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WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 10 No. 8d

We are Westmount

August 30, 2016

Construction values down by 26% in 2015

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The value of construction permits in Westmount for 2015 hit a three-year low of \$63.6 million, according to city figures released last week. The amount represents a 26-percent decrease over the previous year.

The continued downturn resulted from a lack of multi-million development projects, such as condo projects and the Westmount recreation centre, that boosted construction to the record high of \$108.5 million reflected in permits issued in 2012.

"In 2015, we did not have the big condo projects we had in 2014 like 1250 Greene and 175 Metcalfe," said Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

"The value of one or two 'biggies' makes a difference, especially when it comes to plumbing" (see story August 25, 2015, p. 1). Luxury condos, she said, can include many washrooms and expensive fixtures. The values as declared on building and plumbing permits by applicants at the time of issue are typically considered to be a

continued on p. 2

Gasoi sings to the small ones



Grammy-winning children's musician Jennifer Gasoi was singing in Westmount Park August 24. She was there as part of the Mummies List's park concert summer series. Photo: Ralph Thompson

Letters p. 8

Underdog Club BY J. DAVEY p. 17

Social Notes BY V. REDGRAVE p. 18

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Too noisy in the city?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A number of construction complaints were received by Public Security between August 17 and 22. Most involved work continuing after the 6 pm summer deadline, officials said. Is it that people have started returning from the peace and quiet they became accustomed to in the country, Public Security officials asked?

When warned of Westmount's 6 pm construction deadline, many contractors were reported as saying they were unaware of the summer hours, which aren't in force

in most other communities. Otherwise, construction is permitted until 9 pm on weekdays.

The summer hours from June 25 to September 15, Monday through Saturday, were adopted by council May 6, 2013 in an effort to reduce noise for residents wanting to enjoy an evening in the garden (see story May 14, 2013, p. 1).

Among the complaints logged was noise from 245 Victoria August 17, where workers were found throwing debris down from the building into a refuse container at 7:40

continued on p. 17

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Reno activity keeps numbers of permits up

cont'd. from p. 1

barometer of economic activity.

On the other hand, the actual number of these permits fell only 2 percent to 1,223 last year compared to the total of 1,249 the previous year, indicating that the amount of renovation work had not slowed appreciably.

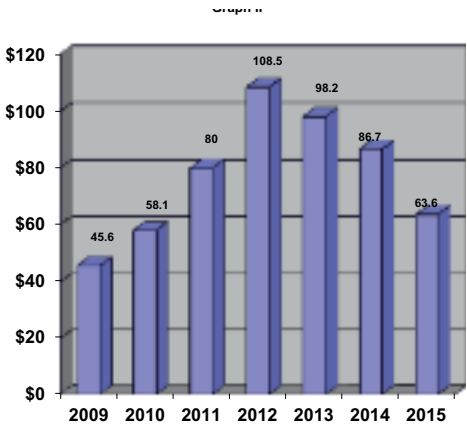
It also illustrated how the majority of the work involved many smaller projects to extend and update private homes.

One new start

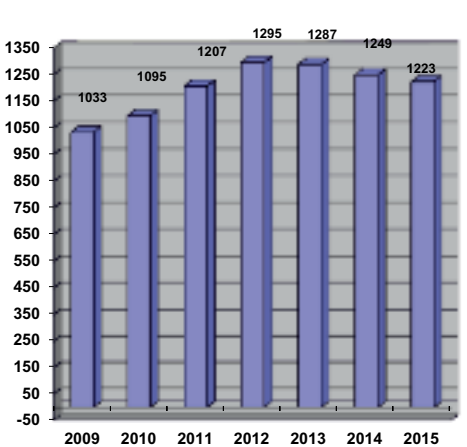
The only permit issued for a new construction start was for a new house at 46 Surrey Gardens at a value of \$1.7 million. This compared with \$18.7 million in new starts the previous year for two new houses and the condo building at 175 Redfern.

In a breakdown of other categories, Westmounters' continued appetite for renovating and adding more living space to single-family dwellings gobbled up some \$32 million of work, nearly half the total \$63.6 million. Among them was the partial demolition and enlargement of 3717 The Boulevard (see story May 26, 2015, p. 3).

This category was followed by \$12.5 million of commercial renos, \$7.7 million to



Value in millions of dollars of building and plumbing permits issued 2009-2015.



Number of building and renovation permits issued 2009-2015.

Graphs courtesy of Urban Planning

apartment buildings, \$7 million in assembly and institutional buildings, \$2.2 million in government buildings and \$682,700 for municipal buildings.

Alexis Nihon work


Among some of the major renovations

and alterations undertaken was \$5.1 million of work at Alexis Nihon Plaza for renovation of parking level P2 and interior work. Another \$1 million at the same location related to the Canadian Tire store.


Another permit for \$1.9 million was approved for work at the Atwater Metro.

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New house for Westmount Ave. posed many challenges

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A permit to build a new single-family dwelling at a high profile location on Westmount Ave. was approved by city council August 1 after a challenging design period.

The new house is to rise alongside the large diagonally positioned one at the corner of Forden, a Category I heritage-rated house designed by Robert Findlay, the renowned architect of Westmount Public Library in 1899.

The juxtaposition of the new house in relation to those on Westmount Ave. and the Findlay house at 65 Forden presented a challenging situation of integration, according to Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

The 8,000 square-foot vacant lot had long been regarded as part of the same Findlay property since both have belonged to owners and residents of 65 Forden, whose terrace encroaches on the other lot.

The city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) "was very difficult to satisfy in this project," said architect Adam Borowczyk of Atelier-URA (formerly Architettura).

"They were very picky because of the Findlay house. So in the beginning, we were not in agreement. Should the new house be designed as a corner building or be part of the Westmount Ave. houses?"

A further challenge, he said, was presented by the fact that the narrow lot is part of the R1 zoning for Forden, which has different building criteria from the adjacent R2 zone on Westmount Ave.

"In the end, we reached a compromise," Borowczyk explained. The house will not be designed as a corner one but will be aligned with those on Westmount Ave. Instead, the two properties will be integrated through landscaping as part of other work under way at 65 Forden.

2,000 square feet per floor

The new house is to have two storeys

plus attic and basement, "built of brick and some cut stone elements with slate roof as per Westmount requirements," Borowczyk said.

The house is designed to extend far back with garages at the rear at the basement level creating a large terrace for the ground floor. Each floor contains almost 2,000 square feet. The encroaching terrace belonging to 65 Forden will be removed.

Most of the trees at the back of the new house also will have to be removed be-

cause they are hollow inside, Borowczyk said.

While the permit was approved by council (see building permits, p. 15), it won't be picked up until after more drawings are submitted to the city.

Once built, the new house will be for sale, he said.

Select, desirable

Both the Findlay-house
property and the vacant lot *continued on p. 7*



A rendering of the new house to be built between 4350 Westmount Ave. and 65 Forden Ave. pending a few modifications, such as a slightly higher corner turret and portico with two classical columns.

Image courtesy of Adam Borowczyk.

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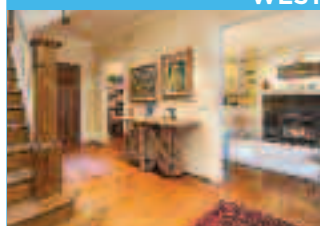
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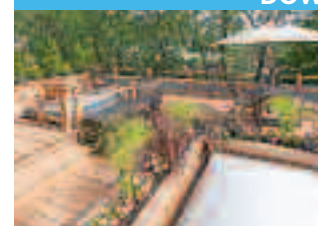
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New faces, new names this

By MARTIN C. BARRY

A new academic year means new faces at schools in Westmount – including teachers. Here's a sampling of some of the new names that will soon become familiar to pupils at several local schools.

Roslyn school

Danica Lewington has just joined the administrative staff as vice principal at Roslyn school. "She comes to us from her previous post as vice principal at James Lyng Adult Centre," principal Nicholas Katalifos wrote in an email to the *Independent*.

The list of new teaching staff at Roslyn includes: Nicholas Murray (bilingual grade 5), Gurpreet Kaur (English grade 4 and 5), Travis Ross (English generalist grade 4), Anabel Fournier (French grade 4 and 5), Amunita Fall (French grade 3), Felicity Spence (French grade 2) and Katie Nicol (autism spectrum disorder class). There are two new secretaries in addition to the teachers.

The Study

"The Study is pleased to be welcoming an accomplished group of 11 new teachers

and staff members," said Susan Orr-Mongeau, the school's director of communications.

According to Orr-Mongeau, new staff and faculty recently attended a two-day orientation workshop, which included mentorship, professional development and pedagogical technology sessions. She says The Study also recently welcomed Kim McInnes as The Study's new elementary school director.

"Mrs. McInnes brings a wealth of expertise and experience as an elementary school leader in Toronto," Orr-Mongeau said, while adding that McInnes spent the summer learning about The Study's strategic plan, as well as the school's mother-tongue elementary bilingual programs and its pedagogical technology program.

She says The Study's staff and faculty were looking forward to the arrival of 68 new students on August 29.

ECS

Beginning with the fall semester, faculty and staff changes at ECS include a new head of school, new teachers and several new administrators.

ECS's new head, Lynn L'Esperance Claude, continued on p. 5

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fall at schools in Westmount

comes to the school with more than 15 years experience as a bilingual educator. Most recently, she was the principal of the New Frontiers School Board's St. Willibrord School and Community Learning Centre in Chateauguay.

Previously, she was interim principal of Heritage elementary school in Huntingdon and vice principal of Howard S. Billings High School in Chateauguay. Prior to becoming a school administrator, she taught high-school English and world history for ten years. L'Esperance Claude holds a bachelor of education and masters of arts in educational leadership from McGill University.

Here is a list of new teaching staff at

ECS this fall: Isabelle Racine, junior school French and math teacher; Marie-Christine Rivest, junior school French and geography teacher; Audrée Baril-Lafrenière, junior school French teacher and special needs teacher; Stéphanie Ruest, junior school French, and math and science teacher; Warren Crawford, middle/senior school English and drama teacher; Samantha Mastromonaco, middle/senior English teacher.

ECS will also see several new members in its administrative staff: Tara Young, school secretary; Rebecca Riordon, junior school assistant; Melissa Keller, extended day program coordinator.

Woman falls, driven home by contractor, then work

A Westmount resident suffered facial injuries after falling at Côte St. Antoine and Argyle August 22, Public Security officials said. She stated she had been looking at the construction trucks working on reconstruction of the Argyle sidewalks when falling at 5:51 pm. The woman was evalu-

ated by fire department first responders but said she just wanted to go to work. She then accepted an offer from the contractor's foreman to drive her home to get cleaned up and then to go on to work. She lives on Victoria.



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Compromise struck in positioning



The site of a new house on Westmount Ave. August 12 adjacent to 65 Forden, at right.



A drawing from Atelier-URA of the proposed home's west-side elevation shows a terrace over the garages at the rear. The front door (unseen to the left) faces Westmount Ave.

Soccer ball hits jogger in head

A Westmount woman suffered a possible concussion after being hit in the head by a soccer ball August 22, Public Security officials said. She had been jogging past the soccer fields in Westmount Park at the time. Two youths stated the ball had gone over the fence and hit her as she went by. Officers were called to the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) at 5:52 pm, where they met with the woman being cared for by WRC staff. Her sister was taking her to the hospital.

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new house

cont'd. from p. 3

belong to the character area (number 13) called "Forden and Murray Park" in the city's *Renovating and Building in Westmount* series. A profile of this area describes it as "mostly developed between 1908 and 1928. It remains one of the most select and desirable ones in the city."

"Almost all houses have sloped roofs that are usually multi-gabled and are generally in slate," according to the defining characteristics of the area. All houses are detached or semi-detached of rough cut stone or brick. "Features commonly found on both types of façade are dormer windows and chimney stacks on gabled end walls facing the street."

Robert Findlay, who designed 65 Forden and lived in Westmount, was the architect of many municipal buildings and residences. Many of his later projects took place in partnership with his son Frank.

Injured crow rescued

An injured crow was taken to the SPCA August 17, according to Public Security officials. It was found at 310 Côte St. Antoine.

PSOs catch graffiti group in park, one ticketed \$718

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

An 18-year-old Westmount man was arrested for spray-painting graffiti in Westmount Park in the early hours of August 23, Public Security officials said. He was caught in the act in a group of three, as black paint was being applied to a bench and pavement.

One of the trio fled, but two were detained by officers and ticketed \$77 each for violating the midnight park curfew. The one formally arrested was given another ticket for \$641 for defacing public property and is also expected to receive a bill for the cost of graffiti removal.

Although police were called to the scene, "it was decided not to charge him criminally since he had no previous record of any offences," said Public Security director Greg McBain.

In relating the incident, McBain said the trio came to the attention of two officers patrolling the park at 12:55 am who spotted them in the centre maze area and approached to warn them about the curfew.

As the officers drew closer, however, they could smell fresh paint, hear the hiss of an

aerosol can and see someone spraying the pavement.

Hand covered in paint

The three were told they were being detained, causing one to take off heading east through the park. Officers made the decision to stay with the two already detained, McBain explained. "We had the one who had done it." He had black paint on his hand and was the one seen at work. The suspect was read his rights.

He asked to call his mother and then handed the phone to officers to speak to her. She asked where they were in the park so she could join them. Police, who had been called at 1:04 am to help with identification, arrived at 1:31 am and read the suspect his rights a second time.

When the mother joined them at 1:35 am, she was reported to have taken photos of the graffiti which included a phone number on the bench and a large black heart on the pavement being pierced by an arrow.

Both of those detained were identified as local residents aged 18.

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WESTMOUNT SQUARE

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LAMENTING ABSENCE OF BUS SHELTER

Regarding “Bus shelter, phone booth disappear from Sherbrooke/Grosvenor,” (August 16, p. 1), no, they did not “disappear;” they were removed to help someone’s bottom line.

I do hope the owner of the private property on which the bus shelter was located is comfortable with his decision. I fear, however, that those waiting for the bus in the cold or rain will be far less comfortable. What a selfish move! But all is not lost. I assume the “nice awning” will remain in place all winter by way of compensation.

BARRY PLESS, LANSDOWNE AVE.

Editor’s note: Please read our story in the August 23 issue, p. 3, which reports “City officials and the Société de transport de Montréal (STM) are currently discussing the issue of a replacement shelter. – KM

PROHIBIT SMOKING IN PARKS

We all agree this past summer has been great. With September, comes the students back at Dawson. I know because I live next to Queen Elizabeth Park at the corner of

Wood and Sherbrooke.

They make themselves very present in this Westmount park and push away the regular users of the playground.

Recently, just before dinner time, I met a mother and her son. He was 5 or 6 years old. He wanted to use the swings before going home. Three young men were sitting at the mini picnic table in the playground area, smoking weed in a thick blue cloud of smoke.

My wish is that Westmount would pass a law to prevent anybody from smoking *anything* in any Westmount park. Put up signs and enforce it. It’s a matter of public health and respect for park users.

ANNE ROBERT, ELM AVE.

POOL SCHEDULE, PLEASE

I am a 7 am swimmer. On August 25, I went out at about 9 am and discovered that the heat of the summer had returned with a vengeance. The Westmount recreation centre pool, which has been overwhelmed all summer with young and old, now sits empty at least half the regular summer hour schedule.

Requests to the city to reverse the re-

cent decision to sharply reduce pool hours have been discouraged by the administration. With the exception of Councillor Patrick Martin, who has taken our concerns via email and has committed himself to see if current policies should be changed, i.e. reverting to the old regular pool schedule and extending the pool opening into September,* as several municipalities have already done. (See recent article in the *Gazette*.) Nothing has happened.

On August 23, a fellow early-morning swimmer arrived at the pool at 7 am, not having heard of the switch to the recently announced change in pool hours, and was refused entry. As he left, he noticed that the Masters group were in the pool training at their regular 7 am session. There was no one else in the pool.

This exception to the pool restriction had not been mentioned in any of the schedules on pool hours. Would the administration please inform the public as to what the new pool schedule and periods of public usage are from now on?

PETER WELDON, ACADEMY RD.

** Editor’s note: For our most recent story on the pool schedule, please read “Pool adopts post-season hours, last day Sept. 5,” in the August 23 issue, p. 4. – KM*

LINES FOR PARKING, PLEASE

Still waiting for parking to “correct itself.” (See story April 19, p. 29.)

Large spaces between cars means one less car per section. There are many sections where two cars could park, but someone parks their car in the middle. The photos (below) are in a two-block area the morning of August 26.

We need parking lines!

THOMAS FORESTELL, OWNER,
WESTMOUNT STATIONERY

WESTMOUNT PARK LOOKING WORN DOWN

Along the pathway facing the children’s play area is an absolutely stunning flowerbed. There are several smaller examples of these floral highlights. However, the park looks like the blighted time of King Arthur’s reign. At the July 4 council meeting, Councillor Cynthia Lulham, the Parks commissioner, revealed that the park needs a “major redevelopment.”

This is no surprise, considering the patchy pathways, brown land, depleted lawns and a rose garden that looks like it was electrocuted.

Public Works has undertaken some work this year. Ms. Lulham said that the park is being divided into quadrants for future restoration. But, at present, there is no priority given to this much-needed work. The mayor says the money is there. So what is the problem? Ms. Lulham said that infrastructure is the order of the day.

Fine, but we have emerged from a seven-month long winter. Parks restoreth the soul. They are essential to our well-being. Of course we all want sewers that don’t back up and clear drinking water. But the city has miles to go before it can rest on its laurels. We need to find an equitable approach in preserving our
continued on p. 9



Photos were taken on Prince Albert August 26.

Photos courtesy of T. Forestell



“This beautiful flowerbed lies alongside the pathway of the children’s playground at Westmount Park,” wrote John Fretz.

Photo courtesy of J. Fretz

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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Public Works, Protective Services to get building upgrades

City council awarded a contract August 1 to Polygone Construction Inc. for work on the roof and exterior repairs to the Public Works office and stores building at the city's Corporation Yard, 1 Bethune. The amount of the quote including taxes was \$525,179. It was the lowest of five quotes ranging as high as \$697,967 from Melk Construction.

Council approved a permit for the work August 15 which includes replacing win-

dows and a door as well as mechanical units on the roof (see list of August permits, p. 15).

The council also authorized the replacement of windows and doors at the Protective Services building on Stanton St. for \$37,349 by R. Cortecans et Fils Inc. No other quotes were received. Background documents stated it was the second time the city had called for quotes, the first time being May 18 when none were received.

Letters cont'd. from p. 8

Our admirable Public Works department consistently achieves wonders. But they can only respond in accordance with their allocated budget, and in obtaining adequate personnel and resources. Also, the increased by 40 percent infrastructure spending this year imposes a greater supervisory workload on Public Works. It is regrettable that parks inevitably receive a downgraded importance in matters of expediency. Westmounters are entitled to a 2017 budget plan that is clear and doesn't lurch from year to year.

JOHN FRETZ, LANSDOWNE AVE.

Hydro not to blame

A report of a "hazardous" condition caused by two loose bricks at the corner of the building at 4833 Sherbrooke was investigated by patrollers August 18, Public Security officials said. The complainant said the problem might have been caused by Hydro Westmount doing work nearby. Officers found the work had involved a pole transformer "quite a distance away" and that workers had not touched the building, whose owner was subsequently informed of the bricks.

The building houses the SAQ outlet among others.



VILLE DE | CITY OF
WESTMOUNT



BUREAUX MUNICIPAUX FERMÉS

Le lundi 5 septembre 2016 : Fête du travail

Les bureaux administratifs de la Ville de Westmount, dont l'Hôtel de ville, le Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount et les Services de la sécurité publique, des sports et loisirs et des travaux publics, seront fermés le lundi 5 septembre en raison de la Fête du travail. La Bibliothèque publique de Westmount sera fermée le dimanche et le lundi.

Il n'y a aucun changement quant aux collectes des résidus alimentaires et des ordures, qui s'effectueront selon l'horaire normal.

La séance du conseil est remise au mardi 6 septembre à 20 h.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES CLOSED

Monday, September 5, 2016: Labour Day

The administrative offices of the City of Westmount, including City Hall, Victoria Hall, Hydro Westmount, Public Works, Public Security and Sports & Recreation, will be closed Monday, September 5 for the Labour Day holiday. Westmount Public Library will be closed Sunday and Monday.

The kitchen waste and garbage collections will take place according to the regular schedule.

The council meeting has been moved to Tuesday, September 6 at 8 p.m.


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RECENTLY PURCHASED

\$4,988,000[†]

WESTMOUNT | MAJESTIC RESIDENCE
Spectacular custom built home with stunning city views located on a pool-sized lot. While the exterior is in keeping with Westmount's traditional heritage, the interiors are decidedly contemporary.

JOSEPH MONTANARO* 514.660.3050

RECENTLY PURCHASED

\$2,598,000

WESTMOUNT | DETACHED RESIDENCE
Bright and spacious detached residence perched in Upper Westmount offering sunfilled rooms with gracious proportions. The master bdrm occupies the entire 2nd floor with an ensuite, 2 walk-ins, a 2nd bdrm/office & private balcony. 2 car integrated garage. MLS 28813477

ALFEE[†] & LIZA KAUFMAN[†] 514.788.2160

RECENTLY PURCHASED

\$1,750,000

WESTMOUNT | SUN-DRENCHED HOME
Beautifully maintained and upgraded 4+1 bedroom home on desirable Belmont Ave. featuring high ceilings, gourmet kitchen & eat-in area, central a/c, finished basement, detached 2 car garage, backyard with direct access to Murray Hill park. A must see! MLS 21532278

ROCHELLE CANTOR* 514.605.6755

RECENTLY PURCHASED

\$1,685,000[†]

WESTMOUNT | COMPLETELY RENOVATED
Located on the flats btwn Murray Hill park & Westmount park. This home offers a combination of a wonderful blend of traditional appeal & modern conveniences. Spacious & bright rooms, fabulous kitchen & gorgeous private backyard & 2-car parking.

LAURIE TENENBAUM* 514.248.7272

RECENTLY REDUCED

\$748,000

WESTMOUNT ADJACENT | CHARMING TOWNHOUSE
Superb multi level sunfilled corner unit with beautifully landscaped private garden & rooftop terrace. Recessed Southwest. 3+1 bedrooms, 3+2 baths. 2 parking spots. In proximity to the Mont-Royal. Peaceful living in the heart of the city. MLS 18702430

KARINE DOCHE* 514.677.6244
NAYLA SALEH* 514.941.6244

INTRODUCING

\$4,000/mo

WESTMOUNT ADJ. | MANOIR BELMONT
Luxurious furnished condo for rent on the 5th floor of Manoir Belmont's historic front building. Ideal for a mature couple who needs a second bdrm or an office/guest room. High ceilings and skylight in kitchen. Garage. Pool. 24/7 doorman. MLS 26502811

GHISLAINE ADELAND* 514.731.6378

INTRODUCING

\$1,495,000

WESTMOUNT ADJACENT | TRIPLEX
Located in Victoria Village and a few minutes to the new Super Hospital, this completely renovated triplex has been overhauled from top to bottom. Quality details and design. Perfect turn-key investment property with excellent revenue potential. An amazing opportunity! MLS 13972254

KAREN ROSSY** 514.963.6311

RECENTLY REDUCED

\$988,000

NDG | WESTMOUNT ADJACENT
Classy and elegant 4+1 bedroom and 3+1 bathroom townhouse located in the prestigious Square des Gouverneurs enclave. Double parking garage and a private backyard offers an extraordinary quality of life. Steps from Villa-Maria Metro and Monkland Village. MLS 27455389

SAUL CIECHA* 514.941.6248

INTRODUCING

\$1,595,000

WESTMOUNT | ELEGANTLY VICTORIAN RESIDENCE
This outstanding Victoria home has kept its original wood work, paneled walls, high ceilings. The home features large entrance hall, spacious reception rooms, a large eat-in kitchen, ground floor basement. A double car garage with direct access. MLS 14958249

ANNE BEN-AMI (MADAR)* 514.726.3037

INTRODUCING

\$1,398,000

WESTMOUNT | CLASSIC COTTAGE
Wood Ave: Westmount's most-sought after Priest's farm on the flat. Cross-hall living room & dining room, 4 bedrooms, 2+1 bathrooms, large basement playroom, 2 balconies, garage + 1 driveway parking. Minutes to fashionable Greene Avenue. MLS 23608473

MAUREEN BROUSSEAU* 514.935.4597
JILL SHPRITZER** 514.691.0800

RECENTLY REDUCED

\$759,000

NDG | MONKLAND VILLAGE
Completely renovated duplex near Monkland Village. Upper and lower units with finished basement. Perfect revenue property in a great location. Close to all amenities and in walking distance to the park and public transportation. MLS 11567761

SAGUY ELBAZ* 514.892.7653

INTRODUCING

\$408,900

NDG | STUNNING TERRACE
Fully renovated second floor condo in a residential area in the heart of NDG. Close to Monkland village, near services, restaurants, cafés, subway, grocery store, SAQ, etc. Hard wood floors throughout, Stunning terrace. 10 feet high ceilings. MLS 27497132

MONICA GENEST* & VICTORIA MARINACCI* 514.400.0280

INTRODUCING

\$3,800,000

MONT-ROYAL | SPECTACULAR HOME
We can say, without a doubt, that this spacious property has an exquisite style. Every time that you come home, you should feel like you've arrived. The architect was inspired by an old French castle to draw its beautiful mezzanine. MLS 22233751

PIERRE BRUNET** 514.248.8032
ANNE GASCON* 514.592.5520

INTRODUCING

\$2,798,000

OUTREMONT | MAJESTIC MANOR
Majestic manor, professionally restored with quality materials to reflect its origins and ensure the comfort required for today's time. The home stands at a very prestigious location which is the intersection of Côte-Sté-Catherine & ave. Laurier. MLS 24445513

JOHN DI PIETRO* 514.726.1400

INTRODUCING

\$2,395,000

MONT-ROYAL | CHARM AND ELEGANCE
Located on one of the most prestigious TMR streets, this remarkable property has been entirely renovated with care in 2009. Preserved original character & modern upgrade, magnificent fully landscaped lot - charm and Elegance in a unique comfort. MLS 27738546

VINCENT G. BUSSIÈRE^A 514.816.3231
KEVIN PERREAULT* 514.774.5932



INTRODUCING

\$1,499,000

MONT-ROYAL | SPLIT LEVEL
Large 4+2 bedroom and 3+1 bathroom split level with double garage, spectacular skylight in the lobby and an inground pool. Location of choice in Town of Mount Royal, near schools, parks and services. MLS 16703682

CATHERINE ROCHON* **514.244.3602**



\$1,194,500

MONTREAL-OUEST | INTERGENERATION
Prestigious property located in a quiet and desirable area of Montreal-West. Spacious rooms, beautiful kitchen, 5 bedrooms, big backyard with inground pool – Perfect for a family. Independent apartment above the dbl. garage for intergeneration. MLS 24001176

KEVIN PERREAULT* **514.774.5932**
VINCENT G. BUSSIÈRE^A **514.816.3231**



\$1,295,000

DOWNTOWN | SHAUGHNESSY VILLAGE
Outstanding Victorian townhouse with grey-stone facade in the heart of the Shaughnessy Village. This home boasts large spacious rooms, outstanding woodwork, stained glass, skylights, large exterior terrace. Walk to Montreal's best dining, shopping and entertainment. MLS 25821002

CARLO PAOLUCCI* **514.802.4004**



INTRODUCING

\$1,198,000

GRIFFINTOWN | SPECTACULAR CONDO
Unique condominium on 2 levels. More than 1,500 sq. ft. of luxurious living space, 2 bdrm, 2+1 bath condo with a huge terrace being offered for the first time on the market. Panoramic view of Downtown and St-Lawrence river. MLS 14961993

GÉRALDINE LIBRATY* **514.962.5563**



\$1,175,000

CITÉ DU HAVRE | TROPIQUES NORD
Waterfront Tropiques Nord. Summer year round! Ideally located 2,880 sq. ft. condo with breathtaking views of city, Old Port, river and lush tropical garden with waterfall. Doorman, 2 pools, tennis, free hourly shuttle bus to downtown. Only 2 condos per floor. MLS 25895955

DAVID WILKES* **514.947.5152**



\$1,150,000

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | LUXURIOUS PENTHOUSE
Le Noble: Absolutely gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2+1 bathroom penthouse on two levels. At the foot of Mount Royal in the heart of the prestigious Golden Square Mile. Garage, pool, 24/7 security. Walking distance to universities, luxury shops and the park. MLS 28523794

BEA JARZYNSKA^A **438.989.8912**



\$1,125,000

DOWNTOWN | LES COURS MONT-ROYAL
Elegant living is what you will find upon entering this beautiful 12th floor apartment. Les Cours Mont-Royal is truly the epitome of downtown luxury living. High-end finishing throughout – this apartment will appeal to any discerning purchaser. MLS 17907934

JESSICA LOMBARD* **514.476.9700**
ELIZABETH COX* **514.577.2737**



RECENTLY PURCHASED

\$1,068,000^E

NUNS ISLAND | TOWNHOUSE
Impeccable corner unit townhouse, located in Domaine de la Forêt, a sought-after area. Well planned living space on 4 levels with 4 bedrooms/3 bathrooms. Open plan living, large kitchen with eating area. Wood floors throughout. A true turn-key family property!

DIANE OLIVER** **514.893.9872**



INTRODUCING

\$1,025,000

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | THE LINTON | TIMELESS ELEGANCE
Fabulous opportunity at the iconic Linton and ideal alternative to a single family home. This 2,400 sq. ft. residence is a treasure in every aspect, with elegant principle rooms and 4 spacious bedrooms. Ideally located and a perfect canvas for your renovation! MLS 22598237

KAREN KARPMAN* **514.497.8218**



INTRODUCING

\$925,000

LE PLATEAU | UNIQUE INVESTMENT
Strategic revenue property with 8 studios in the heart of the Plateau. Close to McGill University, UQAM, new CHUM, metro Sherbrooke, Square St-Louis, and all major services. Very easy to rent. MLS 11961777

RANDY NAAMI** **514.743.5000**



\$761,036+txs

LE SUD-OUEST | LAST UNIT AVAILABLE
6 unit complex in Sud-Ouest in collaboration with Nature Humaine. New construction housing. Very private. Steps away from the Lachine canal and Atwater market. MLS 15428472

SOPHIE LE GUERRIER* **514.655.0773**



\$665,000

LE PLATEAU | COTTAGE
Bright & spacious cottage, 3 large bedrooms, 1+2 baths, gas fireplace, 2 balconies and private courtyard. 25 ft width provides a generous flow to open layout, large rooms and high ceilings. Most sought after area in the Plateau: near Laurier park and metro. MLS 14992398

MELISSA CARO* **514.606.7200**



INTRODUCING

\$599,700

LE PLATEAU | HISTORIC & LUXURIOUS CONDO
Located in the Milton park area of Le Plateau, more famously know as the McGill Ghetto. This condo is located in a historic townhouse built in the late 19th century. Fully renovated from top to bottom, this unit boasts premium quality construction, materials and amenities. MLS 17071037


GABRIELE DI IORIO** **514.267.8596**



\$458,500

NUNS ISLAND | CHIC AND ELEGANT
Spacious and elegant corner coproperty located in the prestigious sector of Pointe-Sud of Nuns Island. Open concept professional kitchen with granite counter tops. MLS 23409557

JOHANNE TURENNE** **514.909.9029**



\$399,000

OLD MONTRÉAL | SAINT-M
Walking distance to Old Port & downtown. 17th floor with unobstructed views! Open concept layout with a closed bdrm, European modern style finishings. Garage. Security, locker, pool, gym. Rental poss at \$1,695 /mo. MLS 25823270

FLORENCE LEZMY* **514.699.9448**
CARMEL CHANGIZI^A **514.995.4844**



\$329,900

OLD MONTRÉAL ADJ. | WILSON LOFTS
Steps to Old Montréal, Quartier des Spectacles, bistros & public transport. Spacious w/sep. bdrm, authentic details, 11 ft concrete ceilings & columns, brick accent walls, modern Euro style kitchen, stainless steel counter. Terrace, gym & Lounge. MLS 25612717


CARMEL CHANGIZI^A **514.995.4844**
FLORENCE LEZMY* **514.699.9448**



\$10,500/mo

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | EXECUTIVE RENTAL
Exquisite townhouse in an exclusive 5-home garden courtyard. This renovated semi-detached residence boasts elegant reception rooms, 5+2 bedrooms, 4+1 baths, ground-floor den, 4 gas fireplaces, garden & garage. MLS 28844516

JILL SHPRITSER** **514.691.0800**
MAUREEN BROSEAU* **514.935.4597**



\$7,900/mo

DOWNTOWN | LE CRYSTAL PH-2
A jewel of a PH, ideal for young couple or a pied-à-terre in the city, 2 bedrooms and 1,850 sq. ft. with 11 ft ceiling and what a view, unobstructed and relaxing with the mountain as a scenery; high-class finishings and high-end appliances. For sale! MLS 13426914

LOUISE LATREILLE* **514.577.2009**



\$3,900/mo

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | LE 1200 OUEST
The ultimate downtown location. Bright and spacious corner unit with balcony. Upscale finishes, large rooms provide great comfort. Classic building with elegant lobby, outdoor pool, terrace, gym with sauna & steam bath, party room & 24/7 security. MLS 18886437

PHYLLIS A. TELLIER** **514.924.4062**



\$2,800/mo

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | LE 1200 OUEST
Prime location downtown in prestigious building. Beautiful 1 bedroom for rent all furnished. Security 24/7, pool, gym. Located in close proximity to universities in the heart of business sector. MLS 20374670

FRÉDÉRIC LE BUIS** **514.953.9058**



\$7,995,000

SENNEVILLE | WATERFRONT

This magnificent stone manor sits on 7+ acres overlooking lake of Two Mountains offering a private tennis court, pool, english gardens, a log cabin by the lake, deep water harbor, guest quarters, maids quarters and an impressive solarium with panoramic views. MLS 24366607

CASSANDRA AURORA 514.293.2277**



INTRODUCING

\$514,000

BEACONSFIELD | MONTROSE DRIVE

Wonderful family home with 4+1 bedrooms, inground pool and double garage. Enjoy view of park with mature trees. 5-minute walk to train and bus. Exclusive listing.

PENELOPE VILAGOS 514.779.5122**



RECENTLY REDUCED

\$4,998,000

ST-BRUNO-DE-MONTARVILLE | PRIVATE ESTATE

Unparalleled and on the shores of pristine lake Seigneurial. A rare treasure and one of only nine located within Mount-Saint-Bruno's national park. This idyllic 150,975 sq. ft. lot is located only 16.75 km from Montréal.

MARTIN BILODEAU* 438.871.1030
PATRICK VAILLANT 514.774.6917**

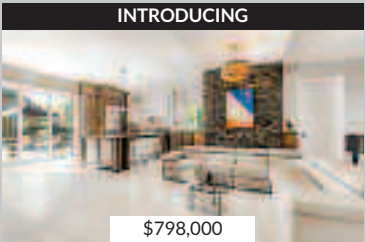


\$3,900,000

CARIGNAN | WATERFRONT

This prestigious residence is located at the intersection of the Richelieu & Acadia rivers. The house is design to spectacular panoramic views in an outstanding comfort. Luxury and quality. MLS 28258729

STEFANO BIZZOTTO* 514.962.3539



INTRODUCING

\$798,000

ST-MICHEL | CUSTOM BUILT HOME

Next to club de golf Triangle d'Or. Wonderful oversized kitchen, open design with generous rooms. Luxurious master suite and 2 large bedrooms along with a family room. Covered patio, salt-water pool, 2 garages. MLS 18771559

JOHN R. Dow* 514.586.3032



RECENTLY REDUCED

\$525,000

CHOMEDEY | BOISÉ NOTRE-DAME

Immediate occupancy! Magnificent views, 2 bedroomm condo, 2 balconies, corner unit, 55 years & +, dream retirement, for an active and full life! Quiet, safety, comfort and dynamism, all waiting for you! Wide variety of services offered directly on site. MLS 18158153

RACHELLE DEMERS* 514.378.8630



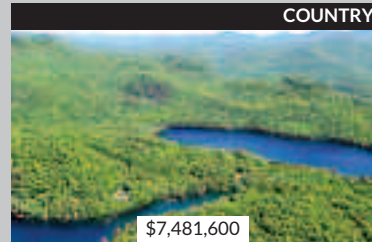
QUEBEC CITY

\$818,000

LA CITÉ | JARDINS-MERCI

Beautiful condo with luxurious finishings in the prestigious Jardins-Merici. You will be overwhelm by it's spacious areas and distinguished lives, its 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Outdoor heated pool, secure entry, storage in the basement and 2 parking. MLS 22220124

CHANTALE BOUCHARD* 418.569.4661



COUNTRY PROPERTIES

\$7,481,600

LAC-TREMBLANT-NORD

An unbelievable piece of property – at the end of lac Tremblant – 330 pristine acres. 23 lots, including 8 waterfront lots. Sold as is/ where is. At the moment boat access only. MLS 19772480

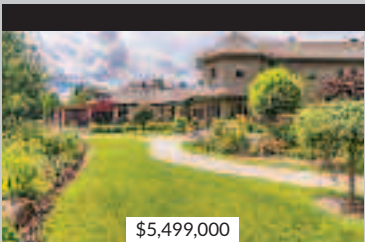
HERBERT RATSCH†† 819.429.9019



SAINT-HIPPOLYTE | ESTATE

251 acres estate with big cottage built in 2011. Private lake and 3 streams. In the neighbourhood of the Ogilvy reserve and Tracy lake. Exceptional geographical site that will take your breath away. Ideal for investor to built around 100 residences. MLS 27956281

NAJIB G. CHAGHOURI* 514.823.2133

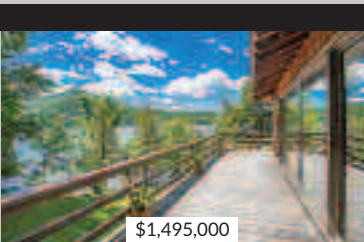


\$5,499,000

PIEDMONT | CATELLI CASTLE

Catelli Castle, an unbelievable family estate. 32 acres, this property consists of a 7 bedroom main house, 3 adjacent 4 bedrooms homes perfect for children and grandchildren. Fantastic outdoor living spaces and amazing views of the surrounding ski hills. MLS 17314756

MARSHA HANNA†† 819.425.0619



STANSTEAD – CANTON | 287' OF SHORELINE

An amazing view directly facing Owl's Head! Beautiful shoreline on lac Memphrémagog. Over 2 acres of privacy, minutes away from Georgeville. Sturdy 4-season construction in mint condition. The grounds and amenities offer large living spaces. MLS 16622854

STEPHANE CLOUTIER* 819.842.1909



COUNTRY PROPERTIES

\$1,250,000

SUTTON | OUTSTANDING PROPERTY

On 2,74 acres along the Jackson stream. 3 bdrms, 3 baths. Spacious kitchen, with lots of storage. Large open floor plan. Fireplace in master bdrm. Int. heated spa-jacuzzi-pool. Pond, rooftop terrace. Harmonious landscaping. Stable. Dbl garage. MLS 11403118

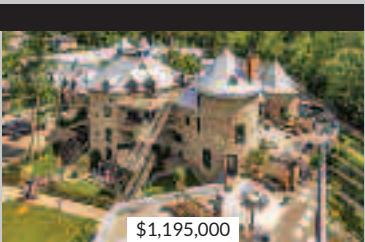
MARIE-PIERS BARSALOU 450.577.0272**
JOHANNE MEUNIER* 514.926.5626



CHelsea | WATERFRONT PROPERTY

Cape Cod style prestigious property in the heart of Chelsea with water access. Many living spaces outside with screen porch and veranda with views on the water. Ash floors and mahogany kitchen on main floor. Radiant floors .5 bdrms and 3 baths. MLS 27668658

PAUL AZAR* 514.791.3366



ROSEMÈRE | EXCEPTIONAL CONDO

Truly an exceptional elegant and prestigious property located along the Mille Iles River, Manoir Bleury le Bouthillier. This extraordinary unit on 4 floors with 2,891 sq. ft. of living space offers you the out most in modern living. Interior design remarkable. MLS 19045999

PINA PIZZI* 514.781.4826

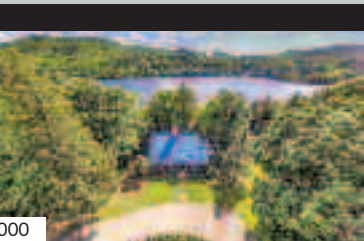


\$899,000

SAINTE-AGATHE-DES-MONTS | WATERFRONT | LAC DES SABLES

Remarkable waterfront property sited on a very private, 3.5 acre lot in the prestigious and desirable community of Greenshield-Pointe. 440 feet of shoreline on lac des Sables (motorized). Warm, bright and inviting interior with 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. 1 hour from Montréal. MLS 26705707

MELANIE CLARKE* 450.694.0678
MICHEL DAVIDSON* 514.239.7399



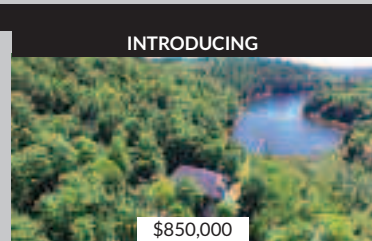
COUNTRY PROPERTIES

\$888,000

HARRINGTON | EQUESTRIAN FARM

Warm and cozy ancestral home, very well preserved, with its convivial living area, sitting on a dream equestrian farm with large stable amidst rolling pastures. The 98 acres are crossed by paths, trails and a driveable road to the cascading river. MLS 17134823

RAYMOND DALBEC 819.425.4568**



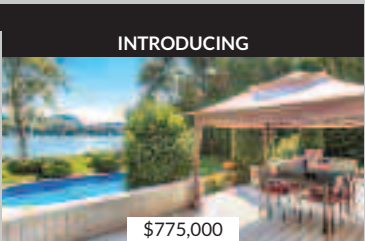
INTRODUCING

\$850,000

GRENVILLE-SUR-LA-ROUGE | SPECTACULAR ESTATE

Nestled on 358 acres of land. Private Ogilvy lake, Grandiose residence offering castle-inspired living spaces, 6 bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms, triple garage on 3 floors. 10 minutes from Highway 50, midway Montréal/Ottawa. Investment opportunity! MLS 28506640

STÉPHANE LARRIVÉE* 514.809.8466



INTRODUCING

\$775,000

VAL-MORIN | WATERFRONT & GOLF

Through the Val-Morin Golf course, find a very private property with 130 ft southeast frontage on lake Raymond. Lots of cachet, huge patio overlooking the pool and the lake. Detached garage with small apartment above, for your guests or for rental. MLS 14286573

ANICK TRUONG* 514.836.4062

Toucheh set to reopen in mid-September

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Toucheh, a restaurant on Somerville Ave. with old world charm, which has been closed more than a month, will be re-

opening in mid-September under new administration, says one of the new owners of the establishment.

While the menu will be essentially unchanged, consisting of Italian and Persian

dishes, the decor will be improved along with the quality of service, says Arash Moshfeghi, who now co-owns Toucheh with his wife Shabnam Hadjiloo.

"The quality of the food will be same as before," he said in an interview with the *Independent*. "I am sure that our longtime clients will be pleased with the improvements."

According to Moshfeghi, the lunchtime menu will feature Persian specialties, such as stuffed green peppers and eggplants and shomikabob, while the evening menu

will highlight Italian, including fish, pasta, scallopini and lamb and veal chops.

Mehdi Motebassem, who has been the chef at Toucheh for the past 19 years, is staying on. He has a total of 40 years experience as a chef. Motebassem and Moshfeghi are both Westmount residents.

An interactive website, where clients will eventually be able to make reservations, is currently under construction, Moshfeghi added. It's expected to be up and running by the middle of next month. Toucheh's phone number remains the same.



Toucheh's new co-owner Arash Moshfeghi, left, and chef Mehdi Motebassem are seen at the Somerville Ave. restaurant's entrance on August 25.

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Westmount Square

At foot of escalator leading from/to Greene Ave. entrance

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2 Grenville Ave.: William

History by the house

ANDY DODGE, CRA

The lead source for the information in this column is deeds of sale, including the names of the owners and their professions or livelihoods. The deeds, especially older ones, rarely state the profession of women.

One of the original settlers in what is now Westmount, buying the Leduc farm, which stretched above Côte St. Antoine Rd., was William Murray, head of the Beaver Steamship Lines, who felt he could build a lovely residence to be able to watch ships pass back and forth in the river. The huge mansion surrounded by orchards was named "West Mount" and included a long driveway leading in from Clarke and Argyle avenues. The farm reached to the top of the mountain, but there was almost

no interest in the upper area despite plans to build a "round-the-mountain boulevard," which date all the way back to 1858 – but which was not built until 1890.

Between the Murray driveway – which was to become Westmount Ave. – and the planned Boulevard, which to this day never got another name, were the orchards and sloping lawns in the backyard of West Mount.

Murray died in 1874, coincidentally the same year that Notre Dame de Grâce was created for the growing community around Côte St. Antoine Rd. and Greene Ave. The family held on to the land as Canada entered into a 23-year depression that affected Britain, France and the United States. As the economy turned around leading into the 20th century and as Westmount developed into the sought-after destination for English-speaking families and investors, the pressure on the Murray land grew stronger.

Of course, with the pressure on owners to sell, came real estate development firms including, in this case, Belgo-Canadian Realty Inc., "duly authorized to acquire, hold, hypothecate and alienate immovable properties." The company, which was planning the huge "Belgo" building at the corner of St. Catherine and Bleury streets downtown, as well as various residential and commercial areas both in Montreal and Westmount (Greene Ave.), appears to have some connection with Herbert Samuel Holt, who had his eyes on the top-of-the-mountain area (above The Boulevard), where, in 1909, he was planning the very exclusive "West Crescent Heights."

Sévère Godin, at one time Holt's chauffeur and eventually his right-hand man at

Montreal Light, Heat and Power, was president of Belgo-Canadian, though it seems he tried to stay out of the limelight.

While Holt purchased the Murray land at the top of the mountain in 1909, it took another five years for the Murray family and Belgo-Canadian to settle on a price of 88.5 cents per square foot – a total \$484,095 – for the land, whose subdivision had been approved by the city to make up the streets of Murray Hill, Douglas, Grenville and Renfrew avenues.

At this time an interesting team was forming with the collusion of William S. Wright, architect, and John Hand, builder, who had worked together to put up houses on Belmont Ave. and then on Victoria Ave. They designed and built houses on Murray Hill starting in 1916, then worked their way eastward on Grenville and Douglas and finally put up houses on Renfrew Ave., starting in 1924. By 1928 they were filling in some of the holes and working around the edges, including re-organizing some of the land at the edge of the Murray property to allow for two semi-detached houses at Nos. 2 and 4 Grenville.

In January 1928, Hand took title to the land and by August he had built No. 2, which he sold to Frank G. Wilson, a native of St. John, New Brunswick, an accountant and secretary-treasurer in the shipping industry. Un- continued on p. 15

Ticketted for beer, curfew breach

Three men in their early 20s were issued \$77 tickets August 17 when found carrying open bottles of beer in Sunnyside Park, Public Security officials said. Described as initially being "uncooperative," they subsequently changed attitude when warned that police could be called to identify them if they did not do so themselves. Another three people were ticketted the same amount for breaking the midnight park curfew in King George (Murray) Park August 20 at 1:05 am. Aged 29 and 30, the lived in Montreal and Etobicoke, Ontario.

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Murray's back yard

fortunately, he divorced his wife, Marjorie Harding Sancton in 1931, sold the house in 1932 (for \$2,500 less than he paid for it) and moved back to New Brunswick.

The next buyer was Charles Cook, a building contractor with Cook & Leitch – which eventually developed into Beaver, Cook & Leitch, one of Montreal's biggest engineering contractors – and chairman of the Canadian Construction Association. Cook died in the mid-1940s, and his wife continued to live there until her death in 1977.

It might be expected the house was ready for a brush-up by that time. The children sold the house in 1978 to Dr. Peter James Somerville and his wife, Margaret Anne Ganley, for \$64,000 when the asking price had been \$84,500. The pair held on to it for only four months before reselling for \$85,000, to Barbara Walker, the wife of Michael H. Staniforth. She was an Ottawa girl who had once been a member of the national ski team, and her daughter (by a previous marriage) became an Olympic diver. Michael Staniforth was vice president of Collection Le Commodier Inc., though we have not determined that company's exact nature.

The family lived there only two years but almost doubled the price they had paid for the house, selling to Dr. Asher David Waiser, a practising psychiatrist, and his wife, Joni Weiner, a librarian at McGill, who now has joined the National Library



2 Grenville Ave., photographed July 14.

and Archives Canada in Ottawa. Another two-and-a-half years brought a new buyer, this time André Desmarais, son of Paul Desmarais Sr., who at the time had just joined his father's company and was to become co-chief executive officer of Power Corp.

Desmarais and his wife, France Chrétien, the daughter of former prime minister Jean Chrétien, set about renovating the house completely before moving on, in

1987, to 17 Forden Ave., while selling the house to Jacques Lagassé, a lawyer, who moved there from 11 Douglas Ave. He stayed only a year before turning the house over to Louis Audet and Jocelyne Francoeur. He was vice president of Cogeco Corp., which was on the verge of purchasing the *Westmount Examiner* from the Sancton family. They had a daughter in the house (1990) and raised her there until selling the property in 2000, for \$740,000.

Joanne Assaly, an education consultant with the English Montreal School Board, and Thomas Ivaskiv, chief executive officer of Kronos Canadian Systems, Inc., a work-force management company, re-renovated the house over the next decade and finally sold in 2012 to Carolena Gordon, a lawyer with Clyde and Co., and Carole Laviolette, both single women according to the deed of sale. They are still listed as the owners of the property.

History of 2 Grenville (since construction)

Date	Buyer	Price
Aug. 10, 1928	Frank Wilson, secretary treasurer	\$20,500
Mar. 15, 1932	Charles Cook, general contractor	\$18,000
June 30, 1978	Peter Somerville & Margaret Ganley	\$64,000
Nov. 28, 1978	Barbara Walker	\$85,000
Oct. 10, 1980	Asher Waiser & Joan Weiner	\$155,000
May 25, 1983	André Desmarais	\$199,000
July 13, 1987	Jacques Lagassé lawyer and administrator	\$470,000
July 29, 1988	Louis Audet & Jocelyne Francoeur	\$525,000
Oct. 12, 2000	Joanne Assaly & Thomas Ivaskiv	\$740,000
July 10, 2012	C. Gordon & Carole Laviolette	\$1,700,000

AUGUST BUILDING PERMITS What's permitted

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the August 1 meeting of city council.

Vacant lot, Westmount Ave.: to build a new single-family dwelling (see story p. 3);

15 Park Place: at Westmount Park School, a Category I building, to repair brick facades;

657 Murray Hill: to enclose a rear window opening, and replace some windows;

4830 St. Catherine: to enlarge the rear balcony;

4828 St. Catherine: to enlarge the rear balcony;

66 Rosemount: at a Category 1 house, to install a new fence;

29 Ramezay: at a Category 1* house, to infill a portion of a door to change it into a window.

The following permits for demolition,

exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the August 15 meeting of city council.

343 Clarke: at a Category I building, to repair the front façade and install decorative structural anchors;

29 Forden: at a Category I house, to modify a rear deck and build a terrace at grade;

4400 de Maisonneuve: to replace a window and modify an opening to install a new door provided the masonry arch is continued over the proposed door;

344 Grosvenor: to replace some windows;

38 Rosemount: at a Category I house, to replace some windows and a door;

431 Mount Stephen: to renovate the front porch, basement access and railing provided the top railing is continuous without a step;

463 Strathcona: to carry out landscaping in the back yard, work on the stairs and in-

stall a new fence;

637 Roslyn: to replace some windows;

8 Grove Park: at a Category I house, to enlarge three window openings provided the shutters are excluded from the application;

646 Grosvenor: to replace windows and doors, modify the rear balcony and build a new basement access;

7 Ingleside: to demolish a rear sunroom and rebuild a deck and change the railings on the upper balcony;

119 Sunnyside: to replace some windows;

1 Bethune: to do envelope work, replace windows and a door as well as the mechanical units on a municipal building (see story p. 9);

42 Windsor: to modify rear openings, replace some doors and windows and build a back balcony provided the railing is of wood and that the tiling is raised above the door and back window;

333 Lansdowne: to install a new fence;

392 Grosvenor: to demolish a rear mudroom and build a new deck as well as install a new railing on the upper balcony;

336 Wood: at a Category I house, to replace windows;

532 Clarke: to build a new skylight.



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The curtains rise on Montreal's English professional theatre

By JOANNE PENHALE

The Centaur and Segal theatres are on the verge of opening their 2016-2017 seasons.

Centaur

Centaur Theatre's opening show is Nick Payne's hit *Constellations*, where a couple's relationship begins and evolves over and over again, with slight variations each time. "It's sort of like a quantum romantic

comedy drama," says the company's artistic and executive director Roy Surette. Directed by Peter Hinton, the show runs October 4 to 30, and is a co-production with Toronto's Canadian Stage Company.

Oil exploitation in Fort MacMurray is the topic of the comedic and political documentary-style play *The Watershed*, produced by Porte Parole at the Centaur from November 8 to December 4. "[Montreal playwright] Annabel Soutar is brilliant," Surette says, noting the set transforms into a Winnebago as one family treks from Montreal to Alberta, encountering scientists, government officials, activists and business leaders along the way.

From January 31 to February 26, the Centaur features *Bakersfield Mist*, set in a trailer park in Southern California and based on a true story. "It's about authenticity and art," says Surette, who is directing the two-person play, co-produced with Vancouver's Arts Club Theatre.

Chain-smoking Maude Gutman becomes convinced a painting she bought at a junk shop is actually by Jackson Pollack and worth millions; she is set against an expert art appraiser, who feels he has moral authority over her, Surette said. "The humour in the play first attracted me to it," he added. "And the opposite natures of the two characters."

You Will Remember Me by Montreal playwright François Archambault opens in English for first time in Quebec at the Centaur from March 7 to April 2. Edouard, a successful Québécois historian and sovereigntist, now has dementia. "Elements of the past get unearthed through the present," says Surette, who directs the fictional play replete with Quebec cultural references and involving Edouard's family circle – one of whom sparks a repressed memory.

The international, award-winning play *Clybourne Park* by Bruce Norris runs at the Centaur from April 4 to 30. Directed by

Ellen David, the play's first act is set in 1959 when a middle-class white family in Chicago controversially sells their home to a black family. The second act opens in 2009, and a white couple attempts to buy the same house, now in a derelict, all-black neighbourhood. "This play continues the conversation about the subtleties of racism," Surette says, recalling the success of Centaur's production of *The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God* in 2015. "It's also pretty hilarious," he notes. "The gloves come off in the second act."

The Centaur's season closes with the comedy *Bed and Breakfast*, by Toronto playwright Mark Crawford, first produced in Ontario in 2015. "I fell in love with this play when I saw it last summer," Surette said. A young gay couple move from Toronto to a small Ontario town after one of them inherits a house. Ashlie Corcoran directs and playwright Crawford is cast for the first time, joining his real-life partner in this two-actor play, where each performer takes on several characters. "It's sweet and funny and smart," Surette said.

Segal Centre

The Segal Centre opens its 2016-2017 season with *My Name is Asher Lev*, adapted by Aaron Posner from the book by Chaim Potok. From a Hassidic community, Asher Lev is a gifted painter whose art threatens to divide him from his roots, and he struggles to determine what's most important to him. A Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre co-production, it runs from September 11 to October 2.

The world premiere of *Prom Queen: The Musical* runs at the Segal from October 27 to November 20. The show glamorizes the true story of an Ontario teen who took the Catholic school board to court for the right to bring his boyfriend to his high school prom. "The music itself is so modern, and fun and accessible," said the Segal Centre's artistic and executive director Lisa Rubin, noting the talented writing team Akiva Romer-Segal and Colleen Dauncey.

Michael Frayn's play-within-a-play *Noises Off* is on

the Segal stage from January 29 to February 19. "Jacob Tierney is, in my mind, a genius," Rubin says of the Montreal filmmaker directing the comedy. A director and his actors attempt to pull off a performance against the odds; their offstage antics are as visible to the audience as their onstage gaffs.

Tony-winning *Million Dollar Quartet* runs at the Segal from April 23 to May 14. The musical, directed by Rubin, is based on a historical 1956 evening, when Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins came together for an impromptu recording session under the guidance of Sam Phillips. It features hits like "Walk the Line" and "Great Balls of Fire."

How to Disappear Completely is the one-man show written and performed by award-winning lighting designer Itai Erdal. Vancouver-resident Erdal recounts his experience joining his mother as she requests his help while dying of cancer, in Israel, *continued on p. 17*



Centaur Theatre's artistic and executive director Roy Surette, June 9 at the theatre in Old Montreal.



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seasons

and he meanwhile illuminates for the audience his appreciation for theatrical lighting. “I don’t think many people realize what goes into lighting design,” says Rubin, who added the show, running April 30 to May 14, is also particularly relevant given Quebec’s recent discussions on assisted suicide. A Chop Theatre production, the show has travelled internationally since 2011.

Each season, the Segal Centre features a Yiddish theatrical production from the Dora Wasserman Yiddish Theatre, with supertitles in English and French. Broadway musical comedy *It Shoulda Been You* is this season’s feature, from June 4 to 25. Directed by Bryna Wasserman and Jim White, a wedding goes awry when two families clash and an ex-boyfriend crashes the ceremony. “The themes, the style, the flavour (of the show) has such a Jewish feel to it,” said Rubin. “This is the perfect marriage between the old language of Yiddish and an exciting, contemporary, modern musical.”

The Segal Centre closes its season with *What’s in a Name?* from July 9 to 30. In the international hit *Le Prénom*, translated from French by Jeremy Sams, a dinner amongst friends erupts in controversy when a father-to-be announces the scandalous name he and his wife have chosen for their baby. That discussion catapults further catastrophe, Rubin said, unleashing secrets and admissions from those around the table. A co-production with the Just For Laughs International Comedy Festival, the show is also part of the celebrations for Montreal’s 375th anniversary.

The Centaur Theatre, now opening its 48th season, is in Old Montreal, at 453 St. François d’Xavier.

The Segal Centre, opening its 49th season, is at 5170 Cote St. Catherine Rd.

Rico: Deserving of a little R&R



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JANE DAVEY

R&R (rest and recuperation) is needed for sure after the shock of being abandoned by his family of 10 years, but what this Corgi mix really needs is another R&R – the right retirement home.

Poor Rico spent his first few days at the shelter diligently searching for his family while out on walks, sniffing every parked car and scanning every passer-by.

This little trooper with the salt-and-pepper snout, a decade into his life, is a bit wary of strangers at first but he unfailingly warms up with a little patience and the promise of a tasty treat.

Rico knows several commands, including a cute roll-over, performed for a cookie please! He also loves his walks. This healthy senior still boasts plenty of get-up-and-go and is always game for a new adventure. Car rides are big on his list of “likes.”

Given his age and the necessity of keeping stressful change to a minimum, Rico will require dog-savvy adopters, with possibly another confident dog in the household but no children, who sometimes bring out the cranky old man in him. Apartments or condos may not be the best option for this boy, who apparently can get a bit vocal when left alone. A fenced-in yard, as always, would be an awesome plus.

If Rico intrigues you, please contact Gerdy’s Rescue & Adoptions at info@gerdysrescue.org or page 514.203.9180.



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Today is one of those times.

(If you don’t like what we’re doing, please feel free to write in too, for publication or not.)

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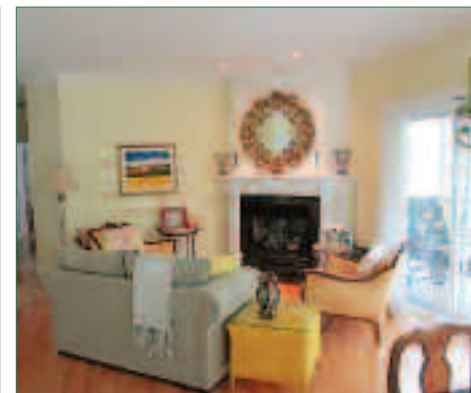


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Noise cont’d. from p. 1

pm. They agreed to place it in by hand.

On August 19, three complaints were logged: for work on a communal driveway on Chesterfield at 8:24 pm, for a contractor cutting stones for paving on Upper Lansdowne at 7:28 pm and for workers on Anwoth loading a tractor at 7:28 pm.

On the other hand, a complaint about the use of heavy equipment on a Saturday morning August 20, at 9:50 am, on Bel-frage was found to be unfounded. Officers deemed a truck running a gas-fired kettle to keep tar warm did not constitute heavy equipment.



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Cotler honoured by law society



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The Lord Reading Law Society hosted an amazing evening at Westmount's Shaar Hashomayim. Held on May 25, the dinner honoured human rights luminary **Irwin Cotler**.

The evening was a tribute to his achievements, but in particular helped fund and promote his new project, The Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights. The centre will carry on the humanitarian legacy of Wallenberg, fighting anti-Semitism and advancing human rights.



Ziv Nevo Kulman and Ariela Cotler.

Cotler, who is former federal Liberal Justice minister, attended with his wife **Ariela**. The evening's co-chairs were lawyers **Casper Bloom** and **Theodore Goloff**.

Emceed by local res, lawyer **Raphaël Schachter** (there with his wife **Evi**), the dinner attracted five of Canada's nine Supreme Court justices: **Rosalie Abella** (who introduced Cotler in a most amusing way), **Michael Moldaver**, **Andromache Karakatsanis**, **Suzanne Côté** and **Richard Wagner**, as well as appellate court judge and former McGill dean of law **Nicholas Kasirer**, who spoke glowingly of the evening's honouree, his former McGill faculty of law colleague.

Several retired judges were in attendance as well, including from the Supreme Court of Canada, Justice **Morris Fish** and from the Quebec Court of Appeal, former chief justice **Michel Robit** and former justices **Louise Otis** and **Joseph Nuss**.

In addition, Israel's ambassador to Canada **Rafael Barak** was present.

Human-rights celeb **Alan Dershowitz**'s part roast/part intro referred to Cotler as "so polite, he is the Sara Lee of human rights lawyers." Dershowitz has nominated Cotler for the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of Cotler's pivotal role in many important human rights challenges, representing clients that have included Russia's **Natan Sharansky**, South Africa's **Nelson Mandela**, Argentina's **Jacobo Timmerman**, Iran's Shi'ite Cleric **Ayatollah** and Venezuela's **Leopoldo Lopez**.

Dershowitz noted that "Cotler has represented Arabs and Jews, Israelis and Palestinians, westerners and easterners" without regard to their colour, religion or ideology. He referred to Cotler as not just a "Canadian treasure" (as Justin Trudeau stated in a tribute video that was played earlier in the evening) but a "world treasure."

During cocktails, guests enjoyed an overflowing, sumptuous buffet. And then there was dinner! Noted in the squeezing-room-only banquet hall were Westmounters Israeli consul general **Ziv Nevo Kulman**, **Penny** and **Gordon Echenberg**, **Nancy Cleman** (who was instrumental in organizing the eve) and her mother **Sylvia**, **Roni** and **Leo Kolber**, **Lewis Dobrin** and his wife **Rosalie Jukier**, and **Marlene** and **Joel King**.



From left: Irwin Cotler, Raphaël Schachter, Alan Dershowitz.

Photo courtesy of Janice Arnold, Canadian Jewish News.



Nancy Cleman and Steven Slimovitch.

Photos courtesy of Lord Reading Law Society.

Also seen were outgoing Lord Reading Law Society president **Steven Slimovitch** (there with his wife **Joanne Goldberg**) and incoming president **Larry Markowitz**.

Please send information about your fall social events to redgrave@videotron.ca.

Noisy swimmers

Noise from swimmers at a pool on Oakland August 20 was deemed excessive, according to the reports of public safety officers who answered a complaint at 3 am. The swimmers were found laughing and screaming but stated they would be quiet. No further complaints were received.



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PHILIP SURREY, R.C.A., (1910-1990), Detroit vs. Canadiens, 1960,
Firestone Collection of Canadian Art, The Ottawa Art Gallery; Donated by the Ontario Heritage Foundation to the City of Ottawa



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www.suttonquebec.com



MOUNT-ROYAL

1190 Ch. Kenilworth \$2,475,000
MLS 14232501



WESTMOUNT

215 Redfern Apt 308 \$2,595,000
2200 SF, private terrace



WESTMOUNT ADJ.

4097 Highland Av. \$1,295,000
MLS 20827283



WESTMOUNT

215 Redfern Apt 303 \$995,000
MLS 18745575



425 Grosvenor Av., \$825,000
MLS: 13173299



DOWNTOWN

1485 Sherbrooke O Exclusive
4200 SF



WESTMOUNT

619 Clarke Av. \$4,295,000
MLS 27373203



WESTMOUNT

215 Redfern, PH3 \$2,750,000



DOWNTOWN

1420 Av. des Pins \$2,595,000
MLS 15856545



WESTMOUNT ADJ.

4054 Highland Av. \$1,695,000
MLS 14308397



WESTMOUNT

89 Holton Av. \$1,475,000
MLS 18992051



MT-TREMBLANT

141 Ch. des Eaux-Vives \$1,395,000
MLS 12487899



WESTMOUNT ADJ

2731 Hill Park Circle \$1,050,000
MLS 25070444



WESTMOUNT

215 Redfern \$1,000,000
1440 SF



CDN

6111 Av. Du Boisé \$949,000
MLS 23826893



WESTMOUNT

215 Redfern \$900,000
1353 SF



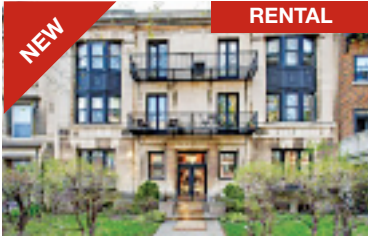
DOWNTOWN

1520 Av. du Dr-Penfield \$618,000
MLS 19338174



NDG

Harvard Ave UPPER \$418,000
MLS 15497577



WESTMOUNT

4217 Maisonneuve O. \$2800/mth
MLS 23431949



NEW PROJECT / MT TREMBLANT AREA

Starting at \$219,000 80% SOLD
MLS 17240752



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