Weekly. Vol. 13 No. 4d We are Westmount April 23, 2019

Midget A brings home banner

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's Midget A Wings hockey team brought home the championship April 14 in a hard-fought game against the Town of Mount Royal/Outremont Devils, played at the Jacques Lemaire Arena in LaSalle.

"The final score was 3-2 with an amazing goal with less than 20 seconds left," said Andrew Maislin, operations manager for Westmount Sports and Recreation.

Don't Miss It

City's hazardous waste collection at the Westmount Public Library. Sunday, April 28, 9 am to 5 pm.





Project set for public meeting, would up capacity to 735

École St. Léon extension starts through zoning process May 7

By Laureen Sweeney

Plans for a long-awaited extension to overcrowded École St. Léon are set for initial presentation May 7 at a public meeting of the city's Planning Advisory Committee

Who – or what – is Akelius? Find out on p. 19

starting at 8:30 am. The session kicks off a lengthy and complicated process for development projects that do not conform to current zoning.

The proposal, as submitted to the city for the Commission Scolaire de Montréal (CSDM), calls for the three-storey addition to be built at the north end of the playground at the rear of the Clarke Ave. school and Continued on p. 4



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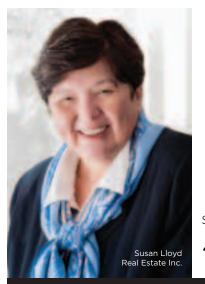
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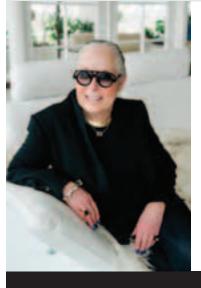
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'Consultation' meeting on for April 30

Public 'Demolition' hearing regarding 5th storey of 500 Claremont Ave. set for May 21



The targeted fifth floor, from the building's demolition application.

Source: City of Westmount website.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A demolition hearing regarding removal and rebuilding the fifth storey at 500 Claremont is scheduled for Tuesday, May 21 at 5:35 pm. This follows the mid-month council meeting at 5 pm, unusually set for a Tuesday because of the Victoria Day holiday on Monday, May 20.

DEATH NOTICE

Sunny Savage, artist, nee Cynthia Anne Copping passed away peacefully surrounded by friends on March 25, 2019.

Comments opposing the demolition must be submitted in writing to the city clerk's office at city hall by a deadline of Friday, April 26.

The hearing is required since the brick of the fifth storey that had been added to the 1909 institutional structure around 1958 was discovered to be in deteriorating condition. This was revealed once city-approved work to remove asbestos from the walls was completed (see story December 11, 2018, p. 6).

Replacing the fifth storey was one of the main reasons why the city required the project to go back for a second "journey" through the long SCAOPI by-law process for projects that do not conform to current

To add to possible confusion, the demolition hearing will take place only after a required public consultation meeting April 30 (see story April 9, p. 1).

Details of both are contained on the city's website under Resident Zone/Urban Planning/SCAOPI as well as Demolition applications.

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Social Calendar, part 2, p. 20

9 Lives, p. 21

Classifieds, p. 16

Social Notes (Viennese Ball), p. 24

Comin' Up, p. 26



Westmount Page,

In the past two weeks, I...

- Represented a buyer for a purchase of a top floor condo in NDG in a multiple bid situation, and got her offer accepted.
- Represented a seller in Westmount for the sale of her house to a wonderful couple moving in from Europe. The buyers liked the house so much, they are even buying the seller's car!
- Represented a seller and a buyer in a revenue property, multiple offers, and both of my clients are happy with their transaction.
- Listed a gorgeous 2,000 sf penthouse condo downtown, but not before I found

my sellers a new home in a rental near Victoria Village.

- Lowered the asking price on my 53 Ballantyne North in Montreal West from \$2,225,000 to \$1,950,000. Sellers are serious about selling, and so is their broker (!).
- Lowered the asking price on my 4825 Ste-Catherine West condo in Westmount from \$439,000 to \$419,000. Visits almost every day now.
- Listed and sold my 200 Lansdowne 503 in a week: asking \$499K.

How was your week?

Sylvie Lafrenière 514-895-7001 sylvie@sylvielafreniere.com

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jority of the trees, according to the sub-





St. Léon's through the years, from the CSDM's SCAOPI filing with the city. New portions in darker red and circled in red by Independent. Headers by Independent.

Source: City of Westmount website.

St. Léon, cont'd. from p. 1

perpendicular to it extending west to Kitchener

Included are five new classrooms, a special resource room, library, art room, and an outdoor roof-top classroom. Also provided would be an agora/multifunction room, as well as three new rooms for office, security and mechanical use.

Most of the existing staff parking at the rear would be retained along with a ma-

mission from an architectural consortium of Marosi Troy, Labbé. While the extension is the same conforming height as the current building and

While the extension is the same conforming height as the current building and also meets required set-backs, its plan does not conform to several other zoning aspects. These include site coverage, floorto-area ratio (FAR) and greening requirements on Kitchener that present a challenge in an urban school setting.

As a result, the proposal is subject to the city's by-law for Special Construction, Alteration or Occupancy Proposal for an Immovable (SCAOPI) that can lead to a potential referendum.

Materials to be used on the new addition are red brick to match the existing building along with limestone accents. Details can be found on the city's website under Resident Zone/Urban Planning/SCAOPI/360 Clarke.

The addition is expected to increase the school's capacity at 360 Clarke to some 735 students. The enrollment at the site at the start of the current school year was listed as 616. Owing to a lack of existing space, however, another 127 from the school district are forced to take francization classes at the Charlevoix annex on de Courcelle St. in St. Henri.

The school has been operating for a few years without a library, which was con-







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Email: info@verterra.ca Tel: (514) 400-8957 verted into a classroom, as was the music room. An initial proposal by the school commission several years ago to install temporary classrooms as an interim measure was opposed by many parents and did not materialize (see story July 12, 2016, p. 5).

A press release from the CSDM September 5, 2017 listed the estimated expenditure at \$11.5 million (see story October 3, 2017, p. 1).

This plan followed, initially unveiled November 19 by Marie-José Mastromonaco, the CSDM's school commissioner for NDG-Westmount (see story December 4, p. 11).

Reminder

tc

Victoria Village Merchants

Important merchants' meeting

Thursday 25 April, 8:30am

Visual Arts Centre, 350 Victoria Ave

Hockey, cont'd. from p. 1

"Our players wanted it so badly." Going into the game as underdogs, he said, the team started off with an "amazing" goal.

"I've seen those kids play since they were 5 or 6 years old," he added. They are now aged 16, 17 and 18.

"They were so well behaved. They earned the win."

The banner is expected to be hung next week at the Westmount recreation centre once the team members have signed it.

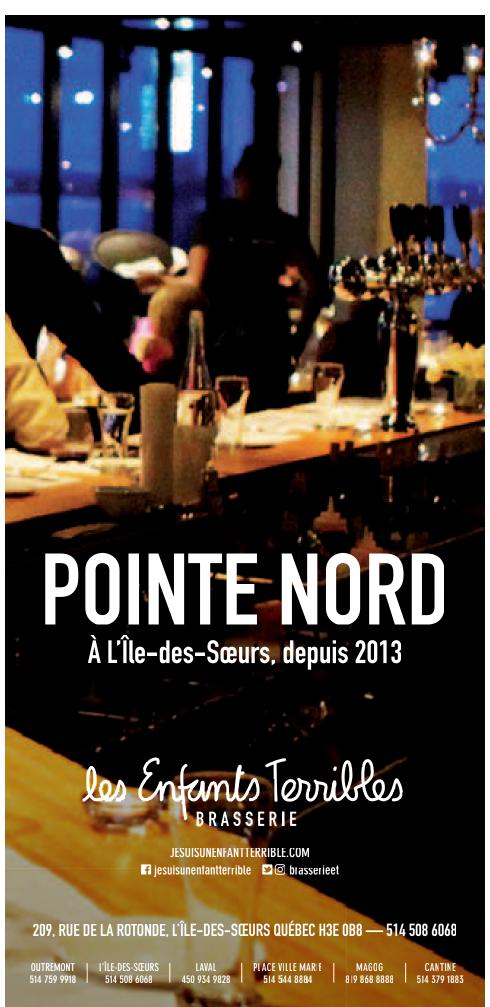
All present

The team's full roster was present for the game, Maislin said.

It consisted of Joseph Chalhoub, Max Miller, Konrad Nawacki, Philippe Poirier, Kallio D'Ermo Mavitzis, William Petrecca-Berthelet, Kieran Hamilton, Alexandre Parent-Harvey, Matthew Madar, Nicholas Pothier, Konrad Horner, Jack Goldin, Matthew Eiley, Luca Viens, Justin Goodman and Olivier Pomerleau, along with coaches Andrew Berthelet, Daniel and Lucas Fox and manager Daniel Berthelet.

The hockey season is now over in Westmount and is to be officially concluded May 1 with an annual general assembly, a forum to which all parents and other interested people are invited.





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POLITICIANS NEED TO MAINTAIN MUNICIPAL ASSETS

The April 1 council meeting highlighted the serious failure by previous councils to be effective stewards of two of Westmount's "crown jewels," our conservatory and Westmount Park. Residents will now face huge costs. During the meeting, we learned that the current estimate for restoration of our patrimonial greenhouses (the conservatory) has ballooned to \$4.3 million (see "Greenhouse/conservatory work reassessed," April 2, p. 7).

Also, in the tendering process, residents saw the first step in a restoration of Westmount Park with the awarding of a \$200,000 contract for a feasibility study. According to council, the deteriorated condition of the park is now beyond routine maintenance and repair, necessitating a multi-year restoration project at who knows what cost.

There is a common thread here. It is the clear lack of adequate ongoing maintenance over many years, either a deliberate policy of previous councils or perhaps one of indifference.

Over the past decade, council acknowledged at various times that the maintenance shortfall was due to either a lack of budget or, actually, there was enough money in the budget but it was unspent by the city administration. At one meeting, councillors couldn't even agree among themselves.

What is the thinking here? While maintenance was underfunded, our councils congratulated themselves on repaying

(many times early) every piece of debt on the city's books from accumulated cash surpluses even though interest rates have been at historical lows.

At the same time, the city continued to produce annual budget surpluses when city tax and ancillary revenues regularly exceeded expenditures. But still not enough money for the required upkeep! The conservatory and Westmount Park became shadows of their past beauty.

Future generations will now pick up the tab. Westmount residents expect from our councillors a commitment to change course, a reassessment of priorities and a pledge that the heritage of our community will be maintained to the highest standard of quality.

We do not want a repeat.

DENIS BIRO, BURTON AVE.

PEOPLE NEED TO KEEP PARKS CLEAN

I have been looking at these scenes all winter long and into this week. Some people, who seem to live near, or pass by, beautiful Prince Albert Park, have used the public garbage cans as an extension of their own personal ones.

Bags seen in these pictures have been put there regularly every week. Public workers, who strive very hard to keep our parks clean, have to remove them. They told me that it is very common everywhere in the city for people to drop big garbage bags and this creates overflow.

Animals, wind and just the normal weather make the area near the garbage cans disgusting and unpleasant for the rest



of the people who want to enjoy the nice environment!

I wanted to publish these pictures to promote awareness, as everyone should have respect for public areas in our city.

So for those who use public areas as an extension of their own garbage cans: please keep in mind that we all have to work to keep our city clean and our city's Public Works teams have more impactful things to accomplish than picking up "personal" garbage.

With the nice weather around the corner, I hope that people reading these few lines will promote awareness and that Public Security, with the help of its cameras located in the city, work to manage this negative trend.

Thank you and great spring to everyone.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS EMMANUEL, WINDSOR AVE.

NO OFFENCE INTENDED RE: WEST END THEATRE

This letter is in response to the April 9, p. 8 letter of Ellen Rubin and Ann Elbourne, coordinators of Dramatis Personae. They addressed my comments in an interview with Martin Barry, who came to cover the launch of our new company, Theatre *Ouest* End.

I just wanted to say that I am aware of the long and impressive run of Dramatis Personae, as well as infinitheatre at Espace Knox. There is also Theatre NDG that began a couple of years ago.

I was quoted as saying, "We want to make both community and professional theatre more accessible in the West End of the city because there's no theatre here." What I most certainly intended to say was that there was no theatre *like us* in the West End – that is to say, a theatre that will mount both professional productions of emerging and experienced Montreal writers and actors, *as well as* creating theatre with the objective of making the experience available to communities that traditionally do not, or cannot, participate.

No offence was intended, and I appreciate the graciousness of Dramatis Personae welcoming us with open arms.

Ann Lambert, NDG

PUBLIC WORKS HAS GONE DOWNHILL SINCE CALUORI

This winter, in January, February and March, on the east side of Clarke Ave., there was a lot of thick ice on the street near the sidewalk. I asked Public Works on six different occasions if they could try to break the ice. Among the answers from Public Works was: "It will be soon, sir!"

In the first week of March, the ice was broken up by a city crew on the *west* side of Clarke (i.e., the side of St. Léon school). As for the east side, Public Works paid absolutely no attention to it. They neglected the east side, i.e. where older people are!

It is obvious that the Westmount mayor and city council do not pay any attention to citizens' requests on how the streets should be taken care of. The mayor and council are mostly interested in raising their own salaries. "That's it. That's all."

Under Mr. Fred Caluori (a former director of Public Works), any request was done within 48 hours at the latest! It is a huge contrast to compare Mr. Fred Caluori with [the present]. Shame on Westmount's mayor and council for not going all out on the streets and sidewalks, for not meeting with and listening to your citizens.

After all, did we not elect you?

Since Mr. Fred Caluori retired, the Public Works department has gone down drastically, to the worst level.

Overheard

GEORGES FLAHIFF, CLARKE AVE.

to the April 9,

→ "I like ice cubes from Iceland."
Young man to young woman, seemingly quoting another person disapprovingly. St. Catherine St. near Kensington, 2 pm on April 11.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount

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

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Anti-Bill 21 protests continue





Left-hand photo: Teachers and supporters gathered outside Westmount Park Elementary School April 17 at 2:30 pm to protest the CAQ government's Bill 21 on religious symbols. A group of about 50 people marched through Westmount Park to gather alongside Sherbrooke St. opposite the YMCA. "We want to show support for our teachers who wear the hijab and encourage our students to be inclusive," said teacher Suzanne Drouin (middle), seen here with fellow teacher Emilee Drouin (right). Right-hand photo: in Westmount Park on the way to Sherbrooke St. There were also protests outside Westmount High on April 3 (see April 9, p. 10) and at Dawson College CEGEP on April 9.



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1357 Greene Avenue 514-931-4980 Police Report

Arson squad arrests Edgehill firebombing suspect

By Martin C. Barry

Police at Station 12 say that a male suspect in his 40s has been arrested in conjunction with a series of fires set at an upper Westmount home since last year.

In the first incident last October 18, three cars parked in a shared driveway at residences on Edgehill Rd. near The Boulevard were destroyed after catching fire. Two of the vehicles belonged to the owners at one address, while the third was a neighbour's.

In another firebombing incident at the same address this past March 13, a suspect was seen breaking a ground floor front window and tossing something inside.

The ensuing blaze extensively damaged the ground floor front room, although the rest of the house was not as severely damaged. The police believe the suspect may also be linked to a firebombing incident in November, although it was not in Westmount.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, the Montreal police department's arson division arrested the suspect at his home in St. Laurent on the morning of April 10.

He said the investigators were able to identify and locate the suspect after viewing images from a video recording made by a nearby security camera.

According to Pimentel, the suspect is seen in the video emerging from a vehicle outside the home while carrying a container. He breaks a window and is seen tossing an unidentified object into the house.

The suspect then leaves the scene and flames are seen erupting within the house. When the investigators later examined the scene, they found the front window shattered, but couldn't find evidence of the ob-

ject that was tossed in. "However, the firemen did notice a gas odour," said Pimentel.

Witness leaves note

Station 12 investigators are confident they'll identify a motorist who damaged a motorcycle by knocking it over while parking on St. Catherine St. near Atwater Ave. thanks to a note with a licence plate number left behind by a witness.

The motorcycle's owner had parked on April 11 around 11 am while going to an appointment in the area. When he returned, he noticed that the note was left attached to his motorcycle. It said a vehicle had come into contact with the motorcycle, while providing the plate number.

According to the witness's report, the driver of the other vehicle caused the motorcycle to fall and hit the ground. Damage was done to the steering bar and there were scratches to the body. The suspect's vehicle was described as a white Kia.

"The investigator's going to be able to call the owner because there is a licence plate for this," Pimentel said, while adding that the incident will be treated as a hitand-run and subject to a fine.

Hit-and-run

A driver who parked his car during the late morning of April 11 on Sherbrooke St. near the corner of Melville Ave. noticed upon returning around 10 am the following day that his vehicle and the one parked behind it had signs of damage probably caused by a passing motorist.

However, the investigators found that the passing vehicle didn't leave behind any debris in what was evidently a sideswipe collision. However, there were traces of black paint on the plaintiff's vehicle, said Pimentel.

As well, there was dam- continued on p. 16



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Council adopts houses of worship value statements

Heritage landmarks, community resources assessed using many criteria

By Laureen Sweeney

Results of Westmount's four-year project to assess the historical, heritage, architectural and community importance of the city's dozen houses of worship were revealed last week.

At a time when most of the 12 were involved in the start of Easter or Passover preparations and services, city council April 15 adopted and released comprehensive and illustrated overviews on the value of each to the community.

With an aim to help find creative ways to preserve their viability as heritage-rated landmarks and community resources, the "value statements" were developed by specialists in the field and representatives of each congregation.

"It was a big job, a collaborative approach," said Urban Planning director Tom Flies.

The result, he said, is "important documentation that strikes a balance between the community, heritage and cultural value of these buildings in context with their overall being that's not just about bricks and mortar."

The assessment is a guide that can be used in their preservation through various means such as facilitating their existence through community use, or by zoning tools and other regulatory support, Flies explained.

Each of the houses of worship is portrayed over several pages of colourfully illustrated sections that trace their history and evolution, architecture and aesthetics as well as spiritual and community value with character-defining elements of each.

Treasured items

Many contain priceless stained glass

windows, art collections, memorial plaques, elaborate woodwork and world-renowned accoutrements including organs and artifacts, such as the Torah with coverings at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom. The elaborate ceiling and dome at St. Léon de Westmount, for example, was painted by Guido Nincheri, known as "Canada's Michelangelo."

Their governance, faith and community involvement is also described as well as their siting, which in some cases adds to their appeal as landmarks.

Sitings

This includes how some have been built into the natural incline (such as St. Matthias') or provide striking features in the environment (such as Westmount Park Church) or at the "open" core of the city (such as the large property of the Church of the Ascension across from the cenotaph and city hall).

Detailed are all 12 congregations listed from the north to south: Mountainside, Westmount Seventh Day Adventist, St. Matthias', Shaar Hashomayim, the Ascension of Our Lord, Westmount Baptist, Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom, Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox, St. Léon de Westmount, House of Prayer for All Nations, Bethel Gospel Chapel and Westmount Park.

St. Stephen's was sold and deconsecrated after the study began.

Began with heritage inventory

The launch of the project was announced with the city commissioning a heritage inventory by specialists Bergeron Gagnon (see story July 7, 2015, p. 4). This included an initial roundtable discussion with interest groups from each of the congrega-

ONE TOUCH. automation

ENVIRONMENT

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tions (see story September 8, 2015, p. 10) followed by individual discussions.

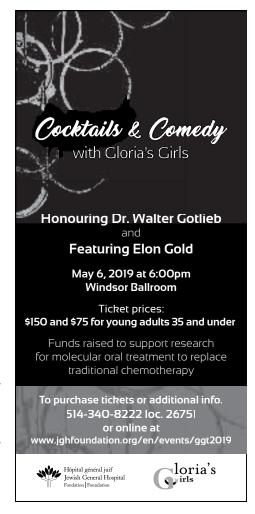
This first phase provided a bevy of information and photos (see story June 28, 2017, p. 6).

Once this was compiled, Flies said, "We started a first draft, which we shared with the houses of worship and went through the document with them to come to a conclusion. So what we have is a shared understanding."

Authors

Included are the names of those included in the discussions groups as well as the authors: Julia Gersovitz in her capacity as chair of the Local Heritage Council; Myriam St-Denis, its secretary, and Nathalie Jodoin, assistant director of Urban Planning.

The value statements were to be posted on the city website last week. Results of the city's survey of residents on the houses of worship (as reported April 2, p. 16) are also posted.





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New on the job – taking heat anyway





The Independent has noticed that the design of the bollards on the de Maisonneuve cycling path is new this year. They are attached to two hinges, allowing right-left and forward-backward motion (left, April 17), not "planted" as they were last year (right, April 17, 2018). This new one (bottom left) near the 4300 apartment building survived being run over by a garbage truck as it did a 180-degree turn to go back up Kitchener on April 3, but these two near Kensington (bottom right, April 13) are already at "half mast."





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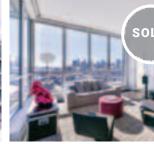
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Mighty Ducks win Senior B in intra-city play

The Mighty Ducks won the Senior B championship after a record-setting season, beating the Golden Knights 5-1 on April 9.

"The Ducks posted the best record in the history of the league (since stats have been kept) going 27-4-2 in the regular season and 6-0 in the playoffs," wrote captain Paul Starr in an email to the *Independent*.

4 out of 5

This is the team's fourth championship in the last five years.



Arthur Younanian

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From left, top row: Maximillian Cukier, Paul Starr, Kevin Gagnon, Nick Sugden, William Malkinson, Jacob Greenbaum and Jamie Koenekoop; bottom row: Jason Lachapelle, Richard Atlas, Derek Sigler, Josh Koenekoop, Ryan Meltzer and Zachary Sigler.



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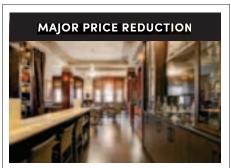


\$1,529,000

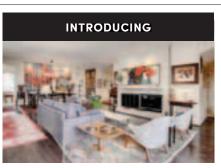




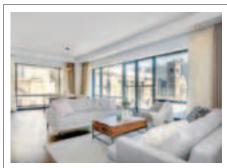
WESTMOUNT ADJ. I TRAFALGAR I \$ 2,995,000



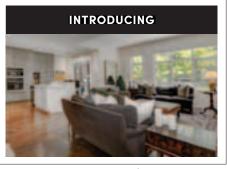
OLD MONTREAL | LE ST-REGIS | \$2,095,000



GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | LE PENFIELD | \$1,598,000



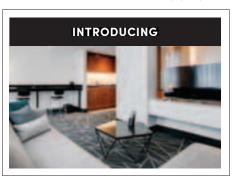
GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | ORO | \$1,499,888



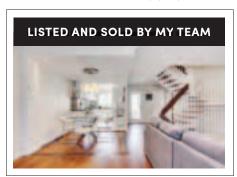
WESTMOUNT | 171 METCALFE | \$ 1.198.000



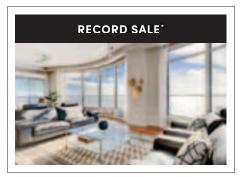
WESTMOUNT I WESTMOUNT SQUARE I \$ 989,000



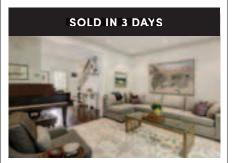
DOWNTOWN | CRYSTAL DE LA MONTAGNE | \$329,000



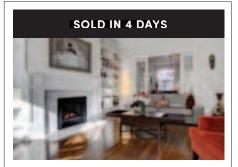
VILLE SAINT-LAURENT



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Visual Arts' Annual Student Exhibition 2019 draws crowds



Val Valiulis with her work (inset).

BY HEATHER BLACK

The April 4 vernissage of the Annual Student Exhibition 2019 at the McClure Gallery was standing room only.

On display was a mix of paintings, prints, photography, jewellery, and ceramics of 258 students created during the Visual Arts Centre's winter program. Visual Arts executive director Natasha Reid said, "The event shows the sense of community and excitement around our students, teachers and courses. It is also a wonderful way to show the relationship between the Mc-Clure Gallery and our school of art."

Many viewers commented on the centre's diversity of courses, warm atmosphere and professional instructors.

Val Valiulis, who took a course by Lorna Mulligan said, "I think everyone should try abstract painting. It is very liberating." Monique Martineau, whose portrait of Frank Auerbach was guided by Michael Merrill and Renée Duval, said, "I've been a student here for a long time. It is always convivial and teachers encourage talent."

Susan Joiner, who liked the intensity of a five-day workshop, praised her instructor Victoria LeBlanc, "She has a talent to see what each person needs."

Some of the works are also available for sale, with prices ranging from \$20 to \$2,050. The Annual Student Exhibition 2019 continues until April 27 at the McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria Ave.



Monique Martineau with Auerbach portrait (top left).



Susan Joiner with figurative painting (pink background).







PHASE II • 15 units remain • Delivery September 2019



M SUR LA MONTAGNE PHASE II • Unit 203



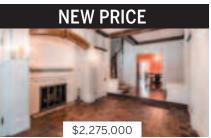
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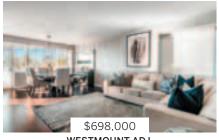
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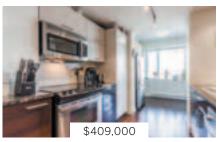
HAMPSTEAD MLS 162955960



MLS 16193907



WESTMOUNT ADJ. MLS 23539065



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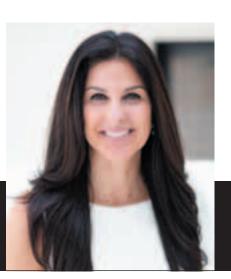


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Poetry month in Westmount



Ann Lloyd and Jean Carrière (wearing his "Leonard Cohen" hat)

The Westmount Public Library hosted a charming afternoon event on April 14. Celebrating Poetry Month with the Westmount Poetry Group, "Poetry and Pastry" was sold out. The readings covered themes ranging from potholes to mind games. Taking part were local res Ann Lloyd, the poetry class leader, with Jean Carrière, Barbara Sala, Burt Gilman, Mary Shingler, Janet Yensen, J. J. Lokshtanov, Judy Buzzell, Paul Pedicelli, Ludmila Uhde, Helaine

SOLD IN 5 DAYS*

Klinger, Rita Pomade and Catherine Juster. After the readings, the group presented Lloyd with a beautiful bouquet of appreciation. – VR

Police report, cont'd. from p. 8

age to one of the plaintiff vehicle's windows as well as a fender, and the driver-side door was scratched extensively.

Coffee with a cop on April 24

For Westmounters who have questions or security concerns, staff from Station 12 will be holding a "Coffee with a cop" event at Starbucks at 4943 Sherbrooke St. on April 24 from 11 am to 1 pm.

"It's an opportunity to come and meet the officers and have a cup of coffee and we will answer any questions," said Pi-

Anyone with questions on issues ranging from fraud to traffic infractions is welcome to drop by, he added. "We're here to de-mystify the role of the police. This is also an opportunity to build relationships and trust one coffee at a time."

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Cleaning the streets, and sidewalks





This street sweeper was hard at work on Sherbrooke at Victoria April 18 (left), while this "sidewalk sweeper" was on Edgehill Rd. April 16.

LEFT-HAND PHOTO: INDEPENDENT; RIGHT-HAND PHOTOS: RALPH THOMPSON





Westmount Adj - 3495 Av. de Vendôme Open House – Sunday, April 28, 2 – 4 pm



Hampstead – Aldred Crescent







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Visitez le **westmount.org/ewestmount** pour vous abonner et recevez les dernières nouvelles de votre Ville par courriel!

HÔTEL DE VILLE

Projet Turcot : fermeture de la rue Saint-Jacques entre Décarie et Girouard

La rue Saint-Jacques sera fermée du 15 avril jusqu'en août 2019 pendant les travaux de finition du pont Saint-Jacques. turcot.transports.gouv.qc.ca.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

L'heure du conte autour du monde -Session en italien

Le samedi 27 avril, 11 h, Bibliothèque. 514 989-5299.

Le groupe Teen Tour Theatre présente : Shakespeare Unbound (8 à 12 ans)

Le dimanche 28 avril, 14 h, Victoria Hall. 514 989-5299.

Club de films documentaires

Le mercredi 1er mai, 19 h, Bibliothèque. Anthropocene: The Human Epoch (2018). Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Conférences de 14 heures

Le mercredi 8 mai, 14 h, Bibliothèque. Michel Rochon. Des médicaments en trop? Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

EVENEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Appel aux artistes et auteurs -**Art Westmount 2019**

Date limite: le vendredi 24 mai, Art Westmount 2019 aura lieu les 5 et 6 octobre. Info et inscription : westmount.org/artwestmount ou 514 989-5265.

Galerie du Victoria Hall: Exposition

Du 11 avril au 10 mai., Victoria Hall. Œuvres de Ginette Gasse et Jennifer Goddard. Rencontre avec les artistes le mardi 23 avril à 19 h. 514 989-5265.

Théâtre: Mwana et le secret de la tortue

Le samedi 27 avril, 14 h., Victoria Hall. En collaboration avec le Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée. Billets requis. 514 989-5226.

Conférence : Parlons opéra!

Le dimanche 28 avril, 15 h, Victoria Hall. Carmen. Présenté (en anglais) par L'Opéra de Montréal. 514 989-5226.

Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 6 mai

Conférences-midi

Le mardi 30 avril, 12 h 30, Victoria Hall. Whole Person Care: Healing Healthcare avec Tom A. Hutchinson, MB, FRCP(C). En collaboration avec le Cercle canadien des femmes de Montréal. 10 \$/conférence. 514 989-5226.

Une soirée avec Ruth Reichl

Le vendredi 3 mai, 18 h, Victoria Hall. En collaboration avec Appetite for Books. Billets 10 \$ (frais offrant un rabais à l'achat du livre). 514 989-

Danse: Ballroom Blitz

Le samedi 4 mai, 20 h, Victoria Hall. Rumba, swing, valse et autres danses sociales. Bar payant. Billets 25 \$/20 \$ en avance. 514 989-5226.

Concert: Trio Canöe présente Hommage à Schumann

Le mercredi 8 mai, 19 h, Victoria Hall. En collaboration avec le Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée. Billets requis. 514 989-5226.

Conférence : Comprendre et se préparer à la réalité de la démence

Le mercredi 15 mai, 19 h, Victoria Hall. En collaboration avec la Division de gériatrie de l'Université McGill. Billets requis. westmount.org/dementia, 514 398-5390.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Collecte de résidus domestiques dangereux

Le dimanche 28 avril, 9 h à 17 h, Bibliothèque, 4574, rue Sherbrooke O. Élimination sécuritaire des résidus de peintures, solvents, piles et autres matières. Les vêtements et appareils électroniques usagés sont acceptés également. westmount.org.

Nouvelle compagnie pour la collecte des ordures et du compost

À partir du jeudi 2 mai. La compagnie Derichebourg sera le nouveau sous-traitant entrepreneur en charge de la collecte. Changements dans les trajets et les heures de collecte à prévoir. westmount.org/ordures ou 514-989-5311.

AMÉNAGEMENT URBAIN

Service de l'aménagement urbain fermé Le vendredi 3 mai et le vendredi 17 mai. Le

Service sera fermé à partir de 12 h les vendredis 3 et 17 mai prochain car le personnel sera en formation.



Yisit westmount.org/ewestmount to subscribe. and receive the latest news by email from your City.

CITY HALL

Turcot project: closure of Saint-Jacques Street between Decarie and Girouard

Saint Jacques Street will be dosed from April 15 to August 2019 during work to complete the Saint-Jacques bridge, turcot, transports, gourcques,

LIBRARY

Stories around the Globe talian Storytime

Saturday, April 27, 10 s.m., Ubrary, 514 989-5299.

Teen Tour Theatre Group presents: Shakespeare Unbound (8 to 12 yr olds)

Sunday, April 28, 10 a.m., Ultrary 514989-5299. **Documentary Film Club**

Wednesday, May 1, 7 pm., Ubrary, Anthropocene. TheHonian தன்மு (2018) Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

2 O'clock Lecture Series

Wednesday, May 8, 2 pm., Ubrary, Michel Rochon. Desinien/Laintents en trop?Ticketsrequired. 514 989-5299.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Call for artists and authors -Art Westmount 2019

Deadline to register: Friday, May 24, Art Westmount weekend will be on October 5 and 6. Register westmount.org/sirt/westmount or 514 989-5265.

Galerie du Victoria Hall: Exhibition

April 11 to May 10, Victoria Hall, Featuring Ginette. GasseandJernifer Goddard, West the artists on Tuesday, April 28 at 7 p.m. 514 989-5265.

Theatre: Mwana et le secret de la tortue

Saturday, April 27, 2 p.m., Mctoria Hall. In . collaboration with the Consell designts de Montréal entournée, Tickets required, 514 989-5226.

Lecture: Let's Talk Opera

Sunday, April 28, 3 p.m., Mctorb Hall, Camien. Presented in Brigish by L'Opéra de Montréal. 514 989-5226.

Afternoon Lecture Series

Tuesday, April 30, 12: 30 p.m., Ylctoria Hall. Whole Person Care: Healing Healthcare with Tom A. Hutchinson, AYB, FRCP(C). In collaboration with The Women's Caradian Club of Montreal, \$10/lecture. 514 989-5226.

Next Council Meeting Monday, May 6

An Evening with Ruth Reichl

Friday, May 3, 6 p.m., Victoria Hall, in collaboration with Appetite for Books Tickets \$10 (towards the book), 514 989-5226 .

Dance: Ballroom Blitz

Saturday, May 4, 8 p.m., Victoria Hall, Rumba, swing walts, and other social dances with a live. orchestra. Cash har, Tickets \$25/\$20 in advance. 514989-5226.

2 O'clock Lecture Series

Yvednesday, May 8, 2 p.m., Yictoria Hall, Arichel Rochon, *Des niedkomients en trop* 2Tickets required, 514 989-5299.

Concert: Trio Canöe presents Hommage à Schumann

Y/ednesday, May 8, 7 p.m., Victoria Hall. in collaboration with the Consell desiants dearrontreal en tournée. Tickets required, 514 989-5226.

Lecture: Understanding and Preparing for the Reality of Dementia

Wednesday, May 15, 2 p.m., Yictoria Hall, in: collaboration with McGill University's Division of Geriatric Medicine, Tickets required, \$14898-5890.

PUBLIC WORKS

Household hazardous waste collection

Sunday, April 28, 9 s.m. to 5 p.m., Library parking lot, 4574 Sherbrooke St. W.Bringpaint, solvents, batteries, and other materials for safedisposal. Used electronics and clothing will be collected the same day, westmount.org.

New company for garbage and compost

As of Titursday, May 2. Derich ebourg will be the newcontractor in drange of the collection. Changes in routes and collection times are to be expected. westmount.org/garbage or 514-989-5811.

URBAN PLANNING

Urban Planning Department closed

Friday, May 3 and Friday, May 17. The Department will be dosed as of 12 p.m. on Fridays, ¥Yay8 and 17, as the staff will be intraining.





Apartment company Akelius 'selective' when buying properties

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Although it's a name that only started to be seen outside apartment buildings in Westmount in recent years, Akelius is an up-and-coming player in the corporate ownership of residential apartments elsewhere in Montreal and many other cities worldwide.

Founded in Sweden in 1994, the company currently owns five buildings in Westmount: 4800 de Maisonneuve Blvd. (at Roslyn), 4557 Sherbrooke St. (at Strathcona), 266 Lansdowne Ave., as well as 1 and 10 Rosemount Ave.

"Our focus is on metropolitan areas," Julio Viana, the company's Montreal-based vice-president for asset management, said in an interview with the *Independent*.

He said the Akelius strategy for reducing its investment risk is to focus on acquiring properties that have potential for growth – primarily in or near downtown cores where the demand for rental apartments is high.

A second aspect of the strategy is to thoroughly refurbish all properties before they are made available. As well, Akelius never buys properties that are new, preferring buildings that are older and have acquired a certain air of charm, but need upgrading.

"Our apartments are renovated to a first-class standard, which means they are renovated to an equal or higher standard than new condominiums being built," said Viana. "It's been proven that there is a higher demand for first-class renovated apartments than for regular non-renovated apartments."

For decades now, apartment building ownership as a means of generating rental income has been perceived as a losing proposition by many investors. This also has helped to explain why residential condominium development has flourished at the same time.



Seen here on April 11 outside Akelius's Montreal headquarters on Drummond St. downtown, Akelius vice-president for asset management Julio Viana says the company is highly selective before deciding to purchase apartment properties.

So what have so many other landlords been doing wrong? And what is Akelius doing right? "A lot of landlords. they are just using their properties as a cash cow," said Viana. "They collect rent and they do the bare minimum to keep them running."

As for the second question, he explained, "Akelius is a long-term investor. We don't buy properties to flip and sell next year. We have long – 10-20 year – business plans for our properties. We might actually never sell."

While one can usually expect owners to pass their costs onto clients, Akelius manages to offer apartments at relatively competitive prices. (For example, a one-bedroom unit at 4557 Sherbrooke St. facing Westmount Park is listed on the Akelius website at \$1,000 per month.)

According to Viana, this is partly the result of the company's ability to achieve economies of scale. He said Akelius currently ranks No. 2 in Montreal in the corporately-owned apartment rental sector – just behind Canadian Apartment Properties Real Estate Investment Trust (CAPREIT).

However, Akelius is catching up: since 2018 the company has managed to nearly double its property holdings in Montreal, going from 1,884 to 3,858 apartment units

owned.

"We cherry pick our properties," he said. "We usually buy about six or seven per cent of the deals we receive from brokers. We are very selective in what we buy. So, of course, if there is a very attractive property, we will be looking at it. We are always looking for prime locations."

Akelius has 160 employees in Montreal. The company has live-in janitors at larger buildings, while smaller ones are overseen by roving superintendents. There's also a call centre for tenants to contact for questions, as well as maintenance and repair issues.



- Plaste
- Stripping, Wood finishing







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Consultez la liste complète des items acceptés au www.westmount.org

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Old Electronics

Computers, laptops, photocopiers, cellular phones, television sets, VCRs, camcorders, digital cameras, printers, toner cartridges, monitors, video game peripherals, fax machines, modems, portable audio players, and more.

Also accepted the same day: **Used Clothing**

Consult the complete list of accepted items at www.westmount.org





Info: 514 989-5390 westmount.org

The Westmount Independent's Spring Social Calendar, part 2



Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

See April 9, p. 20 and April 16, p. 20 for part 1.

MAY

THURSDAY, MAY 30

CHIP/CAPA's Comedy for a Cause fundraiser. Featuring award-winning comedian DJ Demers, of America's Got Talent and Just for Laughs fame. Hosted by actor, humorist and disability-rights activist Gael Hannan, with local talents Jon Selig, Serag, Meletian and CHIP's own Abby Stonehouse. Accessibility measures include closed captioning, T-Loop, full wheelchair access and sighted guides for people with low vision. ASL interpretation is available upon request by May 15, and braille (paper) tickets are also available upon request. 8 pm. Delta Hotel 475 President Kennedy Ave. Tickets \$30 (paper and online). comedy4cause.bpt.me. Information info@hearhear.org 514.488.5552 x 4500.

JUNE

SUNDAY JUNE 2

Legends Past and Present. Segal Centre's annual musical fundraiser. 2 – 7 pm. Segal Centre for the Performing Arts, 5170 Côte St. Catherine St. Box office 514.739. 7944. segalcentre.org

TUESDAY JUNE 4

Annual Open Gate Game Day Gala of the Leisure Institute of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, supporting the Open Gate program for aging seniors. A day of bridge, mah-jong and canasta with buffet luncheon and prizes. Valet parking. 11 am. Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, 425 Metcalfe Ave. Tickets start at \$65. Information 514.937.9474 x 139.

FRIDAY JUNE 7

Balls Ball benefiting Testicular Cancer Canada. Live performances, open bar, oyster bar, DJ dance party. 6-11 pm. Wilder Building, 1435 Bleury St. Tickets \$150. Information 514.963.3577. testicularcancer.ngo

Grand Prix Party. Annual cocktail celebration. Ritz-Carlton Montreal, 1228 Sherbrooke St. W. Tickets \$500. Information 514.840.1917. eventbrite.ca

WEDNESDAY JUNE 12

Chapeau Mont Royal. Gourmet benefit luncheon by Fairmont The Queen Eliza-

beth. Supporting Les amis de la montagne. Honorary president Édith Cloutier, president, Rogers-Quebec. Hat and formal attire. Tickets \$275. Chapeau-montroyal.com

MONDAY JUNE 17

27th Annual IGH Golf Classic. Honouring three medical chiefs, doctors Ruth Chaytor - surgery; Elizabeth MacNamara - medical biochemistry, and Louise Miner - director professional services. Co-chairs: Howard Dermer and Ted Matthews. Funds allocated to the JGH's Digital Health Initiative. Elmridge Country Club, 851 Cherrier, Île Bizard. \$5,000 per foursome. Information Annette Goldman 514.340.8222. Local 24602. agoldman@jgh.mcgill.ca

AGI's 8th Annual Golf Tournament. Supporting AGI's programs and services for those affected by or living with dementia in Montreal and the West Island. Hillsdale Golf and Country Club, 9850 Montée Sainte Marianne, Mirabel. Information 514.485.7233

Annual Cedars Golf Classic 18-Hole Tournament. Supporting Cancer Care Mission at the Cedars Cancer Centre. Players' brunch 10:30 am. Shotgun 12:30 pm. Cocktail and dinner 6 pm. Information Anna Burgos 514.656.6662 x 222. Anna. burgos@cedarscancer.ca. Cedars.ca

TUESDAY JUNE 18

Muscular Dystrophy Canada's Cabaret Cocktail. Honorary chair George Alexopoulos. Cocktail dînatoire, auctions, cabaret style music and dance. Le Windsor, 1170 Peel St. Tickets \$250. Information Kevin Harrison, kevin, harrison@muscle. ca. 1.800.567.2873 x 6158. Muscle.ca

JULY

THURSDAY, JULY 11

Canadian Hadassah-WIZO Montreal Centre (CHW) Annual Pro-Am for Kids **Golf Tournament.** For players of all ages, with a professional golfer from the Circuit Canada Pro Tour assigned to each team. Hillsdale Golf and Country Club, 9850 Montée Sainte Marianne, Mirabel. Information 514.933.8461. chw.ca/montreal

AUGUST

SUNDAY AUGUST 4

Montreal Highland Games benefitting the Douglas Mental Health University Institute Foundation. Pipe bands, highland dancers, athletes, family village, Celtic music. Douglas Hospital Grounds, 6875 LaSalle Blvd., Verdun. Information 514. 842.2030. montrealhighlandgames.com.

Gaston after his grooming!



9 Lives

Lysanne Fowler

Gaston is giving all his attention for this photograph: he is so pleased that he has company and a snack in the kitchen.

He is a beautiful young adult longhaired gold-and-grey tabby, now with a short trim, contrasted by bright green eyes. Gaston was rescued from abandonment by a caring family that has given him shelter, the best of food, a lion cut, vetting and neutering.

He had lost a toe on his foot and he walks gingerly, with a lot of energy to compensate!

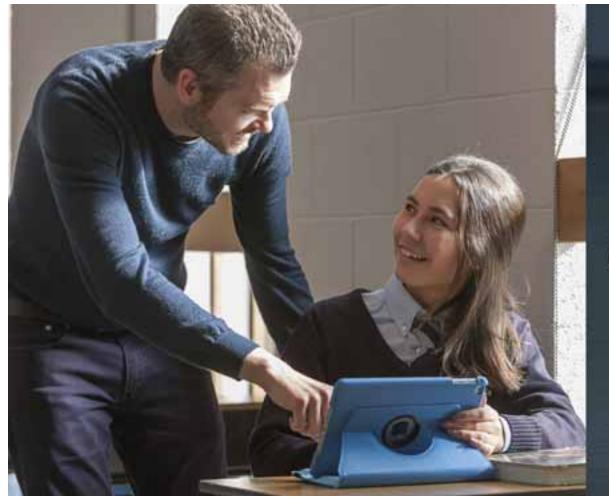
He is ready for a forever home and we are reaching out to our neighbours to find him a family he can settle in with as soon as possible. If you would like more information on him, please do not hesitate to contact Louise at 514.502.9594 or email at info@lachatouille.ca.

Your neighbour, Lysanne





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Promenade Parlante at Atwater Library and Computer Centre



Eric Craven with Wanda Potrykus at the library.



On April 13, 90 walkers met at the Atwater Library and Computer Centre for the guided tour *Promenade Parlante*.

Introduced by Cynthia Hammond, of Concordia University's Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling, and community and development librarian Eric Craven, the 90-minute walk featured media-based performances or "episodes" on urban change in Shaughnessy village. Many of presentations were developed by library seniors, whom Hammond described as public witnesses "rarely considered in the fields of urban studies and ar-



Inuit throat singers Niap Saunders (left) and Lucinda Gordon.

chitecture." Ramsay Blair's animated short "Crazy Walk" opened the event before the group, led by Hammond, crossed the street to the first performance in Cabot Square.

There, Wendy Allen introduced explorer John Cabot, an accompanying audio of a native presentation, and a performance by Inuit throat-singers Niap Saunders and

Lucinda Gordon. The group then crossed St. Catherine St., where Concordia University research chair in performative urbanism, Dr. Shawna Janssen, introduced "The Seville: a Phantasmagoria." Viewed through 3D headsets, images of the former theatre, text and music drew attention to "its physical absence from the built envi-



ronment." Walkers then continued to the Canadian Centre for Architecture, where Hammond and 16 women in red lipstick and white-raincoats embodied former residents of Shaughnessy House when owned from 1933 to 1973 by the Sisters of Service.

At the centre's sculpture garden, Westmounter Wanda Potrykus – wearing a skyscraper headdress – took on the guise of a human sculpture. An audio of her work "A Shaughnessy Village Riddle Poem" played simultaneously in both English and French.

'Manoir Du Souvenir'

The fifth and final episode followed – Craven's short film "Manoir Du Souvenir: ghost, animals, and politicians." On return to the library, the event was closed by Lilian Harper's brief history of the Mechanics' Institute (which the Atwater Library originally was) "Saturday Night ..." – filmed at the October *Promenade Parlante* for the Oral History Association conference at Concordia University.

A collaboration between the library's Digital Literacy Project and Concordia's Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling, both Janssen's and Hammond's performances were created for the April 13

Hammond said: "The seniors mentored us in our episodes. This project is a genuine exchange of knowledge across generations."

Potrykus, who also contributed to the library's Living History Project commented: "I delved into so many fascinating subjects in my neighbourhood and learned so much along the way. It's great to have such a positive response from the audience."

Craven – as coordinator of the Digital Literacy Project – worked closely with local seniors including Westmounter Penelope Cumas as well as Blair, Allen, Potrykus and Harper. He said: "We help participants learn to express themselves and work toward creative goals through digital media."

Promenade Parlante was funded in part by a grant from the Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada.

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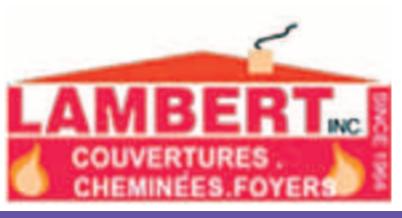
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Social Notes Veronica Redgrave

It was a time for tiaras.

At the annual Viennese gala, glittering crowns were worn by the 2018 débutantes, über-elegant in white gowns and long white gloves. The moment was more than memorable. It was a sensational selfie

Forsaking their urban outfits for one magic eve, 14 lovely ladies were Cinderellas accompanied by dashing escorts.

The Austrian Society of Montreal's signature event, the ball has been celebrating the splendour of the Viennese tradition for 60 years. To mark the occasion, the 2018 eve was named the Diamond Ball.

It was held under the distinguished patronage and in the presence of the Austrian ambassador to Canada Stefan Pehringer, and of the honorary consul general of Austria, Westmounter Marc Bissell, there with his wife Morli Shemesh.

Joining them at the head table were Montreal city councillor Craig Sauvé; honorary vice consul of Austria Elisabeth Canisius; president of the Austrian Society, Harold Scheer and Ewa Dorynek-Scheer;

Viennese Ball continues elegant tradition



From left, back row: Aliza Assmann, Sandra Maria Stoia, Morgane Harney and Nicole Ross; middle row: Lisa Maria Paun, Mégane Dubeau, Lucia Diaz Fino, Anna Andraos and Isabelle Kuhn; front row: Malgorzata Anna Niczyporuk, Debby Zhang, Loania Quninzanos Restivo, Blanche Perraud and Elena Cecilia Botsis.

and Westmount designer Astri Prugger, ball president, who created the debs' stylish dresses and was there with husband John McGaughey.

The soirée opened with a champagne reception where arriving guests were welcomed by musicians playing Austrian melodies. Courtesy of the city of Vienna, ladies' gifts were Ciro bracelets inspired by the 19th century Empress Sissi's jewelry.

Guests were entertained by soprano Chelsa Rus continued on p. 26

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John McGaughey and Astri Prugger with daughters Katrina, Clara and Anna McGaughey, and Glenn Wolfe.

Social notes, cont'd. from p. 24

a Schulich School of Music grad and first winner of the Wirth Voice Competition, who sang with Opera McGill's **Nathaniel Stern**

Charming little dancers enchanted one and all with a ballet performance. They were followed by their teachers: professional principal dancers **Sandra Muehlbauer** and **Diego Castro** from dance school **Tutu Deluxe**. Schulich voice and opera student **Olivia Barnes** performed a rousing rendition of "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend."

The highlight of the evening was when the débutantes were officially presented to visiting dignitaries before performing the opening Strauss waltz with their cavaliers. Débutantes were Anna Andraos, Aliza Maria Assmann, Elena Botsis, Lucia Diaz-Fino, Megane Dubeau, Morgan Harney, Isabelle Kuhn, Malgorzata Anna Niczyporuk, Lisa Maria Paun, Blanche Perraud, Loania Quinzanos Restivo, Nicole Ross, Sandra Maria Stoia and Debby Zhang.

Their dashing escorts were Eden Alati-Coventry, Boris Angelis, Loukas Antonelli, Jules Bilinski, Evangelos Botsis, Justin Briand, Fletcher Bryce Davis, Zachary Côté, Razvan Ivan, Zenith Ismaeel Neyaz, Neel Soman, Gabriel Stoelzel, Ryan Thérien and Léo Vaillancourt.

Noted were Westmounters Naomi and Eric Bissell, honorary life president B'nai Brith; sisters Anna, Clara and Katrina Mc-Gaughey, Suzanne Crawford and Paolo Renzi, and Claudette Dagenais and Lionel Collins as well as Antoinette von Hahn and Jason McCallum, president of St. Andrew's Ball; Michèle Boyer and Dave Greiner, senior vp, SOS Children's Villages Canada; Evelyn Schindler-Hill and Peter Hill, past Austrian Society President; Diane Henry and Jamie Heward; Anouk and Stuart Iversen with their son Alexis Iverson and Sophie Lamarche; Colette Charest and Roger Casgrain; Diana Wall and Luc Paquette, and LOVE board member Isabel Valenta.

The event raised funds for the Austrian-founded SOS Children's Villages, the Schulich School of Music of McGill University, L.O.V.E. (Leave out Violence), the Alexander von Humboldt German International School and DSQ (German Language Schools of Quebec).



Andrew MacDougall and Chantal Montreil.



Eric Bissell with wife Naomi Bissell.

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

- ► Turcot project Bon voisinage meeting. Victoria Hall. 7 pm.
- ▶ Victor Bourgeau exhibition. Hurtubise House, 563 Côte St. Antoine. 3 to 7 pm. *Continues to Sunday, May 5.*

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

Public consultation on 4160 Sherbrooke (see story April 9, p. 1). City hall. 7 pm.

Monday, April 29

First of a series of sports nutrition sessions by Eat This for Performance. Free. Café Mouton Noir, Westmount recreation centre. Register at et4p.com/reserve. 7 pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

Public consultation on 500 Claremont (see story April 9, p. 1). City hall. 7 pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

Community Garage Sale, including kids' activities, for sending needy kids to

summer camp. Table rental: \$25. Centre Greene. 10 am to 4 pm.

Monday, May 6

City council meeting. City Hall. 7:30

Tuesday, May 7

Public PAC meeting on St. Léon school extension. City hall. 8:30 am.

SATURDAY MAY II

The Krishnamurti Information Centre of Montreal is presenting two videos in English with French subtitles, on the subjects of "The Violent Self, Death" and "Leaving the Stream," at the Atwater Library, 2nd fl, 1200 Atwater Ave., , \$7. Info – 514.937.8869. 2 to 4 pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

Lionel Perez, lawyer, entrepreneur and member of the Montreal city council. Lecture followed by lunch. \$5, reservation appreciated: 514.937.9474 x 139. Shaar Hashomayim, 425 Metcalfe Ave. 12 noon.



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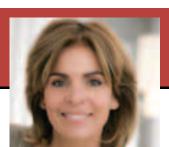
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