

Trent to resign, won't finish term

Asks council to name an interim mayor

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

In a surprise move, Mayor Peter Trent announced officially April 3 he will not seek a sixth term in office and intends to resign in the next few weeks to avoid being viewed in a "lame duck" role until the November 5 elections.

He told the *Independent* he was asking the council to choose an interim mayor from among themselves, as allowed by law within 30 days, to provide a smooth transition. His resignation would take effect when this occurs, "at the pleasure of council," but certainly by the end of April, he expects.



Mayor Peter Trent in his office at Westmount city hall March 31.

"I want to leave at the top of my game," he said.

Trent was first elected to council in 1983 and then as mayor in 1991, serving in that capacity for a total of 18 years, twice as long as any of his predecessors.

In a departure from his longstanding practice of not declaring his intentions in an election year until after the summer, he said that once he had made the decision not to run this time, he felt obliged to make it public and leave as soon as possible.

"I don't want to be viewed as a lame duck or lose my moral authority to lead the Association of Suburban Municipalities," of which he is president.

Trent was expected to state his intentions at the start of the council meeting April 3, after the *Independent's* press time.

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Cenotaph area to become Vimy Park, marking WWI battle

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

At its meeting April 3, city council was expected to adopt the name Vimy Park for the triangular green space east of Argyle, where the city's cenotaph is located. It was previously called Garden Point.

The naming of Westmount's Vimy Park is timed for the 100th anniversary April 9 of the World War I Battle of Vimy Ridge, which claimed the lives of 98 members of

Westmount's Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) and left another 176 wounded, some of the casualties being Westmount residents.

The greenspace around the cenotaph was an ideal choice for commemorating the battle, Trent said. "While Vimy is considered a defining moment in Canadian history, the name Garden Point, as well as being unknown to most residents, does not hold

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Pom'Canelle closes after 35 years

By VERONICA REDGRAVE

Pom'Canelle, the children's wear shop on Sherbrooke St. near Victoria, has closed. After 35 years, owner Claude Behoist told the *Independent* on closing day March 31, "I want to retire and make time for myself."

Originally from France, Behoist travelled

the world bringing in exceptional pieces. "[We had] top European brands from Italy, France and Great Britain. We had designer collections as well. Kenzo's bright clothes always sold out," she said.

Behoist's sense of style led her to have decorative fabric panels made for her window displays. They were used as a backdrop according to the theme of the month.

For example, classic Parisian navy outfits stood out against white linen, while jewel-bright stripes attracted attention to another line of garments.

On the last day, however, only empty racks remained. And in the window, there was one white ruffled dress – small and shimmering, a sentimental symbol of a world where little party dresses are matched with sockettes and Mary Jane shoes, and mini ties with blazers.



Photo: Westmount Independent

A final word, as seen on April 3.



Pom'Canelle owner Claude Behoist in her shop March 30. Inset: Behoist in Pom'Canelle, the day her store closed, March 31.

Photos: V. Redgrave and SVI staff

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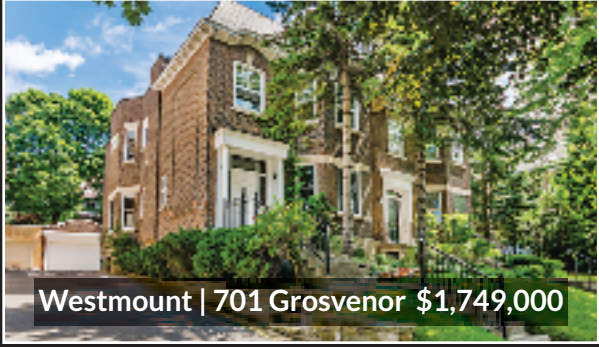
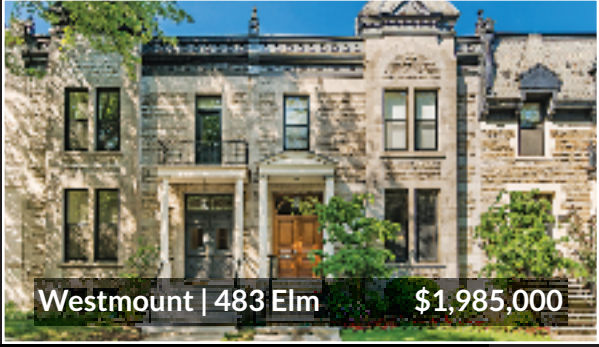
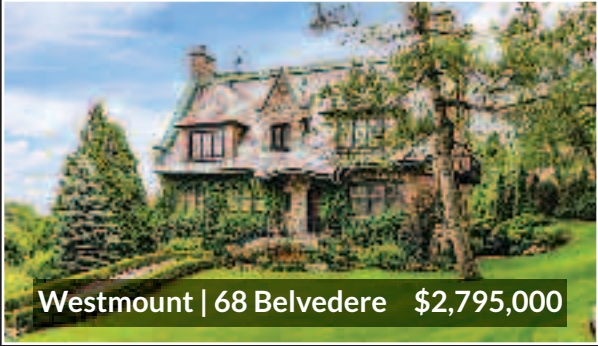
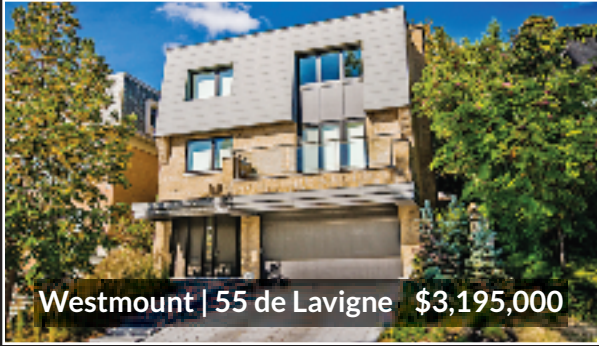
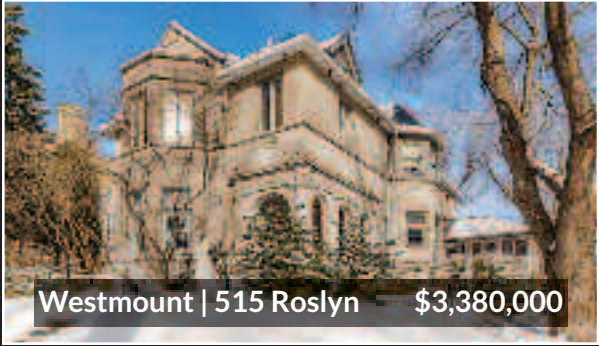
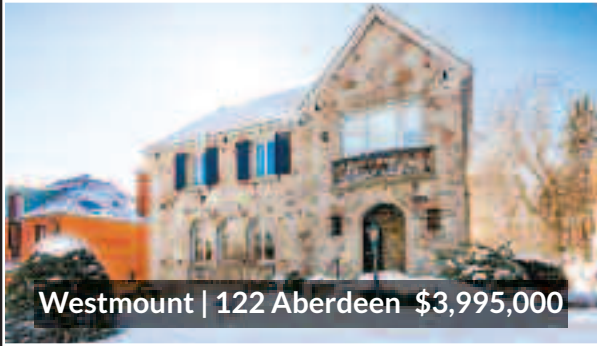
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Summit Woods parking to close for work

Felled trees recycled to support new ones, restore paths

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The advent of spring has ushered in a new city program to recycle the city's felled trees into stakes for holding up new plantings as well as to provide wood chips for refurbishing the main paths in Summit Woods.

The city regularly cuts down trees for safety reasons, disease and, in the case of ash trees, those being attacked by the emerald ash borer (EAB).

In announcing the recycling projects, Councillor Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Sustainability and Parks, said last week the work on the Summit paths will require the closure of the parking lot at the top of Belvedere Rd. for about four weeks.

While an exact start date was not yet known, the work needs to be done before the paths become muddy and further eroded, she explained.

About 325 cubic meters of chips will be required to spread them six inches deep on the main path surrounding the summit and the paths leading up and down to Ridgewood on the north face, according to

city arboriculture inspector Robert Liveanu.

"We're also making stakes from the trees that are cut down to hold up the new ones we're going to plant," Lulham said. "So we are using the old to hold up the new."

One ash to yield 250 stakes

This "planking" work by a specialist was being undertaken last week near the corner of Sherbrooke and Melville in Westmount Park, where a large ash tree was taken down. This one tree is expected to provide most of the 250 stakes the city will require, Liveanu said.

The stakes will bear a distinctive branding that depicts the city shield and the words "local ash."

"As of now, we have 87 trees to be removed," he said. "But with some more trees being added over the next weeks, let's round it up to 100. As of now, 51 of them are ash trees."

Because the EAB beetle has now been found in all municipalities in the Montreal area, he said, previous efforts to contain the spread of the Asian beetle by not



Tracings on an aerial view of Summit Woods show the trails to be worked on this spring: one surrounding the summit, the other descending to Ridgewood in Montreal.

Image courtesy of Westmount Public Works.

transporting infested wood from one municipality to another are not being as stringently applied.

The beetle is so destructive, that "in five to 10 years, pretty much every ash tree will

be affected," Liveanu said. For now, the city is removing those showing the most serious signs of being weakened by the infestation.



Alex Cohen, woodworker and environmental designer, makes slices into a felled ash tree and its bark in Westmount Park near the Melville water fountain March 30. The wood was to be cut into stakes.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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Musical theme pays tribute to Dylan, Cohen

'Poetry and Pastry' outgrows library, moves into Vic Hall

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The annual Poetry and Pastry event is headed for the concert hall at Victoria Hall Sunday, April 23, to accommodate a larger audience than the Westmount Room in Westmount Public Library. The annual event is a celebration of National Poetry month in April by the Westmount Poetry Group.

"When 70 to 80 people crowded into the room last year, we had to turn people away," explained Donna Lach, assistant director, Library and Community Events. "We also felt we had to control the exuberance because we were in the library."

As a result, the 2 pm event will take place amid several changes, she explained. Tickets will be free at the door, and while the hallmark tea and pastry will still be served, wine and cheese will also be offered from a cash bar.

Seating will be arranged "in the round" while some 20 poets from the group – some reciting their poetry to music – will benefit from the hall's sound system.

"It can get quite boisterous," she added, referring to the passion of some of the participants. "They are full of joy. This year, they will have lots of room and there will be space for the audience to mingle with the poets. The whole point is to laugh, celebrate and have a good time."

'I am the song'

The theme of this year's event is "I am the song," in a tribute to Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen. This will include audience participation and add a focus on the musical aspect provided by guitarist Rick Murrin.

Looking for air at rush hour

A car was spotted driving very slowly down Atwater with two flat or very low tires on one side March 24 pm, Public Security officials said. Given the rush hour traffic at 4:37 pm, and the determination of the driver to get to a service station to pump up the tires, a patroller turned on the vehicle's emergency flashers and escorted the car to a station at St. Jacques where the unit was found out of service. They then found a functioning one at Notre Dame St. The car had initially been spotted on Atwater near Tupper.

"I think we'll make it more inviting at Victoria Hall," said Ann Lloyd, who has been animating the workshop group for about seven years. "It's quite a jolly group, and this has become quite a Westmount event." The performance will be its fourth, she said.

The city's other sponsored poetry group, Poetry in the Park, will perform separately this summer as part of the city's "Music in the Park" series but not at Poetry and Pastry. When the two groups provided a combined performance in 2015 it extended to three hours. "This proved to be too long," Lach said.

In 2015, the event had been moved from the library to the Gallery at Victoria Hall, but this also turned out to be too small and unsuitable so it reverted to the library for 2016.

The Westmount Poetry Group meets every two weeks and concludes its season with the Victoria Hall event.

BC girl knocked down by car exiting garage

A 15-year-old girl was hit by a car coming out of the parking garage of Les 5 Saisons store on de Maisonneuve just west of Greene March 29, Public Security officials said. She complained of pain in the left ankle but her injuries were described as "light." Identified as a resident of Richmond, BC, she was reported to have been walking on the road, possibly crossing the street, when she was knocked down. She was lying in the street when a patroller came upon the accident at 1:25 pm. Urgences Santé, firefighters and police were on the scene and she was left in their care.



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Car strikes median on St. Catherine



Montreal police, Westmount Public Security, a tow truck and an ambulance were at the site of a car accident at Lansdowne and St. Catherine on March 28 at about 2 pm. The airbag was deployed on the driver's side of the affected car.

Photo: Westmount Independent

The driver of a car that hit the median on St. Catherine St. at Lansdowne March 28 was taken to hospital to be checked for possible head injuries, Public Security officials said. Minor cuts to the right hand were bandaged.

Air bags had been deployed and damage sustained to the Mini Cooper's front bumper and fender on the driver's side. Urgences Santé took the 52-year-old man to St. Luc hospital. There was no mention of where he lived. The accident had been

reported by Public Works at 1:34 pm when the car appeared to have been turning left off Glen Rd. to head west. — LS

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WHS parent group working to restore auditorium seats

By MARTIN C. BARRY

The Parent Participation Organization at Westmount High (WHS) has launched a campaign to raise \$80,000 to replace 800 auditorium seats, which are the original ones from when the school opened 56 years ago.

“Grab a Seat” has already brought in more than \$10,000. The organizers want to restore rather than replace the seats in order to conserve the architectural integrity of the school.

The current Westmount High School and its then-new building came into being when “Westmount High” (then at the current Selwyn House building) and “Westmount Junior High” (then at the current Westmount Park School building, which had been the original site of the whole high school) merged and moved into its present-day location in 1961.

The design for the new building included an auditorium with enough seating for 800 students. The seats were carefully designed in rich green leather with golden-coloured fabric on the sides. The seats matched chair frames made of light maple plywood, as well as other elements in the auditorium such as the golden curtains

on the stage.

One of the campaign chairs, Martien de Vletter, who also works at the Canadian Centre for Architecture, said the folding mechanisms for the chairs are still in good shape, although the seats themselves are falling apart, and in many cases are being held together with duct tape.

“They have this really beautiful green leather, but they really need repair,” she told the *Independent*. “We want to keep the architecture of the school in good shape. We’ve asked different companies to come up with a quote for redoing these chairs in a way that respects the architecture.”

As such, the parent organization, in collaboration with the school’s administration, is reaching out to other parents, grandparents, students present and past, as well as members of the community at large, in the hope of starting the first phase of the seat restoration program as early as this summer.

“Anyone who feels close to the school can donate money,” de Vletter said, while adding that those who give at least \$100 will get their names placed on tags that will be attached to the backs of restored chairs. She said the WHS class of ’66 had already bought 15 chairs.



Seen here in the Westmount High school auditorium behind a row of seats in need of repair are, from left: campaign co-chair Martien de Vletter, students Trinity Efedede, William Kelly and Jessica Ferreira, and school vice principal Amanda Vallelunga.



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Forgot the charging cord?

Library installs charge box for users' phones, tablets

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A charging station for mobile phones, tablets and other devices was installed March 9 at Westmount Public Library in its latest foray into the world of technology.

Called a charge box, the station provides library users with a secure way to recharge their electronic devices when they do not have their own cords with them, said Lora

Baiocco, online services and archives librarian.

It's believed to be the first public library of the demerged cities to install one, she said.

"We've had a lot of people coming up to the children's and reference desks asking 'Do you have a cord?' so there was an increasing need. Sometimes people come in with three different devices."

The charge box provides eight separate compartments that can be secured by a PIN and operate in similar fashion to storage compartments at hotels or railway stations. Each compartment contains a variety of connecting cords. A green or red light indicates which compartments are in use or not.

Instructions in English and French guide the user to select a compartment, en-

ter a private PIN of their own creation, connect their device and close the door. The device can then be retrieved by punching in the PIN.

So far, she said, no one has complained they could not find a cord to fit their device.

Baiocco picked up the idea from McGill and saw it as a way to meet the new requests.



Lora Baiocco demonstrates the new charge box across from the reference desk March 31.

Too loud at 3:38 am

A resident of Olivier was issued a \$49 ticket March 26 for making excessive noise, Public Security officials said. A neighbour complained about being awakened by the noise at 3:38 am, which was heard by responding officers. The man was reported to have received a warning about the city's noise by-law on a previous occasion and issued a ticket on a subsequent one.

Permit warning unheeded, ticket issued

A snow removal contractor was sent a \$77 ticket for failing to obtain a permit when spotted at work on Summit Circle March 25, Public Security officials said. He was spoken to at 1:59 am and given 48 hours to obtain one. His company was sent the ticket when the period expired without compliance.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Now, can we get the correct time?

It is with great pleasure that I note the upcoming closing of the Laurentian Bank at the corner of Sherbrooke and Victoria. The clock on the façade of that bank has had the wrong time for many years. True, it was correct twice each 24 hours, but I for one will be glad to see the last of it – and on such a prominent corner!

SHEILA WHITZMAN,
ST. CATHERINE ST.

No to artificial turf

I was shocked to read in the March 28 issue that Mark Roper, Westmount Soccer Club's president, recommends a synthetic turf field for his club so that players can play "at home" ("Soccer club adds new teams as registration jumps 50%," p. 3). As a physician, he should be more concerned about the possible deleterious effects of artificial turf on the health of his younger players rather than the possibility of scoring more medals. Years ago, many Westmount citizens fought against the ill-advised initiative to put artificial turf in Westmount Park. That battle was won with the supporting evidence of scientific data. For more recent information, kindly

read "Soccer players' cancers ignite debate over turf safety" on www.cnn.com, 2017/01/27. When in doubt, just say "no."

MAYA KHANKHOJE, METCALFE AVE.

Ticketters of car idlers should get ticketed

Idling. A ticket that many Westmounters get year round, and despite its inconvenience, is enforced with good reason: to increase local air quality and to reduce our carbon footprint. Our police do an excellent job enforcing this law; however, they [idle their vehicles] all the time and are not held accountable. Police [cars] are seen idling in the streets of Westmount day after day. It is legal for them to keep their engines running on- or off-call, as stated by one of Station 12's "circulation" police officers. Contrary to this rule* is Westmounts by-law 726 entitled "by-law concerning street traffic, section 60.2, which reads: "No person shall operate or permit the operation of the motor of any vehicle for a period exceeding a total of 3 minutes within a 60-minute consecutive period while said vehicle is stationary." This law applies to everyone in Westmount with driver's permits or licenses, from citizens to outsiders, except police**. According the city's website, it has

launched a sustainability initiative, which includes both municipal departments and the community. The website also claims: "A sustainable community is one that meets the needs of the current generation without compromising future generations and other species." For them to fully support this great initiative, idling should be illegal for police. Otherwise, they would be poisoning the air with noxious fumes, damaging the environment and wasting gas, which is funded by taxpayers' money. Solutions include the implementation of hybrid cars, cars with "start-stop" engines [that could be purchased] the next time they replace their entire fleet of cars, or hold the police accountable for their offences by modifying the existing by-law 726, to make idling also illegal for them. These multiple solutions would not only aid in our fight against climate change as a community, but also help to develop one of the police's most important jobs as role models, demonstrating eco-friendliness. ERIKSON MOORE, KENSINGTON AVE.

* Editor's note: Section 60.3 of the by-law, however, says section 60.2 does not apply to an emergency vehicle.

** Section 60.3 also provides for other vehicles to be allowed to stay running, amongst them those which "requires its motor to be operated during the

performance of work either in or outside the vehicle, or to heat or refrigerate food."

– KM.

Open letter to the Independent and Mayor Peter Trent

I was delighted to discover the other day that the Canada Post box, which had been defaced on the corner of Greene and de Maisonneuve, is now back to its original grey colour, within less than a week after the *Indie* published my letter ("Open letter to the mayor," March 21, p. 6). On behalf of my neighbours, I thank the *Indie* and the mayor for their quick action, which should no doubt encourage others to keep Westmount beautiful by not only picking up litter off sidewalks, but also by reporting similar vandalism and any defacement of facades immediately by calling Westmount Public Security. Such efforts by citizens are also part of the "save the environment" movement, because they focus on visual as opposed to the atmospheric pollution that contributes to climate change. RICHARD ORLANDO, SHERBROOKE ST.

Mayor Peter Trent responded: "Thanks for your thanks and for keeping us on our toes!"

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

PUBLISHER: David Price
EDITOR: Kristin McNeill
CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

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

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Hidden talents: Artistic photo project My window



"My window on Roslyn" as photographed on the day of the massive snow storm March 15 by Juan Pablo Adams Letelier.
Photo: J. P. A.Letelier

Please submit your artistic photos to indie@westmountindependent.com, including what struck you about the scene and the date you took the photo. We'll run the best ones. We hope you've been enjoying the series so far.

– Kristin McNeill, editor

Hillside armoury sold to highest bidder

By ANDY DODGE

One more of Westmount's connections to its military heritage is going to disappear with a posting of the planned sale March 6 of the Hillside Armoury. The transaction had not been posted on Montreal's rôle d'évaluation foncière at press time.

The building at the corner of Hillside Ave. and Hillside Lane has been empty for the past three years and is suffering from deterioration. (See story April 1, 2014, p. 1.)

The large four-storey building, which takes up most of its 1,500-square-metre lot, was originally built as a horse stable in about 1910, became a military storage depot in 1921 and has housed various engineering and signal corps regiments over the years.

In 1981, the 3rd Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Engineers, which was based out of the building at the time, received the "freedom of the city," which allowed it to march "with bayonets mounted."

The building is being sold with no legal warranty, following the federal Defence department's authorization of Level I and Level II environmental studies, which showed considerable concern about its current and historical uses, not to mention its neighbourhood, which once had the former Merchant's Coal depository across the street and the Caledonia Curling Club next door.

The city turned down an offer to purchase the property before it hit the market. (See story March 7, p. 1.)

It is zoned for three-storey residential, which allows for multi-family and senior citizens' residences, but because it has Category II heritage status, the city of Westmount has more control over the use of the site.

Despite this and the fact that it has an evaluation of \$1,934,800 (land plus building) but was asking \$2,800,000, competition among buyers was so strong that the eventual sale price cleared \$3 million after only 52 days on the market.



The armoury's eastern wall, looking north on April 3.

Photo: Westmount Independent

THE WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT TURNS 10 NEXT MONTH!

Readers:

If you want to wish us well, or reminisce about the last decade, please write to us by April 26 at noon for publication in our May 2 anniversary issue.

Kristin McNeill, EDITOR

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ASKED \$ 1,790,000



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WSMT | RENFREW AVE.
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ASKED \$ 1,695,000



WSMT | CLARKE AVE.
ASKED \$ 1,636,000



WSMT | UPPER-ROSLYN AVE.
ASKED \$ 1,550,000



MTL | MERIDIAN AVE.
ASKED \$ 1,500,000



SOLD IN
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WSMT | THORNHILL AVE.
ASKED \$ 1,475,000



WSMT | METCALFE AVE.
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WSMT | GROSVENOR AVE.
ASKED \$ 1,289,000



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23 DAYS

NDG | HAMPTON AVE.
ASKED \$ 1,199,000



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ASKED \$ 1,188,000



SOLD IN
28 DAYS

MTL | AVE. DES PINS O
ASKED \$ 1,175,000



WSMT | VICTORIA AVE.
ASKED \$ 1,150,000



SOLD IN
13 DAYS

WSMT | BOUL. DE MAISONNEUVE O.
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ASKED \$ 998,000



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NDG Great location,
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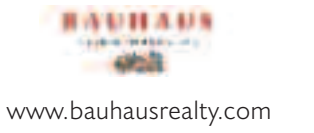


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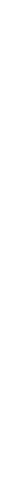
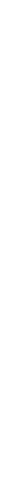
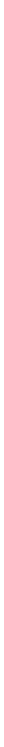
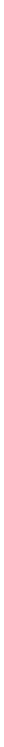
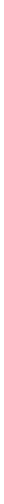
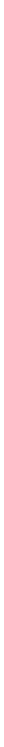
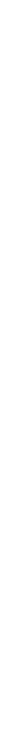
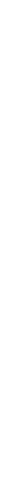
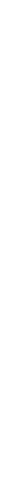
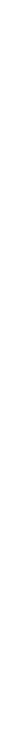
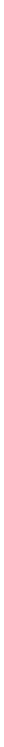
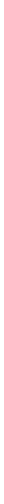


These birds, seen flying north April 3, were most likely Canada geese migrating to their breeding grounds. The black-tipped tail feathers distinguish them from snow geese. The peak time for their northerly migration is mid March, according to National Geographic Complete Birds of North America.

Photo: Ralph Thompson



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DOUBLE GARAGE | STUNNING VIEW

SUMMIT CRESCENT, WESTMOUNT \$3,988,000

A magnificently vast, bright and luxurious stone residence awaits on one of Westmount's finest streets. This property has been superbly conceived with endless windows, large pool and double garage.



SWIMMING POOL

AV. DE VIMY, OUTREMONT ADJ. \$1,950,000

This gorgeously conceived and laid-out home is filled with sunlight from morning till dawn. Massive windows, soaring ceilings, a convivial room configuration and absolutely stupendous back-yard with pool make an ideal home for a large family.



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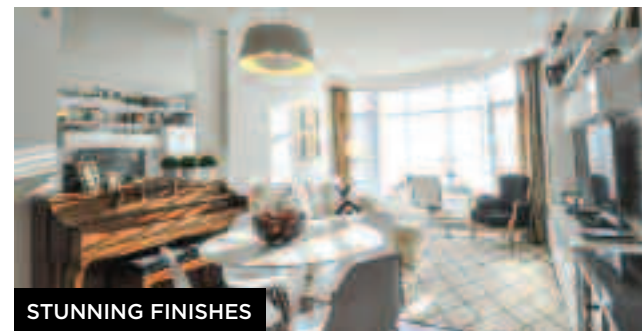
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**BELVEDERE ROAD,
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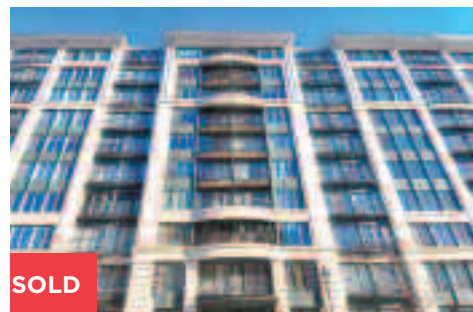
SOLD

**AV. GREY,
WESTMOUNT ADJ. \$2,185,000**



SOLD

**RUE DU DOMAINE-BRÔME,
LAC BRÔME \$1,985,000**



SOLD

**"1 MCGILL",
OLD PORT \$1,195,000**



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**BOUL. DÉCARIE,
NDG \$1,049,000**



SOLD

**"1 MCGILL",
OLD PORT \$825,000**



SOLD

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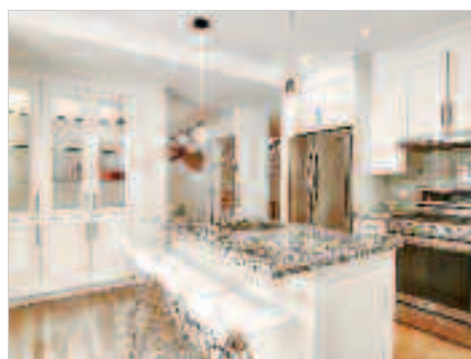
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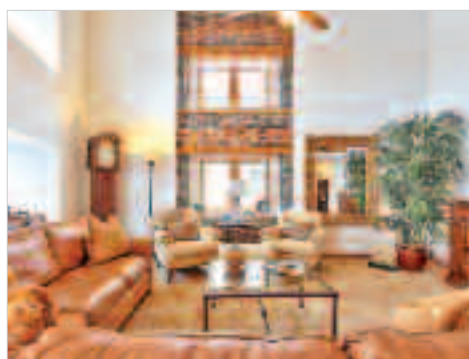
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Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in December 2016

For the list of transfers, please see paper archive.

For Andy Dodge's analysis, please see p. 20.



HAMPSTEAD | MLS 22385633



\$ 1,695,000



GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | MLS 25173718



\$ 2,349,000

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Sales analysis

December transfers: Strong upturn



Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in December 2016, gleaned from non-city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 19.

Prices turned way up in December of 2016, with only one single-family dwelling selling under the 2014 municipal evaluation while the average jumped to 15 per cent more than valuation, up from 7 per cent more in November and in fact an average mark-down in October.

The actual sale prices were not particularly high – averaging \$1,551,778 in nine sales compared to \$1,865,969 in 16 sales in November – but the mark-ups showed that the interest in Westmount property certainly is not waning in the new year.

Two home sales brought prices below the \$1-million level and two more were over \$2 million, the lowest was \$825,000 for 62 Somerville Ave. and the highest was \$2,548,000 for 11 Braeside Pl.

Second highest price, \$2,025,000, involved 4387 Westmount Ave., which was just under the \$2,051,800 (2014) valuation, as stated the only mark-down in December, while 483 Victoria Ave. brought the highest mark-up of the month, 36 percent, in a \$1,150,000 sale.

The volume dipped *continued on p. 21*



11 Braeside, photographed March 29, had the highest price at \$2,548,000.

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4387 Westmount Ave., only markdown, 1.3 percent. Photos were taken March 29.



483 Victoria, highest mark-up, 36.1 percent.



62 Somerville, lowest price, \$825,000.

from 16 sales in November to nine in December, but December is generally a low-volume month so this is not at all surprising. In fact, for the year 2016, some 182 one- and two-family dwelling sales have been registered, the most for any year since 2012 and 18 more than in 2015, an 11-percent increase.

Condo sales

Four condominium sales were registered in December, bringing the total for

the fourth quarter of 2016 to seven, compared to 12 in the third quarter of last year. The average of the seven was \$697,000, ranging from \$390,000 for an apartment at 11 Hillside Ave. (November) to \$1,475,000 for a share of the huge corner property at 202 Côte St. Antoine Rd. (October), which was marketed as a single-family dwelling but actually holds common property with 472 Mount Stephen Ave. The previous quarter's 12 sales averaged \$818,675.

Man detained for mischief

When public safety officers received a call at 3:42 am for a man hitting parked cars on de Maisonneuve near Metcalfe March 30, they tracked him down in Westmount Park, department officials said. Just as they found him, he lay down in the snow and passed out. When they managed to awaken him, he admitted to having

hit the cars with his bag because of "anger issues." He claimed to be on medication and to have spent the day drinking alcohol. Because of his condition as well as scratches and blood on his hands, officers called Urgences Santé and police, who took him into custody for mischief.

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‘Vimy Park’ to be relandscaped in keeping with cenotaph

cont'd. from p. 1

much significance,” he said.
“The naming of the park encapsulates the tremendous victory and sacrifice by citizens,” said Colin Robinson, RMR honorary lieutenant-colonel and a former commanding officer of the regiment. It came as “a wonderful surprise.”

Landscaping planned

“We’re going to be landscaping the area starting next year,” explained Councillor Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Sustainability and Parks. Pathways are to be redone and gardens appropriate to the cenotaph would be created.

This relandscaping is expected to extend

to the large grassy area in front of city hall, where the paved pathway leading to the main entrance of city hall will also be redone. The proposed designs are not yet approved, she said.

It is not known whether a new name might be given the greenspace in front of city hall. The name Garden Point derived in 1902 from the point created by the intersection of Sherbrooke and Côte St. Antoine and applied to the entire area. This is divided in two by Arygle Ave.

Robinson said the naming of Vimy Park had come from the city council rather than requests from the RMR. District 4 Councillor Rosalind Davis “has been very supportive in helping our efforts to educate people on the impact of war.”

RMR’s Vimy exhibition on at Victoria Hall

The idea for Vimy Park had come from Trent last year, Davis said. She had been helping to “push the agenda” after being “so moved” after viewing the film on Vimy Ridge in a theatre and had been promoting the RMR’s Vimy exhibition and film taking place April 3, 4 and 6 at Victoria Hall. This is open to the public as well as school tours that were being arranged.

There are also Vimy Ridge displays at Westmount Public Library and city hall.

The battle in northern France in 1917 was the first time Canadian troops from

coast to coast had fought as an entity against a common enemy and it marked Canada’s strength as a nation. Some 11,000 Canadian casualties were reported during the battle fought between April 9 and 12, 1917.

The RMR was part of the first wave of attackers on the German-held ridge and secured its objectives on time, according to author Ted Barris in his book *Victory at Vimy: Canada Comes of Age*. “The Royal Montrealers’ advance moved like clockwork,” it states (see story April 14, 2015, p. 8).



Discussing the Battle of Vimy Ridge at city hall March 31 are, from left: Colin Robinson, honorary lieutenant-colonel of the Royal Montreal Regiment, Councillor Cynthia Lulham and Mayor Peter Trent, the regiment’s former honorary colonel.



The newly named Vimy Park as viewed March 31 looking east from Argyle and Sherbrooke.

Comin’ Up

SATURDAY, APRIL 8 & SUNDAY, APRIL 9
Friends of the Westmount Public Library sale, 10 am to 5 pm at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. Info: 514.483.5604.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11
Westmount Horticultural Society presents “The Perpetual Gardener” by Liliana Perodeau on the arrival of the first flowers in spring, to summer and fall gardens, 7

pm in the Westmount Room of Westmount Public Library. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

The Gallery at Victoria Hall’s call for projects for its 2017-2018 exhibition season started February 15 and ends April 15. Info: 514.989.5521 or victoriahall@westmount.org.

PSO escorts man with groceries

A public safety officer helped a resident home with his groceries March 27 after receiving a call for assistance at 5:29 pm, Public Security officials said. The caller stated an older man appeared confused as he walked down Grosvenor using a cane and carrying a bag of groceries. The responding patroller saw him having difficulty walking, parked the car and helped him inside his home.

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Young scientists take on the region in annual competition

BY RUBY PRATKA

Aspiring scientists from five local high schools competed to find out how they measured up against others from anglophone schools at the Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair that took place March 26 to 28 at Concordia University.

Individuals and teams from Westmount High (WHS), The Study, St. George's and Selwyn House participated.

To qualify for the regional science fair, students first had to compete at the school level. At St. George's, all grade 8, 9 and 11 students prepare a project as a class assignment and present it at a school-level fair in February.

"Students work on these projects for

months and invest a great deal of time and effort at school and at home," said Scott Cross, the school's director of communications.

Two students saw their efforts rewarded with a trip to regionals. "One of our students did an experiment to test for chemicals in chopsticks; she boiled water in pots containing different amounts of chopsticks, then grew onions in bowls of the water to see how the chopsticks affected the plants' growth. Our other student built a metal guitar at home and studied what measurements needed to be done to create what sounds.

"It's very important for us to have our students not only understand the material but engage in it," he said. "Events like this allow them to make their own discoveries,



Westmount High students, Michael Tablan, left, and Brianna Haikalis went to the regional-level science fair with their project "Eco-Shoes." They won a "great distinction" McGill University, department of Mining and Materials Engineering award.

Photo courtesy of Westmount High

and that's when they really begin to learn."

At Selwyn House, grade 8 students compete in an annual school science fair in January with a view to advancing to the regionals; this year, five projects (four teams and one individual student) advanced.

At Westmount High, 63 students competed in its school science fair. The winners, who were to go on to represent the public school at the regional fair, were grade 10 students Brianna Haikalis and Michael Tablan, who used household products to design a durable and eco-friendly shoe.

"Science fair projects here at WHS challenge students to improve how they design and conduct experiments," said science

continued on p. 25



Photo courtesy of The Study

Maria Kametani, a Westmounter and grade 11 student from The Study, is seen explaining her project, "Slowing Down Tendinosis" February 27 at the school. At the regional science competition, she won the McGill University biology award and received a "great distinction" designation.

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MARCH BUILDING PERMITS What's permitted

The following permits for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the March 20 meeting of city council. None were presented at the previous March 6 session.

- 627 Lansdowne:** to build a rear extension, change windows and landscape;
- 4700 Westmount:** to replace six basement windows, one on the second floor at the rear on condition it is double-hung, a garage window and door as well as an access door to the garage;



4700 Westmount Ave. All photos were taken March 30.

Photos: Westmount Independent

- 597 Côte St. Antoine:** to modify the garage door by stepping it back inside the building to create a main door at grade inside the building;
- 4725 de Maisonneuve:** to build a rear extension, modify the deck and install new windows and doors, provided the roof overhang on the side over the deck is removed and the new wall of the extension abutting the existing building is set back to demonstrate the separation between the existing and new construction;
- 3210 Trafalgar:** to replace the windows and doors, the garage door, build a wing wall, modify exterior materials on the building, modify the rear balcony and rebuild the front breakfast area as per several conditions;
- 718 Upper Lansdowne:** at a Category I house, to replace windows and create an extension on the side elevation provided all windows are replaced in wood;
- 116 Blenheim Place:** at a Category I house,



116 Blenheim Ave.

- to replace some front and rear windows;
- 89 Sunnyside:** to replace seven basement windows;
- 316 Kensington:** to replace the windows on condition a specified one is double-hung, and that two are in aluminum clad-recycled wood to match the front windows;
- 808 Upper Lansdowne:** to modify the rear annex to create new openings, change some windows and doors and modify railings on the back balcony on condition one so designated be double hung;
- 660 Murray Hill:** to replace a window and a door at the rear, enlarge an opening

- and block a window on the side;
- 421 Mount Stephen:** at a Category I house, to replace all the storm windows with wood ones, and modify the rear façade to create a balcony and a basement access as well as install new doors;
- 364 Victoria:** to replace two back windows, four side ones and install mechanical equipment on the roof;
- 718 Upper Lansdowne:** at a Category I house, to landscape adding retaining walls in the front and back yards provided both lower walls are masked completely by vegetation.



316 Kensington Ave.



660 Murray Hill.

Soutar, Makhan featured at city's Earth Hour event

By RALPH THOMPSON

The Healthy City Project and the city of Westmount organized events to recognize Earth Hour March 25 at Victoria Hall, which mostly had a steady attendance of visitors at the workshops, looking at exhibits and hearing from guests on a variety of healthy living subjects.

"The Healthy City Project is part of a global network. We have a steering committee and two sub-committees covering the environment and community life," said Councillor Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Sustainability and Parks. The sub-committees are composed of "Westmount volunteers supported by myself on the envi-

ronment and Nicole Forbes, commissioner of Cultural Events, on the community life group."

The food theme encompassed workshops, exhibitions and presentations, including cooking with tempeh (made from an Indonesian soy bean) by Michael Makhan of Aux Vivres, the true cost of food by Clara Kwan of Victoria Ave.'s L'Autre Choix, and bees for the young by Ingrid Berker.

The skies were clear and temperatures reasonable, making it a pleasant opportunity for the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada to show off its powerful telescopes. They were set up at dusk.

Other exhibitors included Hydro West-

mount, the International Dark Sky Association of Quebec, Bird Protection Quebec and John Fretz on Summit Woods.

Guest speaker was former Westmounter Annabel Soutar, a Montreal-based documentary playwright and theatre producer, who described herself as a liberal who watches Fox News and Breitbart News so she can get an objective perspective.

Soutar presented a summary of her docudrama *Seeds*, which portrays the actual legal battle and emotional struggle of

a farmer fighting against agribusiness giant Monsanto. Her discourse embedded her own struggle to sort out what is true.

The event was organized by the Healthy City Project's Earth Hour subcommittee, including Monique Cazalais, Margaret Gundara, Paul Marriott and Tony Moffat, with the city of Westmount representatives Virginia Elliott of Community Events, Councillor Cynthia Lulham, and Hydro Westmount and Westmount Public Security.



*Annabel Soutar, a Montreal-based documentary playwright and theatre producer, spoke to an audience about *Seeds*, her docudrama, whose storyline involves a legal battle over genetically modified canola.*



Michael Makhan, owner of Aux Vivres Cuisine, demonstrates how to cook tempeh, a fermented soya bean cake. He explained that it can be used as a meat alternative in anything from poutine to spaghetti sauce or as a bacon substitute. The some 20 guests watching were shown how to make a quick snack of tempeh tacos, which they could sample afterwards.

Science fair cont'd. from p. 23

teacher Millie Malde. "They have be able to withstand scrutiny and questioning from the scientists who come in to judge them. It is expected that all participants will continue their education in science beyond this year, and these projects create a strong foundation in their scientific thinking, creativity and methodology."

At The Study, the regional science fair has been an annual tradition for more than 15 years. Twelve students competed at the regional level this year, out of more than 90

who competed at the school level.

Anna Maria Palumbo, head of the school's science department, said students have the opportunity to participate in an optional science fair as early as grade 1. "We often see those students continue to develop a passion for science," she explained.

Also from The Study, Westmounter Natasha Yang and her partner Michaela Capolicchio won three awards, as well as the "highest distinction" designation and

qualified to go on to the provincials with their project, "Sound's Electrifying."

Students who compete at the regional fair will have the opportunity to qualify for the provincial final, the Super Expo-Sciences Hydro-Québec, held in St. Hubert in late April. Those who succeed at the provincial level will move on to the Canada-wide science fair, to be held May 14 to 20 in Regina.

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Indie's Spring Social Calendar, Part 2

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

April

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

The Daffodil Ball, benefiting the Canadian Cancer Society. Theme: Imagine – The Beatles and Beyond. Dress: black tie, evening gown: swinging sixties style (psychedelic, flower child etc) Co-chairs Michael Denham, president/CEO, Business Development Bank of Canada; Victor Dodig, president / CEO, CIBC; Shahir Guindi, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt Montreal office; Pascal Tremblay, president/managing partner – TMT, Novacap. 6:45 pm, Windsor Station, 900 Peel St. Valet parking. Tickets \$1,000 (available only to benefactors donating \$2,000 or more). Sponsors' tables \$50,000, \$35,000, \$27,500. Alison Silkoff 514.932.7517. alison@alisonsilkoff.com.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

De pierres et de lumières. Collège de Montréal celebrates 250 years in the presence of Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre. Evening co-presidents of honour: Andrew Molson, chair Groupe Res Publica and Stéphane Laporte, director/producer, columnist *La Presse*. Gala co-presidents of honour: Costas Spiliadis, owner Milos, and François Ranger, president Ranger Sound-Lighting. Cocktails 6:30 pm. Banquet 7:30 pm. Cocktail attire. 1931 Sherbrooke St. Tickets VIP \$650. Regular \$350. Robert Vezina 514.875.1353. Local 205. rjv@rjv-com.com.

Les Printemps du MAC gala. To benefit the Musée d'art contemporain de Montreal (MAC). Co-presidents Stefanie Stergiotis, brand manager, Stingray Digital, and Alexandra Mohsen, product manager, commercial digital banking, National Bank. Honoree Elaine Barsalou, manag-

ing director, National Bank Financial. 9 pm to 3 am. MAC, 185 Ste-Catherine St. W. Tickets \$175. Naila Del Cid 514.847.6272.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

Blue Metropolis Angels & Demons. Benefit for the Blue Metropolis Foundation sustaining educational and social programs promoting mental health and combating anorexia, depression, bullying and homophobia. Cocktails 6 pm. Literary fashion show 6:30 pm. Lion d'Or, 1676 Ontario St. E. Tickets \$195. Tiphaine Flores 514.932.1112. Local 21. Tiphaine.flores@metropolisbleu.org.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

Hostess Hainya Wiseman: **The Art of Everything...and Then Some**. Benefiting the JGH Sandra and Steven Mintz Nephrology Centre. Chairs Rona Ellen, Sarah Hutman, Barbara Singer. Info: Nancy Rubin, nrubin@jgh.mcgill.ca.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

Printemps Masculin, the Balls Ball. Benefit for Cancer Testiculaire Canada. Theme: Speakeasy. Honoree Maxime Le Flaguais. Entrepôts Dominion, 3968 St-Ambroise St. Tickets VIP cocktail 6 – 9 pm. \$175. (Includes open bar, whiskey bar, oyster bar, cocktail dînatoire and after-party). Public party 9 pm to 2 am. \$85. (Includes open bar, snacks, DJ). 514.963.3577. testicularcancer.ngo.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Gala for Crohn's and Colitis Canada. To benefit research and patients' programs. Cocktail dînatoire offered by top Montreal restaurants. Grévin Wax Museum, 705 Ste-Catherine St. W. Tickets \$195. Stefanie Rosenblatt 514.342.0666 or srosenblatt@crohnsandcolitis.ca.

May

TUESDAY, MAY 2

Giant Steps Foundation Auction supporting Giant Steps School, dedicated to therapeutic programs for children with autism. Hosts: Charles Lafortune, Tracy Pennimpede and Elaine Lalonde. Le Wind-

sor, 1170 Peel St. Tickets 514.935.1911. Local 226. giantstepsmontreal.com.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

Queen Elizabeth Health Complex (QEHC) Under the Tuscan Sun. Italian food stations by the Madison Group, fine Tuscan wines and dancing to the Cadillacs. Théâtre Paradoxe, 5959 Monk Blvd. Tickets \$150. Maria D'Onofrio 514.485.5018. mdonofrio@qehc.org.

THURSDAY, MAY 4

AGI's Vintage Recall VI. Benefit for the Alzheimer Groupe. Donated designer fashions. Vente Privée Cocktail evening with hors d'oeuvres while shopping. 5- 9 pm. L'Atelier, 5500 Ferrier St. Tickets \$75. 514.485.7233. agiteam.org.

McCord Museum Ball: Illusions! The Art of Magic, inspired by McCord exhibition. Black tie. Cocktail 6:30 pm. Dinner 8 pm. L'Arsenal, 2020 William St. Valet parking. Tickets \$1,000 (\$750 tax receipt). Tables \$15,000. 514.861.6701. Local 1278. Musee-mccord.qc.ca.

FRIDAY, MAY 5

McCord Museum Sugar Ball. Sugar, Sugar and more Sugar! Young McCord fundraiser for young professionals. Chairs Sandra Ferreira, Gerald Kounadis. Windsor Station, 1100 des Canadiens-de-Montréal Ave. Tickets 10 pm. \$140 (Open bar). Networking 7:30 – 10 pm. \$200. (gourmet stations, high-end drinks). 514.861.6701. Local 1278. Foundation-mccord@mccord-stewart.ca.

Ilios Gala presented by the Hellenic Ladies Benevolent Society. Benefit for the Summer Camps program for underprivileged children. Cocktails 6:30 pm. Dinner 7:30 pm. Le Windsor, 1170 Peel St. Tickets \$250. Under 25 \$200. Maggie Pagonis 514.969.0000. mpagonis@pml.ca.

TUESDAY, MAY 9

Canadian Red Cross benefit A Light in the Darkness. Chairs Groupe Park Avenue's Norman Hébert, president / CEO, and Diane Dunlop Hébert, vp infrastructure, and Jeffrey Orr, president / CEO, Power Financial Corp. and Suzanne Legge

Orr. Honorary president Michèle Dionne. 6 pm. L'Arsenal, 2020 William St. Valet parking. Business attire; cocktail dress. Tickets \$1,250. Table (8) \$10,000. Diane Harnois 514.362.2930. Local 3622950. Diane.harnois@redcross.ca.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

Generations Foundation benefit theatre evening. Broadway musical Million Dollar Quartet, inspired by Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins. In memory of gracious donor William Lionel Brookes. Segal Centre, 5170 Côte St. Catherine Rd. Tickets Patrons \$250. Other \$75. Adrian Bercovici 514.933.8585.

THURSDAY, MAY 11

Trafalgar School for Girls Opening Night. Celebrating creativity at Trafalgar. Cocktail dînatoire, silent auction. Senior play: Peter/Wendy. In support of the school's bursary program. Trafalgar School, 3495 Simpson St. Tickets Adults \$125. Recent alumnae \$75. Youth \$50. Trafalgar.qc.ca. 514.935.2644.

Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre event. Dinner and auction. Chair: Sandy Miron. Honoree: Oliver Jones. Buonanotte Catering. 6:30 pm. Loft Hotel, 334 Terrasse St. Denis. Tickets \$175. Tables (10) \$1,500 (until April 10). Dorothy Massimo 514.931.6265. Local 21. Info@tyndalestgeorges.com.

SATURDAY, MAY 13

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal gala. 6 pm. Uniprix Stadium, 285 Gary Carter St. Tickets \$800. Tables (10) \$8,000, \$12,000 and \$15,000. 514.849.8681. Local 225. Lcailleres@grandsballets.com.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Festival of Divine Wine and Food presented by the Cedars Cancer Foundation at the MUHC. Benefit for sarcoma care, supporting research, patient care and education. Honorary co-chairs Dr. Robert Turcotte and Regine Angers. SAQ-sponsored selection of French wines. Sommelier tasting stations. Cocktail dînatoire. 6 pm. Sofitel Hotel, 1155 Sherbrooke St. W. Tickets \$200. Anna Burgos 514.656.6662. Local 222. Anna.burgos@cedarscancer.ca.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

Montreal Chamber Music Festival's Gala Gastronomique. 6:30 pm. Marriott Château Champlain Ballroom, 1050 de la Gauchetière St. W. Tickets \$410. Tables (10) \$4,000. 514.489.7444. info@festival-montreal.org

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continued on p. 27

SATURDAY, MAY 20

Grand Military Ball of Montreal's 375th anniversary. Benefit for the Fondation Régiment de Maisonneuve. Co-presidents of honour Mayor Denis Coderre, Brigadier General Hercule Gosselin, André Desmarais (president/co-CEO Power Corp), Isabelle Hudon (CEO Sun Life Financial Group), Alain Bouchard (founder/chair Alimentation Couche-Tard), and Yves Desjardins-Siciliano (CEO/president VIA Rail). Cocktails, dinner and dancing. Windsor Station, 1100 des Canadiens-de-Montréal Ave. Tickets VIP \$600. (Includes valet parking) Regular \$300. Robert Vezina 514.875.1353. Local 205. rjv@rjvcom.com.

TUESDAY, MAY 23

Alzheimer Groupe (AGI) presents A Vision to Remember – Chagall: Colour and music exhibit at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Cocktail dinatoire and private tour. 6:30 pm. 1380 Sherbrooke St. W. Tickets \$225. info@agiteam.org 514.485.7233.

THURSDAY, MAY 25

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom honours Senator Marc Gold. Proceeds to benefit the Temple's Open Doors Institute for Judaism. Cocktails 6 pm. Dinner 7 pm. 4100 Sherbrooke St. By invitation. Information 514.937.3575. Local 215. Temple-montreal.ca.

SUNDAY MAY 28

Tea Time for Chez Doris. Celebrating 40 years of service. The event honours those who have assisted the day shelter for women. Silent auction, sandwiches, entertainment and Grey Nun desserts. 2 – 5 pm. Concordia University, 1190 Guy St. Tickets \$60 or \$100 for two. Sponsorships available. Natalie Côté 514.937.2341. Local 227. Ncote@chezdoris.org.

MONDAY, MAY 29

Table of Hope/Table de l'espoir. Benefit for Share the Warmth. Featuring top Montreal chefs and restaurants. Salon Richmond, 550 Richmond Ave. Tickets \$150. 514.933.5599. Info@tableofhope.ca.

June

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

Ball for the Childrens: The Heart of Montreal. Benefit for the MCH Healthy Kids Fund. Co-patrons Grégoire Bailargeon, managing director / head, investment and corporate banking, Montreal, BMO and Marie-Josée Lamothe, managing director, Google Canada. Black tie. 6 pm. Windsor Station, 1100 des Canadiens-de-Montréal Ave. Tickets \$600. Anne Lassonde 514.934.4846. alas@mchf.com. ball-forthechildrens.com

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

McGill Head and Neck Cancer Fundraiser in honour of Dr. Saul Frenkiel. Benefit for the McGill Head and Neck Cancer Fund. Distinguished guest Michael Douglas. Le Windsor, 1170 Peel St. Tickets \$350. Carole Goldberg 514.340.8222. Local 25024.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

Chapeau Mont Royal. Gourmet luncheon in support of Les amis de la montagne's educational programs on Mount Royal. Guests are invited to wear their finest creative hats. Chair: Diana Ferrara Scalia, strategic advisor, Samcon. Co-chairs: Mary Bruns Creighton, Kathryn Lund Drummond, Judith Kavanagh and Carole Labelle Molson. Mount Royal Chalet 11:30 am to 2 pm. Tickets \$250. (tax receipt \$125). Corporate tables of 10 (bronze sponsor) \$3,500. Sponsorship opportunities. Chapeaumontroyal.com. Tickets: kwhitehead@lemontroyal.qc.ca.

Phoenix at the SPCA Montérégie awaits new permanent home



Here is sweet Phoenix, a touching rescue cat who was just a young adult when she had four kittens at the SPCA Montérégie shelter last October.

A lovely white and caramel domestic shorthair with gold-tone eyes, she has a delicate pink nose and adorable matching pink toes. Petite and delicate, Phoenix was found missing part of her tail when she was rescued in the fall.

Right after her kittens were born, Phoenix and the newborns were placed in the shelter's foster program. Her beautiful kittens were all adopted to families, and now Phoenix is waiting for her forever home in our neighbourhood.

She is just a bit over a year old, very healthy, spayed, and up to date with her vaccinations and all health tests. She is a bit timid with people at the onset of a meeting but warms up as she is reassured. She is also quite affectionate with other cats as well as gentle dogs.

If you would like more information on adorable Phoenix, please contact the SPCA Montérégie at 450.460.3075. It is located at 178 chemin du Vide in St. Angèle de Monnoir, a lovely spring car ride away.



You can also enquire about her at the following email: sherlock73@videotron.ca. The SPCA Montérégie website is www.spcamonteregie.com. There, you will find a wealth of information on this no-kill, grassroots shelter and the cats and dogs available for adoption.

Phoenix was made comfortable in a home environment to give birth to her kittens thanks to the volunteers in the SPCA Montérégie foster family program. In our neighbourhood, families can become involved in offering foster homes for kittens and cats on a short-term basis. If you think you can open your heart to a litter of kittens or a cat or two in need, please contact Cindy at info@spcamonteregie.com.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne

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'Time for younger generation' to take over: Trent

cont'd. from p. 1

He calls his departure "Trexit," a reference to the decision of Britain, his native home, to leave the European Union.

He said he believed six terms as mayor would be too many. "I'm 71 and in good health," he explained, "but it's time for the younger generation to take over. I've done what I wanted to do."

He singled out, in particular, his fight for Westmount's independence in the forced mergers with Montreal, the building of the new Westmount recreation centre and the city's financial position free of net debt and able to sustain \$17 million worth of infrastructure renewal a year through pay-as-you-go without having to borrow.

As for the future of Westmount after the

Trent era, he said he hoped that by paving the way for a smooth transition by the current council, the direction he had set would not change much. If a new mayor or council were to steer the city down a different road, he suggested "citizens would come down on them like a ton of bricks."

Nothing in view

Asked if his decision had been generated by the possibility he might seek a seat in the planned provincial election in 2018, he said: "No, no! My decision is not a prelude to something else. I have nothing in view." He said he would find something that interests him to do.

Many years ago, he had been asked to run federally by both the federal NDP and Conservative parties which, he said, he

had found interesting given their contrasting policies. He was, in fact, a Paul Martin person, he said. Martin served as Liberal prime minister from 2003 to 2006.

Trent's departure comes as the city continues to work on a planning vision for development of the southeast, a plan to restore the greenhouses, a legal fight to force the building of a sound barrier on the Ville Marie replacement highway and is facing major building proposals outside its borders to the east on Atwater and to the west at Claremont and de Maisonneuve.

These are all reasons for a smooth transition, he explained, and as they could be long-term "multi-mandate projects."

Trent launched his political career as Urban Planning commissioner in the mayoralty of Brian Gallery (1983 to 1987). He did not run in the following election, won by Mayor May Cutler, but returned half way through her term to replace the resigning Finance commissioner.

Among his proudest accomplishments in those years were his "downzoning" of many areas of the city and his insistence on fiscal restraint as well as the start of his efforts to bring the restoration and expansion of Westmount Public Library to reality.

Refused to run 'on principle'

After his subsequent acclamation as

mayor in 1991, 1995 and 1999, he refused to run in 2001 "on principle" and sit as a borough mayor on the Montreal city council after fighting against the forced mergers. While this role was undertaken by Mayor Karin Marks, Trent fought for demerger from the outside.

Interestingly, a SOM poll in 2001 showed that more people across Montreal island had more confidence in Trent to run what would become the megacity than Gérald Tremblay, its first mayor.

Trent returned as mayor in 2009 and again in 2013, a year after his book *The Merger Delusion* was published, relating the story of the fight for the independence of Westmount and other suburbs.

In 2013, he received an award from the Civic Action League for this cause and for his opposition to municipal corruption. In 2010, he had resigned very publicly from the executive committee of the Union of Quebec Municipalities when Laval mayor Gilles Vaillancourt refused to. Vaillancourt has since been convicted and imprisoned in relation to corruption investigations.

Trent has worked with Montreal mayor Denis Coderre to obtain Quebec legislation controlling what he calls "runaway" municipal pension benefits. But once again, based on "principle," he resigned last year from the Montreal agglomeration's Finance and Administration committee, which he called "charade" (see story October 4, 2016, p. 3).

The Joy of Easter

Palm Sunday, April 9
Worship Service at 11 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 13
Service of Tenebrae at 6 p.m. with Holy Communion

Good Friday, April 14
Readings on the Passion at 11 a.m.

Mozart's Requiem, KV 626 and Mass in C minor, KV 427
Pre-Service Talk at 6:30 p.m.
Choral Service at 7:30 p.m.
Choir of the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul and Ensemble Caprice
Jean-Sébastien Vallée, Conductor
Freewill Donation

Easter Sunday, April 16
Sunrise Service at 8 a.m.
Conducted by the Youth Group and Church School

Worship Service with Holy Communion at 11 a.m.
With brass, organ and choir



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City benefitted from his talents: Indie publisher Price

"Whatever views that Westmounters may have had on this or that controversy of the day, all can agree that Peter Trent was a dedicated, extremely well informed and top-quality mayor of Westmount," said the *Independent's* publisher David Price.

"He was a skilled businessman, who used his talents for the entire city's benefit, at what was almost certainly below market price. He was a champion of Westmount and of demerger during the failed one-island, one-city period, as well as within the various Montreal 'agglomerations' that existed before and after.

"On a personal note, he was a friend of this newspaper from its inception (which occurred between his two times as mayor) to today. His sense of humour, and of proportion, never failed him, which is a major achievement given all the abuse that municipal politicians take. I wish him well in this next phase of his life."

Cystic fibrosis gala honours Mila Mulroney

Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

On December 1, former local res **Mila Mulroney** was honoured by Cystic Fibrosis Canada (CF Canada). Star-power-chic in daffodil yellow, she attended with her husband, former prime minister **Brian Mulroney**, **Caroline Mulroney Lapham** and **Andrew Lapham**, **Katy and Nicolas Mulroney**, **Vanessa and Mark Mulroney**, and **Jessica and Ben Mulroney**, who acted as emcee.

As CF Canada national ambassador, Mila Mulroney has been a supporter since 1985.

Gala honorary committee members were committee pres **Sylvain Chrétien**, (president/CEO Pediapharm), **Jonathan Durocher**, **Dr. Larry Lands**, **Marc Giroux**, **Nicolas Beaupré**, **James Anderson**, **Rose-Marie Boylan**, **Patrick Kenniff**, **Neil Beaudette**, **Jean-Sébastien Ferron**, **Yves Fortier**, **François Levert**, **Marie-Josée Larochelle**, and CF Canada's CEO/president **Norma Beauchamp**, along with board members **Claude Provencher** and **Julie Saucier**.

Other board members present included **Mitch LePage**, **Ian Thompson**, **Stephen McCourt**, **Robert Sankey**, **Ron Anderson**,

Lee Burry and Ross Drake.

Amidst the glam guests were West-mounters **Mary Dailey Desmarais**, and **Michèle Dionne** and former Quebec premier **Jean Charest**, who attended with their children **Alexandra** and **Antoine**; as well as Olympic gold medallist **Bruny Surin** and his wife **Bianelle**; **Jordan and Christopher Mills**; **Alouettes Kyries Hebert** and **Anne Him**; **Gilles Coulombe** and **Isabelle Hudon**, executive chair Sun Life Financial; **France Rigali** and **Pierre Boivin**, former pres Montreal Canadiens; **Neil Erlick**, VP, PlaysafeGroup; and **Cyrille Aubin**, VP, RBC Wealth Management.

Entertainment included a video message from **Céline Dion** and a moving rendition of the late Leonard Cohen's song "Hallelujah" performed by **Nikki Yanofsky**.



Mark and Vanessa Mulroney, Brian and Mila Mulroney, Caroline Mulroney Lapham, Katy and Nicolas Mulroney.

sky.

The evening was supported by CIBC, Proteostasis Therapeutics Inc., Quebecor, ProMetic, Banque Nationale Assurances, SAQ, Vertex and Pediapharm Inc. The el-

egant black-tie crowd danced off dinner to the beats of **DJ Abeille**, there with hubby **Na'eem Adam**.

The evening reached its fundraising goal of \$500,000. *More photos, p. 30.*



France Rigali and Pierre Boivin.



Ben Mulroney, left, and Neil Erlick.

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Patrolling ‘greater Westmount’?



This Public Security vehicle, seemingly empty, was seen March 31 at around 1 pm on St. Patrick St. in LaSalle at the entrance to the Angrignon snow dump. Public Security director Greg McBain told the Independent on April 3 that the vehicle had been at the LaSalle Ford garage for servicing and broke down on a test drive.

Photo: Westmount Independent

6-month old baby among those in head-on crash

A six-month-old baby and another passenger were reported to be riding in the back seat of a car heavily damaged in a head-on collision March 17 at Sherbrooke and Wood, Public Security officials said. The Hyundai Elantra was “smoking.” No “visible” injuries were reported but all three were taken to hospital by Urgences Santé as a precaution. The child seat was

described as “very loose.” Officers closed Sherbrooke, diverted traffic and called police. The car was driven by a 40-year-old man from Montreal. An Uber driver was at the wheel of the other car, a Chevrolet, which had two passengers in the back seat. It was deemed drivable and able to leave. The cause of the collision was not recorded.

Social Notes cont'd. from p. 29



From left: Siblings Alexandra and Antoine Charest, and Michèle Dionne and Jean Charest.



Bruni and Bianelle Surin.



Anneth Him and Kyries Hebert.

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MLS 27069588 Few steps from Monkland village.



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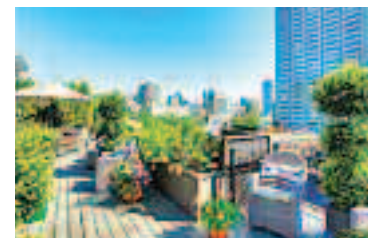
WESTMOUNT

215 Redfern Apt 308 \$2,350,000
2200 SF, private terrace MLS 24466488



WESTMOUNT

2 Westmount Square \$2,295,000
1700 SF, Panoramic views, MLS 23020613



GOLDEN SQUARE MILE

2 Chelsea Place \$2,250,000
MLS 26576267 5 Bdr, rooftop terrace



WESTMOUNT

3 Westmount Square \$1,795,000
MLS 11571055 Panoramic views, 3 Bdr



NDG

4385 Royal Ave. \$839,000
MLS 16139562, 3 BDR, semi-detached



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676 Hartland Ave \$2,850,000
MLS 20227860



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4298 Montrose Ave. \$1,975,000
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WESTMOUNT

332 Wood Av \$1,965,000
MLS 24027789, 2925 SF, 5 Bdr



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WESTMOUNT

4805 de Maisonneuve O. \$1,935,000
MLS 25118868 2540 SF



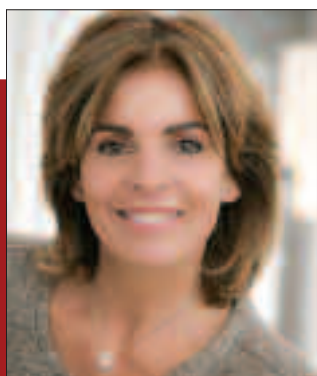
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2 Westmount Square \$1,450,000
MLS: 14188743



WESTMOUNT

428 Metcalfe Ave \$1,275,000
MLS: 11223133



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Westmount, 376 Metcalfe Ave.
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Westmount, 500 Mountain Ave.
Prime mid level location! Renovated, exceptionally spacious 4 bdr home. Central A/C, 2 car garage. Large garden. Views! **\$2,100,000**



SOLD by Brian!

Westmount, 160 Metcalfe Ave.
Exceptionally spacious, flooded with light and LOADED with charm, this lovely 1895 Victorian townhouse will absolutely delight you.
\$829,000



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Westmount adj., 4089 Highland Ave.
Country chic/City living! A tranquil, hidden gem. Impeccable DETACHED 4 bdr heritage property complete with the white picket fence! Lovely garden. Garage. **\$1,139,000**



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Westmount, 520 Argyle Ave.
Majestically positioned overlooking the southern slope of Westmount, this handsome 1906 heritage home retains all of it's EXQUISITE original character. **\$2,350,000**



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Westmount, 494 Argyle Ave.
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SOLD by Brian!

Westmount, 810 Upper Lansdowne
Prime Upper Westmount location, just opposite Devon Park. This quality built 4 bdrm home offers leaded windows + oak wdwrk + floors, a great layout. **\$1,200,00**



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Westmount, 657 Victoria Ave
A "John Hand" built home defines quality, craftsmanship and design. This well loved 5 bdrm home retains much of it's original charm. Great value! **\$1,175,000**



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SALE!

Westmount, 10 Belvedere Rd.
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Westmount, 109 Sunnyside Ave.
Desirable Upper Westmount address! Handsome, quality built 6 bdrm home in great condition! Garage + parking. **\$1,365,000**



Westmount adj., 5124 Cote St-Antoine
FABULOUS sun filled 5 bedrooms, 3+1 bathrooms, FULLY renovated by owner/ designer. Gorgeous architectural features. **\$8,500 furnished**



ANOTHER "WOW" SALE!

Westmount Adj., 5082 Glencairn Ave.
PRIME Circle Road location. Glencairn Ave. is as good as it gets! This delightful 3 + den (or 4 bedroom) home offers so much. Garage + parking. **\$945,000**



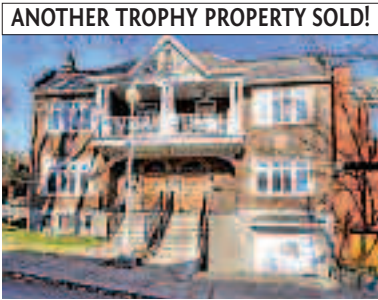
SUCCESSFULLY SOLD!

Westmount Adj., 4799 Grosvenor Ave.
Fabulous 1920's duplex, dramatically transformed + renovated into a now SPACIOUS, stunning, single family home! Ideal location, near Marie de France. **\$979,000**



SOLD!

Westmount, 701 Victoria Ave.
EXCEPTIONALLY bright + spacious home. **\$1,790,000**



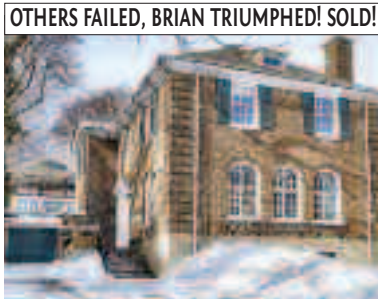
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Westmount, 537-543 Victoria Ave.
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SOLD!

Westmount adj., 3015 The Boulevard
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Westmount adj., 3105 The Boulevard
STUNNING detached heritage property. **\$1,645,000**



SOLD!

NDG, 4274 Hingston Ave.
SPACIOUS, impeccably maintained. **\$849,000**

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