

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 11 No. 5a

We are Westmount

May 2, 2017

We turn 10 this month.
Thank you, Westmount!

IN THIS ISSUE:

Publisher looks back on 10 years, p. 10

10 years of news, change
and continuity in local politics, p. 12

One year of real estate transfers, p. 27

Sworn in at a special meeting April 24

New mayor Christina Smith calls for 'everyone' to play a role

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Moments after being sworn in as Westmount's 37th mayor April 24, Christina Smith called on "everyone" to feel "they have a role to play in making our city one that is vibrant and inclusive."

She said she understood "the value of community" and would work hard to advance issues the city has been working on

such as infrastructure investment, a solution to noise from the expressway, greenhouse restoration, the promotion of architectural excellence and safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

"We live in a remarkable city but one where we can always do better," she said.

And "for those of you who don't yet know me," she added,
"you will see me in the continued on p. 32



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NEW LISTING!



Westmount - 726 av. Victoria - \$1,185,000

FEATURED PROPERTY



Notre-Dame-de-Grâce - 4052 av. d'Oxford - \$1,175,000

MANSION FOR SALE



Westmount - 519 av. Clark
\$3,450,000

CLASSIC HOME



Westmount - 598 av. Lansdowne
\$1,350,000

COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL



Westmount - 1227 av. Greene
\$999,000

8-PLEX FOR SALE



Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
5344 av. Connaught - \$985,000

THE PRESTIGIOUS GLENEAGLES



Ville-Marie - 3940 ch. de la Côte-des-Neiges - Many units available

RENOVATED FROM A TO Z



Westmount adjacent - 3035 av. Cedar
\$1,379,000

2 BEDS + 2 BATHS



Westmount - 4219 boul. de Maisonneuve #2
\$2,600/month

WESTMOUNT SQUARE



Westmount - 2-3 Westmount Square
#408-715 - \$2,160 & \$2,025/month

City to bestow honours on six for outstanding contributions

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Six late residents are being recognized this week by the city for their outstanding contributions to Westmount and the wider community. The civic honours are bestowed posthumously as per selection criteria. It is four years since the last *vin d'honneur* ceremony took place.

Those being named to the honour roll May 3 are three members of the Birks family – entrepreneur Henry Birks, his son Gerald Walker Birks and grandson Gerald Alfred Birks (both decorated war veterans) as well as journalist/writer Andrée Maillet, painter Robert Wakeham Pilot and journalist/publisher John William Sancton.

The ceremony was scheduled take place at Victoria Hall, where their accomplishments are to be presented in the presence of descendants and special guests.

The city's honour list was initiated in 1990 by Mayor May Cutler so that current generations would know about "the exceptional citizens of the past and how they have enriched our lives through their contributions to our community, to Quebec, to Canada or the world."

John William Sancton (1920-2004) – 'Newspaper man,' fought for open government

The longtime publisher of the now defunct *Westmount Examiner* was not only well known on the local scene but also in the newspaper world on regional and national levels.

His writing and papers won many awards from the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association, of which he was president in 1966/67. He was a recipient of Canada's Centennial Medal in 1967, the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977 and, posthumously, the Lieutenant-Governor's Silver Medal for Seniors.

"Journalism – or more precisely, being a



newspaper man, seemed always to be in his blood," recalls son Donald, who was expected to present the story of his father's life at the city's honours ceremony.

"J.W." as he was called by many, became passionate about ensuring that municipal affairs were conducted openly and transparently. He fought many battles that resulted in greater public access to information and meetings that now form an important record of Westmount history between 1957, when he became the *Examiner's* publisher, and 1989 when he retired. He became owner of the paper in 1968.

Among his "causes" – and as president of the Rotary Club of Westmount in the late 1970s – he spearheaded a controversial campaign to build the Manoir Westmount seniors' residence, taking over the basement of Victoria Hall.

During World War II, Sancton served overseas as an intelligence officer with 401 Westmount Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Born in Montreal, he grew up in NDG and Westmount. He worked for the *Sherbrooke Record*, *The Gazette* (becoming city

editor), *The Daily Gleaner* in Fredericton, NB (as editor) and a group of Beaverbrook newspapers in London, England. He owned *The Stanstead Journal* (1949-1951) and later, *The Westmount Examiner* and the *Town of Mount Royal Weekly Post*.

"He was a straight-shooter, a stickler for good grammar and accuracy but one who was always quick to express appreciation for a job well done," recalls one of his re-

porters.

In his retirement, Sancton became involved in several community groups. He and his war-bride, Mary Bain, spent their last years living at Manoir Westmount. They had three sons – Andrew, Edward and Donald – and six grandchildren. Ted and Don became well known in their roles with the *Examiner*.

continued on p. 28

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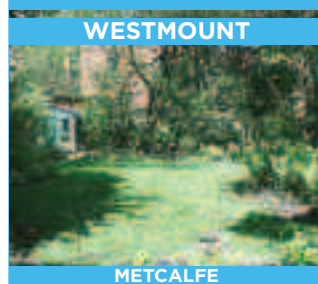


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DOWNTOWN

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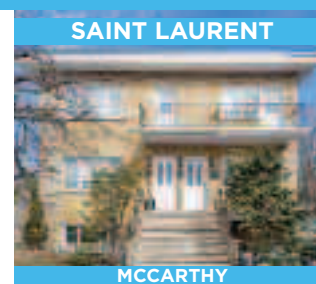
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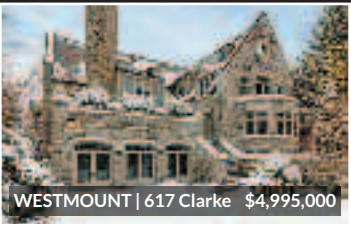
PRESTIGIOUS RESIDENCES



WESTMOUNT | 753 Lexington \$6,800,000



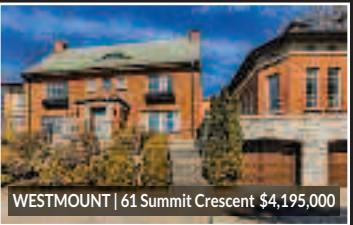
INTRODUCING
WESTMOUNT | 2 Ramezay \$5,250,000



WESTMOUNT | 617 Clarke \$4,995,000



WESTMOUNT | 746 Lexington \$4,500,000



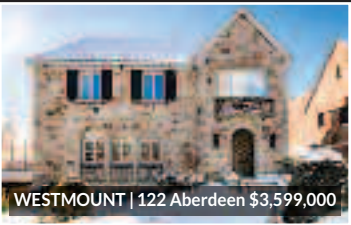
WESTMOUNT | 61 Summit Crescent \$4,195,000



INTRODUCING
WESTMOUNT | 215 Edgehill \$3,995,000



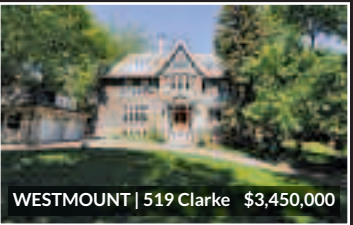
WESTMOUNT ADJ. | 3036 St-Sulpice \$3,750,000



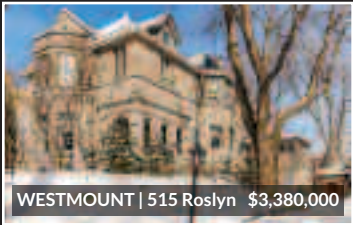
WESTMOUNT | 122 Aberdeen \$3,599,000



WESTMOUNT ADJ. | 3101 Cedar \$3,495,000



WESTMOUNT | 519 Clarke \$3,450,000



WESTMOUNT | 515 Roslyn \$3,380,000



WESTMOUNT | 55 De Lavigne \$3,195,000



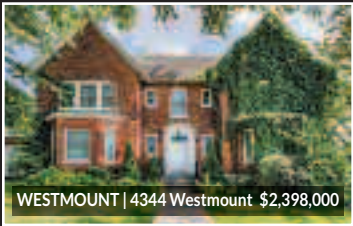
INTRODUCING
WESTMOUNT | 478 Mount Pleasant \$3,195,000



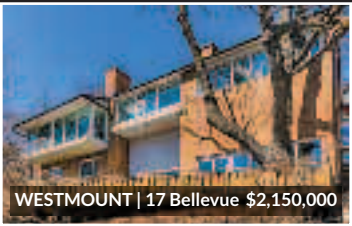
INVESTMENT PROPERTY
WESTMOUNT | 4160 Dorchester \$2,995,000



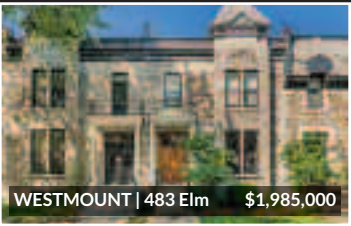
INTRODUCING
WESTMOUNT | 680 Victoria \$2,900,000



WESTMOUNT | 4344 Westmount \$2,398,000



WESTMOUNT | 17 Bellevue \$2,150,000



WESTMOUNT | 483 Elm \$1,985,000

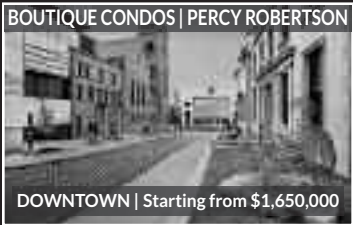


LAND
WESTMOUNT | 7,000 SQ FT lot \$1,599,000



WESTMOUNT | 792 Upper-Belmont \$1,380,000

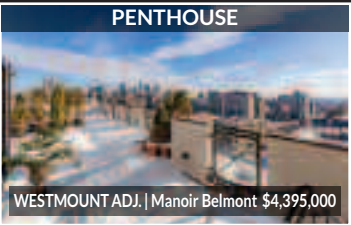
DISTINCTIVE CONDOS



BOUTIQUE CONDOS | PERCY ROBERTSON
DOWNTOWN | Starting from \$1,650,000



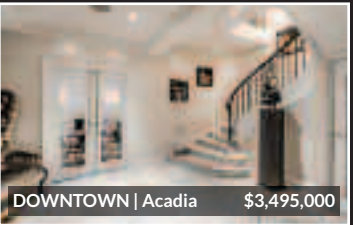
PENTHOUSE
DOWNTOWN | Sir George Simpson \$6,500,000



PENTHOUSE
WESTMOUNT ADJ. | Manoir Belmont \$4,395,000



PENTHOUSE
WESTMOUNT ADJ. | Trafalgar \$3,695,000



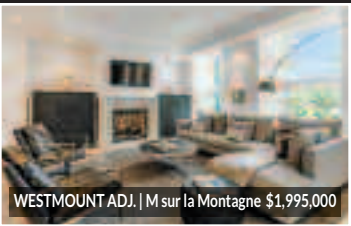
DOWNTOWN | Acadia \$3,495,000



PENTHOUSE
DOWNTOWN | Profil-O \$2,195,000



PENTHOUSE
NUN'S ISLAND | Symphonia \$2,180,000



WESTMOUNT ADJ. | M sur la Montagne \$1,995,000



NUN'S ISLAND | 200 des Sommets \$1,599,000



DOWNTOWN | Le Château \$998,000

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PURCHASED

Westmount

\$2,995,000*

PURCHASED

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\$2,800,000*

PURCHASED

Westmount

\$2,795,000*

PURCHASED

Westmount

\$2,295,000*

PURCHASED

Westmount

\$2,085,000*

PURCHASED

Westmount

\$1,800,000*

PURCHASED

Westmount

\$1,598,000*

PURCHASED

Westmount Adj.

\$1,300,000*

PURCHASED

Westmount

\$879,000*



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Roslyn’s Latulippe one of 3 teachers to receive EMSB honour

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Officials with the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) gathered at Roslyn School on April 26 to pay homage to three EMSB teachers, including one who has taught at Roslyn for the past seven years – Nancy Latulippe.

The EMSB honours three teachers each year after receiving nominations. Latulippe, who teaches kindergarten, was chosen in the youth education category.

On hand to MC the event were Derick Fage and Catherine Verdon-Diamond, co-host and weather specialist respectively of CITY TV-Montreal’s Breakfast Television.

Latulippe and the two other teachers – Stuart Chappell of the John F. Kennedy Adult Education Centre and Michael Creamer of Hampstead Elementary School – received \$100 gift cards from the P.F. Chang and La Cage aux Sports restaurants as prizes.

The Roslyn ceremony took place the week before the May 2 National Teachers’ Day.



Roslyn School kindergarten teacher Nancy Latulippe (holding flowers) was recognized for her work as a teacher during a ceremony held at the school on May 2. She is standing with students, other teachers and staff from Roslyn, as well as representatives from CITY TV’s Breakfast Television.



Congratulations on 10 years of service to Westmount!

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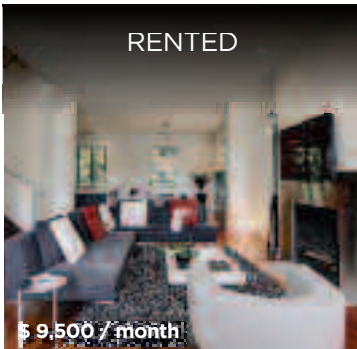
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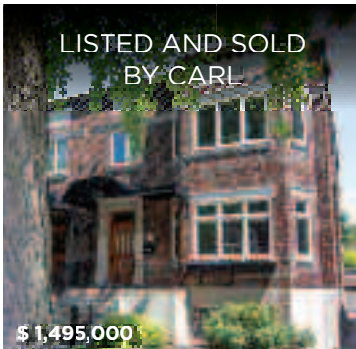
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AV. DES PINS | GOLDEN SQUARE MILE

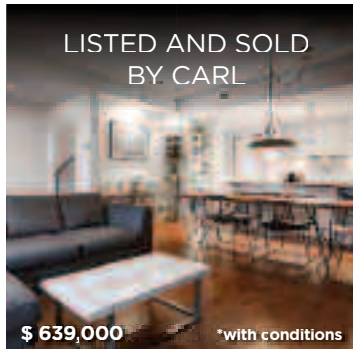
LISTED AND SOLD
BY CARL



\$ 1,495,000

CLAUDE CHAMPAGNE | OUTREMONT

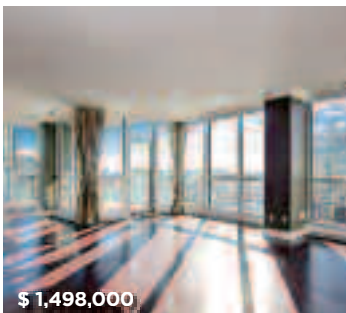
LISTED AND SOLD
BY CARL



\$ 639,000

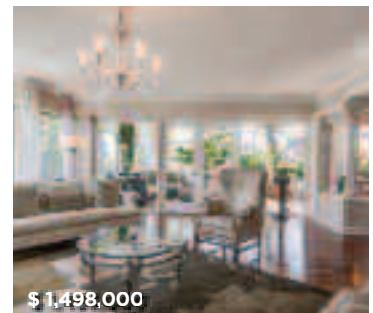
*with conditions

GRIFFINTOWN | CANAL LACHINE



\$ 1,498,000

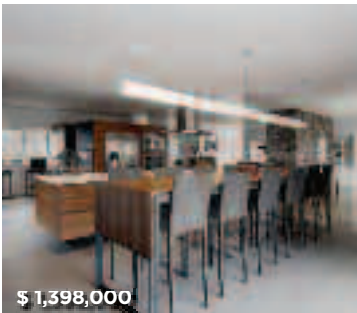
LE PHENIX | OLD MONTREAL
16th floor, spacious & bright condo with floor to ceiling windows, 3 bdrms, 2 balc., 2 garages.



\$ 1,498,000

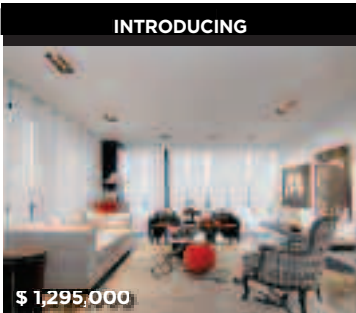
TROPIQUES NORD | CITÉ DU HAVRE
Luxurious condo entirely renovated, more than 3,450 sq.ft, large terrace, 4 bdrms, 2 gar.

INTRODUCING



\$ 1,398,000

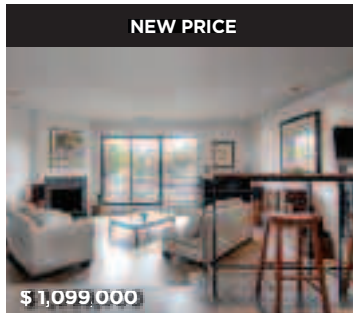
AV. DU GOLF | POINTE-CLAIRE
Exceptionally luxurious, chic and refined residence, backing onto the Beaconsfield Golf.



\$ 1,295,000

WESTMOUNT SQUARE | WESTMOUNT
Completely renovated condo that evokes great luxury and refinement. Garage.

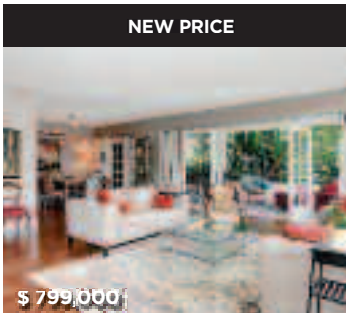
NEW PRICE



\$ 1,099,000

HILL PARK CIRCLE | WESTMOUNT ADJ.
Condo/townhouse renovated & redesigned, 3 bdrms, 2+1 baths, rooftop terrace, 2 gar, VIEWS.

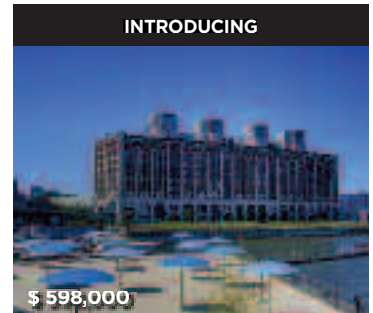
NEW PRICE



\$ 799,000

TROPIQUES NORD | CITÉ DU HAVRE
Ground floor unit renovated with taste, 3 bdrms, 2+1 baths, beautiful terrace, 2 garages.

INTRODUCING



\$ 598,000

OLD MONTRÉAL | HÉRITAGE
Modern & elegant, open concept condo with spacious living areas, 2 baths, 1 gar

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JUST LISTED



\$475,000

TMR | SAX
Spacious 2 bdr, 2 bath, garden level condo with private patio, high ceilings, modern design, garage, gym and an outdoor pool. Located near 2 metro stations, commuter trains, TMR shopping centre and highways.

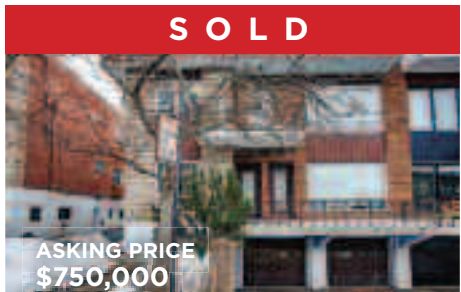
REVENUE



SOLD

ASKING PRICE
\$975,000

SUD-OUEST | ATWATER MARKET AREA
SOLD WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS. Very well-located brick six plex located in trendy Saint-Henri near the Atwater Market. Close to schools, highway, metro, parks, canal, and all amenities. Solid investment opportunity.



SOLD

ASKING PRICE
\$750,000

CDN | QUEEN MARY AREA
SOLD OVER ASKING WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS. Spacious duplex with large living room, separate dining room, eat-in kitchen, 3 large bedrooms and 2 bathrooms per floor. Bachelor with side entrance plus double garage.

HOMES OF DISTINCTION



SOLD

ASKING PRICE
\$1,650,000

LAVAL | WATERFRONT
Impeccable contemporary waterfront residence with breathtaking river views, complete with lush landscaped gardens and a place to dock your boat on this navigable waterway. An amazing and tranquil haven.



SOLD

ASKING PRICE
\$1,595,000

WESTMOUNT ADJ. | CIRCLE RD AREA
Impeccable and elegant detached stone cottage on immense, fenced corner pool-sized lot. Large garden with several mature trees. Superior quality renovations make this house an exceptional find.



\$1,595,000

NDG | HAMPTON
Exceptionally well-renovated home on over 7,000 sq ft, beautifully landscaped with huge private garden, facing park. Fully-finished basement with separate entrance could easily be converted to intergenerational space.



\$1,249,000

HAMPSTEAD | GRANVILLE
Stunning detached stone residence on 6,000 sq ft lot. Well-located, close to elementary school and park. Many updates include beautiful eat-in kitchen with quality cabinetry, granite counters, hardwood floors.

DISTINCTIVE CONDOS



\$779,000

CSL | MARC CHAGALL
Custom designed 1783 sq ft condo in La Marquise. Hardwood flooring, lovely mouldings, eat-in, spacious kitchen, large den, living room with several bay windows and a bar, surround sound, tiled 185 sq ft terrace.



\$599,000

WESTMOUNT | PRINCE ALBERT
Well-appointed upper duplex, short walk from Victoria Village. Renovated open kitchen with enormous granite counter that doubles as breakfast bar. 3 bedrooms, 2 renovated bathrooms, A/C and a parking space.



ACCEPTED OFFER

\$499,000

WESTMOUNT ADJ. | DR. PENFIELD
Large, gracious apartment in The McGregor, an elegant and refined building co-op located close to Westmount, Mont-Royal, downtown, universities and the MGH. Includes a dedicated parking space.



ACCEPTED OFFER

\$399,000

CSL | MACKLE
Something special at The Rothchild! Sunny open concept living and dining room access the large balcony. This prestigious building offers services with 24/7 security, indoor pool, large gym and party room.

RIP Westmounters (2007-2017)

In its ten-year history, the *Independent* has covered its share of happy events (e.g. hockey victories, Family Days, 100th birth-days) and controversies (e.g. elections, debates, disputes, referenda, polls, lawsuits). It has also been called upon to note the passing of prominent and well-known Westmounters.

Here are some of the people whose lives had a municipal or public connection, and whose obituaries we wrote.

- Jim Wright (1942-2007), former city councillor (1991-99),
- Peter Patenaude (1941-2008), former city director general (1986-1990),
- Michael Moss & Elizabeth Russell (d. 2008), residents & victims of 2008 Mumbai (Bombay), India attacks,
- Mark Bibeau (1959-2009), city permits clerk,
- John Johnston (c. 1930-2010), former city council candidate (1987),
- Don Wedge (1930-2010), *Westmount Independent* columnist & local activist,
- René Pelletier (1941-2011), former city council candidate (2009),
- May Cutler (1923-2011), former Westmount mayor (1987-91),
- Sally Aitken (1937-2011), former city councillor (1983-91),
- Virginia McClure (1928-2012), a founder of the Visual Arts Centre,
- Philip Aspinall (1929-2012), former city councillor (1983-89),
- David Cude (c. 1942-2013), former Selwyn House teacher (1971-1997).

Sherbrooke St. pizzeria the site of possible thwarted arson



Pizzeria DelNova as seen at 9 am April 28. It is located on the north side of Sherbrooke between Claremont and Prince Albert. Other media outlets reported it was attempted arson. Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière said he had not received any information nor the incident report. "An investigation is ongoing," he said.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Fire confined to main floor on Lansdowne

A house fire at 575 Lansdowne Ave. April 17 was reported to have been extinguished in less than an hour, Public Security officials said. While an initial alarm was recorded at 7:13 pm, another call for smoke in the neighbourhood came a few minutes later from someone on Belmont Ave. A dozen fire vehicles were found on the scene when patrollers arrived, but by 8:02 pm, they were already being packed up to leave. The fire was described as confined to the main floor of the home just south of Westmount Ave. No cause was reported.

Garage doors left open overnight

A Public Security patroller found two garage doors left open in the early hours of April 24, department officials said. Both doors provided interior access to the home. The first was discovered at 1:59 am on Belvedere Rd.; the second, at 2:11 am on Gordon Cresc. Residents were contacted and were reported to have closed the doors. Open garages are considered to be an invitation to burglars, who can break into the house without being easily seen from the street.

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Now we are ten

Independence Day revisited

So, that’s what a decade feels like. Ten years ago, we founded the *Westmount Independent*. Right from the start, we asked for support from the community (see May 16, 2007, p. 4 “Independence Day”), which we have always received and appreciated. My favourite well-wishing letter (June 2, 2009, p. 4) came from Rick Esber, whom I have only ever met briefly, who wrote on our two-year anniversary, “I would have bet against you, but obviously I don’t know you!” Looking at it without hindsight, he would have been wise to bet against us. Newspapers were not a hot new technology, even “way back” in 2007, and there was plenty of competition out there when we started. Indeed, at a meeting on October 30, 2008 with then-mayor Karin Marks, four editors of newspapers with “Westmount” in their names were in attendance. Nevertheless, thanks to our advertisers, our readers (many of whom have written in to show their support or who have otherwise helped our case), our employees and our suppliers, we have prevailed and prospered. Thank you.

Serving the public

So what have we learned? What I continue to find, over and over again, is how much people love and appreciate local news. It matters to them. It affects their lives. It makes them laugh. It makes them angry. It gives them something to talk about and, in some cases, do. They read the paper – in many cases, every word of it. Obviously, and like it or not, there are many other media products and categories out there. In just the written word, often on the web, the market has recently found that there is a real human desire for Likes and Tweets, and for regurgitated celebrity news, and for endless recipes, and for tips (weight loss! anti-ageing! what men want! what women want! homework advice!), not to mention a desire for national and international news slanted to readers’ viewpoints, and for clickbait (“Top ten things you didn’t know about ...”), and for “listicles.” And there are still metropolitan and national dailies, and magazines, plus a host of specialty newspapers. But many, many people (a silent majority?) continue to appreciate a good local newspaper that has a clear focus; that pre-

sents original, quality work; that works to print facts; that corrects the record (including its own) when necessary; and that is open to different points of view, including those opposed to it. It is gratifying to work on something that people like so much, and which tells them about life in their community, where they in turn can actually have an impact.

Serving Mammon

More prosaically, on the business front, we sell ads. We may appear “retro” and artisanal, or even 19th century-esque, but nothing (not websites, not Google ads, not Facebook, not Twitter) reaches residents of an area like a well-distributed, unsolicited newspaper – and its ads. A local newspaper may be “fun” to many people, or even downright funny (intentionally or not), but, if it is good, it serves serious clients with serious business objectives. Who understands this proposition best? Real estate brokers. I continue to be impressed with the savviness of Westmount’s brokers, without whom there would be no paper. Almost without exception, they exhibit many laudable traits. They work hard (six to seven days a week, plus evenings). They deal with every type of person and situation with aplomb and courtesy. They are unpretentious. They honour their commitments. They understand the value of our paper in building their businesses. A special thank-you to them.

I also want to thank the city of Westmount for advertising with us and for its open spirit to the paper, which were crucial from Day One. You can’t have a local paper without coverage of municipal affairs. From the beginning, Mayor Marks and the 2006-2009 city council (by district order: councillors Martin, Thompson, Charette, Duncan, Bowser, Forbes, Lulham and de Castell) purchased our services and answered our questions. That tradition was continued by Mayor Peter Trent and the councils of 2009-2013 (adding councillors Price, Drury, Ikeman and Samiotis) and 2013-17 (adding councillors Cutler, Davis and Smith, whom we look forward to working with in her new capacity as mayor).

Thank you. Westmounters: if you like the *Independent*, tell your councillors and mayor, and support their decision to advertise with us. Most municipalities on the island of Montreal do not have a newspaper dedicated just to them.

Thank you also to our many other advertisers: people and groups in construction, renovation, education, art, politics, automobiles, religion, camps, home services, special events, personal care, re-sale of antiques and other goods, restaurants, electronics, dentistry, seniors’ residences, office space, home decoration, clothing, law, personal finance and residential rentals. The list is long and diverse, and we appreciate every one of you.

To all the non-advertisers, I say this: whatever your business, if you seek clients in Westmount, think about advertising with us. Westmount’s 20,000 residents, plus many of those who pass through the city every day (e.g. office workers, patients visiting doctors, students, parents of students), read our paper. We’d love to have you as an advertiser and help you find clients among them. Advertising is not for fun or vanity. It is a tool to achieve serious objectives, which can make a large difference in the fate of businesses.

To everyone, I say this: we will continue to work hard to earn your support and to bring news and ads to Westmounters, every week, to every door in the city. Thanks again for the last ten years. David Price is the publisher of the Westmount Independent.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

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

LETTERS & COMMENTS:

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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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

‘A JOY TO READ’

To David Price and the entire staff: Each issue of the *Independent* has been a joy for us to read. Because of you, we are always kept aware of the important happenings occurring in Westmount. The paper is not only informative but a fun read. Keep up the fabulous work. You have indeed become an integral and indispensable part of our city.

MICHAEL POLAK, PROSPECT ST.

‘KNOWS ITS READERS’

A community paper should be locally owned and produced; it should avoid external issues; and it should know its readers well enough to be able to meet their expectation.

I’ve just described the *Indie*. Thanks and congratulations.

JUDY AND ALLAN AITKEN,
ST. CATHERINE ST.

Focus for rest of mandate will be on public works projects, communications, retail

6-year-old unable to communicate when found alone on street

A six-year-old girl was found “wandering” alone April 22, on St. Catherine St. near Kensington, Public Security officials said. A man who discovered her, called at 8:46 am to say she was unable to provide him with any information. He offered to stay with her until patrollers arrived. Officers described her as speaking limited English or French, but she was able to lead them to her home where a grandmother spoke neither language.

Officers tried to communicate with the woman using Google Translate. They managed to speak with the girl’s mother at 1:35 pm to advise her of the risks in allowing the girl to walk alone in public, especially when she could not provide her address or a phone number.

Cars collide at Roslyn/Westmount

Two cars collided around 5:10 pm April 20 at Westmount Ave. and Roslyn, Public Security officials said. No injuries were reported as a result of the impact. Both a Mercedes and a Subaru had to be towed away.



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Mayor's Column

CHRISTINA SMITH

sidewalks, sewers and hydro, more than we ever have before. This can be challenging for residents who live on, and around, the streets we are working on, but we know residents feel it is important work, and our Public Works team will work hard to minimize orange-cone fatigue.

While we will continue our efforts of improving our communication with residents for all of the city’s departments, a focus will be on the Urban Planning department. By setting out clearly the city guidelines, we want to provide more education regarding these guidelines and help residents navigate the permits process – while continuing to ensure the architectural excellence of our heritage city.

The redevelopment of the southeast sector and setting a vision in order to reinvigorate the commercial streets and improve the area is a priority for council. We will continue to engage our residents as we have done throughout this process.

Residential taxes have been frozen for the last two years and, thanks to the elimination of the city’s net debt, we anticipate being in a position to continue the freeze for a third year in a row.

Despite reducing the mill rate for commercial properties this year, we know the

retail sector is still facing challenges. That is why the city has engaged a retail consultant. It is the first step of a retail/commercial strategy to work with merchants and commercial property owners to find solutions to some of the challenges they face.

You will see new equipment in the parks and the completion of the naturalization of Summit Woods by adding a walking path, and planting trees and shrubs to increase the natural forest area. The greenhouses will be restored and will offer new ways for residents to experience them.

I am always so moved by the level of civic engagement in Westmount, and I hope to encourage more of it. Some of our busiest residents are the volunteer coaches on the soccer fields, at the arena and at our many community events. I was so heartened to see the young volunteers who have stepped up this year to give back to their city.

This is just a short list of the issues council and I are working hard to achieve. Any ideas that you have to improve our city are always welcome. Please call, write or stop me on the street. I look forward to working with you and for you.

Christina Smith is the mayor of Westmount.

Letters cont'd. from p. 10

the building no longer has vested rights that could permit assembly use because it has been unoccupied for over 365 days. The owner would have to apply for a zoning change in order to have the assembly use reinstated.

COUNCILLOR THEODORA SAMIOTIS,
DISTRICT 8

THANKS FOR THE RAILINGS

This is a short but belated thank-you to whomever was responsible for the recent installation of railings on the outdoor stairs at the northeast corner of the rec grounds, at the intersection of Lansdowne and de Maisonneuve.

I had written last spring when I was using a cane for assistance. It was a site inviting a fall and injury. I had also requested that railings be installed for the full length of the stairwell at the eastern entrance to the library but have not been able to verify that that was actually done.*

Being consigned to the use of a cane, albeit for a short time, was a real learning ex-

perience for me about the need for assistance and protection for those who don't have the mobility that most of us have and take for granted.

WILLIAM GILSDORF, LANSDOWNE AVE.

* Editor's note: They were. We checked on May 2. – KM.



Westmount Living at its finest

On April 24, I had the honour of becoming the mayor of Westmount. I am thankful to my colleagues for putting their trust in me. I also want to take the opportunity to thank Peter Trent for being the model of public service. His mark will be felt for generations to come in every corner of our city. His tireless passion for the city that caused him to bring about demergers will be his greatest legacy but all the places where people gather and feel their sense of community are there because of the efforts of Peter: the library, the Westmount recreation centre and a restored Victoria Hall are his legacy to this city. It is a daunting task to follow in his footsteps.

We have many issues to tackle in the last six months of this mandate, and your council and I are working hard to achieving the goals that we originally set out. Infrastructure investment will once again be very visible this summer. This year, we anticipate spending \$17 million on our roads,

RE: SOUTHEAST PROJECT, HILLSIDE ARMOURY

In your letters from last week, there was a reference made to the “completion of a professional and transparent southeast development study.” It has been part of council’s mandate to see a vision for the southeast completed in this mandate.

We understook a participatory process which sought to involve our residents at every level with a resident workshop, public meetings and a resident task force. This underscores the importance of ensuring that resident concerns and ideas are heard.

The city recently hired a professional project manager with many years of experience in projects similar to ours to assist the city in finalizing our vision for the southeast, and we will once again be reaching out to our residents for their input.

I also wish to take this opportunity to clarify the state of the former Hillside armoury site, which was also discussed in last week’s paper. It should be noted that

How Westmount changed – or didn’t – in 10 years

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Looking back on the last decade in Westmount since the *Independent* published its first edition, it’s hard to believe so much has happened on the news front – almost a quiet revolution in itself.

Heading a list of highlights we’ve written about is the large turnover in the city’s policy makers, top management and, in some cases, of department managers. But it’s more bricks-and-mortar issues that caught the headlines.

When *Indie*’s first issue rolled off the presses, the city was only in the second year of its regained status as an independent city from merger with Montreal and was quickly making up for “lost time.”

A dispute over the possible replacement of natural playing fields in Westmount Park by artificial turf was already under way when we began publishing, but we wrote about it and the decision to go with natural grass.

But it was the issue that gave root to the “Save the Park” group that continued its mantra in what was probably the major issue and development of the decade: How to replace the 1957 arena.

Various sprawling above-ground designs for two full-sized ice rinks and a large parking garage gave way to other ideas and suggestions such as double-decker rinks, and a split facility between Westmount Park and the Hillside armoury area or the Public Works yard. Many public meetings ensued.

When the underground option gained traction when Peter Trent came to the mayoralty, the discussion and debates continued and requests for an indoor pool continued.

Efforts by some to stop the project through court action failed. One of their contentions was that the project might get flooded out by a long-ago stream that ran through Westmount Park.

The project’s budget, it was found, did not allow for a second full-sized rink. But hockey diehards prevailed. And the city upped the cost of the project to some \$40 million by adding \$1 million to what had been a \$5-million fundraising campaign – all of it offset by a \$20-million infrastructure grant from higher levels of government.

As the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) opened on the approach of the municipal election in late 2013, and a new acronym joined the local lexicon, recognition and use of the complex followed quickly, and now it’s as if it had always existed.



This is what the east rink looked like December 4, 2012, just before the steel beams (foreground) were lifted into place to support the green roof – published in the Independent December 11, 2012.

That election produced a newcomer to council, Christina Smith. Who would have known she would be the city’s new mayor less than four years later. Or, for that matter, that Peter Trent would resign?

Howl over the dogs

And what decade in Westmount could go by without a dog debate?

This time it erupted over the city’s closure of the dog run at St. Catherine and Lansdowne, never to reopen after construction of the WRC. Where would its replacement run go? Polls, reports and various locations were rejected – including one on the green roof of the WRC – until another was found near Westmount Park Church. Once again, it has become merged into the landscape.

It was also the decade that Westmount embraced Bixis and installed five docking stations. The city redid the bike path through Westmount Park and added bike lanes to Lansdowne and Glen Rd. Then, just last year, the one-way lanes were added to Côte St. Antoine and Westmount Ave. – experimentally, and to similar opposition to what the “pilot” path on de Maisonneuve had generated years before.

More on the transportation front, there was the creation of a master traffic plan and latterly the installation of the new automated pay-by-plate public parking system.

Unwelcomed was a “guest” that came uninvited and refused the leave: the emerald ash borer invaded from Asia, and the

bright green beetle began decimating ash trees.

On the other hand, a more welcome insect was brought in when the city installed two hives for honey bees on the roof of the library and been selling the honey.

It’s probably fair to say, however, that construction projects collectively generated a larger share of news coverage and public concern, from the building of the WRC to the MUHC super-hospital in NDG at the Glen site and new condo developments at 215 Redfern, 1250 Greene, 11 Hillside and 175 Metcalfe.

Big traffic issues

The arrival of the super-hospital brought with it complaints of noise emissions; also a series of zoning changes to the Victoria village area to limit the number of medical offices and clinics expected to set up in Westmount, and by extension, more traffic.

A predicted traffic issue became reality with the rebuilding of the Ville Marie expressway, its upheaval and annoyance to residents on the southern flank of the city. Calls came for resolution of the 30-year request for a sound barrier. Yes, it’s already taken a long time, and now Westmount appears to be headed to court over the issue.

One major change in zoning also came into effect, again after more months of discussion. This was adoption of a by-law process for considering development proposals that don’t conform to current zoning

but are seen to provide a benefit to the community.

Otherwise known as SCAOPI or PPC-MOI, the first test of the by-law relieved the anxieties of neighbours when council failed to accept the project proposed for 4898 de Maisonneuve at Prince Albert.

Efforts by the city to adopt a planning vision for the southeast sector are entering a new stage with the hiring of a specialist to provide more of an overall bird’s-eye view.

A number of stores, businesses and institutions closed – some of them landmarks such as The Double Hook and Nicholas Hoare’s bookstores, as well as Vanguard school, the *Westmount Examiner* and the Laurentian Bank. Graham Fletcher, who ran the Metro store on Victoria for three decades, also retired.

And the list continues with the city’s efforts to catch up with the infrastructure deficit created by the merger years and the closure over safety concerns some two years ago of the historic greenhouse complex as rebuilding plans continue.

A three-year project to refurbish Summit Woods began, along with permanent closure of the north side of Summit Circle.

Last year, as the city emerged free of net debt, having paid off the WRC, it still lamented the loss of its own fire department and municipal court, victims of the merger.

And steering it all through the last 10 years, we’ve been writing about three councils, three mayors – Karin Marks and Peter Trent as well as newly chosen Christina Smith – and three city directors general – long-timer Bruce St. Louis, Duncan Campbell and now Mike Deegan.

Among many changes in key department directors have been four different managers of Public Security, three in Public Works, where a search is under way for a fourth, and several in and out of other departments. In the midst of it all, however, one constant, Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier, retired only this year after 30 on the job.

And another constant, the city’s architectural preservation, was recognized by the designation from Parks Canada of Westmount as a National Historic Site.

So, when all is said and done, to many observers, little may seem changed as the same issues dressed in different garb arise year after year in the council chamber just as certain as the purchases of rock salt or requests for building buildings.

As the old adage goes: “*Plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose.*”

Go large or go home, Westmount-style

Our very first story was about a building boom in Westmount (“Building projects push limits, heading for a busy year,” May 16, 2007, p. 1), and things were just getting started. In the last decade, in rough order of size, Westmount and its neighbourhood have seen the completion of the MUHC super-hospital, the Westmount recreation centre, the 5 Saisons/1250 Greene project, the 215 Redfern/Reader’s Digest re-purposing, the 175 Metcalfe/Vanguard townhouses/condos and the 11 Hillside condos. And that’s not counting the grand-daddy building project of them all: the Turcot project on Westmount’s southern and southwestern borders.

Here are some dates in the last 10 years associated with large changes to Westmount’s built environment:

2007

Marianopolis moves to Westmount Ave. from just east of Westmount and holds first classes – August 21

2008

First Westmount recreation centre public consultation – April 12

2010

MUHC super-hospital construction begins – April 1
MUHC super-hospital piling work begins – October 18

2011

11 Hillside condo work under way by March
First Westmount Bixi stand (at Greene & de Maisonneuve) – May 9
Closure of 5 Saisons for re-construction – May 20

2012

First 11 Hillside sale – March 15
Permits issued for 215 Redfern/Reader’s Digest re-purposing – March 23
Old arena destruction begins – May

2013

First 1250 Greene Ave. sale – June 12
Post office at Sherbrooke & Prince Albert sold to private companies – July
5 Saisons re-opens – August 15
Westmount recreation centre opening ceremony – September 19

2014

Vanguard/175 Metcalfe destruction under way by June

2015

500 Claremont sold to developers – January 13

Comin’ Up

FRIDAY, MAY 5

Centre Greene’s annual book sale, 10 am to 7 pm, and on Saturday, May 6 from 9 am to 2 pm. 1090 Greene Ave. A variety of seedlings will also be available for purchase. Info: centregreeneassistant@gmail.com or 514.931.6202.

SATURDAY, MAY 6

Rummage sale at St. Matthias’ Church, 10 am to 1 pm. Clothing, housewares, books, linens, toys. Entrance at Côte St. Antoine and Church Hill.

SUNDAY, MAY 7

SwapCycle, a fundraising event orga-

MUHC super-hospital opens – April 26
First 215 Redfern sale – May 19
Selby St. closes permanently (due to Turcot work) – September 15 issue
City greenhouse closes indefinitely, to all – October 20 issue
First 175 Metcalfe sale – November 20.

TUESDAY, MAY 9

Westmount Horticultural Society’s “How to create a beautiful environmentally friendly garden,” with Elaine Sanders, 7 pm to 9 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Doors open 6:30 pm for refreshments. Members free, guests \$5.

UNTIL THURSDAY, MAY 18

A city of Westmount employee exhibition at the Gallery at Victoria Hall.



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10 years later,

Bierbrier brings operation to Westmount’s doorstep

Westmounter Charles Bierbrier graced the *Independent’s* first cover and was its first profile subject. He is still in the beer business 10 years later, having moved his facility from Guy St. to St. Ambroise St. in St. Henri, just down the hill from West-

mount. He now has four brands: the original ale, a Pilsner lager (added in 2009) and two private-label offerings, a Pilsner for the Joe Beef restaurant (added in 2011) and a bitter for the Bishop & Bagg bar (added in 2015). He will be offering cans

for the first time in his brewery’s history this summer and entering the US market for the first time this fall. Coincidentally, Bierbrier’s current facility is in the same building where former Westmounter Peter McAuslan launched

his company in 1989. McAuslan Brewing and its flagship brand, St. Ambroise, are now owned by Les Brasseurs RJ and located further west on St. Ambroise.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT – May 16, 2007 – 11

Westmount Profile: Charles Bierbrier

Building a dream

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

Driven by a passion for beer and a love of business, Charles Bierbrier has single-handedly built his own brewery from scratch and into a thriving operation.

In less than two years, the life-long Westmounter has converted an abandoned warehouse into a business that supplies Montreal stores and bars, and is now shipping to many regions of Quebec in a competitive and hot market.

“The more the competition plays tough,” he says, “the stronger I come back.”

At age 31, Charles is already past president of the Rotary Club of Westmount, a current director of the Westmount Municipal Association and the president of the McGill Young Alumni.

He holds an MBA from the John Molson School of Business (Concordia) and has played trumpet – another passion – at the Montreal Jazz Festival.

Charles loves brewing so much that he refers to it as a “life-path” rather than a career. He initially intended it to be a retirement hobby.

“But it’s a good thing I decided to do it now,” he explains, “because it requires so much strength and energy.”

Jean-clad in the brewery office, Charles has just helped unload a large truck delivering empties to Bierbrier

PEI. “We do everything in-house,” he says. And until relatively recently, the word “we” has meant Charles himself.

Drawing up his own business plan, he hunted down and adapted the building, helped pour the concrete and install the state-of-the-art equipment, and worked through a long regulatory process to obtain his permits.

For the first six months of operation, “I was it,” he recalls.

“I’d spend the day brewing, then hop in the car and head for the bars to try and sell it. And only after that could I get to the record keeping.

“I had a cell phone and a beach chair. That was my office. But I had a brewery. And I was happy.”

The business grew quickly through word-of-mouth.

Soon he was able to hire a brewmaster, and then add a sales team and other assistants.

Since Day 1 in October 2005, Charles has built a team of 10, and quadrupled output. He considers himself a “downtown brewer,” rather than a micro-brewer. “We are an independent local brewery – and probably the smallest in the province.”

He’s also proud that Bierbrier ale was selected for inclusion in the 2007 edition of *Le Petit Dèjeuner*.

“We’re not a household

Charles Bierbrier

thing is sterilized at the end of the day and again in the morning.”

“I had a passion for business,” he remembers. So after graduating from Selwyn House in 1993, and studying commerce at Marianopolis, he obtained a BA in economics at McGill in 1998. He was undergraduate president of the McGill chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, which he now serves as alumni advisor.

“I’ve always been very involved in community leadership,” he says.

After graduation, Charles worked briefly in

Marie Larue Bierbrier) played an important role in encouraging me to just take a deep breath and move forward.”

Despite working long hours, Charles still makes time to go out evenings with friends and attend events including a number of promotional nights and beer tastings.

Friends are important to Charles. Many of them – some, doctors and lawyers – helped him with the construction and installation of equipment.

“They used to joke that it would have cost me a fortune if I’d had to pay their professional fees.”

Charles says he is always mindful that

A black and white photograph of Charles Bierbrier, a man with glasses and a dark shirt, standing in front of a large stack of beer kegs. He is holding a sign that features a logo with a star and the word "BIERBRIER". The kegs are stacked high, and some have the word "BIERBRIER" printed on them. The background shows an outdoor setting with a building and some trees.

Charles Biebrier on St. Ambroise St., April 21, 2017. Photo: Westmount Independent.

Party Review

Getting girly at Mlle Pinki

ANNIKA MELANSON

My 4-year-old daughter, Amel, was recently invited to a party at Mademoiselle Pinki. The pink VIP invitation arrived complete with a photo of the birthday girl, who was too cute for words.

The event was a drop-off party, which means that parents are supposed to drop off their children and leave. I was lucky enough to get to stay and hang out with the birthday girl's parents.

Walking into Mademoiselle Pinki is like walking into a little paradise of all things pink, frilly and fairy-like. This is definitely a “girls-only” venue ... sorry, boys!

Behind the pink curtain

The staff rounded up the girls and had them sit in a circle and talk about their favourite colours (pink!) and who their favourite princess was (Cinderella!). This went on until all of the party-goers had arrived. Then it was off through a mysterious pink curtain to the land of make-up and costumes.

The staff applied sparkles, tattoos and lip gloss to the next generation of movie stars and then equipped them with costumes and fairy wands. For those of you who are neurotic about germs (like me!), I did notice that for each child, make-up was applied with a fresh, new Q-tip.

A magic show

After being glammed up, the girls sat down and watched a magic show performed by the Amazing Todsky. Participation was encouraged and Todsky incorporated use of the girls’ magic wands to complete his magic tricks, which they enjoyed.

After the show, it was time for karaoke: we were serenaded with duets of “Wheels on the Bus,” “Eensy Weensy Spider” and “The Alphabet Song.” Last but not least, it was time to eat. Pizza was served and then a pyramid of delicious, pink-frosted cupcakes adorned with candles.

Mademoiselle Pinki parties cost \$300 for ten children at the boutique and \$200 at home. There are four themes to choose from: Princess Party, Pop Star Party, Tea Party or Pinki Spa Party. Pretty snazzy!

The “Getting girly at Mlle Pinki” party review column by Annika Melanson appeared on p. 15 of the Indie’s inaugural issue, May 16, 2007. Amel Melanson appears here at age 4.

Melanson now at The Study

A black and white photograph of a young girl, Amel Melanson, standing on a sidewalk. She is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt and a dark tie. She is smiling at the camera. In the background, there is a street with parked cars, a building, and a sign that says "THE MOUNTAIN".

Amel Melanson on Victoria Ave., April 21, 2017. Photo: Westmount Independent.

where are they now?

Four of four auxiliary PSOs still with force

In our inaugural issue of May 16, 2007 on p. 6, we wrote about the new position of “auxiliary” public safety officer (PSO) that had just been created to add patrol coverage. It still exists. Four such officers had re-

cently been hired: Robert Forbes, Patrice Dion, Nick Bouchard and Tina Lanzon.

Dion and Bouchard are now full PSOs, while Forbes and Lanzon are sergeants.

6 – WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT – May 16, 2007

Meet the new auxiliary PSOs Innovating to improve patrol coverage



New auxiliary PSOs, from left: Robert Forbes, Patrice Dion & Nick Bouchard. Absent: Tina Lanzon.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A new concept of “auxiliary” public safety officer has been introduced this

ence in the public security forces of Beaconsfield, Dollard des Ormeaux and Verdun, while the fourth is a recent graduate of the police technology program at John

A clipping from the Indie's first issue contains a story on Public Security.



From left, April 25, officer Nicolas Bouchard and Sergeant Robert Forbes. Sergeant Tina Lanzon and officer Patrice Dion were unavailable for the photo. Photo courtesy of Greg McBain, director of Public Security

Gadzinski only one of four still at Urban Planning

2 – WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT – May 16, 2007

How much larger, higher – even de

cerned about the impact on neighbours, the environment and quality of life.

How far down is too far? Where is the limit? How does this affect drainage and infrastructure?

Claiming livable space in attics brings the addition of dormer windows. With the creation of roof decks comes the need for

proper access by inside stairs with a rooftop enclosure as well as storage rooms for cushions and other furnishings.

To date, the city's approval of such rooftop additions generally hinges on the roof being sufficiently lower than neighbouring ones, usually conditioned by the slope of the land.

“These are all areas being looked at by the Planning Advisory Commission,” Poirier explained. “We’re proud of our mountain, and we have a responsibility to preserve its integrity.”

When permit requests are made to maximize the existing building envelope, they often require lengthy and very careful attention because “there’s no room for error.”

In keeping with the

growing building Department filled three new spaces and quarters. “This is all part of our customer service program. Figures for the last year, they show the number of permits issued, the estimated value of the work, and the number of complaints received.”

With many new permits being issued, the city is seeing a lot of activity in the permitting process.

Many permits are being issued, and the city is seeing a lot of activity in the permitting process.

The following work was done by Westmount in April 2017:

531 Claremont: The following work was done by Westmount in April 2017:



At the newly renovated permits counter in city hall are, from left: technicians Sylvia Gadzinski and Kathleen Durity, agent Guillaume Longchamps and clerk Mark Bibeau.

Photo taken by Laureen Sweeney for the May 16, 2007 issue of the Indie.

In our first issue (May 16, 2007), we wrote about a very busy year for construction in Westmount and consequently at the city's Urban Planning department. Year-over-year activity was up and five-year records were being broken. Trends included “monster houses,” recovering space in attics and excavating basements. A photo of four city employees was taken at the then newly renovated permits counter in city hall. Only one, technician Sylvia Gadzinski, is still working at the department. Even the 2007 counter is no longer. The current one is about two years old.

Sylvia Gadzinski on April 27, 2017 at city hall at the current permits counter. She is the only employee still at the department from the 2007 photo.

Photo: Westmount Independent



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Summit Circle house, then and now

Building projects push limits, heading for a busy year

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With the construction and renovation season shifting into high gear, Westmount could be headed for another trend-setting year.

In the first quarter alone, the value and number of building permits issued for alterations to one- and two-family dwellings are already running well ahead of those for the same period last year. And building activity in 2006 was higher than at any other time in the last five years.

The renovation boom can largely be attributed to the aging of homes and the desire of residents to increase living space, explains Joanne Poirier, urban planning director.

"With the building envelope maximized, people are starting to look for new ways to make their houses grow from the inside," she said.

These are reflected in requests to recover space in attics and under sloping roofs, to build roof-top decks, and even excavate deeper to create sub-basements and multi-car garages.

It's this trend toward so-called monster houses – pushing upward and underground – that is raising new challenges for Westmount's city planners con- continued on page 2



This imposing home being built by Paul Nassar directly east of the lookout can be seen from Sherbrooke St. Following the curvature of the road, it occupies the former site of 22 Summit Circle and an adjacent property.

On p. 1 of the Indie's first issue (May 16, 2007) was a story on building projects, including a photo of the house being built on Summit Circle.



This photograph of a house on Summit Circle, April 23 taken close to the same angle as the 2007 photo, shows the arches over the garage doors. On the house's front-facing facade, one can see a lunette-type of window that was in the works during the 2007 construction (see photo at left). Photo: Ralph Thompson

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Photographed at the three-day exhibit showcasing the work of architect Bruce Anderson March 3, was a presentation of the site of a house on Summit Circle. The photograph in the centre is what was actually built on the upper level. Anderson had developed several concepts to utilize the site. One concept was shown as a 3-D model in the top left of the display. A main building was developed to reproduce some of the characteristics of the original property in a contemporary style. This design was not implemented.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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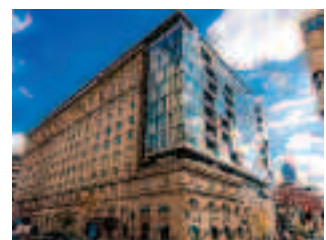


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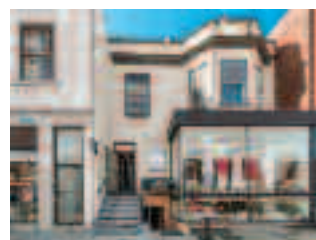
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MLS26864153– **\$3,995,000**+GST/QST
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WESTMOUNT
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MLS14068320– **\$2,450,000**
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MLS26075731– **\$2,195,000**+GST/QST
Commercial Building, 4,850 sq.ft.



DOWNTOWN - SIR ROBERT PEEL
3430, rue Peel, #1D
MLS19295519– **\$1,295,000**
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L'ÎLE-BIZARD
3007 rue Cherrier
MLS27320322– **\$1,250,000**
House, Lot 11,275 sq.ft.



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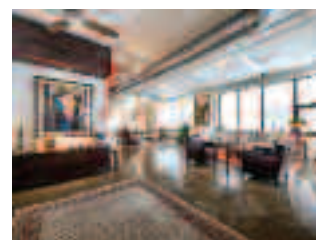
DOWNTOWN - LE 1200 MAISONNEUVE
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MLS 21607953 – **\$1 550,000**
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MLS18604026– **\$1,050,000**
House, 3 bedrooms, 73,133 sq.ft.



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TRENDSETTERS

SUSAN WENER

By VERONICA REDGRAVE

Last spring, I noted ladies as elegantly dressed as one would see stepping into the Paris Ritz making their way down Greene Ave. It turns out they were attending the CJA Women's Philanthropy Luncheon. It was hosted by local res Susan Wener, who was also guest speaker. A therapist and educator, continued on p. 44



Susan Wener at home in her Greene Ave. condo, early afternoon April 4.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

JUST LISTED!
**Golden Square Mile:
Gorgeous Georgian Manor.**

Detached 13 +3 bedrooms, 7+1 bathrooms, approximately 8400' of living space, 1 car pkg & a large back yard. Features intricate architectural details, beautiful hard wood floors, 12' ceilings with stunning crown molding, gorgeous skylights, Georgian style doorways, 7 fireplaces. A true gem! **Asking price \$3,200,000 Centris # 11845621**

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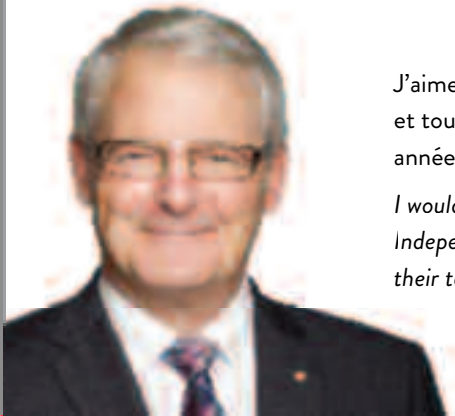
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J'aimerais féliciter le Westmount Independent et tous les membres de son équipe pour leurs dix années de service auprès de notre communauté.

I would like to congratulate the Westmount Independent and all the members of its team for their ten years of service to our community.

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*I would like to
congratulate the
Westmount
Independent on the
occasion of its 10th
anniversary!*

*Bravo to
David Price and the
Independent team...
I wish you many
more years of local
community
reporting to come!*



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Not ‘for the birds’

BY RALPH THOMPSON



An American robin was seen (and heard) chirping sweetly away on de Maisonneuve March 21. Though a migratory bird, many remain in the St. Lawrence River valley year round. During springtime, they have a more complicated musical song.



A juvenile female northern cardinal was observed in a back garden busily picking up dried twigs, likely an effort to build a nest. Cardinals remain in Montreal throughout the year.



A female cooper's hawk perched in a tree on Sherbrooke opposite the Y, seen April 2. It was identified as such because when in flight, its typical markings of yellow legs, a plain head with a grey cap, finely cross-streaked chest feathers and long tail with broad stripes could be seen.



A male dark-eyed junco flitting around with another junco was observed April 10 in an Arlington back garden, a clear sign of spring. The junco is quite common year round in the St. Lawrence River valley but it also migrates from the US to northern Quebec to breed.



This tiny bird, a ruby-crowned kinglet, typically measuring about 11 cm from the beak tip to tail end, was seen April 13. Typically at this time of year, kinglets are making their long journey from the southern US to their breeding grounds in northern Quebec. Its ruby-coloured crown (visible in the photo) becomes a more visible crest when it gets agitated or in mating season.

Sight-challenged dachshund a ray of sausage-shaped sunshine

The Underdog Club

JANE DAVEY

Ten-year-old Agathe is totally blind but this doesn't stop her from navigating her surroundings like a pro and living her life with gusto.

Sophie's Dog Adoption is not sure how she ended up there, but it surely wasn't due to her character. She's enthusiastically described as a total "love bug," a temperament so endearing that her sight challenge is soon forgotten.

No surprise there. Her breed is known for its lively, playful nature and for its courage, devotion and smarts. Agathe is apparently just great with other dogs and gentle with children.

Another plus factor is that dachshunds can live up to the age of 17, which means that although Agathe is a senior, she's still



got lots of potential years left in her.

One tiny minus (maybe) is that her extra short legs do make it difficult to use stairs, so interested adopters should keep that in mind. A third-floor walk-up might be problematic unless you want to be Agathe's human elevator! And that may be fine with you.

If having your very own "love bug" ap-

peals to you and you can give Agathe the forever home she needs and deserves, then contact Sophie's Dog Adoption by email at info@sophiesdogadoption.com or by phone 514.804.5052. You can also fill out an online adoption form at <http://www.sophiesdogadoption.com/application-forms>.



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An utterly sumptuous penthouse with its own private elevator that services both floors of this spectacular unit. The main floor offers soaring 23'ceilings with stupendous proportions: An absolutely unparalleled quality of life.



SUPERB LUXURY

“MAISON BEARDMORE”, WESTMOUNT ADJ. \$2,995,000

This utterly sumptuous exudes pure beauty and elegance. The quality of the renovations blend seamlessly with the simplicity in the design choices. Whatever your eye catches in this stupendous unit will be nothing short of beautiful.



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LARGE SALT-WATER POOL

CH. ATHLONE, TOWN MONT-ROYAL \$2,595,000

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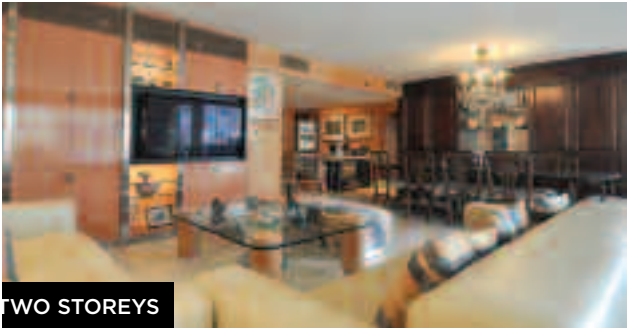
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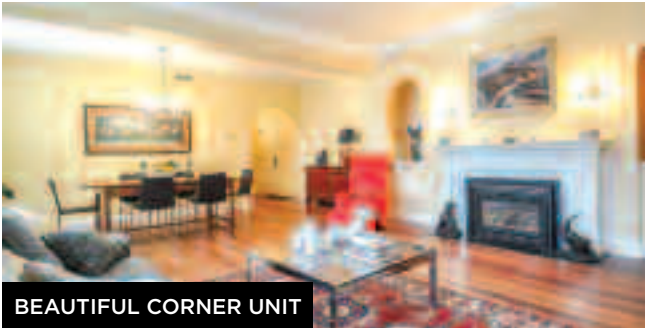
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LISTED & SOLD BY MARIE-YVONNE

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SOLD

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



SOLD

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WESTMOUNT **\$1,349,000 + TX**



LISTED & SOLD BY MARIE-YVONNE IN 9 DAYS

BOUL. DÉCARIE,
NDG **\$1,049,000**



SOLD

“LOFTS REDPATH”,
SOUTH-WEST **\$898,000**



SOLD IN 6 DAYS

AV. BROCK N.,
MONTREAL-OUEST **\$787,000**



SOLD

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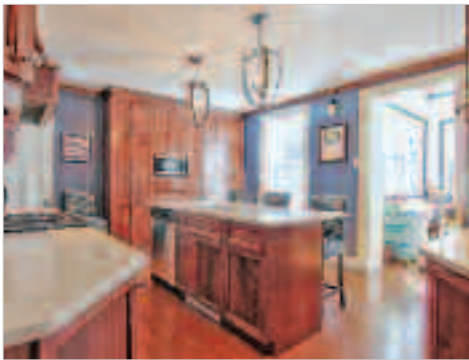


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2016 single-family dwellings sales

Address	Price	2014 Valuation	Ratio	Month
139 Abbott	\$725,000	\$743,700	-2.5%	Oct
54 Aberdeen	\$1,685,000	\$1,539,000	9.5%	Dec
61 Aberdeen	\$5,780,000	\$4,718,200	22.5%	Jun
21 Anwoth	\$1,180,000	\$1,175,500	0.4%	Aug
22 Anwoth	\$1,025,000	\$1,118,900	-8.4%	Jun
44 Anwoth	\$1,535,000	\$1,537,000	-0.1%	Mar
433 Argyle	\$1,857,500	\$1,358,900	36.7%	May
490 Argyle	\$1,050,000	\$1,239,000	-15.3%	Mar
28 Arlington	\$1,201,000	\$996,900	20.5%	Jan
69 Arlington	\$1,085,000	\$937,300	15.8%	May
71 Arlington	\$995,500	\$1,119,300	-11.1%	Apr
10 Bellevue	\$2,588,000	\$2,747,800	-5.8%	Nov
630 Belmont	\$1,425,000	\$1,490,700	-4.4%	May
632 Belmont	\$2,192,000	\$1,667,300	31.5%	Oct
642 Belmont	\$1,685,000	\$1,634,000	3.1%	Apr
657 Belmont	\$1,800,000	\$1,530,700	17.6%	Jul
42 Belvedere*	\$4,500,000	\$3,617,800	24.4%	Aug
65 Belvedere	\$3,450,000	\$2,859,500	20.7%	Feb
82 Belvedere	\$1,485,000	\$1,147,400	29.4%	Sep
11 Braeside	\$2,548,000	\$2,017,900	26.3%	Dec
625 Carleton	\$1,589,000	\$1,916,800	-17.1%	Jun
627 Carleton	\$1,420,000	\$1,630,200	-12.9%	Oct
3200 Cedar*	\$1,900,000	\$1,753,900**	8.3%	Oct

continued on p. 34

*Sales were not reported in monthly articles.

** Valuations correspond to proportions of the total valuation for the property.



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The impact they made: Lives of honourees

cont'd. from p. 3

Robert Wakeham Pilot (1898-1967) – Renowned painter served in both wars

Reported as “the last of the Canadian painters to lend authority to Canadian Impressionism,” Robert Wakeham Pilot is celebrated for his pastoral scenes, as well as his book illustrations.

Born in St. John's, he spent his childhood in Newfoundland but moved to Montreal at age 12 when his widowed mother married artist Maurice Cullen. It was from his stepfather that Pilot learned painting techniques before enrolling in various art schools after graduation from high school.

Pilot's studies and work were interrupted by his active overseas service in Canadian forces during both World War I and World War II, during which time he made sketches of his surroundings in an unofficial capacity.



During his career, Pilot received numerous awards and accolades. He was represented in solo exhibits by William Watson, the most influential art dealer in Montreal at the time. He received the Jessie Dow Prize, and in 1937 was elected a full member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, serving as its president for a two-year term in 1952. In 1953, Pilot was given the Coronation Medal.

Pilot and his wife, Patricia, lived at 51 de Lavigne with the last of his several studios being on the roof of the apartment building at 10 Rosemount.

“He loved living in Westmount,” his daughter-in-law, Gabrielle Pilot told the *Independent*. “Not only could he walk to his studio, but most of Westmount's prominent families eagerly collected his paintings.” She and her husband, Wakeham (Pilot's only child), live on Willow Ave.

Pilot's career is to be presented at the honours ceremony by Wayne Larsen, author of a book on his life. Patrick Corrigan, the new CEO of l'Opéra de Montréal will also speak.

Andrée Maillet (1921-1995) – Acclaimed writer ran politically in Westmount

Described as the first French Canadian woman accredited to work as a war correspondent in Europe during World War II, Andrée Maillet won many awards during her lifetime and published prolifically along with raising three children.

Andrée Maillet (1921-1995) – Acclaimed writer ran politically in Westmount

Her work, which included novels, children's stories, travelogues, news, poems and scripts for theatre and TV, earned her the Prix Athanase David, top literary prize in Quebec and the medal of the Canadian Association of Children's Librarians. She was named to the Académie des lettres du Québec in 1974, an officer of the Order of Canada in 1978 and a grand officer of the Order of Quebec in 1991.



Maillet's writing spawned her involvement in politics, and she ran as a candidate for the Rassemblement pour l'Indépendance Nationale in the Westmount provincial riding in 1966, placing fourth.

On their return to

Maillet's father was a journalist and newspaper owner; her mother, a writer and painter. Their home became a meeting place for a certain group of elite people and an environment that fuelled her own passion for writing.

Starting from the age of 11, she was still writing at the time of her death after a lengthy illness, her husband, Lloyd Hamlyn Hobden, told *Le Devoir*. They lived at 28 Arlington for more than 25 years.

After studying in New York and Paris, Maillet began her career as a reporter in the US and Europe that spanned the period between 1943 and 1952. She was a member of the Anglo-American Press Association of Paris for a number of years.

She married Hobden in 1947. He had been studying in Paris and enlisted as an officer in the Canadian Scottish Regiment in France. His involvement in the Normandy campaign in June 1944 led to his appointment as a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

continued on p. 29

Did You Know?

There are 85 homes for sale in Westmount, compared to 169 at the same time last year. Yet, there were 76 sales this year to date, compared with 68 sales for the same period last year.*

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Canada, Maillet worked as director of the magazine *Amérique française*, providing a platform for young writers. She wrote for *Photo-Journal* and was a columnist for the *Petit Journal* owned by her father. Maillet founded the French-Canadian chapter of the PEN club, a worldwide association of writers.

Henry Birks (1840-1928) – Jeweller, entrepreneur built national brand

His name is synonymous with the “little blue box” and the silver and jewelry business he built across Canada with his sons.

Henry Birks, born in Montreal, started his career in 1857 clerking for Savage and Lyman, Watchmakers & Jewellers. Lyman had been a founding member of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in Montreal, which has been reported as likely leading to the connection of Henry and his family to their long

support of the organization.

Birks and his wife, Harriet Phillips Walker, ensured their three sons spent healthy summers in the countryside, which included the pastoral Village of Côte St. Antoine (later Westmount), where they spent four months each year at their “summer cottage.”

Following the collapse of Savage and Lyman, Birks opened a small gift and jewelry shop and immediately instituted new business practices for customers: fixed prices and cash-only sales.

His business grew rapidly. His sons became partners in the store and the business moved into premises designed by Westmount architect Edward Maxwell on Phillips Square and St. Catherine, the first of imposing commercial buildings that Birks would contribute to a developing Canada. Many are now considered heritage buildings. The firm brought in generous worker benefits and expanded across Canada. Soon it became the largest jewelry company on the continent and a national brand.

In his sixties, Henry Birks stepped down from the presidency, handing over control to son William Massey Birks. He spent his

last years doing “good works” and enjoying and instructing his grandchildren in business.

Gerald Walker Birks (1872-1950) – Founded the Khaki University of Canada in WWI



Gerald Walker Birks, third son of Henry Birks and Harriet Phillips Walker, was a man of diverse talents known as an “ideas person.”

He joined the family firm, becoming company treasurer and a junior partner. A multi-tasker, Mr. W.M., as he was called, looked after international buying and produced the first Birks' catalogue in 1894.

A lifelong member of the YMCA, Birks went overseas with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in World War I as general supervisor of the YMCA Overseas Forces in charge of more than 1,000 YMCA installations. At this time, the organization pro-

vided support to the troops at the front and assisted the Red Cross. Birks held the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

He teamed up with the military chaplain services to provide educational tools and programs to help troops prepare for their return home, credited as being the founder of the Khaki University of Canada with an offshoot on the front lines known as the University of Vimy Ridge.

After the war, Birks continued with the YMCA and was appointed liaison officer in the Far East, serving at his own expense.

Birks and his wife, Phyllis Gertrude Ross, commissioned architects A. Leslie Perry and Morley C. Luke in 1936 to build them a home in Westmount at 1 Surrey Gardens (renumbered 90 Summit Circle in 1954 and now rated a “significant building.”) He also created the Gerald Walker Birks Foundation to aid Montreal institutions and to support the arts.

Gerald Alfred Sigourney Birks (1894-1991) – Jeweller, war hero, served Westmount school board

Distinguished in World War I as an “ace” with the Royal Flying Corps, Gerald Alfred

continued on p. 30



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If you would like more information on him, please contact pager number 514.203.9180 or email info@gerdysrescue.org. You can also have a look at Toby's profile and other information on Gerdy's Rescue by consulting its website at www.gerdysrescue.org.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



Honourees cont'd. from p. 29

Birks was awarded the Military Cross and Bar. He was a founder and director of St. George's School of Montreal and served for three terms on the school board of the city of Westmount when this existed.

A grandson of Henry Birks, he was a resident of the city for more than 50 years (listed at 14 Sunnyside) and was noted as an avid all-season outdoorsman and artist. As a great friend of renowned artist Edwin Holgate, he painted regularly with the Beaver Hall Group.

Educated at Lower Canada College and in architecture at McGill University, he worked with the family jewelry firm but left to serve in World War I as a major

with the 73rd Battalion Royal Highlanders of Canada (Black Watch).

Wounded at the Battle of the Somme, he took to flying the nimble but difficult-to-handle Sopwith Camel aircraft and was credited with 12 aerial victories as a lieutenant with the flying corps.

Wounded again, Birks was discharged from active duty and returned to Canada to work as a military flight instructor.

He rejoined Birks, moving to its Winnipeg branch but later left to work at the brokerage firm that became Greenshields. He and his wife, Margaret Ryrie, had three children. After the death of his second wife, Eleanor Hamilton, he moved to Toronto to be near his children.



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Former public affairs professional Smith begins mayorship

cont'd. from p. 1

parks, in the Westmount recreation centre, in the library and on the streets we live on.”

Smith, who will be living in the midst of this year’s challenging reconstruction of Grosvenor between de Maisonneuve and Sherbrooke, is the mother of three children under age 9, and is the coach of her daughter’s soccer team in the city’s Sports and Recreation program.

Smith – a government relations, communications and public affairs professional – was representing District 5 when she became the only councillor to file nomination papers as interim mayor in the vacancy left by the resignation of Peter Trent as mayor April 13 (see story April 25, p. 1).

“She has a quiet calmness and thinks before she speaks, but understands that the political process involves trust,” Trent told the *Independent* after the swearing-in event when those attending milled about and congratulated Smith. It was “most important,” he said, “for council to work as a team.”

Denis Biro, who lives on Burton and also attended, described Smith (his district representative) as “a good listener and

super-responsive to the concerns over quality of life by residents, the small and the big things.”

Among those attending was Smith’s husband, Joshua Cundill, and their eldest child, Mary, along with relatives and friends. The special sitting of council had been publicized as the election by council members of an interim mayor, which turned out instead to be the announced acclamation.

Smith grew up in Beaconsfield, commuting by train to and from Sacred Heart School. After John Abbott College, she obtained a bachelor’s degree in political science from Bishop’s University in 1996. This was followed by work on Parliament Hill as a policy advisor before she joined the Coca Cola bottling company in 2003 as public affairs manager for Quebec and the Atlantic and then as director of Industry and Government Relations (see story September 24, 2013, p. 9).

Always engaged in politics

Smith says she has always been “engaged in politics.”

Taking time from her career to raise her family, Smith has served as vice president of the local federal Liberal riding associa-

tion and as a member of the board of the Montreal Diet Dispensary. She also worked with the community outreach program of the MUHC’s Best Care for Life Campaign and with the Montreal Children’s Hospital Foundation.

As a member of city council, she has been commissioner of Administration as a member of the Finance and Administration Committee, experience she attributes to providing her with a close knowledge of the city and its staff (see story April 25, p. 1).

Smith became involved in Westmount municipal politics after a driverless car rolled down Church Hill September 29, 2011, crushing the stroller she was pushing against St. Matthias’ Church. That her two children escaped injury was described at the time as a miracle.



Christina Smith waits to receive the chain of office held by city clerk Martin St-Jean.



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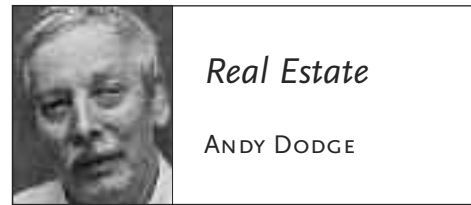
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Sales analysis

Higher volume highlights 2016 real estate sales in Westmount



Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

The following article relates to registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in 2016, much as they appeared in monthly lists in the Independent. The alphabetical list of sales, by type of property, starts on p. 34.

Real estate prices took a breather in 2016 but volume was the strongest it has been since 2012, and certainly with the current reduction in available listings it is likely Westmount prices will start shooting up this year.

For last year, 186 one- and two-family dwelling sales marked an increase of 23 over the number recorded in 2015, but the average price dipped slightly, from \$1,583,902 in 2015 to \$1,540,625 last year. The prices were 5.9 percent above their 2014 municipal valuations, just off the 6.6-percent average mark-up of 2015.

After the previous two years when prices topped \$6 million and went as high as \$8 million, the highest price in 2016 was \$5,780,000 for 61 Aberdeen Ave., one of only three sales over \$4 million, followed by 45 Forden Crescent (\$5,487,500) and 42 Belvedere Rd. (\$4,500,000).

And while there were only 10 sales over \$3 million compared with 13 in 2015, the low end of the list was smaller, too, with 11 under \$800,000 compared to 17 in 2015. The lowest price, said to involve the smallest house in Westmount, saw 212 Prince Albert Ave. go for \$460,950 in March.

Highest mark-up over the 2014 valuation was 67.2 percent at 495 Lansdowne Ave., a totally renovated townhouse backing onto Arlington Lane, which sold for \$1,600,000 though evaluated at only \$957,100. It was one of only three houses with mark-ups (compared to the 2014 valuation roll) over 50 percent.

On the other hand, 59 one- and two-family dwellings sold last year for less than municipal tax value, including four houses with (2014) valuations ranging from \$2,765,300 to \$3,734,600, which sold for respective prices between \$1,415,000 (18 Severn Ave.) and \$2,000,000 (30 Forden Ave.), all for mark-downs between 40 and 50 percent. All four houses – including 475 Roslyn Ave. and 718 Upper Lansdowne Ave. – needed substantial renovation.

Condo market

Westmount's condominium market, too, saw a substantial increase in volume last year compared to 2015, with 45 apartment-building condos sold compared to only 20 the year before as well as 14 duplex/triplex flats (which were converted for condominium use) compared to only eight in 2015. The city is now putting some townhouses into the condominium category, with common property shared between buildings, so a new category has been created for this type of property, which previously had only involved the group of buildings in front of Westmount's railroad station, as well as a group at Dorchester Blvd. and Weredale Park.

Much of the increase in volume involved the continued buy-up of two new buildings, 175 Metcalfe Ave. and 215 Redfern Ave., where almost all of the purchase prices (not including GST and PST) were for less than the municipal valuation, so the total for all the condominiums comes in at a combined mark-down of 3.3 percent. In 2015, when the buy-ups started, the average mark-down was one percent. Highest price among all the condos was for the townhouse at 497 Elm Ave., \$2,837,500, and the lowest was for a flat at 3119 St. Antoine St., which went for \$295,000. Apartment 405 at 215 Redfern Ave. appears to have been purchased for less than half its municipal valuation while Apt. 108 at 200 Lansdowne, which had been on the market for well over a year, sold for more than 30 percent above valuation.

Many duplexes and triplexes, of course, have not been formally subdivided but sold off as shares of the buildings, including two apartments at 17-19 Chesterfield. The smallest apartment there, which had been owned by a consortium of the other co-



Highest price: 61 Aberdeen, photographed April 26.

Photos: A. Dodge

owners, sold for \$180,000, both the lowest price and the only share of a co-owned building to sell for anything like its proportionate share of the valuation; all the others sold for between 35 and 100 percent above the city figure.

Highest price was \$705,000 for a 40-percent share of 330-32 Olivier Ave., while the flat at 9 York St. brought just over double its 32 percent portion of the municipal valuation for 7-11 York.

Old fire station on The Boulevard

One other significant sale involved the old Westmount fire station #2, 4760 The Boulevard/680 Victoria Ave., which was extensively renovated and transformed into four separate condominium lots but is classed by the city as a single, three-unit dwelling. It sold in January last year for

only \$2,300,000 despite having a municipal valuation of \$4,703,400.

Commercial properties in the 2016 sales list include the building at the corner of Victoria and Somerville avenues, which brought \$1,900,000, more than double its 2014 municipal valuation, and one of the stores inside the basement of 1 Wood Ave. – with an address at 4055 St. Catherine St.

Several sales have been added to the list, uncovered since the monthly lists were published in the *Independent*. These have been indicated by an asterisk (*) next to the address.

An examination of the sales volume by price range shows that, at least for residential dwellings, the number of sales between \$1 million and \$3 million increased significantly last year compared with 2015.

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Single-family dwellings sales

Address	Price	2014 Valuation	Ratio	Month
141 Clandeboye	\$685,000	\$800,800	-14.5%	Jun
421 Claremont	\$530,000	\$552,600	-4.1%	Feb
495 Claremont	\$1,075,000	\$1,140,800	-5.8%	Sep
507 Claremont	\$1,080,000	\$1,082,400	-0.2%	May
544 Claremont	\$1,281,500	\$1,135,700	12.8%	Nov
243 Clarke	\$1,637,500	\$1,170,800	39.9%	Aug
361 Clarke	\$1,230,000	\$998,000	23.2%	Jul
442 Clarke	\$1,125,000	\$986,300	14.1%	Jul
463 Clarke	\$1,275,000	\$912,100	39.8%	Mar
465 Clarke	\$1,180,000	\$946,200	24.7%	Sep
532 Clarke	\$1,799,000	\$1,798,200	0.0%	Jun
627 Clarke	\$3,300,000	\$2,420,000	36.4%	Feb
73 Columbia	\$765,000	\$746,100	2.5%	Nov
75 Columbia	\$850,000	\$806,700	5.4%	Jun
102 Columbia	\$830,000	\$901,600	-7.9%	Aug
194 Côte St. Antoine	\$990,000	\$787,200	25.8%	Jun
470 Côte St. Antoine	\$1,448,000	\$1,084,800	33.5%	Sep
594 Côte St. Antoine	\$1,050,000	\$1,173,200	-10.5%	Jun
602 Côte St. Antoine	\$1,370,000	\$1,096,400	25.0%	Jul
613 Côte St. Antoine	\$1,800,000	\$1,714,900	5.0%	Mar
657 Côte St. Antoine	\$1,100,000	\$976,800	12.6%	Jun
4155 de Maisonneuve	\$1,150,000	\$908,400	26.6%	Aug
4285 de Maisonneuve	\$1,925,000	\$1,184,000	62.6%	Apr
4392 de Maisonneuve	\$1,125,000	\$1,010,500	11.3%	Jun
4710 de Maisonneuve	\$800,000	\$844,800	-5.3%	Sep

continued on p. 35



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2,000,000+	1	0	20.0%
1,000,000+	2	0	40.0%
800,000+	1	0	20.0%
700,000+	0	0	0.0%
600,000+	1	0	20.0%
Total	5	0	100.0%

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One- and two-family dwellings			
Price range	'16 no.	'15 no.	% of volume '15
5,000,000+	2	2	1.1%
4,000,000+	1	3	0.5%
3,000,000+	7	8	3.8%
2,000,000+	25	15	13.4%
1,500,000+	40	37	21.5%
1,000,000+	72	57	38.7%
900,000+	6	14	3.2%
800,000+	22	10	11.8%
700,000+	6	11	3.2%
600,000+	1	3	0.5%
500,000+	3	2	1.6%
400,000+	1	1	0.5%
Total	186	163	99.8%

Residential condominiums apartments			
Price range	'16 no.	'15 no.	% of volume '15
2,000,000+	1	2	2.2%
1,500,000+	4	2	8.9%
1,000,000+	7	3	15.6%
900,000+	2	1	4.4%
800,000+	3	0	6.7%
700,000+	5	1	11.1%
600,000+	8	0	17.8%
500,000+	2	2	4.4%
400,000+	11	7	24.4%
300,000+	2	2	4.4%
Total	45	20	99.9%

Duplex- and triplex-type condos			
Price range	'16 no.	'15 no.	% of volume '15
800,000+	1	0	7.1%
700,000+	2	0	14.3%
600,000+	2	3	14.3%
500,000+	3	4	21.4%
400,000+	3	1	21.4%
300,000+	2	0	14.3%
200,000+	1	0	7.1%
Total	14	8	99.9%



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Two Mounties in dress serge were stationed at the entrance to the RCMP building on Dorchester Blvd. at Greene April 28. They were observing a national day of mourning and particularly remembering the March 5 death of officer Richer Dubuc in a car crash near Lacolle.

Photo: Westmount Independent.

Water flows into neighbouring homes from burst tank

A hot water tank broke in a basement on Columbia flooding the basement floor and reported April 17 to be leaking into adjacent houses on either side, Public Security officials said. The water was discovered by one of the neighbours who called at 7:30 am to say there was water on their basement floor from an unknown source. In an effort to track it down, officers discovered water in the other adjacent house but could not gain access to the house between them.

Public Works was called and the owner, who was out of town, was contacted. He provided an entry code and authorization for entry to the house, where the water tank was found to have “emptied itself.” Firefighters stated the water was not deep enough to start pumping. It appeared to be draining. Damages were unknown.

2016 single-family dwellings sales

Address	Price	2014 Valuation	Ratio	Month
48 Delavigne	\$2,335,000	\$2,099,600	11.2%	May
4132 Dorchester	\$1,115,000	\$830,000	34.3%	Sep
4266 Dorchester	\$1,400,000	\$944,400	48.2%	Nov
4048-50 Dorchester	\$1,040,000	\$954,400	9.0%	Mar
18 Edgehill	\$2,275,000	\$2,363,600	-3.7%	Jul
379 Elm	\$1,485,000	\$1,192,200	24.6%	Mar
450 Elm	\$1,630,000	\$1,890,300	-13.8%	Oct
6 Forden	\$2,055,000	\$2,204,300	-6.8%	Nov
24 Forden	\$2,075,000	\$2,145,900	-3.3%	Apr
30 Forden	\$2,000,000	\$3,734,600	-46.4%	Oct
45 Forden Crescent	\$5,487,500	\$4,503,000	21.9%	Nov
1111 Greene	\$898,000	\$730,800	22.9%	Dec
18 Grenville	\$1,115,000	\$1,400,500	-20.4%	Jul
301 Grosvenor	\$1,050,000	\$841,700	24.7%	Apr
425 Grosvenor	\$810,000	\$751,000	7.9%	Oct
497 Grosvenor	\$1,349,000	\$973,600	38.6%	Nov
568 Grosvenor	\$1,150,000	\$1,412,900	-18.6%	Jun
571 Grosvenor	\$1,007,000	\$1,305,800	-22.9%	Aug
573 Grosvenor	\$1,040,000	\$1,330,900	-21.9%	Sep
576 Grosvenor	\$1,070,100	\$1,177,800	-9.1%	Jul
602 Grosvenor	\$910,000	\$1,014,700	-10.3%	Mar
642 Grosvenor	\$1,200,000	\$1,222,600	-1.8%	Mar
646 Grosvenor	\$1,085,000	\$1,064,400	1.9%	Jul
660 Grosvenor	\$1,185,000	\$1,201,700	-1.4%	Jan

continued on p. 37



45 Forden Crescent, photographed April 26, had the second highest price at \$5,487,500.

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2016 single-family dwellings sales

Address	Price	2014 Valuation	Ratio	Month
693 Grosvenor	\$975,000	\$1,100,000	-11.4%	Mar
699 Grosvenor	\$1,150,000	\$1,174,700	-2.1%	Jun
709 Grosvenor	\$1,340,000	\$1,138,100	17.7%	Jun
15 Grove Park	\$1,450,000	\$1,100,900	31.7%	Jul
93 Hallowell	\$561,000	\$536,400	4.6%	Jan
37 Holton	\$1,410,000	\$1,196,000	17.9%	Oct
38 Holton	\$2,275,000	\$1,399,400	62.6%	Apr
43 Holton	\$1,375,000	\$1,344,200	2.3%	Sep
48 Holton	\$2,100,000	\$1,724,300	21.8%	Mar
67 Holton	\$895,000	\$889,800	0.6%	Jan
333 Kensington	\$1,350,000	\$1,328,000	1.7%	Jan
344 Kensington	\$1,458,500	\$1,046,400	39.4%	Aug
489 Lansdowne	\$1,435,000	\$1,254,000	14.4%	Jul
493 Lansdowne	\$1,910,000	\$1,600,000	19.4%	Dec
495 Lansdowne	\$1,600,000	\$957,100	67.2%	Sep
557 Lansdowne	\$1,460,000	\$1,361,600	7.2%	May
646 Lansdowne	\$1,625,000	\$1,323,800	22.8%	Jun
19 Lansdowne Ridge	\$1,875,000	\$1,903,800	-1.5%	Jan
119 Lewis	\$755,000	\$555,800	35.8%	Jun
796 Lexington	\$1,755,000	\$1,682,100	4.3%	Jul
800 Lexington	\$2,050,000	\$1,776,400	15.4%	Mar
10 Lorraine	\$885,000	\$816,300	8.4%	Jun
15 Melbourne	\$1,326,000	\$1,156,500	14.7%	Jan
181 Metcalfe	\$565,000	\$406,000	39.2%	Sep
234 Metcalfe	\$1,288,000	\$1,200,000	7.3%	Mar
343 Metcalfe	\$1,290,000	\$1,390,400	-7.2%	Nov
428 Metcalfe	\$999,999	\$1,033,200	-3.2%	Jun
434 Metcalfe	\$1,695,000	\$1,519,100	11.6%	Jul
4308 Montrose	\$1,350,000	\$1,328,000	1.7%	Mar
4363 Montrose	\$1,550,000	\$1,105,400	40.2%	Mar
4386 Montrose	\$2,813,750	\$3,086,600	-8.8%	Apr
459 Mount Pleasant	\$1,575,000	\$1,430,000	10.1%	May
482 Mount Pleasant	\$2,790,000	\$3,012,000	-7.4%	Apr
487 Mount Pleasant	\$3,300,000	\$2,639,600	25.0%	Nov
534 Mount Pleasant	\$1,625,000	\$1,725,000	-5.8%	Mar
427 Mount Stephen	\$1,040,000	\$1,102,700	-5.7%	Mar
427 Mount Stephen	\$1,580,000	\$1,102,700	43.3%	Sep
505 Mountain	\$3,205,145	\$3,281,600	-2.3%	Aug
657 Murray Hill	\$1,170,000	\$1,234,400	-5.2%	May
53 Oakland	\$2,515,000	\$2,333,000	7.8%	Oct
357 Olivier	\$1,250,000	\$1,449,000	-13.7%	Jun
374 Olivier	\$1,225,000	\$1,011,000	21.2%	Aug
212 Prince Albert	\$460,950	\$419,800	9.8%	Mar
256 Prince Albert	\$835,000	\$789,100	5.8%	Jan
390 Prince Albert	\$830,000	\$828,700	0.2%	Sep
435 Prince Albert	\$810,000	\$974,600	-16.9%	Jan
37 Prospect	\$845,000	\$729,600	15.8%	Mar
246 Redfern	\$820,000	\$726,600	12.9%	Aug
328 Redfern	\$2,250,000	\$2,675,900	-15.9%	Jul
18 Renfrew	\$1,627,000	\$1,508,700	7.8%	Nov
337 Roslyn	\$996,200	\$996,200	0.0%	Jul
353 Roslyn	\$1,915,000	\$1,584,500	20.9%	Sep
361 Roslyn	\$1,550,000	\$1,147,900	35.0%	Apr
379 Roslyn	\$1,220,000	\$1,169,300	4.3%	May
432 Roslyn	\$2,500,000	\$2,218,600	12.7%	Feb
475 Roslyn*	\$1,650,000	\$2,850,000	-42.1%	Jul
558 Roslyn	\$3,850,000	\$3,785,000	1.7%	Feb

continued on p. 38



Highest mark-up: 495 Lansdowne Ave., photographed April 26.



Lowest price: 212 Prince Albert Ave., photographed April 26.



475 Roslyn Ave., 42.1 percent mark-down.

2016 single-family dwellings sales

Address	Price	2014 Valuation	Ratio	Month
575 Roslyn	\$2,075,000	\$1,679,900	23.5%	Aug
637 Roslyn	\$1,970,000	\$1,603,700	22.8%	Sep
722 Roslyn	\$1,540,000	\$1,547,100	-0.5%	May
41 Roxborough	\$3,200,000	\$3,350,000	-4.5%	Aug
3 Severn	\$1,057,300	\$1,064,000	-0.6%	Jun
18 Severn	\$1,415,000	\$2,765,300	-48.8%	Nov
32 Shorncliffe	\$2,050,000	\$1,918,900	6.8%	Jul
62 Somerville	\$825,000	\$809,500	1.9%	Dec
16 Springfield	\$873,000	\$706,300	23.6%	Oct
47 Stayner	\$772,300	\$660,400	16.9%	Jun
436 Strathcona	\$1,530,000	\$1,480,700	3.3%	Aug
32 Sunnyside	\$3,500,000	\$4,719,700	-25.8%	Jan
50 Sunnyside	\$2,650,000	\$2,209,500	19.9%	Oct
106 Sunnyside	\$1,575,000	\$1,350,800	16.6%	Dec
119 Sunnyside	\$1,500,000	\$1,804,500	-16.9%	Jun
634 Sydenham	\$2,405,000	\$2,925,200	-17.8%	Sep
3710 The Boulevard	\$2,600,000	\$2,248,800	15.6%	Jul
3742 The Boulevard	\$1,030,000	\$987,200	4.3%	Sep
3769 The Boulevard	\$1,675,000	\$1,743,600	-3.9%	Aug
3793 The Boulevard	\$1,120,000	\$1,328,700	-15.7%	Apr
20 Thornhill	\$1,175,000	\$1,043,000	12.7%	Jan
35 Thornhill	\$1,180,000	\$915,400	28.9%	Nov
3210 Trafalgar	\$2,500,000	\$2,521,500	-0.9%	Jul
730 Upper Belmont*	\$1,350,000	\$1,329,900	1.5%	Mar
734 Upper Belmont	\$1,550,000	\$1,172,500	32.2%	Aug
774 Upper Belmont	\$1,455,000	\$1,275,900	14.0%	Jun
718 Upper Lansdowne	\$1,825,000	\$3,517,500	-48.1%	Oct
730 Upper Lansdowne	\$1,850,000	\$1,517,700	21.9%	Jul
734 Upper Lansdowne	\$1,875,000	\$1,514,000	23.8%	Jul
758 Upper Lansdowne	\$1,350,000	\$1,187,300	13.7%	Dec
419 Victoria	\$890,000	\$671,600	32.5%	May
476 Victoria	\$885,000	\$848,400	4.3%	Aug
483 Victoria	\$1,150,000	\$845,000	36.1%	Dec
528 Victoria	\$1,255,000	\$1,412,000	-11.1%	Jan
530 Victoria	\$1,450,000	\$1,043,100	39.0%	Nov
598 Victoria	\$1,500,000	\$1,170,900	28.1%	Jul
609 Victoria	\$1,300,000	\$1,098,200	18.4%	Jun
691 Victoria	\$1,700,000	\$1,468,900	15.7%	Jul
701 Victoria	\$1,650,000	\$1,556,100	6.0%	Jul
662-64 Victoria	\$2,650,000	\$2,067,900	28.1%	Aug
4338 Westmount Ave.	\$1,205,000	\$1,167,400	3.2%	Apr
4340 Westmount Ave.	\$1,142,500	\$1,052,700	8.5%	Nov
4387 Westmount Ave.	\$2,025,000	\$2,051,800	-1.3%	Dec
4700 Westmount Ave.	\$1,235,000	\$1,072,700	15.1%	Aug
4847 Westmount Ave.	\$1,475,000	\$1,446,000	2.0%	Nov
4862 Westmount Ave.	\$1,530,000	\$1,094,900	39.7%	Oct
19 Willow	\$1,300,000	\$1,331,900	-2.4%	Jul
30 Winchester	\$825,000	\$700,600	17.8%	Jun
484 Wood	\$2,050,000	\$1,876,700	9.2%	Nov
44 York	\$770,000	\$834,800	-7.8%	Apr
Average, 179 single-family dwellings	\$1,566,091	\$1,479,540	5.8%	

*Sales were not reported in monthly articles.

**Valuation is split between Westmount and Montreal.



Biggest mark-down at 48.8 percent: 18 Severn Ave., photographed April 26.



718 Upper Lansdowne Ave. had a mark-down of 48.1 percent.

89-year-old slips on stairs

A Westmount woman was taken to hospital April 15 after falling on steps of a house on Clarke just south of de Maison-neuve, Public Security officials said. The incident happened just before 9:46 pm when officers received a call for an 89-year-

old woman whom they found complaining of pain in a swollen ankle and experiencing shortness of breath. She was transported to Hôtel Dieu hospital by Urgences Santé.

Dawson's Adam talks about 'Living Campus' project

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Chris Adam, lead developer for the Living Campus at Dawson College, told a dozen or so people attending the Climate Café at Westmount Park United Church on April 21 about the groundbreaking educational project.

Adam, who is on leave from the social sciences faculty at Dawson, was given a mandate to develop a new educational approach at the college incorporating several methods that place emphasis on learning while experiencing.

"We know, based on studies, that this generation wants to make a difference – they want to know why they're going to school," he said in an interview with the *Independent*. "My question is: have educational institutions changed that way as well?"

In keeping with this philosophy, Living Campus views the Dawson College buildings and grounds as an integrated learning environment, where programs and projects use nature to increase awareness of the impact of nature on living organisms.

Projects under way in the Living Campus include the creation of "micro habitats," where students can study natural areas and urban wildlife, the development of rooftop gardens with related courses, on-campus beekeeping and butterfly cultivation, as well as a new sustainability certificate program linking participation in projects with interdisciplinary learning.

"Nature is restorative," Adam said dur-

ing his talk, noting that if educators want to reduce stress and encourage the mental processes conducive to learning "let's get nature into the process."

Later he added, "Gardening is at least as good as taking a mild anti-depressant or anti-anxiety medication. The number of our students who are on those two medications just keeps going up."

However, he suggested that not everyone at the college shares the Living Campus vision. "Some teacher says, 'I'm a calculus teacher, Chris, don't start talking to me about values and friendship and happiness.' At one point I was saying 'okay.' But now I'm saying 'why not?'"

"Why can't calculus be happy? And if it isn't, it's a problem. We kick them out of calculus. To what end? To make the world a better place, I hope. To make someone happy. To help the butterfly. To have more conversations that lead to relationships that build communities."

Climate Café is an event for people interested in community and the environment taking place at Westmount Park United Church at 7 pm every third Friday of the month except July.

The next Climate Café on May 19 will feature the unfurling on the floor of a large interactive Canadian Wildlife Federation map illustrating animal migration patterns across the country. The map will also be shown at Westmount Family Day on May 28, according to church pastor Neil Whitehouse.



Chris Adam, lead developer for the Living Campus project at Dawson College, is seen here speaking during the Climate Café at Westmount Park United Church on April 21.

2016 condominium sales

Address	Price	2014 Valuation	Ratio	Month
Apartment-type				
4500 de Maisonneuve #41	\$422,500	\$367,700	14.9%	May
11 Hillside #307	\$390,000	\$331,500	17.6%	Nov
200 Lansdowne #108	\$930,000	\$712,800	30.5%	Dec
200 Lansdowne #907	\$1,150,000	\$1,299,300	-11.5%	Jun
175 Metcalfe #101*	\$558,000	\$624,600	-10.7%	Mar
169 Metcalfe #104*	\$870,500	\$955,300	-8.9%	Mar
167 Metcalfe #105*	\$760,000	\$829,100	-8.3%	Dec
175 Metcalfe #201	\$569,000	\$636,800	-10.6%	Jan
175 Metcalfe #203	\$755,103	\$766,800	-1.5%	Sep
175 Metcalfe #205	\$414,500	\$448,000	-7.5%	Apr
175 Metcalfe #208	\$444,000	\$510,100	-13.0%	Mar
175 Metcalfe #301*	\$688,689	\$716,700	-3.9%	Sep
175 Metcalfe #303	\$327,000	\$370,100	-11.6%	Jan
175 Metcalfe #304	\$405,000	\$462,800	-12.5%	Apr
175 Metcalfe #308	\$420,000	\$417,200	0.7%	Jul
175 Metcalfe #309*	\$1,194,000	\$1,336,700	-10.7%	Mar
175 Metcalfe #406*	\$666,000	\$753,600	-11.6%	Mar
175 Metcalfe #410*	\$629,000	\$697,500	-9.8%	Jan
175 Metcalfe #502	\$795,000	\$914,100	-13.0%	Jan
215 Redfern #301	\$2,000,000	\$1,794,900	11.4%	Feb
215 Redfern #303*	\$802,348	\$911,300	-12.0%	Sep
215 Redfern #311*	\$1,549,902	\$1,681,600	-7.8%	Feb
215 Redfern #405*	\$438,885	\$1,001,600	-56.2%	Aug
215 Redfern #406*	\$1,038,342	\$1,173,500	-11.5%	Apr
215 Redfern #410*	\$1,480,441	\$1,608,500	-8.0%	Nov
215 Redfern #503*	\$761,035	\$857,200	-11.2%	Oct
215 Redfern #505*	\$848,010	\$923,900	-8.2%	Mar
215 Redfern #601*	\$1,589,304	\$2,251,400	-29.4%	Jul
215 Redfern #602*	\$681,887	\$775,500	-12.1%	Apr
215 Redfern #605*	\$1,536,445	\$1,729,900	-11.2%	Jun
4175 St. Catherine #1202	\$1,200,000	\$962,700	24.6%	Apr
4175 St. Catherine #2204	\$1,400,000	\$1,631,500	-14.2%	Jul
4476 St. Catherine #301	\$420,000	\$379,300	10.7%	Dec
4476 St. Catherine #303	\$460,000	\$467,400	-1.6%	Mar
4476 St. Catherine #304	\$460,000	\$474,100	-3.0%	Apr
4476 St. Catherine #504	\$490,000	\$516,700	-5.2%	Sep
4476 St. Catherine #601	\$650,000	\$545,000	19.3%	May
4476 St. Catherine #603	\$625,000	\$721,900	-13.4%	Feb
4700 St. Catherine #110	\$627,000	\$654,000	-4.1%	Aug
4700 St. Catherine #308	\$652,000	\$613,100	6.3%	Aug
4700 St. Catherine #611	\$700,000	\$675,200	3.7%	Dec
1 Wood # 606	\$905,000	\$1,318,400	-31.4%	May
1 Wood #1402	\$1,500,000	\$1,222,000	22.7%	Aug
1 Wood #1604	\$1,000,000	\$982,800	1.8%	Aug
10 York #302	\$489,000	\$459,600	6.4%	Oct
Average, 45 Apartment Condos	\$815,398	\$877,416	-7.1%	
Duplex/triplex-type				
77 Bruce	\$600,000	\$531,400	12.9%	Mar
3 Church Hill	\$775,000	\$634,500	22.1%	Aug
432 Claremont	\$515,000	\$426,500	20.8%	Apr
202 Côte St. Antoine	\$1,475,000	\$1,400,500	5.3%	Oct
461 Grosvenor	\$470,000	\$541,600	-13.2%	Aug
316A Kensington	\$750,000	\$744,700	0.7%	Sep
394 Lansdowne	\$475,000	\$562,500	-15.6%	Dec
227 Melville	\$540,000	\$598,100	-9.7%	Aug

*Sales were not reported in monthly articles.

2016 condominium sales

Address	Price	2014 Valuation	Ratio	Month
---------	-------	----------------	-------	-------

Duplex/triplex-type

363A Melville	\$569,000	\$537,300	5.9%	Apr
426 Mount Stephen	\$865,000	\$802,800	7.7%	Jul
3119 St. Antoine	\$295,000	\$304,300	-3.1%	Mar
3127 St. Antoine	\$370,000	\$322,000	14.9%	Jun
4823 St. Catherine	\$400,000	\$374,800	6.7%	Mar
4827A St. Catherine	\$365,000	\$353,200	3.3%	Jan
478 Wood	\$655,000	\$674,400	-2.9%	Jun
Average, 15 duplex/triplex-type condos	\$607,933	\$587,240	3.5%	

Townhouse-type

202 Côte St. Antoine	\$1,475,000	\$1,400,500	5.3%	Oct
4028 Dorchester	\$840,000	\$883,200	-4.9%	Jun
497 Elm	\$2,837,500	\$2,402,700	18.1%	Jun
499 Elm	\$1,600,000	\$1,360,400	17.6%	Jun
4848 St. Catherine	\$652,500	\$591,700	10.3%	Jun
Average, 5 townhouse condos	\$1,481,000	\$1,327,700	11.5%	

Shares of duplexes/triplexes**

17-19 Chesterfield, 10.5%*	\$180,000	\$176,400	2.0%	Apr
17-19 Chesterfield, 15.08%	\$435,000	\$253,344	71.7%	Nov
520-22 Grosvenor, 40%	\$520,000	\$337,000	54.3%	Nov
330-32 Olivier, 40%	\$705,000	\$475,400	48.3%	Jan
4642-46 St. Catherine, 28%	\$425,000	\$279,244	52.2%	Jun
84-88 Somerville, 1/3 share*	\$390,000	\$288,800	35.0%	Jul
7-11 York, 32%	\$529,000	\$258,944	104.3%	Nov
Average, 7 share sales	\$454,857	\$295,590	53.9%	

Triplexes

3207-11 St. Antoine	\$765,000	\$635,200	20.4%	Sep
21 Stayner	\$775,000	\$658,900	17.6%	Jul
4760 The Boulevard/680 Victoria*	\$2,300,000	\$4,703,400	-51.1%	Jan
Average, 3 Triplexes	\$1,280,000	\$1,999,167	-36.0%	

*Sales were not reported in monthly articles.
** Valuations correspond to proportions of the total valuation for the property.

Party noise toned down

A noise complaint from the lane between Lorraine and Chesterfield April 23 resulted in a party being toned down, Public Security officials said. Patrollers answering the call at 12:19 am spoke to a

young person holding the party who was described as very cooperative. He stated his parents were home, and he was holding a little party for friends. The noise was emanating from the basement into the lane.



497 Elm Ave., condo townhouse, \$2,837,500.

Duplexes

361-63 Grosvenor	\$890,000	\$972,500	-8.5%	Aug
4-6 Ingleside	\$885,000	\$787,800	12.3%	May
156A-B Metcalfe	\$795,000	\$540,400	47.1%	May
4633-33A Sherbrooke	\$866,000	\$804,700	7.6%	Mar
537-43 Victoria (two duplexes)	\$1,790,000	\$1,778,600	0.6%	Jun
25-27 Windsor	\$1,000,000	\$798,500	25.2%	Mar
Average, 7 duplexes	\$889,429	\$811,786	9.6%	

Other

1235 Greene	\$1,150,000	\$814,300	41.2%	Mar
4055 St. Catherine #142	\$450,000	\$379,100	18.7%	Nov
4484 Sherbrooke	\$785,000	\$867,300	-9.5%	Aug
348-48B Victoria/ 4 Somerville	\$1,900,000	\$832,700	128.2%	Aug

Tree over footpath cordoned off with danger tape

A foot patroller in Summit Woods April 23 discovered a tree that appeared in danger of falling over a footpath, Public Security officials said. It was taped off until its condition could be evaluated. It was discovered on a regular patrol at 11:07 am.

Noisy after-hours pool emptying

A compressor was found in use April 22 behind a house on Argyle at 7:21 pm after construction hours, Public Security officials said. A complaint came from someone nearby. Workers stated they were just finishing emptying a pool and were packing up anyway.

Fun fundraiser for the Douglas



Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

On February 23, Griffintown's Salon 1861, the re-cycled church-now-event space elegantly refurbished by Quo Vadis Real Estate, welcomed the 16th edition of "Open Minds." The event was in support of the Douglas Mental Health University Institute (DMHI) Foundation.

Honorary president of the benefit was Westmounter **Mitch Garber**, president/CEO Caesars Acquisition Co. and Caesars Interactive Entertainment, who attended with his wife **Anne-Marie Boucher** and sons **Dylan** and **Ryan**.

Instead of the typical format of a sit-down dinner with too many speeches, Garber envisioned a more lively night. And indeed it was. Aided by co-chairs **Helen Beck**, senior VP, Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec; **Maude Leblond**, managing director, Investment Banking, National Bank Financial; **Michael Novak**,

corporate director; and **Scott Yetman**, Scott Yetman Design, the eve was a sold-out success.

Supportive committee members were Westmounters **Caroline Dillon**, **Lucy McInnes**, **Alicia Hamilton**, **Susan Doherty** and **Heather Monaghan** along with **Damiana Cavallaro**, **Maurice Côté**, **Suzy Fortier**, **Alicia Hamilton**, **Marie Giguère**, **Sarah Ivory**, **Kelly Latmore**, **Sophie Lussier**, **Nancy Simard** and **Claire Webster**.

Guests were invited to wear their favourite jeans. The sartorial style of the night was skinny (very skinny!) black pants, shoes to die for and the latest "it" bag with interlocking logos.

Emcee was local res **Aphrodite Salas**, CTV reporter, whose sparkly-heeled shoes were a stand-out. Westmount's Selwyn House headmaster **Hal Hannaford** was the skillful auctioneer, encouraging prices from high up in the former pulpit, a beautifully carved creation reminiscent of another era.

Amidst overflowing tables of delicious food stations, charming little vases of tulips hinted at a much-awaited spring.

Media celebs noted amidst the crowd included **Mitsou Gélinas**, **Julie du Page**, **Patrice L'Écuyer** and **Andrew Carter**, at-

tending with **Joanne Rossy**.

Westmount residents enjoying the night included **Claudine Bronfman**, **Vanessa** and **Guy Laframboise**, **Karma** and **John Hallward**, **Christina** and **Craig Miller**, as well as sisters-in-law **Cindy Bassel** and **Danielle Cheff Bassel**, provincial legislator for NDG **Kathleen Weil**, **Julie Couture** and **Victor Salvaggio**, **Stuart Webster**, **Guthrie Stewart** and **Jean-Michel Lavoie**.

Douglas hospital doctors present included **Alain Brunet**, **David Bloom**, **Mimi Israel**, **Howard Steiger**, **Gustavo Turecki** and **Martin Lepage**.

Marisa Giannetti, foundation board chair, thanked the 400 guests for the successful night, which raised \$425,000, commenting that in Quebec one person in five will experience a mental illness during their lifetime.

Following his own dictum of no long speeches, Garber gave a quick but eloquent talk before guests jumped onto the dance



Mitch Garber and Helen Beck.

floor inspired by the tunes of DJ Thomas H. A fun night!

More photos, p. 42.



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From left: Scott Yetman, Maude Leblond, Marisa Giannetti and Michael Novak.



Hal Hannaford and Aphrodite Salas.

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Joanne Rossy and Andrew Carter.



Cindy Bassel, left, and Danielle Cheff Bassel.

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Trendsetter cont'd. from p. 20

Wener is the author of the memoir, *Resilience, a story of courage and triumph in the face of her cancer. She is currently writing a second book, exploring the theme of “choosing to take off the masks that we wear in order to fit into society, and finding our way back to our true selves.” She is the proud grandmother of nine. Recently Wener spoke at TEDxMontreal.*

See photo, p. 20.

STYLE

How would you describe your personal style?

Classic with a bit of funk. When I wear a classic cocktail dress, depending on how I feel, I put on heels or ballet flats. But I usually wear no jewelry – much to my husband’s chagrin.



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What is your favourite way of dressing?

Classy, comfortable and stylish. For example, leggings with a long silk shirt and high boots. Always have to wear a scarf; I just love them. I go for printed colourful ones that I wrap around my neck.

On weekends, what do you like to wear?

I love nothing more than being what my husband calls his “blue jeans lady.” Jeans are so comfortable. I love them! I wear them tucked into boots in the winter, and with loafers and sandals in the summer.

You attend many social functions. What do you like to wear?

I usually decide at the last minute depending on my mood. The truth is I could wear anything that feels good to me and is not constricted. I am a kinesthetic woman who must feel comfortable in whatever I put on. I love black with splashes of colour.

Do you have favourite art or artists?

I am a romantic and love impressionistic art. I don’t like constriction in any form

so the loose brush strokes and freedom of expression take my breath away. I love how the Impressionists defied boundaries and filled their canvases with movement.

LIVING

If you had a choice, where would you live, money being no object?

I would live exactly where I am, between our home in Montreal and our country cottage in the Laurentians. I am basically a home body.

What is your favorite flower? Do you have flowers in your home? Do you like to garden?

I leave the gardening up to my husband. I had three discs in my spine fused in my early 30s and the bending down that gardening requires is hard on my back. Our country property is full of flowers. Just looking outside of every window fills my soul with the richness and diversity of colour. I love white orchids, freesia and red roses (the latter only from my husband. I told you I was a romantic!)

Who would you invite to a dinner party if you could have anyone, from any era?

I would invite a very eclectic group of people. Aung San Suu Kyi, the leader of the National League for Democracy and the minister of foreign affairs for Myanmar; the Dali Lama, the spiritual leader of Tibet; the Buddha; Viktor Frankl; Mahatma Gandhi; Audrey Hepburn, and finally, Jesus.

What do you think of today’s fashions?

To be honest, not much. I do not understand women who wear what is in fashion even if it looks terrible on them. I love

classic, so I will always go in that direction. Adding a belt and a scarf gives whatever I am wearing a bit of pizzazz.

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HANRO

Greta celebrates as she slips into spring



Colourfully Yours

AURELIEN GUILLORY &
GRETA VONSCHMEDLAPP

Well, hello my dears! Whether you are a Design Friend or Fiend, I am so happy to be invited to help celebrate ten years of writing for our very favourite Westmount *Indie*! Can you believe that it was February 2007 when we, Greta vonSchmedlapp and Aurélien Guillory, collaborated on writing a design and decorating chronicle. My, how time flies. As I search through Greta's writing in my archives, I am shocked to discover that we have written 65 essays. We have covered the gamut.

Along with celebrating the *Indie's* 10th, we will begin planning a "freshening of the atmosphere" in your abode. I keep repeating to myself and those nearby, "money has very little to do with great atmosphere and good design." We have seen so much squandered. Shopping online has helped educate the masses, but only a design person can conceive of a unique and

personable interior. There's no app for that. Remember all of you designers, charge for your expertise! Everything else is shopped online (and it can risk looking like a spaced-out teenager ordered it all in a weekend).

The basic method is to keep a consistent vision of style, colours and furniture.

Never be led astray by well-meaning family or friends. In a lofty condo on Nuns' Island, I saw with a sweep of my aching eyes the art deco foyer, the wife's gingham kitchen-dining room, the hubby's macho den and the mother-in-law's Louis XVIII sugary suite. Fortunately, I was there as a party guest, not hired to help clean up this design mess!

So, dear fiends, let's slip into spring by casting a jaded and hopefully objective eye around the main living areas.

First, the new paints are totally opaque with zero bleed-through, inodorous and dry in six hours. Buy the best grade (always); your labour is worth far more. Consider cooler tints for the living room; the dining room could have a warm peachy, coral or ochre accent wall. Harmonize these colours with the art over the console. Please: the grey-and-white trend is

almost trite now. Remember that grey is not flattering on any skin tone, and especially in your bedroom! Do consider a flattering pale rose or peach tint for that ceiling. I said pale, not Barbie-pink!

Wallpaper is back just as we see all the 70s retro floral colours in fashion. The guest bath/powder room or foyer walls could enjoy the new abstract ink-jet prints with a huge scale that can expand the visual space – or at least camouflage all those irregular areas. FYI: pop over to Empire Wallpaper on Park Ave. They will make your vision into reality.

I am sure that you have noticed that the nylon wall-to-wall carpeting has been superceded by glossy wood floors and geometric, hand-woven area rugs. Think about painting a gloss deep brown or aubergine paint over tired wood grains.

When your budget permits, consider jute natural straw rugs. The new techniques for weaving these organic fibres are durable and very interesting. Look up Variations on St. Catherine and ask your favourite decorator or designer to introduce you to their charming examples and

agreeable help.

Another fresh look for spring: Slip covers. Aurel's living room has a pair of slip-covered chairs in ecru cotton with sky blue trim and cushions. The master bedroom has trimmed tapestry drapery and bed spread in ochres, olives and reds, along with a harmonizing bedside table square. They are removed over Victoria Day weekend and replaced with cream seersucker striped curtains and a pale cotton patchwork spread and quilted table square in ecru, faded olives and yellow. Try Elmaleh Upholstery for nice slip covers.

Add new fresh linens of a crisp 300-thread count Pima on a taffeta weave, with simple hemstitching white-on-white details. Dramatic Euro-shams and cozy boudoir pillows are piled on the fluffy light summer duvet. Complete your summer feeling with new Pima pyjamas or night shirt. Slip right in!

So, dear readers, let's share our sources of the best. And whatever you are seeking, Aurelien and Greta are listening.

Colourfully yours, Greta vonSchmedlapp.

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Montreal experienced heavy rain and strong winds April 6. In Westmount's commercial areas, traffic was congested and pedestrians ran for cover. In this quieter part of town, Summit Circle around 7 pm was also under a weather watch. Rain on the windshield made for interesting photographs of outdoor lights, like these at 74 Summit Circle, which were strung on a tree the owners described as an "umbrella tree."

Photo: Ralph Thompson



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MLS 10877444 5 Bdr with large terrace & garden.



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MLS 15856545



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



NEW

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The sanctuaire (6100 Ch. Deacon, apt PH11E) \$1,625,000
MLS 22367104 Magnificent PH of more than 2300 SF with private terrace of about 1100 SF



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WESTMOUNT

3 Westmount Square \$1,350,000
Panoramic view, south/East corner, fully renovated.



NEW

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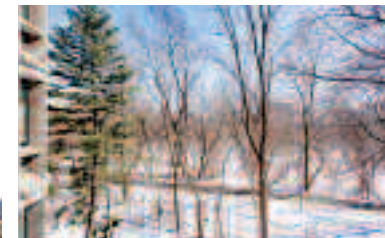
Port Royal, 1455 Sherbrooke O. #1601 \$1,149,000
MLS 16508690 10th floor, 1862 SF, 2 Bdr apartment



NEW

VILLE-MARIE

Port Royal, #1603 \$975,000
MLS 22377945 16th floor, stunning view



WESTMOUNT ADJ

Fort la Montagne \$695,000
MLS 22192157 2 bdr, 1475 SF



NDG

5877 Rue de Terrebonne \$675,000
MLS 27069588 Few steps from Monkland village.



OLD-MONTREAL

238 de la Commune Ouest #23 592 000 \$
MLS 21744331 Historical building



SOLD

WESTMOUNT

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



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WESTMOUNT

4298 Montrose Ave. \$1,975,000
Ideal family home of 5 Bdr MLS 14681732



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MLS 24027789, 2925 SF, 5 Bdr



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Chateau Westmount \$1,950,000
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4805 de Maisonneuve O. \$1,935,000
MLS 25118868 2540 SF



SOLD

WESTMOUNT

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



SOLD

WESTMOUNT

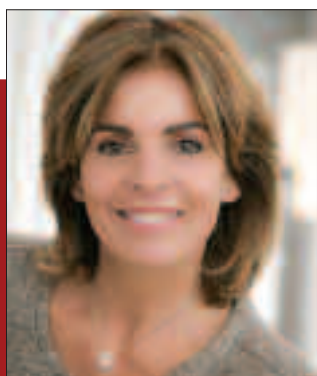
2 Westmount Square \$1,450,000
MLS: 14188743



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MLS 23441249 Amazing views of Canal Lachine



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heritage property. IMMACULATE move-in
condition! Tastefully renovated & restored.
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ANOTHER JUST LISTED & ACCEPTED OFFER!

Westmount, 792 Upper Lansdowne Ave.
PRIME location! exceptional 4+1 bdr home
in move-in condition. Gorgeous bathrooms,
high end kitchen, spectacular dinette/
solarium, fabulous terrace. **\$1,550,000**



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Westmount, 753 Upper Lansdowne Ave.
Prestigious 5 bdrm Tudor inspired, quality
built home. Central A/C. 2 car garage.
Exquisite details!
\$1,475,000



ACCEPTED OFFER!

Westmount, 421 Argyle Ave.
EXTREMELY spacious, bright, BEAUTIFUL 4+1 bdr
Victorian home. Fully renovated, exquisite
details. Spacious, sun filled kitchen, gorgeous
bathrooms. 4 car pkg. **\$1,965,000**



ACCEPTED OFFER!

Westmount, 376 Metcalfe Ave.
Westmount Heritage Study "Exceptional
example of Queen Anne style." 5 bdrms,
parking. Fabulous location! Great
opportunity. **\$995,000**



ACCEPTED OFFER!

Westmount adj., 4787 Grosvenor Ave.
Exceptionally handsome, stone detached 3+2
bdr lower duplex co-property. BIG, BEAUTIFUL
backyard, stunning inlaid floors, renovated
kitchen, baths, + windows. Garage. **\$769,000**



New price!

Westmount, 500 Mountain Ave.
Prime mid level location! Renovated,
exceptionally spacious 4 bdr home.
Central A/C, 2 car garage. Large garden.
Views! **\$1,988,000**



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



SOLD!

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



SOLD!

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**



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



SOLD by Brian!

Westmount Adj., 17 Northview Court
The PERFECT condo alternative! LOW main-
tenance living! Darling mews type townhouse,
loaded with charm, + in MOVE IN condition!
3 bdrms, courtyard garden, garage. **\$619,000**



SOLD by Brian!

Westmount, 494 Argyle Ave.
RARELY available + HIGHLY desirable! PRIME
mid-level location. Spectacularly spacious +
amazingly bright 4 bdr home. Impressive views
+ gardens! QUALITY construction. **\$1,565,000**



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**



SUCCESSFULLY SOLD!

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**



SUCCESSFULLY SOLD!

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**



SUCCESSFULLY SOLD!

Westmount, 10 Belvedere Rd.
Majestic 5+ bdrm DETACHED home.
\$1,595,000



SOLD!

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



ANOTHER "WOW" SALE!

Westmount Adj., 5082 Glencairn Ave.
Prime Circle Rd location! Renovated home.
\$945,000



SUCCESSFULLY SOLD!

Westmount Adj., 4799 Grosvenor Ave.
Fully renovated home near Marie de France!
\$979,000

CONSISTENTLY TOP 10 BROKER FOR RE/MAX QUEBEC*