

Flag football introduced by demand

Sports & Rec sign-up for spring programs opens March 15

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Soccer, tennis, baseball clinics, ultimate frisbee, lacrosse and many other spring-type programs and activities for May and June are being offered when the city's Sports and Recreation registration for Westmount residents opens March 15. Whatever spaces are still available March 29 will be opened to non-residents.

This year, however, there is no break between the winter and spring programs and the city is maintaining its lowered capacity numbers for in-person ones. People registering are also reminded to re-activate their online account since these were suspended at the end of the year.

New this year, tackle-free flag football is being introduced to boys and girls aged 6

to 13 resulting from a demand by parents, according to Andrew Maislin, operations manager.

Youth soccer is the most sought after at spring registration, he said. Cut-off numbers depend on the number of coaches and time needed to schedule the alternating time periods to accommodate the 1,000 players who typically sign up.

Tennis for both youth and adults is usually also "full, full, full," he said. "We never have a free spot."

Among the many regular programs returning again is "Cycling and Street Smarts." Geared to kids aged 8-12, it's a spring activity that focuses on the safety aspect: not only the rules of the road but also how to ride safely on continued on p. 7



Spring is coming – honestly

Carl Heywood, 80, was cycling along the de Maisonneuve cycle path near Kensington the afternoon of March 3, on his way to the Westmount YMCA to do a little weight training. He was not fazed by the chilly breeze making the temperature feel like -18°C. Toronto-born Heywood, with a few Scottish roots, moved to Montreal with his Parisian wife in 2006. He likes to stay active including swimming in the St. Lawrence River in the summer near the Verdun beach. PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

COVID report: adapting many programs online

Library develops new services to keep connected

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With the physical unrestricted re-opening to the public February 14 of the Westmount Public Library after pandemic closures, there has not been much of an increase in foot traffic but this is "not surprising," according to library director Julie-Anne Cardella.

"It's not the busiest time of year given

the weather and the various school spring breaks," she explained. "It usually picks up in April when the students come in to study for exams."

What she does find interesting, however, is the significant uptick in new memberships and the use of many programs adapted to online services between March 2020 and June 2021 – just continued on p. 10

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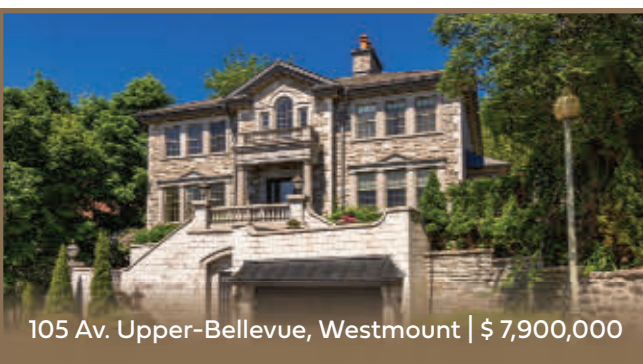
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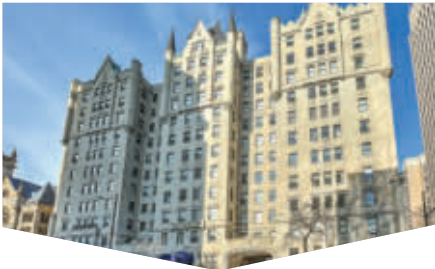
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Police Report

Website posing as employment agency used in ID theft

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Station 12 has opened an investigation into a suspected case of identity theft after a Westmount resident complained that the name of a business he owns was being used as a front for an online employment agency scam.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, the perpetrators created a website that claimed to be offering employment opportunities, while actually using the site to harvest personal information from applicants.

The business owner didn't suffer any immediate quantifiable loss, and only found out when a potential job applicant contacted him directly. "An investigation has been opened into this," Pimentel said.

Names of grandparent-scam suspects withheld

Police at Station 12 on Stanton St. are withholding the names of two suspects arrested in recent weeks in conjunction with a "grandparent" fraud scheme that stole

thousands of dollars from a number of retired Westmount residents.

The suspects, both 22 years of age, face charges of extortion and fraud. A spokesman for Station 12 said last Friday that the identities of the suspects were being withheld because they hadn't yet been arraigned in court.

He said an investigation is continuing in collaboration with the economic crimes section at the Montreal police department to determine if the suspects are linked to other similar cases of fraud recently in Montreal.

It is alleged that the suspects contacted their victims by telephone while posing as police officers.

They or accomplices claimed to be calling on behalf of a relative of the victim who had been arrested while on vacation and needed to be bailed out. The victims were then visited by the suspects to pick up the money in cash.

According to the police, two people from Westmount who'd been targeted went to Station 12 to file complaints. After taking down their witness accounts, officers from Station 12 implemented a surveillance operation.

They then managed to catch the suspects, who were preparing to extract more money from victims.

If you have been a victim of a scam, the police say you shouldn't hesitate to go to your neighbourhood station, or call 9-1-1.

To report a scam, you can also contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre by dialling 1.888.495.8501, or by directly visiting its website.

Info Crime-Montréal can also be contacted on an anonymous and confidential basis at 514.393.1133 or infocrime.montreal.ca.

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City Views:
XoMed/Dr. Rowen, p. 25



InfoWestmount, p. 18

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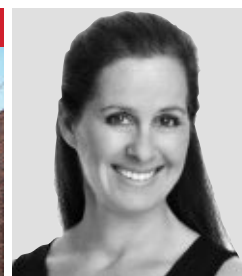
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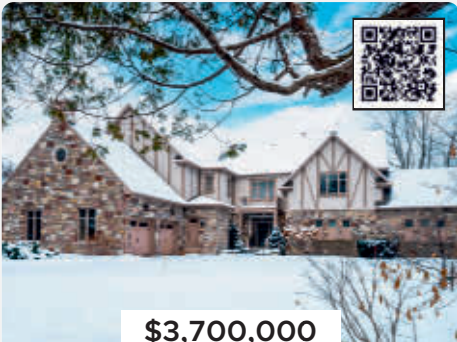
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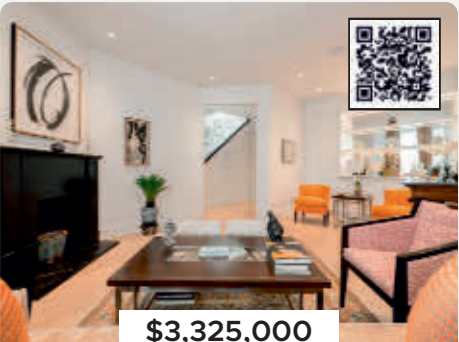


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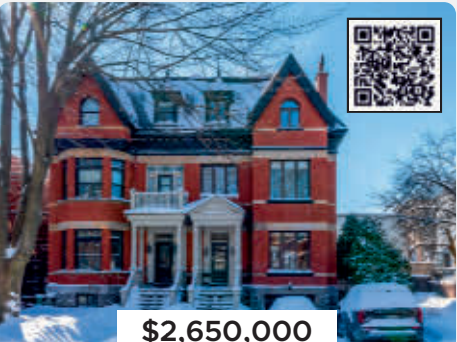
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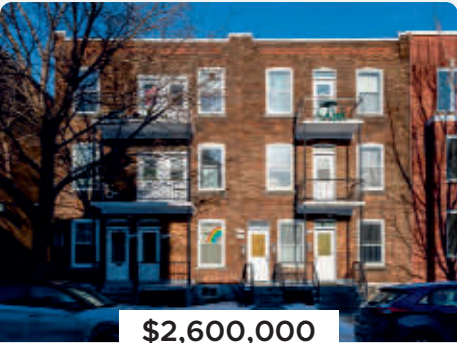
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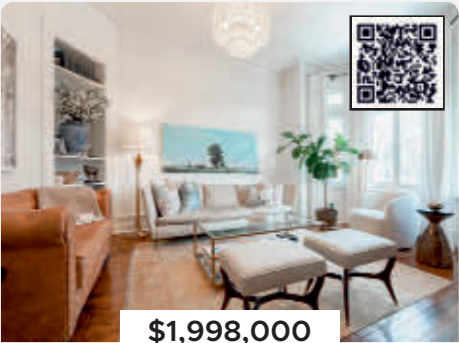
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ST. LEON EXPANSION IS A GREAT IDEA!

In response to the February 8 letter “Was St. Leon School expansion an emergency? A good idea?” (p. 6), I would like to express that the expansion of the St. Léon de Westmount elementary school is long overdue. St. Léon is the only public French school in the area. Its territory stretches from Westmount to University St.

With an incredible influx of residents over the past 10 years, the school became grossly over-populated and cannibalized specialty rooms (library, English classroom, music room). The lunch room continues to serve as a secondary gym. The projected continued growth showed unsustainable levels of enrollment with parent groups and faculty explaining the dire situation to various government levels.

In 2018, the funds required to build an expansion were budgeted. Due to provincial and municipal requirements, it took two years to design and develop plans for the expansion. During this time, municipal, neighbourhood, parental and educational consultations and presentations were undertaken.

To accommodate the work, 11 classes were moved for the 2020-2021 school year from St. Leon to the Charlevoix Annexe [on de Courcelle in St. Henri, just south of Home Depot], thereby affecting the school’s population at the St. Léon site. Breaking ground took place March 2021

with a completion date set for September 2022.

Despite the pandemic, progress has continued and the project is expected to be completed for the 2022-2023 school year, ready to receive all of its students under one roof and once again host welcome classes at the Annexe Charlevoix.

After five years of planning, we will have a school that meets today’s requirements, including a fully functional library, an educational outdoor green roof, a music room, a modular daycare space, additional classrooms, an improved reception area and staff room, an auditorium, a landscaped courtyard and enhanced ventilation, among others.

Our teachers will have a building equal to the high level of education and reputation that St. Léon has delivered over the decades. Our kids will have an enriched educational infrastructure to excite their sense of curiosity and enhance their experience with space to accommodate a growing population.

As a proud parent that had to navigate the difficult public English vs. public French vs. private school decision-making process, I am humbled by the strong sense of belonging and quality education St. Léon has offered us. Investing in our kids’ future isn’t just a good idea, it’s a GREAT idea!

WILLIAM NAHORNIAK,
OLIVIER AVE.



St. Catherine at York on February 28. PHOTOS: DAVID PRICE.

WHY HAS YORK ST. BECOME A VEHICLE STAGING AREA?

Riddle: who recently announced its intention to measure its carbon footprint but permits snow-removal dump trucks to idle for up to 40 minutes in a residential area?

Answer: Westmount.

At least three times this winter, a convoy of empty snow removal trucks has pulled up on the north side of St. Catherine St. westbound at the rear of homes on York St., including mine. The vehicles idle until ground personnel signal one or two trucks to turn east on to York; as the process unfolds, additional trucks arrive to take their place in the St. Catherine line-up, and the cycle repeats.

A small street, York doesn’t require eight or nine trucks to remove snow. So empty trucks also stand on York before slowly moving off to their destination(s).

On February 28, the first trucks arrived on St. Catherine at 9:25 am and the last in the convoy turned from York on to neighbouring Prince Albert at about 10:10 am.

It’s obvious Westmount’s protocol for snow-clearing has changed, likely striving for greater efficiency. All well and good.

But does the city not understand emissions from such large vehicles are not the same as from a two-door sedan?

And of equal concern: it appears my neighbourhood is now a staging area for snow removal operations. Is council unaware this particular slice of District 5 has shouldered non-stop the burden of three major construction projects [MUHC’s Glen hospital, new Metro entrance to Glen hospital, Groupe Maurice seniors’ residence] in the vicinity over the last 12 years, including the current one right across from York and St. Catherine streets?

When I emailed Pedro Martinez, director of snow clearing operations at Public Works, his reply (forwarded from the office of Westmount’s director-general) was: seven to 10 trucks are allocated per blower of snow and the trucks cannot shut off their engines.

Other than acknowledging some residents may be unhappy with the idling, the city did not answer why this area of D-5 appears to be a staging area for snow removal operations. Why us?

DOROTHY LIPOVENKO, YORK ST.

Editor’s note: Dorothy has been a friend of this paper since its first year and my neigh-



York St. on February 28.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

bour for almost as long. She called me about this problem on February 28. As I normally would in a case like this, I advised her to take pictures for her letter. She said that she had tried and had not been able to capture the scene, and that one driver had yelled at her (it is not just governments that are threats to a free society!). For these reasons, I offered to take them myself, but I tried to go with an open, neutral mind. Let me say this, in case the pictures do not convey it: she was not exaggerating! The block formed by York, Prince Albert and St. Catherine is tiny, with only four buildings containing nine residential units. It was surrounded by 10 huge, idling “Mack” dump trucks – more than one per dwelling unit and more than was needed for local snow removal. Two days later, 10 trucks were on Prince Albert a block away, plus one on de Maisonneuve. Are they switching to a slightly different neighbourhood until someone complains? There has to be a better way ... – DP.

MONTREAL CHILDREN’S LIBRARY NOT AT ATWATER LIBRARY

I read with interest the article “City backs Atwater Library’s tax-exemption request to Quebec Municipal Commission” in the February 22 edition of the Westmount Independent (p. 3).

As a former board member of the Montreal Children’s Library, I was astonished to note that they referenced the Montreal Children’s Library (MCL) in the non-profit portion of their petition.

The Montreal Children’s Library was a tenant at the Atwater Library for 30 years, but was forced to leave 10 years ago for their scheduled renovation project.

We had to relocate and have had no connection or relations with the Atwater Library since. The Montreal Children’s Library name should not be used in connection with their tax-exemptions issues.

MARIELLE AUDET WERTHEIMER,
SOMERVILLE AVE.

Editor’s note: The Atwater Library did not tell us that the Children’s Library was no longer a tenant and referred us to a still-in-effect tax ruling that has the Children’s (now former) space as part of the non-profit portion, hence: “non-profit occupants of the three-storey building such as the Montreal Children’s Library ... were included in the non-profit portion” (emphasis added). We are happy to have the whole explanation here. – DP.

EXTENDED POLL FOR LEXINGTON BUT NOT FOR SUNNYSIDE – WHY?

Regarding interest I have expressed on these pages and at city council in reconsidering the one-way east designation on Sunnyside from Bellevue to Upper Bellevue, I have been informed by my District 1 representative Antonio D’Amico that the matter is closed and the situation there will remain unchanged. I had asked city council to consider polling all the residents above that stretch of Sunnyside to see if they agree with my view that it is our preferred way driving westward to return home at night.

I see from your February 8 reporting (p. 12) that an extensive survey was conducted by the city in regards to Lexington Ave. similar to another one asked of the residents around Mount Pleasant. Why can no such similar poll be conducted regarding Sunnyside? As I had pointed out, an important change in traffic flow was made to Sunnyside based on the opinion of only 10 residents. I suggest polling the residents on Oakland, Surrey Gardens, Roxborough and Summit Crescent.

HARRY J. F. BLOOMFIELD,
SURREY GARDENS

ENGLISH IGNORED, AGAIN

Once again, the English are ignored! Last evening (February 26), I received a four-page update on the extension to St. Leon’s. Not a word of English! What a slap in the face. We pay the same taxes as the

French do, and are surely entitled to know what is going on!

This construction has been going on for two years now. It has been very disruptive to the residents of Kitchener, and Clarke avenues. Kitchener Ave. has had a lot of traffic: huge, noisy trucks and construction workers parking their cars at 6:30 am, making it difficult, if not impossible, to clean the streets in the spring – leaving lots of mud and now more snow again!

This latest letter is just one more example of the erosion of our English rights: the Dawson extension, scrapped; freezing the English enrolment at English CEGEPs; and all students having to take three courses in French!

We English will suffer, but in the long run, the French will suffer more! The French want to learn English. Such a pity that Premier François Legault cannot understand this.

BEVERLEY HUTCHISON, KITCHENER AVE.

THOUGHTS ON INFRASTRUCTURE

A greenhouse for only \$6.3 million (March 1, p. 1). And it is not yet finished but I do hope it is almost!

And, yes, using the most expensive materials did not help as did working on ancient foundations, with ancient materials, etc.

So now, when I think of the proposed Westmount Park alterations, I am sorry but I really would prefer that good quality maintenance be done.

I have already paid to have my entire car’s suspensions re-done due to the horrendous state of our roads. Just try going down Victoria Ave. from The Boulevard to Sherbrooke without hitting umpteen potholes.

I do know that we have a rather severe climate, but I also know something about construction, having worked as an engineer in design, maintenance and project management. If something is designed to last for three to five years and it is designed correctly, the correct materials are used, the work is performed to applicable standards, and appropriate maintenance is performed, then it will last for three to five years.

But, if something is designed to last for 30 years and it is designed correctly, the correct materials are used, the work is performed to applicable standards and appropriate maintenance is performed, then it will last for 30 years.

Note my wife and I do love the greenhouse. My wife is one of the library’s best customers and then a jaunt through the greenhouse is so lovely as is a walk in Westmount Park.

ALFRED EDEL, VICTORIA AVE

Sign of spring (1)



Icicles at the back of a Clandeboye Ave. house, as seen from Stayner St. March 6. PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Sports & Rec, cont'd from p. 1

safety, Maislin said.

Staying safe

Another program called “Stay Safe” for girls and boys 9-13 focuses on basic first aid and other skills for participants to learn how be alone when without the direct supervision of an adult, said coordinator Claude Danis. Along the same vein is a baby-sitting program.

“There’s good news for our youth and adult ballet courses,” Danis said. “Long-time instructor Joanie Moreau is ready to

come back. She has taken time off since the start of COVID.”

A new adult ballroom dance program being offered for the first time at spring registration is “Solo Latino” for people without a partner along with a number of others such as belly dancing, line dancing, theatre dance, classical ballet and tap dancing.

Some of the adult programs such as fitness and gentle yoga will be offered both in person and on Zoom.

What to do before seeking medical attention during the pandemic.



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Sign of spring (2)



The ice on Lake Shakespeare is breaking up! The small lake is located on the pedestrian path through Westmount Park parallel to the de Maisonneuve bike path, near the “Shakespeare in the Park” dell. There were several other large puddles elsewhere on the path the same day as this photo, March 6.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



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Cho of National grocery: 'Hiring new people? Impossible!'

Inflation, labour shortages, less variety hit Westmount's independent grocers

BY JENNIFER BALL

Two years of COVID-19 and governments' attempts to combat it are having a major effect on prices, labour and product availability across the world, especially in food retail. But what is happening right here in Westmount?

We spoke to two owners of independent Westmount grocery stores, who offered

their perspectives on trends that are affecting the overall industry: John Cho, co-owner of the National food shop with his sister Sophie; and Clara Kwan, owner of L'Autre Choix Mini Marché.

Independents: Things have changed

Westmount's National food store – that was established in 1927 by the Cho family – primarily deals with distributors for its goods and many of its products are specialized. "There are some shortages sometimes but if you keep a big enough inventory, you can get through those," John Cho said.

Where the interconnectedness of pandemic economics has bruised his business is labour shortages, shrinking profit margins and/or higher costs for the costumer.

"Everyone who is here [on staff], for the most part, are people who were here before the pandemic," Cho said. "But in terms of hiring new people? Impossible! One of the ways we try to keep the current employees is to raise everybody, at least 25 percent or more."

He and his sister have also reduced their store hours. "We don't open on Saturdays anymore and we close at 4 pm. If I needed to open longer

hours, I would have to hire more people and nobody even applies."

It is likely, according to Cho, that inflationary pressure started when one person started raising prices so another person started raising theirs and so on. "They just feel justified to do it! Everybody raises and we are at the end of that chain, so we feel it the most. For the most part, I have tried to absorb it, but now we have started raising as well. If our margins keep shrinking, then we have to raise the prices. We are just forced to."

After 12 years at Autre Choix on Victoria Ave., the store's owner and founder Clara Kwan, has noticed less choice from her suppliers. If a grocery brand had four products available before COVID, two or more of those products will no longer be available and the company's explanation is a shortage of raw materials.

Kwan's customer base leans more to locavore than big box shoppers. She and some of her customers have noticed price jumps well exceeding national inflation at 5.1 percent. "Something that was a dollar before COVID is now \$2.50 or \$3. It is a big increase," Kwan said.

Large stores: no/little comment

On February 21, the *Independent* also approached Gajan Rajasingam, the owner of the Metro grocery store on Victoria Ave.



Clara Kwan on February 21.

and Guy O'Driscoll, director of the IGA store on Atwater Ave. Both deferred to their corporate communications departments.

Communications advisor Francis Pagé of Metro media relations provided a short statement "as these are industry issues and not specific to Metro, we will not be giving an interview."

Francis Mailly with the Retail Council of Canada – who speaks on behalf of Sobeys and IGA – indicated: "there are supply chain issues and it could be for any produce but there is no shortage. It is a fact now that there is a labour shortage. It is hard to find trucks and packers."



John Cho on February 21.

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Totes at the library

When it was available, an average of 350 reservations per day were packaged for the Westmount Public Library's curbside pick-up service, as seen June 15, 2020.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LORA BAIOTTO.

Library, cont'd from p. 1

highlighted in a 22-page COVID-19 report of library use and Community Events just issued last week.

Called “Staying Connected” during the pandemic, the extensive report replaces the usual annual report and explains the many ways in which programs were made accessible.

“By developing new ways of staying connected to our community despite COVID-19 and all the restrictions that came with it, we were still able to serve our members and interest new ones to join the library,” Cardella states in the report.

New members generated

Among the many figures presented is the number of new members (652) generated, increases of 110 percent and 101 percent respectively in the number of French and English ebooks accessed and a rise of 160 percent in film viewings on the online streaming platform Kanopy. As well, reference librarians answered 4,042 questions regarding informational or instructional needs.

Other highlights include the use of the curbside service implemented June 8, 2020 for which an average of 350 reservations “per day” were packaged for pick-up.

Also, the children's department provided many programs online and carried off the top award of \$8,000 in the English category in the 2020 TD Summer Reading

Club, with a special mention by judges of the department's ability “to provide an experience of community solidarity during a difficult time” (see story July 6, p. 10).

Library staff was divided into two teams throughout the pandemic, one working remotely and the other from the library on an alternating basis to avoid contact between the bubbles.

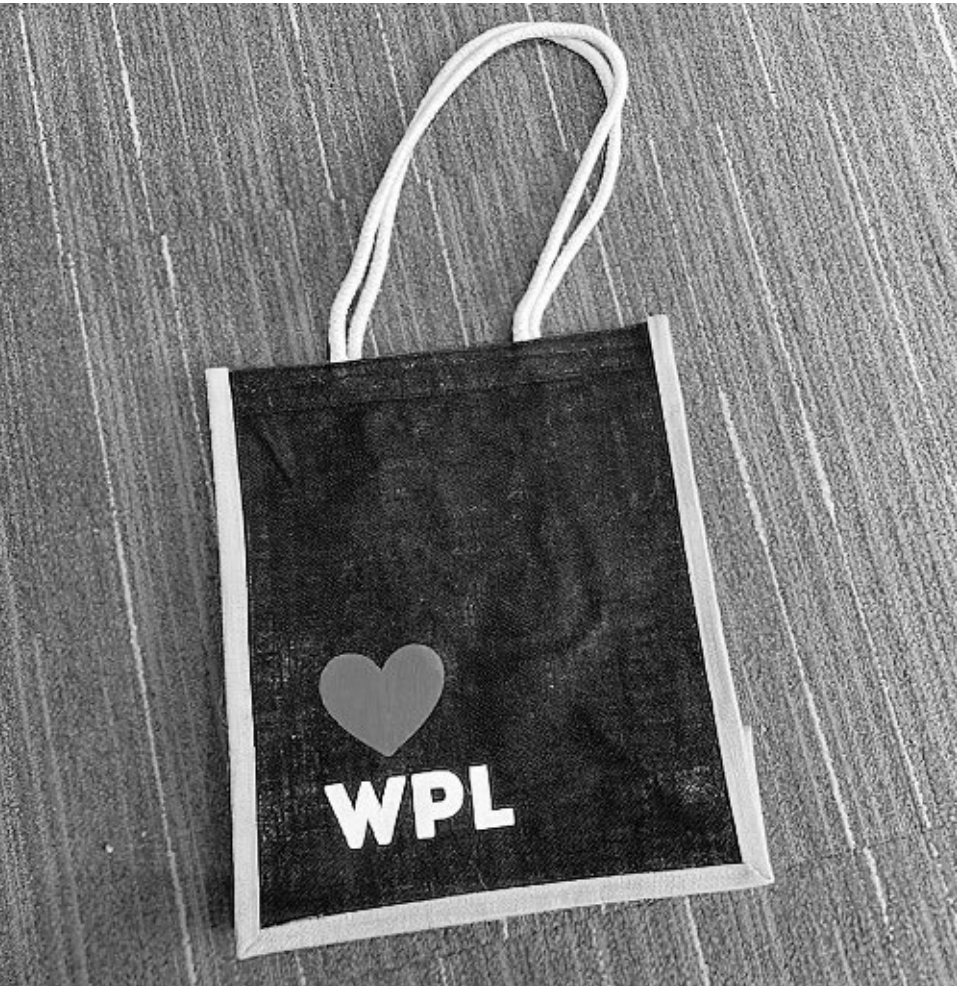
As well, between March 13 and June 8, 2020 at the start of the pandemic period, 20 staff members conducted 545 phone wellness checks for Westmount seniors in collaboration with Westmount's Public Safety department, some volunteering their time to do so.

New ways

“I'm extremely proud of what the team was able to do to keep the library running, provide our services and demonstrate their resilience by developing new ways of maintaining the precious link between our institution and the community it serves,” Cardella said.

As time went on, she explained, “The team felt the support they offered was being reciprocated. The community sent messages of encouragement and positive feedback to the staff. This recognition revitalized the team, inspiring them to create even more new service offerings.”

The complete report can be accessed on the library's website.



The Westmount Public Library's new tote bags went on sale March 1 for \$12 each. They can be obtained at the circulation desk.

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Les représentations visuelles sont uniquement à titre informatif et peuvent changer sans préavis. The visual representations are for information purposes only and can change without notice.

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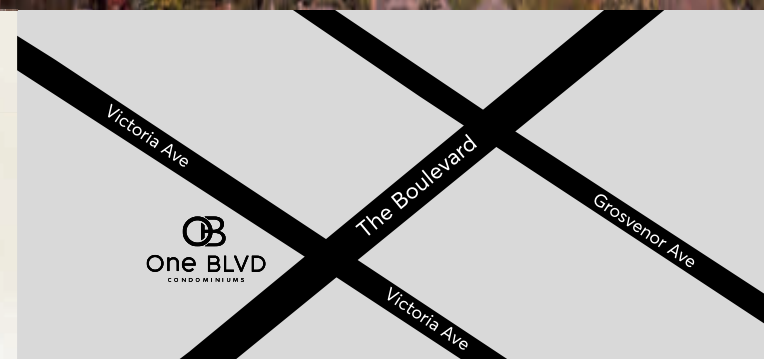
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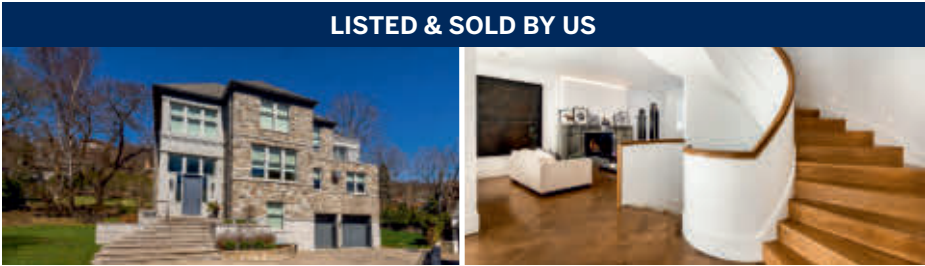
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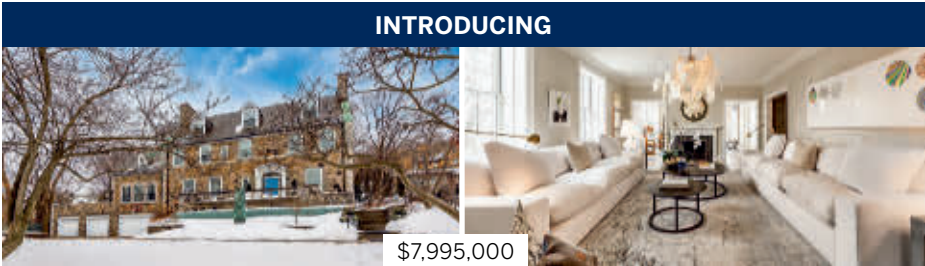
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INTRODUCING

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Beautifully reimagined in 2014, this magnificent 8 bedroom, 4 car garage detached stone residence is nestled on close to 20,000 manicured square feet. MLS 10079588

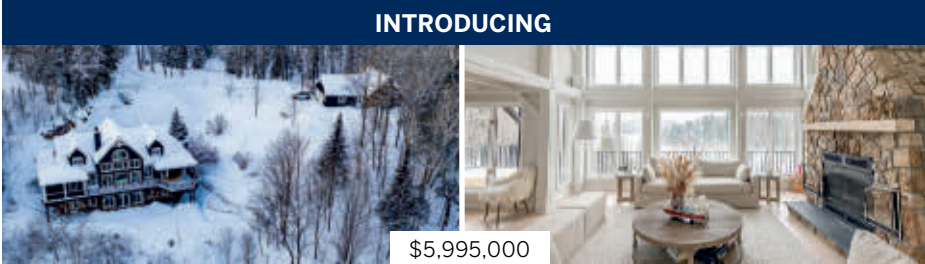


INTRODUCING

\$6,300,000

BEACONSFIELD

Spectacular 21,000 square-foot waterfront lot with a magnificent award-winning 5 bedroom, 6 ½ bath home. MLS 20842112

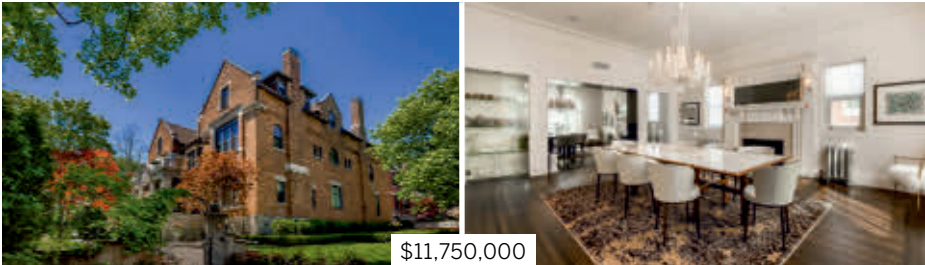


INTRODUCING

\$5,995,000

IVRY-SUR-LE-LAC

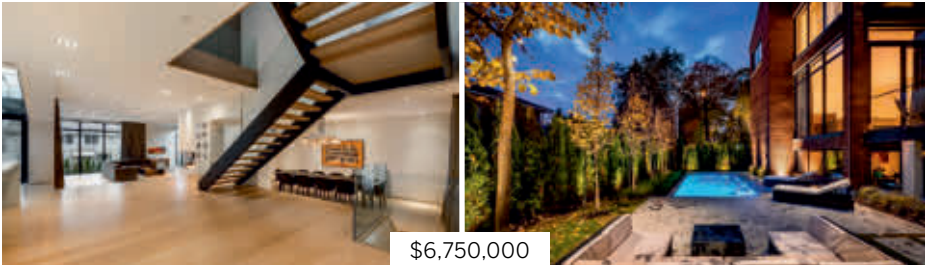
Magnificent estate consisting of three homes sitting on one of the Laurentians most prestigious and exclusive lakes, Lac Manitou. MLS 24576004



\$11,750,000

WESTMOUNT

Spectacularly renovated and exquisitely restored mansion on prestigious street. MLS 16556011



\$6,750,000

WESTMOUNT



Spectacular newly reimagined contemporary Westmount home presents a sleek, polished design that impresses in its minimalist opulence and tasteful grandeur. MLS 17875717



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Ideally located townhouse offers soaring ceilings, 3 bedrooms, 3+1 bathrooms, finished basement, integrated garage and more! MLS 28918755



ACCEPTED OFFER*

\$1,798,000

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Located in the heart of Victoria Village, this completely renovated Victorian family home has it all. MLS 22682567

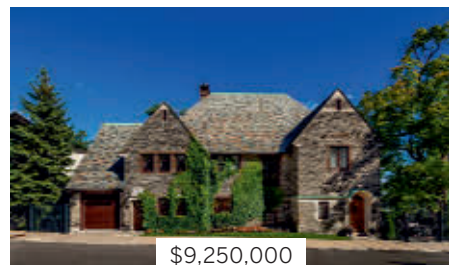


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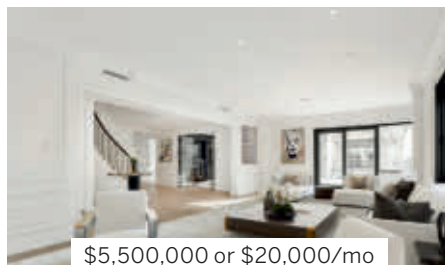
Beautiful 2 storey, 2 bedroom, 2 plus 1 bathroom condo completely redone with exquisite taste. MLS 26061430



\$9,250,000

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE

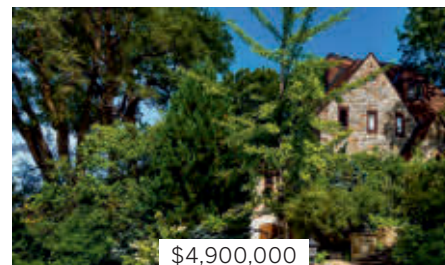
Majestic stone mansion built in 1928 by renowned architect Percy Nobbs delivers maximum Golden Square Mile pedigree. MLS 12942916



\$5,500,000 or \$20,000/mo

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | COURS MONT-ROYAL

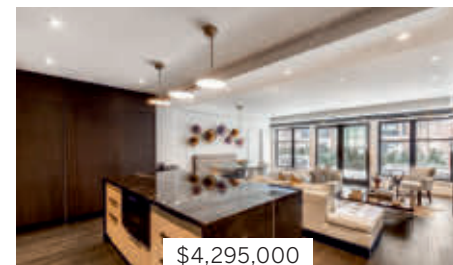
New York designer inspired style corner Penthouse on 2 levels boasts almost 4,300 sqft, terraces & outstanding downtown views. MLS 16544415



\$4,900,000

WESTMOUNT

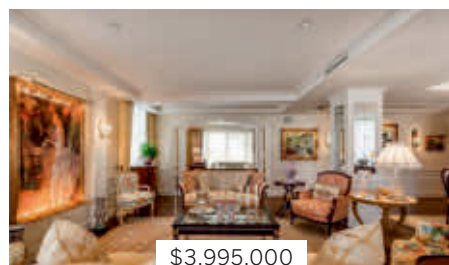
Stately stone mansion sits perched on an ultra private 15,000+ sq.ft. lot offering remarkable city and sunset views. MLS 16768472



\$4,295,000

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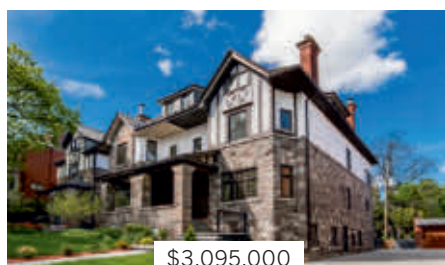
Located on a large lot of over 8,000 sq.ft., this completely renovated and extended detached residence has it all. MLS 13413807



\$3,995,000

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE | BEAUX-ARTS

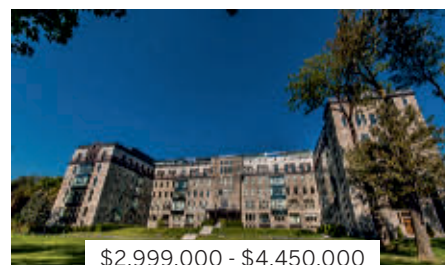
Exquisitely 3 bedrooms + den residence featuring panoramic mountain & city views. MLS 16471157



\$3,095,000

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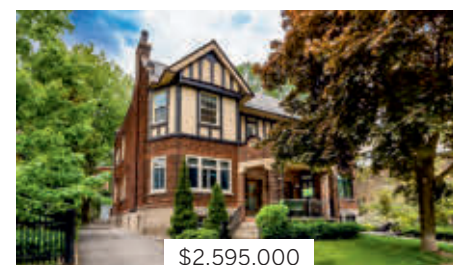
Impeccably renovated Tudor style home located in the heart of Westmount. MLS 26999345



\$2,999,000 - \$4,450,000

VILLE-MARIE | M SUR LA MONTAGNE

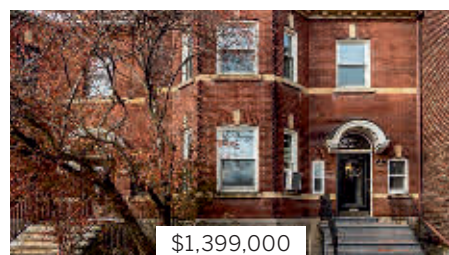
2 spectacular units at the prestigious M Sur La Montagne Phase 1. MLS 12999166



\$2,595,000

WESTMOUNT

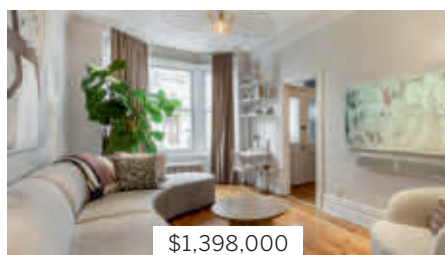
Lovely completely renovated family residence with 2 car garage. MLS 20377146



\$1,399,000

WESTMOUNT

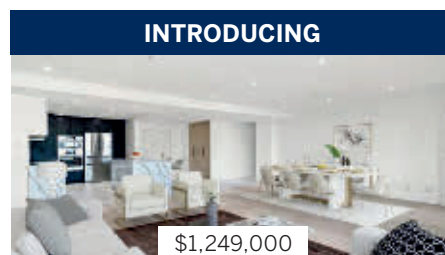
Great opportunity in the heart of lower Westmount, this triplex is the perfect blank canvas for anyone looking for a project. MLS 23284021



\$1,398,000

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Beautifully renovated and charming Victorian cottage perfectly located on a quiet cul-de-sac. MLS 25188515



INTRODUCING

\$1,249,000

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Magnificent renovated condo in the Westmount Park Towers! MLS 20038522



RECENTLY REDUCED

\$849,000

NOTRE-DAME-DE-GRÂCE

Ideally located on a desirable Westmount adjacent street, this spacious upper unit has it all. MLS 14623760

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'Tremendous' challenges: McCallum

Vendôme Metro project wins gold award for sustainability



The de Maisonneuve entrance to the MUHC's Glen hospital is the largely glass structure attached to the lower right of the former Air Canada/Aeroplan building, as seen on March 4.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The new entrance to the Vendôme Metro, Exo commuter trains and an accessible pedestrian tunnel leading to the MUHC super-hospital has achieved a gold-level Envision award for excellence in sustainability.

It is the first Metro station in Montreal to receive such an award, according to a press release dated February 22 from the Société de transport de Montréal (STM). The gold award is the second highest of four levels in the Envision rating system for infrastructure projects.

Among the reasons included under a category of worksite impact management was the creation of a "Good Neighbourhood committee" on which Liz McCallum and Maureen Kiely were Westmount representatives.

"There were tremendous engineering challenges, including the recycling of waste material so kudos to them for the award," McCallum told the *Independent* last week.

The location and complexity of the work

in the confined area and under the constraints of hydro, sewer, railway and water network meant the citizen representatives were limited in their input to safety issues, she said. "They knew we were watching them when it came to safety issues such as the routing of trucks."

Drop-off lacking

The only disappointing comment she had was the lack of a drop-off area at the site, "again the result of infrastructure location."

McCallum said she and Kiely had been accepted on the citizens' committee after they had attended an information session on the project. "It was a pleasure to represent our neighbourhood interests and it is tremendously satisfying that the project has achieved this significant award," she said.

The completed construction project was inaugurated in May after the high-profile work that had begun in 2017. The entrance and accessibility tunnel had not been included in the original building of the hospital (see story June 8, p. 21).

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Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal is already sending aid to Ukraine

Last week, Russia declared war on Ukraine. The Russian army has attacked military facilities, infrastructure and civilian targets. The WHO health cluster estimates that the number of affected people has climbed from 2.9 million a week ago, to over 18 million today.

The Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal, established by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) and the Canada-Ukraine Foundation (CUF), is working with Ukrainian government ministries, who are in the best position to advise on the needs on the ground so that we can ensure that the donations we receive meet the needs of the Ukrainian people.

Several tranches of aid have already been delivered and we will continue to monitor and match aid to the needs on the ground in the coming weeks and months.



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And now ... Lotsa chairs



This month



August 2021

First it was “Lotsa brooms” (July 7, 2020, p. 11) then it was “Lotsa drawers” (August 10, 2021, p. 14), now it’s lotsa chairs. This building at the northeast corner of Grosvenor and Sherbrooke always seems to be renovating.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

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infoWESTMOUNT

2022.03.08 • Vol. 3/05
Publié par la Ville de Westmount
Published by the City of Westmount

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DU CONSEIL

Lundi 4 avril

NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING

Monday, April 4



Inscription printemps le 15 mars
Le guide des activités sportives et de loisirs printemps 2022 est présentement en ligne. Les inscriptions pour les résidents de Westmount débiteront le **mardi 15 mars à 8 h**. Inscription en ligne seulement. westmount.org

Bureaux municipaux ouverts au public
Les édifices de la Ville sont ouverts au public et des consignes sanitaires sont en vigueur. Vous pouvez également obtenir les services en ligne et par téléphone. westmount.org

Appel aux artistes de Westmount
Vous êtes invités à soumettre votre candidature pour la prochaine saison d'expositions **au plus tard le 15 avril 2022**. Renseignements et formulaire de candidature : westmount.org.

Travaux sur la rue Saint-Antoine Ouest
À partir de la semaine du 7 mars, la Ville de Montréal reprendra des travaux sur Saint-Antoine Ouest entre Atwater et Bourget. La fin des travaux est prévue pour mai 2022 et des entraves occasionnelles sont à prévoir. westmount.org

Attention : fraude aux grands-parents
Le Service de police de Montréal (SPVM) demande aux résidents d'être vigilants face à des appels téléphoniques frauduleux qui ciblent les personnes âgées. Ces fraudeurs se font passer pour un proche en difficulté et ayant besoin d'argent de toute urgence. Renseignez-vous à westmount.org.

Gestion des déchets : sondage et outils
Vous êtes invités à répondre à un court sondage et à consulter nos outils en ligne. westmount.org

Accès aux matières résiduelles en hiver
Assurez-vous de déneiger et déglacer les voies d'accès aux bacs de matières résiduelles. Les entrepreneurs de la Ville peuvent refuser de collecter les matières inaccessibles.



Spring registration March 15
The Spring 2022 Sports and Recreation Activities Guide is now online. Registration for Westmount residents will begin **Tuesday, March 15 at 8 a.m.** Online registration only. westmount.org

Municipal offices open to the public
City buildings are open to the public and health guidelines are in effect. Services are also available online and by phone. westmount.org

Invitation to Westmount artists
You are invited to submit your proposal for the next exhibition season of the Gallery at Victoria Hall. The deadline is **April 15, 2022**. Find the details and application form at westmount.org.

Work on Saint-Antoine Street West
Starting the week of March 7, the Ville de Montréal will resume work on Saint-Antoine Street between Atwater and Bourget. The work is expected to be completed by May 2022. Occasional street closures will be necessary. westmount.org

Beware of the Grandparent Scam
The Montreal Police Department (SPVM) is warning residents to be on the alert for fraudulent phone calls targeting seniors. Callers pretend to be relatives in trouble and in need of money urgently. Find out more at westmount.org.

Waste management survey and tools
You are invited to complete a short survey and to consult our online. westmount.org

Access to waste materials in winter
Make sure to remove snow and ice from access areas around waste bins. City contractors may refuse to collect materials that are inaccessible.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Bibliothèque ouverte au public
Nous sommes heureux d'accueillir à nouveau les visiteurs! Un service de cueillette en libre-service est en place à l'intérieur. Avant de vous déplacer, informez-vous des exigences et conditions. westlib.org

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Concours littéraire McEntyre 2022
Et ensuite? Nous te demandons d'écrire une histoire, un poème ou un essai décrivant comment tu envisages le futur. Date limite : **vendredi 1er avril**. westlib.org

Trousses pour bébés
Procurez-vous un ensemble spécial pour les tout-petits (0 à 2 ans). wwayling@westmount.org

L'heure de conte en ligne
La Bibliothèque des enfants vous propose des contes à westlib.org et sur sa chaîne **YouTube**.

Trousses de bricolages pour enfants
Inscris-toi pour participer à un atelier de bricolage à faire chez toi! **21 mars** : Vive la neige; **4 avril** : Averses d'avril. **4 avril** : Jour de la terre. westlib.org

Conférence : Art Space Ecology
Mercredi 9 mars, 19 h, Victoria Hall. Avec John K. Grande. Inscrivez-vous à westlib.org.

Atelier STEAM (9 ans et +)
Judi 17 mars, 16 h 30 sur Zoom. Crée une affiche lumineuse Harry Potter. Le nombre de places est limité. Inscris-toi à westlib.org.

Projection spéciale : Dune (2021)
Samedi 19 mars, 18 h, Victoria Hall. Classé 13 ans et plus. Soyez des nôtres pour un souper pizza avant le film. Inscrivez-vous : westlib.org.

Ciné-club : Pig (2021)
Mardi 22 mars, 14 h, Victoria Hall. Inscrivez-vous à westlib.org.

LIBRARY

Library open to the public
We are pleased to welcome visitors back! A self-serve pickup system is now in place inside. Learn about the requirements and conditions before you arrive. westlib.org

New WPL tote bag!
Adorable, sustainable and 100% biodegradable: your ♥ WPL bag awaits. \$12, cash only. Limited run. westlib.org

2022 McEntyre Writing Competition
What's next? We would like you to write a creative story, poem, or essay about how you envision the future. Deadline: **April 1**. westlib.org

Baby Kits
Ask us for a special kit for newborns (0-2 years). wwayling@westmount.org

Storytime online
The library staff offers storytime at westlib.org and on the Library's **YouTube** channel.

Take and Make Craft Kits for Kids
Sign up for a fun craft kit to do at home!
March 21: Let it Snow; **April 4:** April Showers;
April 18: Earth Day. westlib.org

Lecture: Art Space Ecology
Wednesday, March 9, 7 p.m., Victoria Hall.
With John K. Grande. Register at westlib.org.

STEAM Workshop (9 years +)
Thursday, March 17, 4:30 p.m. on Zoom.
Create a light-up Harry Potter poster. Space is limited. Register at westlib.org.

Special screening: Dune (2021)
Saturday, March 19, 6 p.m., Victoria Hall.
Rated PG-13. Join us for a pizza dinner before the film. Register at westlib.org.

Film Club: Pig (2021)
Tuesday, March 22, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. Register at westlib.org.



St. Catherine trench filled in



The trench on St. Catherine St. westbound west of Clarke has been filled in, as seen March 4. It was still in work-in-progress February 24 (see March 1, p. 20).

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



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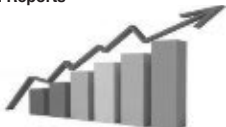
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NDG’s Tehran restaurant closes ... plans to re-open elsewhere



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Restaurant Tehran, located on de Maisonneuve one block west into NDG from Claremont, closed February 27, according its website.

It is pictured at left on March 4, but no special signage was in evidence.

Eater Montreal reported March 1 that co-owner Mehdi Mohammad Sadegh decided to close due to “an amazing offer for the building.”

‘Heavy hearts’

“It is with heavy hearts that we inform you that after 33 years of business, we will be closing,” said the restaurant’s website. “We would like to thank you for your continued support over the years, especially

the last two.

“We appreciate you for choosing us to celebrate the good times in your lives, whether it was weddings, birthdays, or just getting together with friends and family; we were happy to have been apart of it all. Thank you for allowing us to continuously share our family recipes and provide a culinary Persian experience with you all.”

The message went on to mention “a new location” to open in the “near future.”

No redevelopment yet

This stretch of de Maisonneuve north of the MUHC’s Glen super-hospital has long been the topic of speculation about possible re-development, although none

has materialized since the hospital’s opening seven years ago, including on this vacant lot, right.

See April 28, 2015, p. 1 and May 26, 2015, p. 1 for our coverage of the hospitals’ moves to the new site.

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Handsome Blue



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Loving P.D. and Roxy



Westmount
A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

Seven years of love and companionship between them – time has been good to them in that – but at this stage of change in their lives, P.D. and Roxy are looking forward to a new family together.

They are in foster care for the volunteer animal rescue group Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions, from where the foster family reports that they are irresistible, affectionate and social with all: adults, children,

dogs, cats – as a delightful duo. Spirited P.D. (Petey) is a long-haired Jack Russell/mini dachshund and tiny Roxy is a long curly-haired teacup Chihuahua.

They enjoy their daily routine of fun walks in the fenced backyard and in the neighbourhood, and playtime with everyone in the house. These sweethearts are very healthy for their age, up to date with their inoculations, sterilized and microchipped.

As a bonded pair, it is a pleasure to present them to you for adoption and refer you to the rescue's info@gerdysrescue.org email to contact the volunteers for more information, photographs and an adoption questionnaire.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



to date with his inoculations, neutered and microchipped. Please refer to the rescue's website at www.gerdysrescue.org for Blue's information page and do not hesitate to write to the Gerdy's volunteers at their



email info@gerdysrescue.org for more information, photographs and an online adoption questionnaire to start the process of bringing him into your family.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



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House History

ANDY DODGE

The lovely stone house at 3302 Cedar Ave. started its life as 4270 Avenue Rd., one of a group of six houses built in the 1920s by Senneville Development Corp., a company that had its head office on Côte des Neiges St. (now Guy St.) downtown. It owned 300 acres of land that it was planning to develop as luxury houses in Senneville, hence the name.

It was a company owned by James H. Maher, described in *Who's Who and Why (in Canada)* as a “self-made man, who solely by his own energy, backed by shrewd business acumen, has reached the prominent position he now holds in the community.”

(The same article also mentions that he married Philomene Murray, daughter of William Murray, but apparently this was not the same William Murray who owned

- 1874 –
Village of Notre Dame de Grâce (area of current-day Westmount and NDG) incorporated.

– 1876 –
Village of Côte St. Antoine (area of current-day Westmount) breaks away. It become a town in 1890.

– 1888 –
wooden railway bridge opens over Glen Rd., southwest of current-day Westmount recreation centre. It is replaced by the still-in-use stone bridge in 1892.

– circa 1890 –
Train station opens at the foot of Abbott Ave. It was moved to the foot of Victoria Ave. in 1907, where the building still stands.

– 1895 –
Town of Côte St. Antoine changes its name to Westmount. It becomes a city in 1908.

– 1899 –
Westmount Public Library opens in its current building (which has been added to).

– 1922 –
Current city hall opens.

– 1925 –
The current Victoria Hall opens. This building, still in use, replaced an 1899 version that burned down in 1924. Also, the St. Catherine St. armoury of the Royal Montreal regiment, located on city land, opens.

– 1958 –
Westmount's previous arena opens as an open-sided venue. It was enclosed in 1963. The pool at this facility was added in 1962.

– 2002 to 2005 –
The merged years. Westmount is merged January 1, 2002 with the city of Montreal and becomes one of its boroughs. It demerged on January 1, 2006.

– 2013 –
Current Westmount recreation centre opens.

3302 Cedar Ave: Once was 4270 Avenue Rd.



“Clarke’s Crescent” nowadays. 3302 Cedar is the third house from the left.

substantial land very close by in Westmount.)

Clarke the fur trader

In the early 19th century, fur trader Simon Clarke was among the few settlers who dared to venture outside the walled city of Ville Marie to build a small cottage among the apple orchards and gardens alongside the westbound “Indian trail” (as

it was called at the time) leading to the Monklands Villa (now Villa Maria School), built by Chief Justice James Monk in 1794. The land reached far up the mountain behind the house, and of course a roadway heading uphill was titled “Clarke’s Avenue” as more settlers started paying attention to the area along the Indian trail, which by then had been named Côte St. Antoine Road.

By the 1850s the mountainside strip of land was in the hands of Gregor McGregor, widowed husband of Elizabeth Clarke and an auctioneer of some repute, who some 24 years after her death, sold “The Clarke Farm” in 1871 to John Cummins McLaren, a “saddler and harness maker” who lived on Durocher St. downtown, paying out \$15,750 for “thirty-five arpents and seven perches” of land (about 26 acres) reaching all the way up the mountain toward what would become the corner with The Boulevard and on into the summit area.

McLaren thus owned the land along Clarke covering the area that we now know as both sides of Hudson Ave. northward to the top of the circle on Clarke Ave.

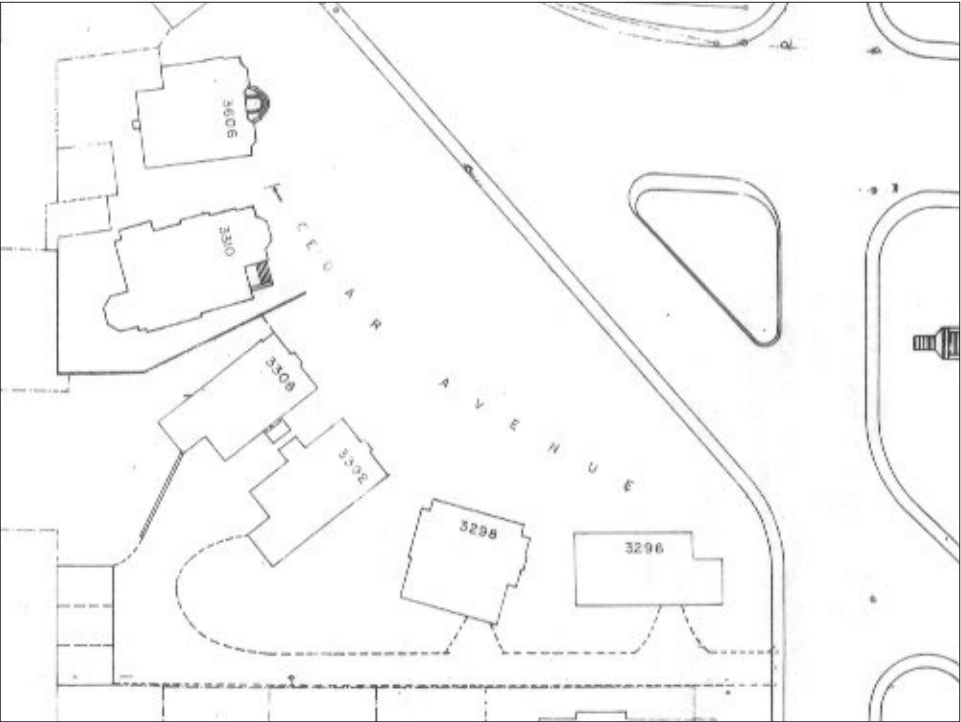
Even though the notion of a “boulevard” reaching through the upper hill of Westmount towards Monklands had been proposed as early as 1858, Hopkins Map of 1879 shows no roadway there.

The Boulevard born

In 1886, according to Aline Gubbay, St. George’s Snowshoe Club was established at the corner of what is now Aberdeen Ave. and The Boulevard (now St. George’s Elementary School), and The Boulevard was a thoroughfare without any more addresses by 1890, but with plenty of subdivisions established by the Town of Côte St. Antoine.

By 1897, The Boulevard boasted five houses between Mount Pleasant Ave. (the eastern city limits) and Clarke Ave. and two more on the north side west of Clarke Ave.

The land surrounding the corner of Clarke Ave. and The Boulevard had been



The city plan (c. 1980) of the corner of Cedar Ave., Clarke Ave. and The Boulevard, showing the six houses built by Senneville Development Corp., five of which have Cedar Ave. addresses, as well as the lane south of them going west from Clarke Ave. that services four of the houses as well as three garages for residents of Hudson Ave.

picked up by David Yuile, a prominent Montreal manufacturer, in 1874, but very little happened to it until Yuile's estate sold to William Rodden, then Thomas Williamson, then Thomas W. Lamb, between 1910 and 1912.

Lamb was a real estate agent who moved to Argyle Ave. in 1910 and bought some houses on Clarke Ave., then apparently tried to get creative with ways to develop the somewhat complicated corner of Clarke and The Boulevard, with Bel-Oeil St. and Kinnoul Ave., both perpendicular to Clarke Ave., becoming Westmount Ave. as the estate of William Murray started selling off his land, including the long driveway toward his "WestMount" mansion farther west.

Clarke Crescent

Lamb's creativity extended to designing a "Clarke Crescent," apparently, a name mentioned in city council documents but never in Lovell's Directory. Instead, Lamb convinced the city to go ahead with sewer connections for four of six detached or semi-detached properties he was planning for the area to the west of Clarke Ave. and south of The Boulevard. The trouble was, Lamb ran out of either time, money or interest in the development, so even after getting the city to buy a swath of land in front of the houses in order to carve out a curve



3302 Cedar on February 22.

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in the road and install the sewer and other service lines, he couldn't quite make the arrangements to build the houses.

Avenue Road

Enter James Maher, whose Senneville Development Corp. bought up the entire area in 1915 and set about building the houses on what by now had the name "Avenue Road," extending from just east of Argyle Ave. to Mount Pleasant Ave. He quickly erected six detached houses of varying shapes and styles, made arrangements for a long lane extending from Clarke Ave. behind four of the houses to service basement garages.

(South of all this, Hudson Ave. was being constructed off Clarke at about the same time, and three extra detached garages were built to serve those new houses, as well.)

It appears Maher was more willing to collect rents than just to sell off the houses, and his first tenant at 4270 Avenue Rd. (which became 3302 Cedar Ave.) was Brigadier-General Edouard de Bellefeuille Panet, the youngest brother in a family with a renowned military and political history dating back to the 1740s. Edouard, after serving in World War I, moved to the Westmount house in 1926 and stayed there at least five years.

In 1931, the city extended Avenue Rd.

into Montreal where it connected up to Cedar Ave., so not only did all the houses get a new street name, they had to be re-numbered.

A dance of street names

By now, Westmount Ave. east of The Boulevard had been incorporated into The Boulevard, so the first and most westerly of Maher's six houses had an address on The Boulevard, which remained 3606.

The other five, situated to the east, which had been the even numbers between 4266 and 4274 Avenue Rd., now became the even numbers from 3296 to 3310 Cedar, including our subject, 3302 Cedar.

At about this time a new tenant moved in, A.T. Hill, a commercial agent, who only lasted a year before giving up the premises to F. W. Case, sales manager at McColl-Fontenac Oil Co. He remained there for four years before turning over the house to Art Hills, chief of personnel at Canadian National Railway, who posted only two more years before the new owner of the houses, lawyer Peary McLeod Hague, sold to Robert David Mulholland, who told Lovell's Directory that he was "with the Bank of Montreal."

(At the time, Mulholland was vice-president and chief general manager of the bank; he eventually became president in 1966 and vice-chairman of the board of di-

rectors in 1968, but in fact he was no relation to William Mulholland who became chairman of the board in the 1980s.)

Having purchased the large house for \$18,500 in 1938, Mulholland sold it for \$30,000 in 1946 to Sonia Irvine Baillie, wife of Ross Newman, an auditor with Price Waterhouse. They stayed there until 1971, selling for \$45,000 to Micheline Bourbeau, wife of Claude Langlois, an artist and administrator. Only three other families have owned it since: Aleksander and Nevena Vujanovic Pavlovic, natives of Yugoslavia, bought the house in 1997; Guotang and Shuling Yang, who were married in China, took over in 2012, and finally the current owners, who moved there from 4338 Westmount Ave. in 2017.

They paid \$1,818,000 for the house, which has a 2020 valuation of \$2,012,800.

HISTORY OF 3302 CEDAR AVENUE
(sold individually)

DATE	BUYER	PRICE
03 Nov 1938	Robert David Mulholland	\$18,500
19 Aug 1946	Sonia Irvine Baillie	\$30,000
15 Apr 1971	Micheline Bourbeau	\$45,000
30 Oct 1997	Aleksander & Nevena Vujanovic Pavlovic	\$495,000
18 Oct 2012	Guotang & Shuling Yang	\$1,625,000

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Equinox Lifecare appoints Altman as CEO

Private homecare provider Equinox Lifecare, headquartered on St. Catherine St. near Wood, announced the appointment of Jeremy Altman as its new CEO March 1.

Founder Danielle Pollack “will transition to the position of executive chair and work alongside Jeremy in pursuing new avenues for growth while maintaining Equinox’s quality in-home care,” stated a press release the same day.

“I am excited to hand the reins of Equinox to Jeremy and to work with him to design timely and innovative in-home care services for the wider Canadian market. The need for the private sector to step up and support the existing public healthcare system is more vital now than ever before,” Pollack was quoted as saying.

Altman has about two decades of experience with fintech (financial technology) companies. Most recently, he was vice president of strategic partnerships at Pay-safe Group.

“I am delighted to be joining the company at such an exciting time in its growth journey” Altman was quoted as saying.

The nearly 25-year-old company operates in eastern Canada, according to the release.

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Nature’s rink, gone

What a difference three weeks make! The “skating rink”/running track at the Westmount Athletic Grounds behind Westmount High is back to being normal snow, as seen March 3, top. The lower picture is from February 13.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

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Dr. Rowen looks under the surface of aging

An ongoing “moment” (has it really been two years?) has moved real-time face-to-face meetings to a screen. And therein lies the tale.

Driven by the close-up of ubiquitous Zoom screens, the rampant rage of Instagram’s often-edited (if not over-edited) “perfection” – as well as Baby Boomers who just want to look their best – aesthetic treatments have exploded. On Zoom faces show peculiarities that otherwise may pass unnoticed. As a consequence, many people have wanted to refresh their look.

That is one of the impetuses for the surge of aesthetic clinics offering a range of services that address these concerns.

A recent Westmount location, XoMed, is owned by Dr. John Rowen. After a 20-year career in emergency (St. Mary’s Hospital) and family medicine, he founded XoMed in 2006.

Today, he directs two clinics; the other in Rosemere. He moved his Côte des Neiges office to Westmount in January 2020 and his clients followed.

“I offer non-surgical aesthetic treat-



ments as well as solutions for varicose veins and spider veins. They occur mainly in women but I have men clients as well. During my assessment, I use ultrasound, which I liken to gardening. I can go to the root of the problem.”

His ultrasound approach is also successful for his clients’ facial concerns. It seems counterintuitive to treat a “beauty” issue from the inside, instead of a filler or injection applied from the outside, however “I can look inside the various layers of facial tissue to evaluate where the person is aging; to understand the why and how,” he explains.

Rowen studied this method at an intensive course on facial ultrasound in Amsterdam.

“I focus on ‘what lies beneath.’ I look at how the anatomy is changing; the structural changes of a face over time. I can ‘see’ the aging trigger points. Ultrasound allows for safety by mapping out where arteries are prior to injection. Since there is so much variation in what is normal, you cannot predict exactly where these arteries are located unless you check with ultrasound. It also allows me to locate previous filler injections, confirm exact location of current filler injections and follow the evolution of the

continued on p. 26

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Heads up!



This truck was going south on Grosvenor towards Sherbrooke on March 4. The street is one-way north. It was likely coming from the east-west lane that services shops on the north side of Sherbrooke.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Social Notes

First social event of this re-opening

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

THIS JUST IN! A gala! Finally! Hooray! The MUHC Foundation's "The Gala: Set the Night Ablaze!" Co-chairs are Ivan Vella, CEO of Rio Tinto Alcan, and Ian Edwards, CEO of SNC-Lavalin. The gala will honour Dr. Donald Sheppard and the McGill Interdisciplinary Initiative in Infection and Immunity (MI4) for their outstanding work to solve humanity's deadliest puzzles: infectious disease.

Friday, May 27 at 6:30 pm
Windsor Station
Tickets \$1,000 to \$50,000
events@muhcfoundation.com
muhcfoundation.com/stories/le-bal-rouge-is-back/

City Views, cont'd from p. 25

filler over many months. With ultrasound, you really get to visualize the underlying structural anatomy of the patient's face. This creates an embedded image in the injector's mind making him or her more precise, more deliberate and perhaps more gentle. In certain situations, ultrasound can help guide the exact placement of the product in locations where there are more vessels potentially in the way."

XoMed also offers PRP (platelet rich plasma) with microneedling, which rejuvenates the skin by stimulating collagen and elastin production. This method is also used to address hair loss.

XoMED

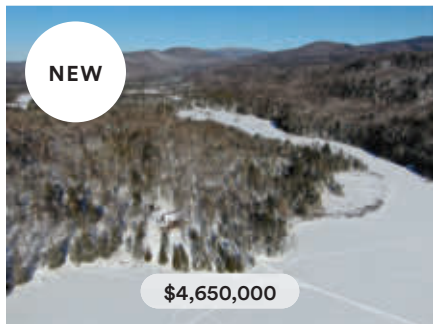
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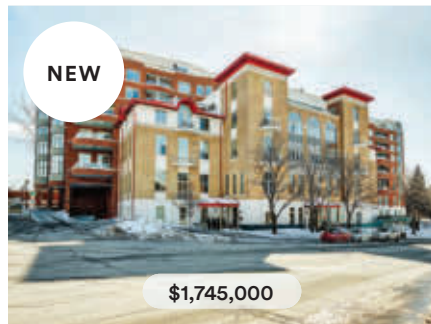
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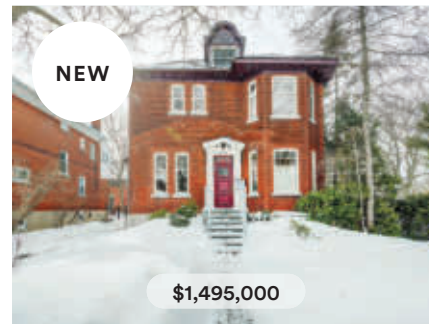
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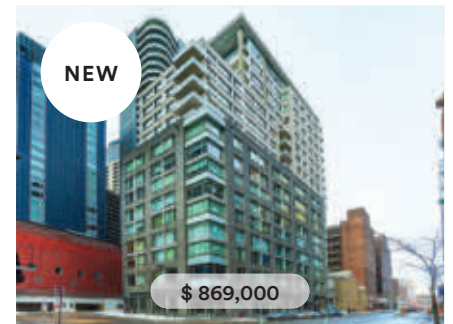
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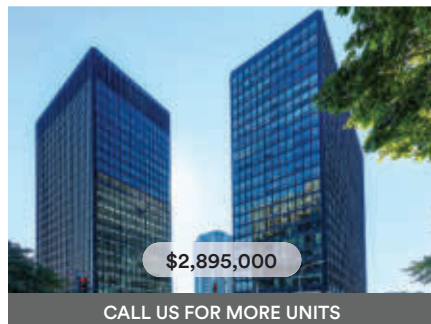
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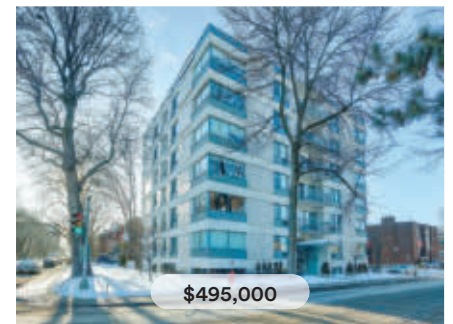
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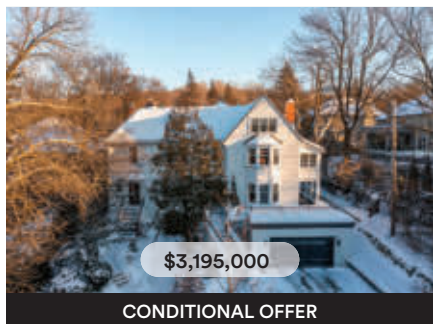
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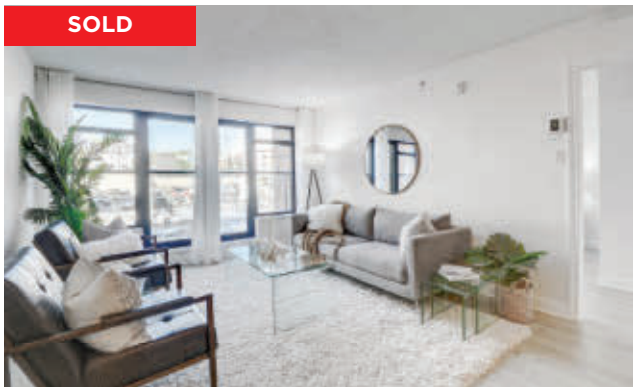
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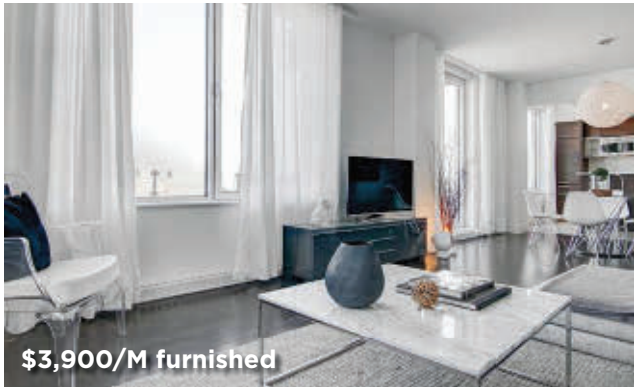
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