

Fun Academy appeals Quebec permit refusal – loss of tenant could doom church, harm Contactivity

No new daycares allowed in Westmount?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The possibility that Quebec's Family ministry may not allow Garderie Fun Academy at Westmount Park Church to open as planned for up to 60 children could also have a secondary impact on the community, the *Independent* learned last week. There are already that many potential students on a waiting list.

Daycare services are "very much needed" in Westmount, said Mayor Christina Smith. As well, the very existence of the church is threatened, as is the Contactivity seniors' centre based there, according to their officials.

A ministry letter to *continued on p. 11*



Architects preparing greenhouse bidding specifications

A full inspection of Westmount's conservatory was under way August 15 as part of the mandate awarded by the city May 7 to architectural firm Nadeau, Nadeau, Blondin to analyze its needs and prepare all documents and plans leading to a tender contract for work to refurbish the historic structure, according to city director general Benoit Hurtubise. "So we're moving along," he said. Similar crane-enabled inspections took place not long ago at city hall, he said (see stories May 22, p. 11).

Photo: Ralph Thompson.

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Marie Sicotte

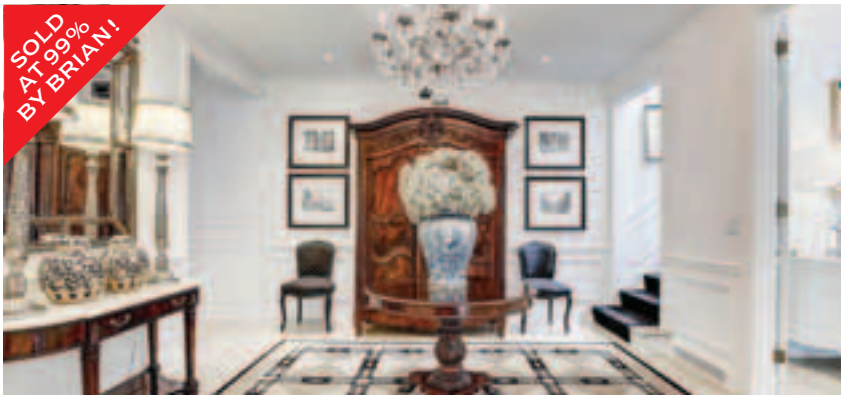
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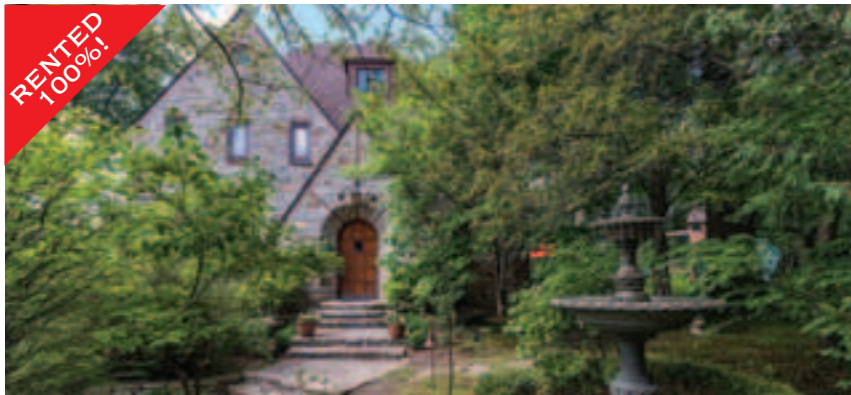
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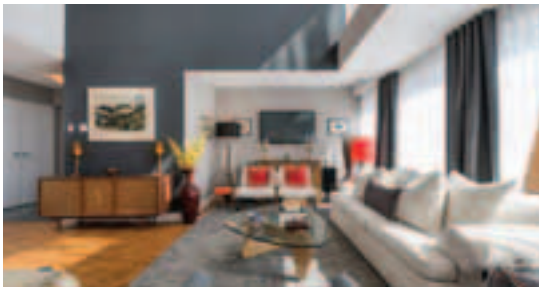
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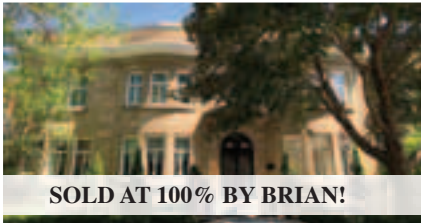
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Going squirrely



Chanel Grandlair got a surprise welcome to Westmount Park, August 14 around 5 pm, when a friendly squirrel decided to get up close and cozy. She was unscathed and good humoured about the incident. Grandlair was visiting from St. Sauveur.

Photo: Ralph Thompson.

Off-duty PSO assists woman with walker falling on street

A public safety officer cycling home from work at 3:41 pm August 2 witnessed a woman fall at Greene and Sherbrooke. She was using a walker to cross the street, Public Security officials said. The officer stopped and went to the assistance of the woman, who had hit her head against the sidewalk but was conscious and bleeding from the lip. She had apparently tripped while on her way to a dentist nearby, who was alerted she would be late. After Urgences Santé arrived and the woman had recovered from the fall, she was walked to her appointment. “Here we have an off-duty officer stopping to provide medical

assistance,” said department director Greg McBain.

Ticket for garbage put out 3 days early

A ticket for \$272 was issued to an apartment building at 4282 Dorchester August 6 for garbage put out before collection day August 9, according to Public Security reports. A patroller spotted the large number of household items and garbage bins at 8:46 am behind the building near Hallowell. It was reported to have received prior warnings about garbage.

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One-in-four residents now have mobility issues

New Action Plan draws attention to accessibility needs

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With one in four Westmounters estimated to be experiencing some form of mobility issue, a city process and protocol for meeting their needs is becoming increasingly relevant, Councillor Marina Brzeski said last week.

The shift in demographics in two years from the previous one-in-five with mobility challenges is a highlight singled out by Brzeski from the city's 2018 Access Action Plan Concerning Persons with Disabilities, an annual report as required by the Quebec government.

"The proportion has grown some 30 percent and I think with the increasing numbers of seniors, the Access Plan draws attention to the needs, which led to the creation of my commissionership (of Sustainability and Accessibility)," she explained.

The city's recent changes in zoning and building by-laws to introduce criteria enabling institutional buildings to erect entry ramps is "an interesting start," which

Brzeski hopes will be extended to commercial and other buildings.

"When we're looking at Urban Planning changes, it should be through a lens of accessibility."

She said the Access Plan provides "a great exercise in improving the way we address accessibility" in areas such as acquiring adaptable playground equipment and traffic planning such as street intersections and crosswalks. "These are some of the things we're looking at on the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)."

The 2018 Access Plan was tabled by council at the June 4 council meeting. It provides an introduction into accessibility needs, advancements undertaken in 2017 and what the city's various departments are planning for this year.

Improving at-home access

"This year, a structural redesign of the website will be carried out to allow residents to consult and advance their dossiers from home," it states.

These changes are intended to include



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updated internet access such as a new web portal to enable online transactions and pay hydro bills without unnecessary travel. Also mentioned are new ways for residents to access advances in their Urban Planning permits.

A new registration system for obtaining and paying for parking permits is also to be introduced for the Public Security Unit.

Absent from the report this year, however, is an attachment called the *Access Westmount Guide*, which is currently being updated by Urban Planning. Brzeski pointed out. The version of the guide dated 2016 can be consulted on the city's website along with the 2017 Action Plan found under "Community Life."

Updating of the *Access Guide* will "better reflect the changes in Westmount" to provide a bilingual directory of public, private and commercial buildings that are wheelchair accessible to help anyone with temporary or permanent challenges, including parents with strollers.

Legal Services is also planning a new website section to include a full inventory of the municipal archives as well as the publication of historic property valuation rolls for online consultation.

Public Works plans to continue a project to increase the availability of adapted playground equipment, including one adapted swing at each location along with

a new play structure in Prince Albert Park fully accessible to children with reduced mobility. It also plans to take advantage of rebuilding the historic conservatory to ensure it will be universally accessible, which it hadn't been before closure.

Two interesting advancements of those listed for 2017 were the blue and white designations of the city's 42 parking spaces reserved for persons with mobility issues and the training of four lifeguards at Sports and Recreation to provide adapted swimming lessons.

City urges residents 'to go, go, go' to Turcot Bon Voisinage meeting

City director general Benoit Hurtubise last week urged Westmount residents to attend this week's Turcot Bon Voisinage meeting taking place at Victoria Hall on Wednesday August 22 at 7 pm.

"It's an important meeting because it's taking place right here in Westmount and the city has been receiving many, many complaints about dust from Turcot work to dismantle the old highway," he said.

The meeting provides an important opportunity for officials from Transport Quebec and the KPH-Turcot contractor to hear the complaints first hand, he said. "So I'm urging people to go, go, go!"

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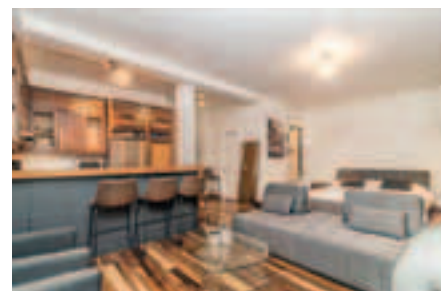
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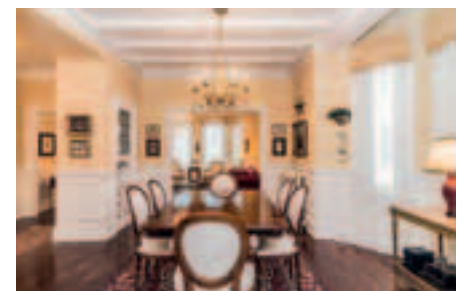
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TRAVAIL A COMMENCÉ



Voici une photo pour rassurer les lecteurs et reconforter les amoureux du Parc Westmount.

L'équipe est au travail depuis quelques temps déjà. Des bancs proches de l'aire "tennis de table" avaient déjà été restaurés. Aujourd'hui, 15 août, la rénovation concerne les bancs proches de l'aire de jeux.

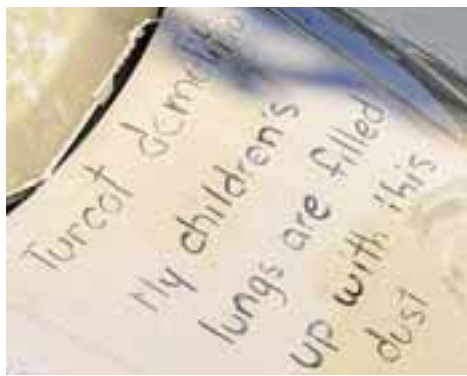
BARBARA ROUBERT, METCALFE AVE.

PREPARED FOR SOUND, NOT DUST

During the week of August 5, residents living in in Abbott-Lewis area had notices delivered to inform us that work would begin just south of us on the 136. The focus of the notice was that the noise levels permitted for those operations would exceed the thresholds normally allowed, i.e. that they could reach up to 90 db, from 7 am to 7 pm.

This I was prepared for.

What I was not prepared for – on Saturday, August 12 – was a cloud of dust that was so powerful so thick and deep that it was clearly a hazard to our health: young,



Top photo courtesy of S. Beitel;
bottom photo courtesy of Marie-Helene Foucault.

old, everyone.

Whoever decided to perform this action without preparing the work area with some type of curtain wall should have the opportunity to experience what we, the residents of the area, had to take into our lungs. This action was absolutely irresponsible!

The next [Turcot] meeting, open to the public, will be on Wednesday, August 22 at 7 pm [at Victoria Hall]. I hope it will be well attended.

SAM BEITEL, ABBOTT AVE.

City prepares for \$700k legal action against insurer Final settlement costs \$1.8M over Garland class action

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council took steps August 6 to launch legal action against Zurich Insurance Company to recover more than \$700,000 concerning a \$1.8-million settlement the city has paid out for "inappropriate behaviour" by deceased hockey coach John Garland, who retired in 1987.

The settlement includes 17 class action plaintiffs as well as the addition of an 18th person whose settlement claim of \$50,000 was approved separately at the August session because it related to after Garland's retirement from Sports and Recreation while he continued to coach.

The city is also claiming another \$46,284 from Zurich, which it states in the council resolution is the company's share of defence costs.

Mayor Christina Smith told the *Independent* a group of other insurers has already covered \$600,000 of the \$1.8 million. The city had had multiple insurers because of the timelines involved in the alleged abuse cases.

MINISTÈRE DE LA FAMILLE SHOULD SUPPORT WPUC 'FAMILY'

I draw your readers' attention to the crisis faced by Jacinthes Deschênes caused by le ministère de la Famille's notice of "intent to refuse" her pre-school, Fun Academy. The Westmount Park United Church community was looking forward to having another daycare on site, particularly since Rainbow Daycare closed its doors after 25 years.

Not only are we losing critical income, we are now unable to provide services to young families.

We estimate that each year 32,000 people visit us. Westmount Music Therapy (working with autistic children), Contactivity day centre for seniors, Westmount Chronic Pain Group, Westmount Youth Orchestra, Montreal Camera Club, Westmount Scouts, Cubs and Beavers, Montreal Shakespeare Theatre Company, the Cinéclub Film Society, the Climate Café and the Green Coalition board are just a few of the groups that make up our dynamic community. We also offer space for weddings, memorials, concerts, theatre performances, book launches, art shows as well as meeting space for local associations.

This sort of social economy has so far been excluded from the consideration of le ministère: a continuity of daycare work

It had been announced last year that the city was expecting its insurers to pay "a substantial amount" of the settlement (see story January 31, 2017, p. 1).

The class action was launched June 6, in 2015 by Los Angeles film director Matthew Bissonnette, alleging sexual assault when he played hockey while growing up on Grosvenor. He claimed the city had turned a blind eye to the abuse (see story June 9, 2015, p. 8).

A settlement of between \$1 million and \$2.5 million was approved in a judgment rendered May 12, 2017 by Judge Marc de Wever of Quebec Superior Court as being "fair, reasonable, appropriate and in the best interests of the class members."

The total amount depended on the number of admissible claimants coming forward by the deadline date of September 12, 2017 concerning abuse during Garland's employment (1953-1987).

The council's resolution against Zurich mandated the law firm of IMK to proceed with legal action, though Smith later said this might not be necessary.

after 25 years of service and co-dependency with the church, is the sort of "grandfathering" that makes common sense. All this community life is now at risk.

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We are hoping le ministère will reconsider its position and support this "family.: We have already launched a Friends of the Church Community Programme Association, inviting people to support our ongoing contribution to life in this south-west corner of Westmount Park.

I would like to invite those who share our concerns to sign the online petition for Fun Academy at www.change.org/.

REV. NEIL WHITEHOUSE,
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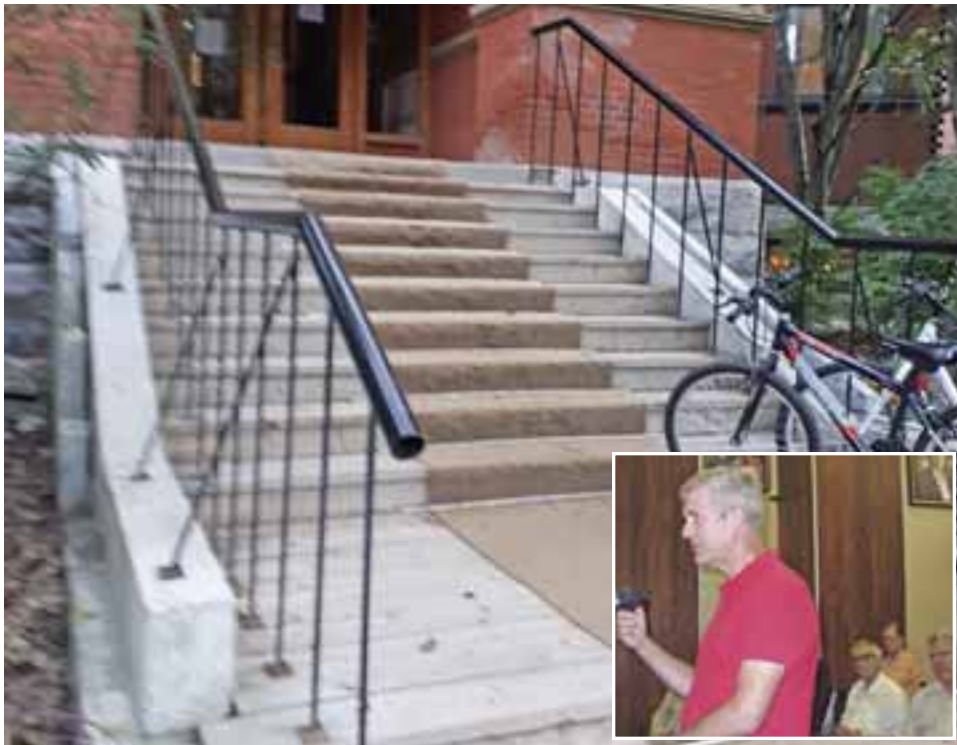
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\$12,000 a step?



Henny Blom of Springfield Ave. questions city council August 6 over a tender bid just approved for \$120,498 for the “reconstruction” of the front east steps to the Findlay entrance of Westmount Public Library, suggesting that could work out to “12,000 per stair.” City director general Benoit Hurtubise explained that the entire stairway structure had to be redone following replacement of a leaking sewer pipe that had passed beneath it. Temporary wooden steps, seen here on August 17, were later added.

Main photo: Independent; inset photo: Lauren Sweeney.

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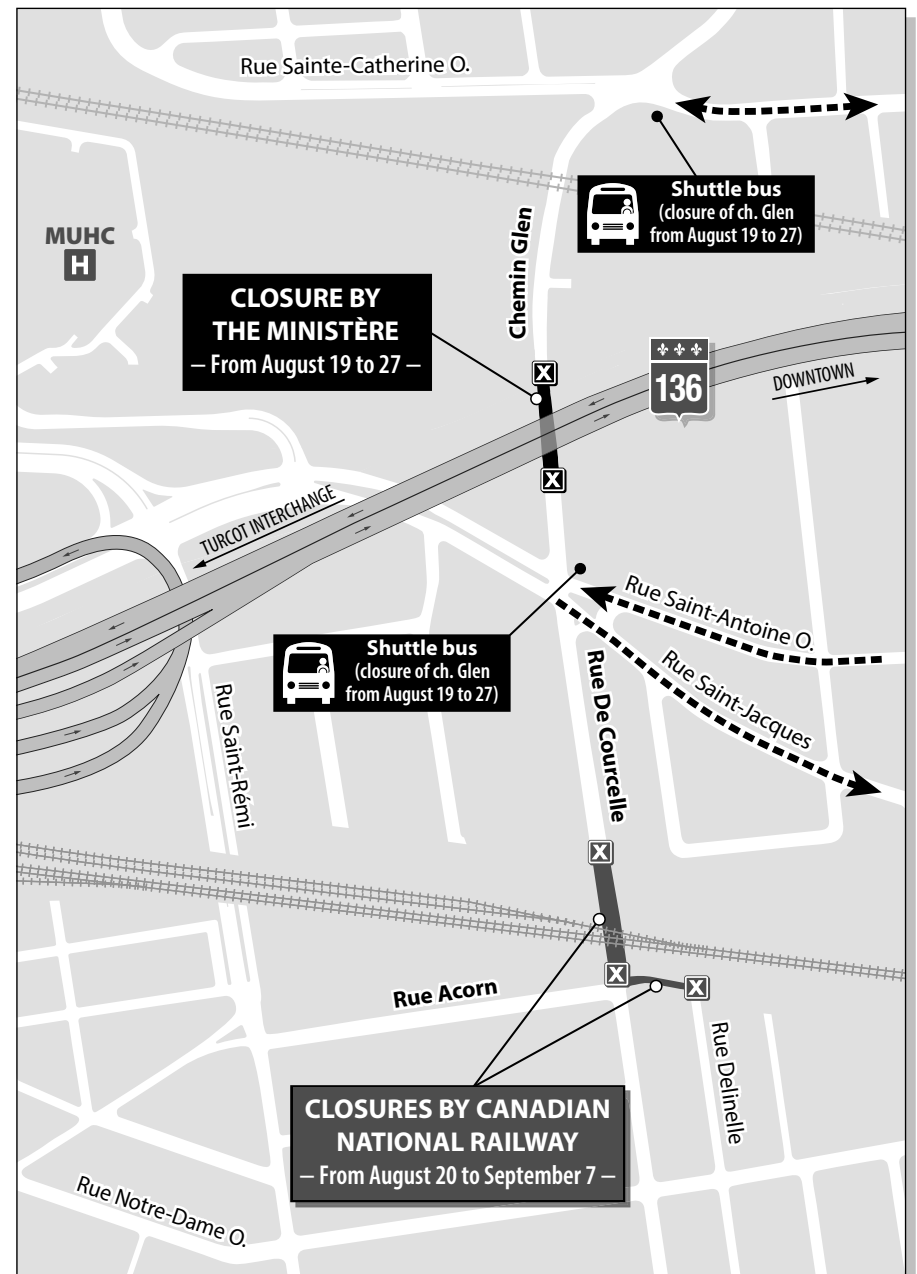
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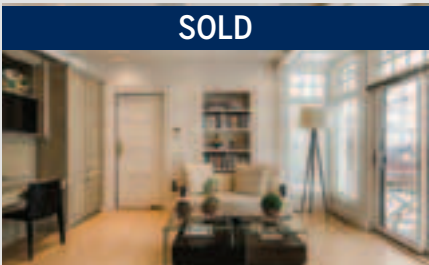
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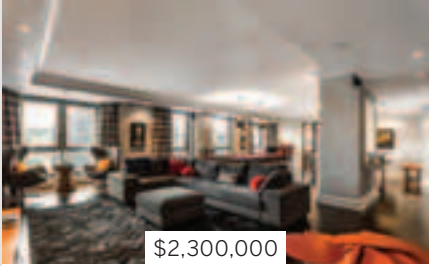
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Fraudsters pay Greene Ave. merchant with phony US\$100

By MARTIN C. BARRY

While police at Station 12 say it is probably an isolated incident, they are nonetheless warning local merchants to be careful about accepting potentially counterfeit currency following an incident in which a Greene Ave. store manager was paid with a phony US C-note.

The manager filed a complaint at the station on August 6 about the incident, which took place the day before. Around 9:45 am on August 5, two suspects entered the victim's store where one of them proceeded to purchase a bag of chips and a pack of cigarettes.

As payment, he handed the merchant an American \$100 bill, and the merchant handed him back \$81.25 change in Canadian currency.

"The two individuals left with Canadian money and the merchandise," said Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, reading from the police report.

One of the suspects was described as being in his early to mid 40s, six feet in height or taller, wearing a grey hoody, dark denim jeans and white shoes.

The second suspect was in his early to mid 60s, slim build, around 5'8" tall, wearing a white cap, a blue T-shirt and black denim pants. Both spoke accented American English.

While the store manager seemingly saw little reason to doubt the honesty of

the suspects at the time of the transaction, a closer inspection of the \$100 bill some time later left him with the feeling he'd actually been had.

After the merchant reported the incident at the police station, investigators were able to confirm that the money wasn't just phony, but a very poor quality example of counterfeit US money.

"It was a poor counterfeit," Pimentel said, noting that the store manager himself found the printing on the paper lacked texture as normally seen on virtually any currency.

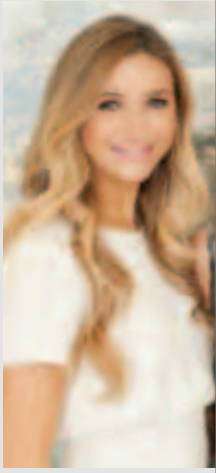
While summer vacation would seem to be the ideal time to pass poor quality counterfeit US money in Canada where it's probably less likely to be noticed, Pimentel said this was the only case of its kind to come up at Station 12 recently. "It's not something that we have often," he said.

While noting that many store operators now routinely refuse to accept Canadian or US high-demonimation bills, he suggested that merchants consult online counterfeit prevention resources in Canada and the United States.

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Giuliana visits KoSA camp



Mark Giuliana (centre), the drummer on David Bowie's final album, Blackstar, with Westmounters Aldo Mazza and Dr. Jolan Kovacs, co-directors KoSA Academy. Giuliana was teaching at the NDG-based school's 23rd camp for the second time, held this year from June 25 to 30. He was also a participant as a teenager.

Photo courtesy of A. Mazza.

Officers accompany 'unstable' man to bank

Public safety officers were called August 6 to help a man outside 4269 St. Catherine near Olivier who was seen to be unstable on his feet, Public Security officials said. Officers found him seated at the sidewalk to avoid falling, as requested by people who had placed the call. He was checked out, appeared stable and said he was on his way to the Royal Bank at Westmount Square. Officers took him there but kept him under surveillance. They then tried to persuade him to return to his apartment on Clarke but he insisted on going to shop. The apartment building concierge was informed.

PSOs stay with woman till ambulance arrives

A woman living on Clarke was taken to the Jewish General Hospital August 6 by Urgences Santé after seeking help from the apartment building concierge, according to Public Security officials. Public safety officers, who had been called at 12:30 pm to assist a woman experiencing chest pains, found her seated in the lobby so she would not be alone in her apartment after reportedly losing consciousness and finding her left arm shaking. They took her pulse and continued monitoring her condition as she felt progressively weaker. Urgences Santé arrived at 1:05 pm. She was 81.

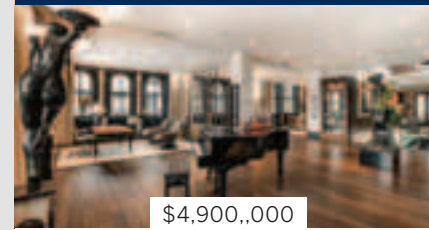
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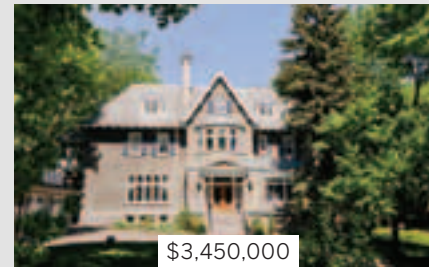
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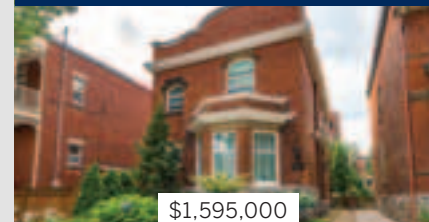


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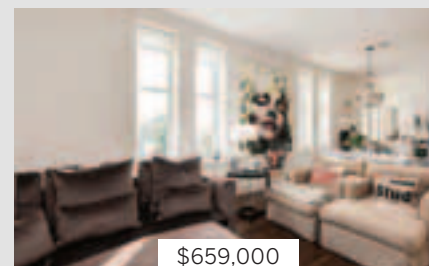
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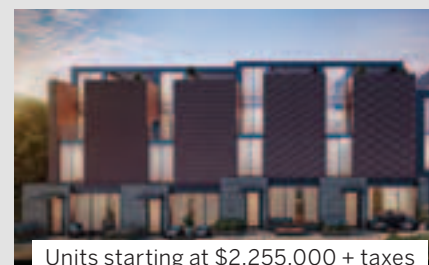
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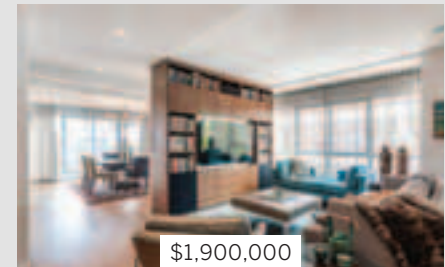
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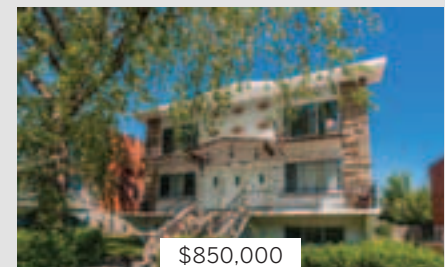
Stunning corner unit in prime location. MLS 19218645



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GOLDEN SQUARE MILE

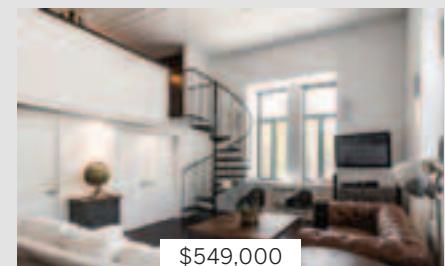
Large corner unit completely renovated with 3 terraces and 4 garages. MLS 14697795



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LASALLE

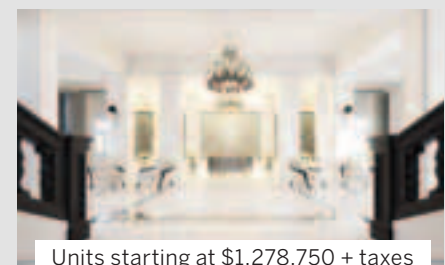
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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Projet Turcot : fermeture complète du chemin Glen du 19 au 27 août

Des fermetures majeures de rues seront mises en place au cours des prochaines semaines, dont celles du chemin Glen et de la rue De Courcelle. Consultez westmount.org pour plus de détails.

Consultation publique sur les voies d'accès au Mont-Royal

Le mercredi 12 septembre, 19 h à 22 h, Victoria Hall. Dans le cadre d'une consultation publique visant à évaluer le projet pilote de retrait de la circulation de transit pour les véhicules sur les voies Camillien-Houde et Remembrance, un atelier aura lieu à Westmount le 12 septembre. Consultez westmount.org pour plus de détails.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Élagage d'arbres publics à Westmount

La Ville effectuera des travaux d'élagage des arbres dans le secteur ouest par l'entremise de son entrepreneur Arboriculture de Beauce Inc. Les travaux débiteront le 20 août et se poursuivront au cours de l'automne. Plus de détails : westmount.org.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Storywalk® : *Loula et Monsieur le monstre*

En cours jusqu'au 31 août, parc Westmount. Une activité amusante présentant un livre pour enfants tout au long d'un sentier dans le parc. Pour tous les âges. Partage tes photos en utilisant le mot-clic #WPLStorywalk. 514 989-5229.

Arts et récits (3 à 6 ans)

Le mercredi 22 août, 16 h à 16 h 45, Bibliothèque. Inscription requise. 514 989-5229

Atelier de modelage animé

Le jeudi 23 août, 16 h à 18 h, Bibliothèque. Avec Molly Bower. Utilise de l'argile pour créer tes propres personnages; ils seront mis en vedette dans un film réalisé avec la technique « *stop motion* ». 8 ans et plus. Inscription requise. 514 989-5229.

Film sous les étoiles

Le vendredi 24 août, à la tombée du jour, parc Westmount. Projection en plein-air du film *Paddington 2* (en anglais). Apportez vos chaises et couvertures. 514 989-5229.

Prochaine séance du conseil le mardi 4 septembre

Club de films documentaires

Le mercredi 5 septembre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *RBG* (2018). Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Fête de clôture du Club de lecture d'été TD

Le samedi 8 septembre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. Avec Science en Folie. À ne pas manquer! Prix, collations et divertissements! Inscription requise. 514 989-5229.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Conférence : Parlons opéra!

Le dimanche 9 septembre, 10 h 30, Victoria Hall. *Rigoletto*. Présenté (en anglais) par L'Opéra de Montréal. 514 989-5226.

Soirée astronomie au belvédère

Le samedi 15 septembre, 19 h 30, belvédère Summit. Joignez-vous aux membres du Centre montréalais de la **Société royale d'astronomie du Canada** afin d'observer les étoiles avec leurs puissants télescopes. Apprenez-en plus sur les planètes. En cas de conditions nuageuses, l'événement sera annulé. 514 989-5226.

La Journée Terry Fox

Le dimanche 16 septembre, 10 h, parc Westmount. Cette année, Westmount se joindra à La Journée Terry Fox – un événement familial national où les participants marchent, courent, roulent ou font du vélo pour amasser des fonds pour la recherche sur le cancer. info@terryfoxrun.org.

SÉCURITÉ PUBOLIQUE

Pour une rentrée scolaire en sécurité

L'équipe de la Sécurité publique fait appel à la prudence des automobilistes dans les zones scolaires et leur demande de lui signaler tout problème de sécurité observé. Assurez-vous :

- de circuler lentement dans les zones scolaires;
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- de couper le moteur lorsque le véhicule est immobilisé;
- de suivre les directives des brigadiers scolaires.

De plus, les conducteurs doivent toujours arrêter complètement le véhicule à une distance d'au moins 5 mètres d'un autobus scolaire lorsque ses feux rouges intermittents et son panneau d'arrêt sont activés.

Les officiers de la Sécurité publique et du SPVM poste de quartier 12 seront particulièrement vigilants dans les zones écolières de Westmount au cours des prochaines semaines. 514 989-5222.

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CITY HALL

Turcot project: complete closure of Glen Road from August 19 to 27

Major street closures will be put into place over the next few weeks, including Glen Rd. and De Courcelle Street. Consult westmount.org for more details.

Public consultation on access roads to Mount Royal

Wednesday, September 12, 7 to 10 p.m., Victoria Hall. As part of the public consultation process to evaluate the pilot project eliminating through-traffic on the Camillien-Houde and Remembrance roads, a workshop will take place in Westmount on September 12. More details at westmount.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Pruning of public trees in Westmount

The City will carry out pruning work in the west sector with the assistance of contractor Arboriculture de Beauce Inc. The work will begin the week of August 20 and continue through the autumn. For more details, consult westmount.org.

LIBRARY

Storywalk®: *Loula and Mister the Monster*

Ongoing until August 31, Westmount Park. A fun activity that places a children's book along a path in the park. For all ages. Share your photos using the hashtag #WPLStorywalk. 514 989-5229.

Art and Stories (3 to 6 years)

Wednesday, August 22, 4-4:45 p.m., Library. Registration required. 514 989-5229.

Claymation workshop

Thursday, August 23, 4 to 6 p.m., Library. With Molly Bower. Use clay to create your own characters to star in a stop-motion animated movie. 8 years +. Registration required. 514 989-5229.

Movie under the stars

Friday, August 24 at dusk, Westmount Park. Bring your lawn chair and blankets and enjoy the outdoor screening of *Paddington 2*. 514 989-5229.

Documentary Film Club

Wednesday, September 5, 7 p.m., Library. *RBG* (2018). Tickets required. Info: 514 989-5299.

Next Council Meeting Tuesday, September 4

TD Summer Reading Club Closing Party

Saturday, September 8, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. With Mad Science. Be there! Prizes, entertainment and food! Registration required. 514 989-5229.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Lecture: Let's Talk Opera!

Sunday, September 9, 10:30 a.m., Victoria Hall. *Rigoletto*. Presented in English by L'Opéra de Montréal. 514 989-5226.

Stargazing at the lookout

Saturday, September 15, 7:30 p.m., Summit Lookout. Join members of the Montreal Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada to observe the night skies through their telescopes. In the event of poor viewing conditions, the event will be cancelled. 514 989-5226.

Terry Fox Run

Sunday, September 16, 10 a.m., Westmount Park. This year Westmount will join the Terry Fox Run – a national family event where participants walk, run, ride, or cycle to raise funds for cancer research. info@terryfoxrun.org.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Reminders for a safe return to school

Westmount's Public Safety team reminds everyone to be extra vigilant in school zones and to report any safety issues. Please make sure that you:

- drive slowly in and around school zones;
- use the drop-off and pick-up areas;
- turn the engine off when the vehicle is stopped;
- follow the signals of the crossing guards.

In addition, drivers must always bring the vehicle to a complete stop 5 metres or more from a school bus if its flashing red lights and stop sign arm are activated.

Over the next few weeks, Public Security and Police Station 12 officers will pay extra attention in Westmount's school zones. 514 989-5222.



Daycare, cont'd. from p. 1

Fun Academy co-owner Jacinthe Deschênes last month states the reason for its “intent to refuse” the permit is based on there being enough daycares in the larger region in which Westmount is located.

“I could not believe my eyes when I read it,” she said August 14. “I have a waiting list of over 60 and there are only six government-recognized daycares in Westmount!”

Deschênes, who has filed a letter of appeal, found herself caught up in delays resulting from changes to daycare legislation last spring after she had applied, even though she continues to qualify under the changes, she said (see story March 27, 2018). In the interim, she opened a private daycare at the church for six children.

She had been required at the time of her application to submit proof of arrangements, financing for required renovations and city occupation permits, all of which required a personal investment of some \$150,000, she said. As well, she is not seeking any government subsidy and will be creating 20 jobs.

“Now, I’m told we already have enough daycares in Westmount!”

Mayor Smith told the *Independent* she hoped the government response was simply an administrative glitch.



Jacinthe Deschênes looks over plans for Garderie Fun Academy August 17.

She said she had taken up the matter with church minister Neil Whitehouse and Westmount provincial legislator Jacques Chagnon, asking them to impress on the government the “very-much needed” daycare.

Destination for schools

Westmount is a destination for schools, she said, and Rainbow daycare had been operating at the church for many years until closing two years ago, she explained (see story April 5, 2016, p. 1).

The issue also speaks to the broader repurposing of churches, which fits with the

Westmount’s community goals, Smith said.

In a letter to Family minister Luc Fortin accompanying Deschênes’ appeal, Rev. Whitehouse points out that child care had been embedded in the life of the church, which has depended on the rental revenue. To not grant a licence because a daycare is judged to be not needed, “will force the church to consider closure,” he writes.

This could have “very serious ramifications” for Contactivity’s 300 seniors.

“We can affirm that there is certainly a demand for daycare in our building,” he adds, “as we regularly receive requests for information about the basement as a daycare from parents visiting in hope of obtaining this service.”

Westmount’s particular topography requires daycares within easy walking distance, he adds.

Using the ministry’s statistics, Deschênes said the six daycares in Westmount are the two K.I.D.S. facilities, Narnia, St. Andrew’s, Terre des Enfants at Centre Greene and the Foundation School daycare at Shaar Hashomayim. (Miss Vicky’s is considered a “preschool,” she said.)

She noted that by comparison, Outremont, with a population of some 23,000, has 22 daycares and 1,277 places compared with continued on p. 13





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Glen Rd. closed till August 27 to dismantle highway



Glen Rd. was closed at St. Catherine on August 20. Even cyclists were being turned away.

Photo: Independent.

Daycare, cont'd. from p. 11

Westmount's comparable population with six daycares and 437 places.

To add to her arguments, she said, the government lumps Westmount unrealistically into the large "Cavendish" territory that includes some of NDG-Côte des Neiges and Côte St. Luc, which the government says is already daycare-balanced.

The ministry has also created its own

centralized daycare waiting list, she said.

Fun Academy was one of three in Quebec to receive a letter of intent refusal, Deschênes said. The other two had been reported in French media.

"One of the problems," she pointed out is that many parents who fill "downtown" daycares come from outside the community for work. Meanwhile the local parents have nowhere nearby to take their children.

The westbound portion of the old Ville Marie expressway A-720 over Glen Rd. will be dismantled from August 19 to August 27. According to Transport Quebec, this will force the closure of Glen from St. Catherine to St. Jacques as well as de Courcelle and Acorn in St. Henri.

Canadian National Railway will also be connecting the new rail corridor west of St. Rémi. This will close de Courcelle over the tracks from August 20 to September 7 as well as Acorn.

Comin' Up

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

Michael Bergman, Shaar vice-president, lawyer, lecturer and panelist on "Israel and the Middle East: Conflict and Consensus." \$5, includes light lunch. Shaar Hashomayim, 425 Metcalfe Avenue. Reservations appreciated: 514.937.9474 x 139. 12 noon.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

For the Atwater Library Lunchtime Series, Gabriel Safdie, writer, photographer and businessman, recounts some of his experiences in China: "The Rise of the One-Eyed Dragon." Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 pm

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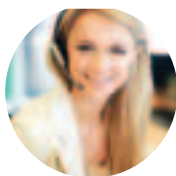
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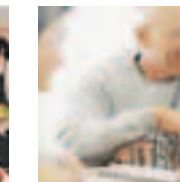
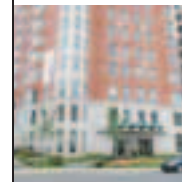
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Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

After a muggy, cloudy day, skies cleared for the Ometz tribute honouring **Dr. Mitch Shiller**, who attended with his wife **Cathy Ammendolea**. Shiller completed his medical training at McGill University and his residency in pediatrics at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Today, he is managing partner at the Children's Care Clinic in Pierrefonds, associate chair (finance) at the Montreal Children's Hospital, MUHC and assistant professor at McGill's department of pediatrics.

Despite his busy work schedule, Shiller has spent the last two decades volunteering for the Montreal Jewish community. He is currently vice-president of Federation CJA, chair of the allocations and community relations committee and president of the Baron de Hirsch-Back River Cemeteries.

The elegant eve was co-chaired by **Sandy Martz** (there with hubby **David Martz** and son **Richard Martz**, the evening's MC) and **Michael Cape**, chair Groupe Marcelle. Catered by Paradise Kosher, the

Shiller honoured by Ometz



David, Sandy and Richard Martz, Cathy Ammendolea and Dr. Mitch Shiller.

cocktail dînatoire was held outdoors in the tranquility of the Peace Garden at the Gelber Conference Centre.

The event paid tribute to Shiller as the first Ometz president. Speeches were given by Ometz's CEO **Gail Small**, and president **Saul Carliner**, as well as **David Amiel**, president Federation CJA, and **Sandy Martz** (a close friend of Shiller).

Westmounters noted enjoying the balmy night included **Arlene and Henri Abitan** (CEO Modextil), **Margo and Harvey Elman** (CEO Landmark Properties), **Marlene and Joel King** (executive vp Jewish Community Foundation of Mon-

treal), **Susan Kling** and **Patrick Benaroch** (senior partner Stikeman Elliott LLP), **Judy Litvack** and **Carl Ravinsky**, **Janice Heft** and **Lloyd Sheiner** (CEO/president Sheiner Group), **Michael Aronovici**, **Kayla** and **Brian Schneiderman** (senior partner Borden, Ladner, Gervais), **Cynthia** and **André Telio** (Telio Fashion Fabrics), **Annette Majnemer** (director/associate dean, physical & occupational therapy, McGill University) and **Michael Shevell** (pediatrician-in-chief, MUHC), **Jason Retter** (Retter Dental Care) and **Lindsay Hollinger** (Jarislowsky Fraser), **Michael Aronovici**
(president Interaction continued on p. 15)

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Nouvelle Generation performs for seniors



The Orchestre Nouvelle Génération held a concert July 12 at Place Kensington "for a most appreciative audience," according to orchestra board director Erica Bloom. This concert preceded its tour of China. Cities visited included Beijing, Qingdao, Wuhan, Xian and Shijiazhuang. Photo courtesy of E. Bloom.

Social notes, cont'd. from p. 14

Restaurants Group Inc.), **Clarence Epstein** (executive director – Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation), **Janis Levine** (president Henry and Berenice Kaufmann Foundation), **Nancy Cleman** (partner, Lapointe Rosenstein Marchand Melançon), **Dean Mendel** (president, Brookline Developments), **Sam Altman** (president Joddes Limited), Ometz's **Dominique McCaughey** (chief strategy and development officer) and **Mahalia Verna** (marketing and communications), and Federation CJA's **Lesli Green** (chief communications officer) and **Laura Fish** (chief strategy and planning officer).

Lead sponsors were RBC Wealth Management, Bruce Kent Group (private investment management), **Annette Majnemer** and **Michael Shevell**.

Also noted were **Morris Szwimer** and wife **Dr. Robin Kugelmass**, **Dr. Conrad Kavalec** and his wife **Dr. Natalie Ouellette**, **Lillian Vineberg** and **Morris Goodman**, **Janie and Michael Etinson**, **Lindsay Hollinger** and **Jason Retter**, and **Bonnie and Jonathan Bicher**.

Proceeds from the event support the newly established Dr. Mitch Shiller Tribute Fund, which will go towards supporting Ometz programs for children and youth at risk.

Ometz, *courage* in Hebrew, is the organization representing the merger of former agencies Jewish Family Services, Jewish Immigrant Aid Services and Jewish Employment Montreal.

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Merci aux membres de l'associations des commerçants de Victoria Village et à tous nos commanditaires pour avoir rendu cet événement possible!

Thank you to the members of the VVMA and our sponsors for making this event possible!



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Location location for this 4+1 bedroom home,
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COTE SAINT LUC

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