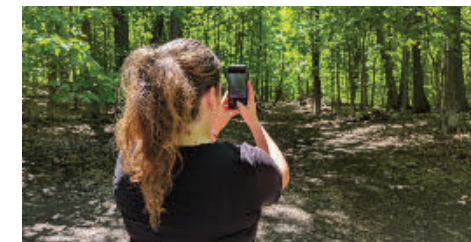
PROCHAINE SÉANCE
DU CONSEIL

Mardi 3 novembre

NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING

Tuesday, November 3



Participez au concours de photos !
Jusqu’au 12 octobre, soumettez une photo d’automne et courrez la chance de voir votre cliché affiché à l’hôtel de ville et sur l’accueil du site Web municipal.
westmount.org/concoursphoto



Participate in the City's photo contest!
Until October 12, submit your fall photo for a chance to see it displayed at City Hall and featured on the homepage of the municipal website.
westmount.org/photocontest

Visitez un centre de traitement des déchets et un centre de tri du recyclage
Découvrez les coulisses du traitement des matières organiques au CTMO Saint-Laurent le 20 octobre, et du tri des matières recyclables au centre de tri de la Société VIA le 23 octobre. Pour les résidents de Westmount âgés de 8 ans et plus. westmount.org/visites

Comité de démolition
Le Comité de démolition tiendra une séance publique le 13 octobre à 18 h, à l’hôtel de ville de Westmount. La séance portera sur les demandes de démolition du 325, avenue Melville et du 45, croissant Summit.
westmount.org/actualites

Visit a Waste Treatment Facility and a Recycling Sorting Center
Discover what happens behind the scenes at the Saint-Laurent Organic Waste Treatment Centre on October 20 and at the Société VIA recycling sorting facility on October 23.
westmount.org/visit

Demolition Committee
The Demolition Committee will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, October 13, at 6 p.m., at Westmount City Hall. The meeting will consider the applications for the complete demolition of the properties located at 325 Melville Avenue and 45 Summit Crescent.
westmount.org/news

Un arbre, un enfant
Pour souligner la naissance ou l’adoption d’un enfant, la Ville offre aux familles résidentes un arbre gratuit, contribuant ainsi à enrichir la forêt urbaine pour les générations futures.
westmount.org/actualites

Une urgence à Westmount... Serez-vous averti ?
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BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Exposition : Geneviève Roy
2 au 30 octobre, La Galerie du Victoria Hall. Visitez l'exposition des oeuvres de l'artiste westmountaise Geneviève Roy.
westmount.org/evenements



Bal d'Halloween
29 octobre, 20 h (porte à 19 h 30), Victoria Hall. Une soirée aux rythmes fantomatiques ! Enfilez vos chaussures de danse et votre déguisement le plus effroyable pour une soirée haute en couleur avec DJ, bar payant et concours de costumes.
westmount.org/evenements

Rencontre d’auteur — Lawrence Mysak
20 octobre, 19 h, Salle Westmount (Bibliothèque). En anglais. Avec Lawrence Mysak, Ph. D., auteur et climatologue renommé. Il parlera de son parcours dans le domaine de la recherche climatique et de la manière dont il concilie son travail avec ses nombreuses passions : sa famille, la flûte, les voyages et l’exploration de la nature. westlib.org

Concours de décoration de citrouilles et Extravaganza de l’Halloween — 6 ans et plus
24 octobre, 18 h 30, Bibliothèque. Décorez une citrouille (sans la découper, s’il vous plaît!) et apportez-la au comptoir des enfants entre le 5 et le 23 octobre pour recevoir un billet gratuit pour l’Extravaganza de l’Halloween : *Ohé, les pirates!* La quantité de billets est limitée.
westlib.org

Rencontre d’auteur — Ordures! Journal d’un vidangeur
3 novembre, 19 h, Salle Westmount (Bibliothèque). Rencontre avec Simon Paré-Poupart, auteur, sociologue et éboueur, qui présentera son livre et nous invitera à réfléchir aux déchets que nous produisons et à leur devenir. En collaboration avec la Division environnement de la Ville de Westmount. westlib.org

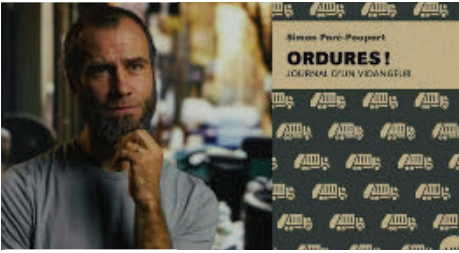
Exhibition: Geneviève Roy
October 2 to 30, The Gallery at Victoria Hall. Come view the artworks of Westmount artist Geneviève Roy. westmount.org/events

Author Event—Lawrence Mysak
October 20, 7 p.m., Westmount Room (Library). Meet Lawrence Mysak, Ph.D., renowned author and climatologist. He will speak about his career in climate research and how he balances his work with his many passions: family, the flute, travel, and exploring nature.
westlib.org

Pumpkin Decorating Contest & Halloween Extravaganza — Ages 6+
October 24, 6:30 p.m., Library. Decorate a pumpkin (no carving, please!) and bring it to the Children’s Desk between October 5 and 23 to receive a free ticket to the Halloween Extravaganza: *Ahoy, Pirates!* Tickets are limited.
westlib.org

Halloween Ball
October 29, 8 p.m. (doors at 7:30 p.m.), Victoria Hall. A night of spooky beats! Put on your dancing shoes and your most frightful costume and join us for an evening of music, dancing and Halloween fun, featuring a live DJ, cash bar and costume contest. westmount.org/events

Author event—Ordures! Journal d’un vidangeur
November 3, 7 p.m., Westmount Room (Library). In French. Meet Simon Paré-Poupart, author, sociologist and waste collector, for a discussion of his book and a thought-provoking look at the waste we produce and what happens to it. In collaboration with the City of Westmount’s Environmental Division. westlib.org



Rotary report

'Le 9e' in former Eaton's department store profiled in book by Cohen-Rose



Then



Now

Left, the interior of the dining hall on Eaton's ninth floor, complete with white tablecloths, sculpted bas-reliefs and a famous mural by Jacques Carlu, as it was in the 1930s. Right, a recent photo.

EATON'S PHOTOS COURTESY OF S. COHEN-ROSE.

BY JENNIFER BALL

For admirers of chevrons, zigzags, sunbursts and stepped-ziggurat profiles paired with radiating lines in metalwork, furniture and architecture, the upcoming book *Le 9e: Montreal Eaton's Art Deco Dining Cathedral* – which documents the history and restoration of Eaton's famous ninth-floor dining room – could be very alluring.

Sandra Cohen-Rose is the chair of the international coalition of Art Deco societies

and the author of the book. It will be launched on October 27 at Restaurant Île de France at 1500 Robert Bourassa (McGill College) in the footprint of the former Eaton's department store.

She was introduced to Rotarians on September 23 at Victoria Hall.

Cohen-Rose opened on a sombre, but positive note, saying that the dining hall could have disappeared permanently in 1999 when Eaton's went bankrupt.

The book's prelude features John Craig Eaton, who inherited the T. Eaton Co. in 1907, and his wife Flora, who became Lady Eaton. She was the matriarch of the Eaton family, one of Canada's most prominent socialites and philanthropists, and the moving spirit behind the Montreal dining hall's design.

Lady Eaton was inspired by the French architect Jacques Carlu and commissioned him to design the Eaton's restaurant. His

work for transatlantic liners – including the SS Île-de-France, on which Lady Eaton sailed during its maiden voyage in 1927 – was the inspiration for the restaurant.

Ivanhoé Cambridge is the real-estate investment arm of Quebec's public pension fund manager, La Caisse. It is responsible for owning, developing and managing billions of dollars in property worldwide. It led the extensive renovation and conservation work required to resurrect the restaurant. It partnered with EVOQ Architecture, a firm specializing in heritage conservation, and all work was carried out under authorization from Quebec's ministry of Culture and Communications.

The book was designed by Brian Morgan. He is the artistic director emeritus of *The Walrus* magazine.

Jennifer Ball, the reporter who authored this story, is a member of the Rotary Club of Westmount



Sandra Cohen-Rose spoke at Victoria Hall on September 23 to present her book about Eaton's ninth floor to the Rotary Club of Westmount.

Timeline – Eaton's ninth-floor dining hall

- Opened: 1931, with orchestra on hand for luncheon and afternoon tea
- Renovated: 1981
- Closed: 1999
- Received heritage status: 2000
- Re-opened May 17, 2024

At the Shaar Hashomayim

Kolb recognized by synagogue as ‘executive director emeritus’

By JENNIFER BALL

Penni Kolb, who has been the Congregation Shaar Hashomayim’s executive director for 23 years, is retiring shortly and the title of “executive director emeritus” was recently bestowed on her by the synagogue’s leadership in recognition of her achievements.

The Shaar is located at 450 Kensington Ave. and on September 28 an evening of celebration took place for her there. The executive director of the Shaar is the synagogue’s chief administrative and operational leader, responsible for running the entire organization day to day: managing its staff, finances, facilities and ensuring smooth coordination with the clergy.

In a statement Kolb sent to the congregation on August 19, she said, “When I assumed the [role] in 2003, I hoped to make a meaningful contribution to this extraordinary institution. I could never have imagined how deeply the Shaar would shape my own life in return.”

‘Lived and breathed the Shaar’

Rabbi Adam Scheier, senior rabbi at the Shaar, told the large crowd, “She’s lived and



The Shaar’s retiring executive director Penni Kolb being congratulated by Westmount mayor Michael Stern on September 28.

breathed the Shaar for 23 years and our community is deeply grateful and a standing ovation – that Penni received on Rosh Hashanah – certainly is a small testament to that...

“Penni asked me if I could recall any other standing ovations at the Shaar and I said that there had been three: [for] the president of the state of Israel, for the prime minister of Canada, and for Penni Kolb.”

In a speech, Kolb’s daughter, Joanna Kolb, described her mother as a powerhouse who works more hours a week than anyone she knows. “Mom, you did it all and you did it in your way: quiet, unassuming, never liking the spotlight. You lead from the back, encouraging and motivating those around you to keep propelling forward...

“My own drive, professional integrity, and my commitment to our community is a credit to you...

“My devotion to my son, my presence in his core memories, and the unconditional love I feel for him are values that I learned from your example.”

When it was her time at the microphone, Kolb stayed in her professional role by performing more outreach, saying, “I will soon have a lot more time for spontaneous invitations, lunch dates, vacations and babysitting...I’m not so sure about pickleball and canasta...



Joanna Kolb speaking about her mother.

“While I am excited to begin this next chapter, there is so much I will miss. [I will miss us] building a strong foundation [together] to sustain our spiritual home for generations to come.”

Vic Hall steps progressing



September 25



October 2

The work on Victoria Hall’s steps.

Shaar Hashomayim marks 180 years with music, high holiday-themed market



Balloons to celebrate 180 years!

By JENNIFER BALL

While the Shaar Hashomayim was dedicated on September 17, 1922 at its cur-

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rent address in Westmount, 450 Kensington Ave, it is celebrating its 180th anniversary this year. As an institution, it was founded in 1846 by English, German and Polish Jews who had previously worshipped at Montreal's Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue.

On September 8, the synagogue celebrated that milestone with a musical performance by Israeli musician Noam Buskila and invited participants to visit the 180-themed promenade with food vendors, a high holiday-themed market and interactive exhibits.

In a reflection that Rabbi Adam Scheier sent to his congregation on September 11, he said, "It's a remarkable statement to make: Congregation Shaar Hashomayim



1846

The English, German, and Polish Congregation is founded. They rented a room on St. James Street for \$10.



Maxwell Sherman (1817-1892), first president of the Congregation of English, German and Polish Jews, 1846-1851, 1852.

1859

The Congregation procured its first building at 41 St. Constant Street (today De Baillon Street) in Montreal. During the inauguration on July 12, the cornerstone was laid by David Moss, who had contributed the largest financial sum to the building fund.

The building measured under 5,500 square feet and could accommodate 150 men and 50 women, with services modeled after the Bayswater Synagogue in London, England. Within thirty years, however, the Congregation quickly outgrew its modest building.



41 St. Constant Street Synagogue Building

1885

On October 21, 1885, the cornerstone for a new synagogue building was laid on McGill College Avenue by synagogue president John Edward Moss, and was consecrated in 1886. During the ceremony, the synagogue adopted the name "Congregation Shaar Hashomayim."

This was inspired by the official name of the Bevis Marks Synagogue in London, and derives from a passage in Genesis 28:16-17 describing Jacob's dream of the ladder:



McGill College Avenue Synagogue (1886). "Inspired by the German and Polish Congregation in London, John E. Moss led on the occasion of its laying the cornerstone of the new Synagogue on McGill College Ave. Montreal, October 21st, 1885."

A poster showing the date of 1846 when the Shaar was founded, as seen September 8.

has reached the venerable age of 180 years old.

"The number is astounding, and rare in a world of global instability and Jewish migrations of the past centuries. The longevity of our congregation is a testament to the enduring spirit of dedication and renewal exhibited by generations of members, leaders, clergy and staff."

There are other events plans in 2026 for the 180th anniversary but the Shaar's executive director Penni Kolb – who is retiring shortly (see story on p. 18) – was not able to provide details in time for the *Independent's* press deadline due to other high holiday commitments.



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LYSANNE FOWLER



Scooby needs you. This adorable little black-and-white terrier-type is at the Montreal SPCA shelter and he would be best in a home as soon as possible.

He is a happy and energetic senior, at 15 years young, and quietly affectionate. He is adapting well and getting used to carving up a space of his own in a busy environment, but he would be ready to be bundled up and integrated into family life. He would enjoy a quiet home, and being the focus in its activities, without children or other dogs. An integration with a cat might be companionable.

Scooby is healthy, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped. If you would like more information on him, please refer to the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com, scroll to his information page from his identification number, 2000478703, and then plan your visit to meet with the adoption coordinators.

It is open every day, Monday to Friday

from 3 pm to 8 pm, then Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm. The shelter is located at 5215 Jean Talon St. West, Côte des Neiges, Montreal H4P 1X4.

Please do not hesitate. This precious buddy is a quiet and friendly addition to home life.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

A stunning grey-and-black tabby with emerald-tone eyes, Hawk is a sporting three-year-old with a sweet demeanor and quiet ways.

He is in a foster family for the Cause4 Paws volunteer cat rescue group. Hawk started out as a foundling kitten outside and was given solace and then quiet security in the daily routine of a foster household.

Like most cats in care when they arrive, he was skittish at the beginning and has adapted with sweetness over time. Hawk now enjoys his days, looking forward to company, belly rubs and treats.

He is very healthy, up to date with his inoculations and treatments, and is neutered.

Please do not hesitate to refer to the Cause4Paws Facebook page where you can find more information on him, then reach out at its email, montrealcause4paws@gmail.com, to present your interest, and start a discussion for adoption with the volunteers and foster family to bring Hawk into a forever home with you.

Your neighbour, Lysanne

Handsome Hawk



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Esther Thelwell.

Chloe & Co. brings Instagram to life on Greene Ave.



Retail Review

VERONICA REDGRAVE

It has been said that social media drives business. In the case of Chloe & Co. Brow and Wax Bar, it's true. The new address on Greene Ave. "already had a faithful following on Instagram," explained owner Esther Thelwell.

Esther and her black-clad (and black-masked) staff of eight offer a range of beauty enhancements: eyelashes (lash extension and lash lifts, which "curls the lashes"), lips (tattoos that can add pigment and the look of more volume), and eyebrow enhancing (microblading).

"Our services make a woman feel more beautiful and more confident. Some of our clients are cancer patients, so their confidence is important to us. Eyebrows that may have faded can have a new look."

In fact, it seems that microblading is one of their most booked. Using a special tool, the trained technician makes fine

lines mimicking how real eyebrow hair would grow and adds specialized pigment. The semi-permanent cosmetic tattoo shapes and thickens eyebrows. "Eyebrows frame the face."

For those who are busy all week, services at Chloe & Co. are available seven days a week, opening daily at 10 am.

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Roy captures Montreal, Westmount landmarks with delicate touch



Art
VERONICA REDGRAVE

Geneviève Roy is featured at Victoria Hall's art gallery until the end of October. It is her first solo show.

The artist creates her work in oils, "which I prefer to acrylic as it expresses emotion."

A welcome relief from slick smart-phone-captured images, her landscapes communicate the moment with *sfumato*, a delicate technique that blurs light and shadow. Westmount Park's famed willow in the exhibition's poster has a soft presence. No defined lines delineate drooping leaves but rather a subtle sense of the tree itself.

Trained at the Visual Arts Centre on Victoria Ave. ("I still take workshops there"), Roy's preferred medium is sketch-



Geneviève Roy with some of her work.



▲ The charcoal sketch of the view from Mount Royal used to create the oil paintings below. ▼ Two oils of the Montreal skyline from Mount Royal.



ing, which is how she starts all her work. Often taking a photo first, she then sketches her ideas in her light-filled studio.

My eye was attracted to typical Montreal nostalgia. A charcoal-drawn draft drawing shows groups of people at the Mount Royal look-out looking at a generic skyline. The finished work is two oil paintings with each building in the background now perfectly recognizable as Montreal landmarks.

Some of her work is small: 9 inches by 12. An example is her flower series. Lily of the valley (*Muguets*) and daffodils (*Jonquilles*) are beautifully rendered against non-competing backgrounds: leaves and petals tell the tale.

Roy also excels at portraying light. *La Rivière Rideau* shows a magic moment when the sun's rays reflect off ice. *Tôt le Matin* captures a dawn moment in Westmount.

"Where I go, I like to capture scenes of life or the atmosphere of a specific time and place." Geneviève Roy's art mirrors our world much more beautifully than a selfie.

All proceeds from the show will be donated to Dans la Rue.

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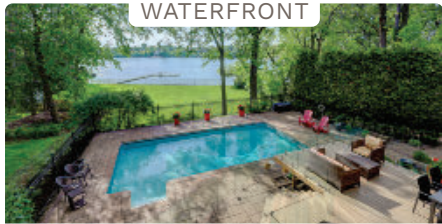
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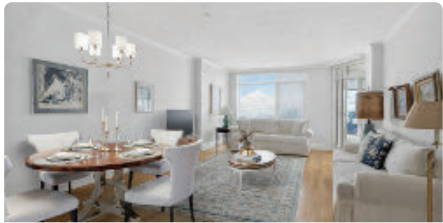
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