

*Council sings its swansong, gives up on sound-barrier legal case*

## Final council session wraps up busy year in cordial spirits

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Billed as the final regular sitting before the municipal election November 2, the noontime council meeting October 1 reflected the warm, sunny fall day and continued for more than two hours in cordial

## Municipal election news

In the race

coverage to come:

- Jonathan Chomski (District 2)
- Lynda Lyness (District 4)
- Massimo Mazza (District 4)
- Gloria Rosado (District 7)
- Alex Chamlian (District 8)
- Christian Laurin (District 8)

spirits despite a heavy business agenda of more than 30 items.

These included a decision not to pursue the city's outstanding legal request for a sound barrier along Autoroute 136/720 (see separate story p. 18).

Opening the last session before her retirement from office, Mayor Christina Smith set a conciliatory tone before thanking all Westmount workers for their help in *continued on p. 18*

### City council nominations now closed

- Sitting councillor Jeff Shamie only candidate acclaimed (District 3)
- Uninterviewed candidates: Please reach the *Independent* THIS WEEK if you want coverage

## Pierre-Paul reaches for sky, Guinness record



Deguerlain Pierre-Paul, right, is seen with his partner Joane Siksous on September 17 in Westmount Park with several of his handmade and store-bought kites. He is looking to set official Guinness World Records for kite-flying height. See story on p. 20.

PHOTO: MARTIN C. BARRY.

*Cause of St. Catherine/Atwater blaze #2 unknown*

## Fire department extinguishes second alley fire in two days

By JENNIFER BALL

Two days after the origin of a laneway fire was determined to be a homeless encampment behind 4024 St. Catherine (see September 30, p. 1), there was a second fire in a homeless encampment in the same alley, this time behind 4000 St. Catherine, which is rented by Resilience Montreal, a community-led project estab-

lished to support the homeless population in the Cabot Square area.

The Montreal fire department received a call at 9:41 am on September 22 from 911 central that a tent was ablaze in the lane behind 4000 St. Catherine, just west of Atwater and just east of the September 20 fire. The east-west alley starts at Atwater and runs between St. Catherine and Tupper *continued on p. 10*

PROFUSION IMMOBILIER **Forbes** GLOBAL PROPERTIES

THRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE



**CAROLE G. KENNEDY**

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE BROKER

**514.949.3230**

Profusion Immobilier Inc. • Real Estate Agency



**MAXWELL CASTLE**  
REAL ESTATE BROKER

+1-514-941-8802 maxwellcastle.com

Re/Max Action Inc., 1225 Greene Ave., Westmount

TEAM

*Joelle* **Bitar**  
Certified Real Estate Broker  
(since 2007)



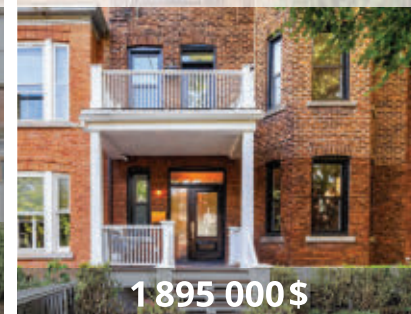
**TOP 50 WORLDWIDE**

According to the Top 50 Worldwide of RE/MAX, LLC, 2024  
(Medium Teams, Residential)

**WESTMOUNT**  
252 Av. Prince Albert



**N-D-G**  
3838 Av. Old Orchard





Top 1%  
in Canada



B. 514.316.1482  
C. 514.912.1482  
baudinet@royallepage.ca  
www.baudinet.ca



Diamond Award Winner  
Top 10 team  
for Royal  
LePage  
Quebec.  
2009-2017



ROYAL LEPAGE  
HERITAGE  
REAL ESTATE AGENCY  
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

### ELEGANT 2+1 BED FAMILY HOME



FEATURED

Notre-Dame-de-Grâce | 6830 Av. de Monkland | \$1,235,000

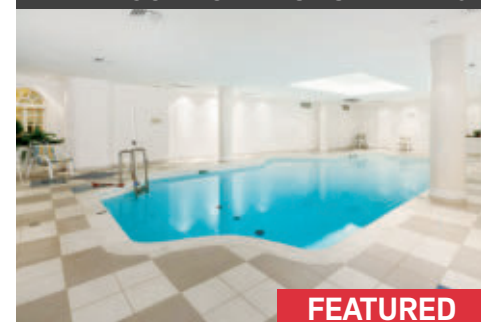
### BRIGHT & SPACIOUS 1-BED CONDO



NEW LISTING

Golden Square Mile | 1545 Av. du Docteur-Penfield, apt. 705 | \$459,000

### 2-BED CONDO IN LUXURY BLDG



FEATURED

Westmount  
285 Av. Clarke, apt. 101 | \$1,150,000

### BRIGHT & CHARMING SPLIT-LEVEL



FEATURED

Beaconsfield  
38 Av. Margaret-Ann | \$1,075,000

### SUNNY RENOVATED DUPLEX



FEATURED

Westmount  
50-52 Av. Columbia | \$1,450,000

### SEMI-DETACHED LOWER DUPLEX



NEW PRICE

Notre-Dame-de-Grâce  
4684 Av. Hingston | \$850,000

### FULLY RENOVATED 4-BED CONDO



FEATURED

Notre-Dame-de-Grâce  
4961 Av. Randall | \$850,000

### RENOVATED 1-BED CONDO



FEATURED

Westmount  
399 Av. Clarke, apt. 103-1E | \$399,000

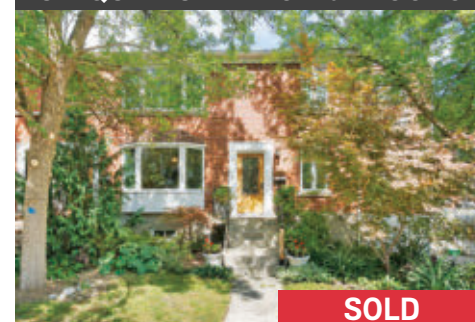
### CHARMING SEMI-DETACHED HOME



FEATURED

Westmount  
694 Av. Victoria | \$6,300/mo

### UNIQUE DUPLEX ON 3 FLOORS



SOLD

Notre-Dame-de-Grâce  
5395-5397 Av. O'Bryan



# Cllr. Bostock recognizes reporter Sweeney

BY DAVID PRICE

At the final council session of this city council October 1, outgoing District 5 councillor Anitra Bostock thanked the city administration (senior unelected city employees), residents and her fellow councillors.

She also had this to say about the *Independent's* chief reporter, to general applause:

“Just a little mention to Laureen Sweeney.

“I just want to thank you for being here and being online, and reporting on all the things that we do in this city. And for calling us and asking us for quotes, and for

bringing your little camera with you everywhere.

“You are such an important part of our council experience and I really want to thank you for that.

“And I’m done embarrassing you.”

- Letters to the Editor, p. 7
- May real estate transfers, p. 14
- Pet adoptions, p. 16, 18
- Social Notes: ICRF, p. 21
- Social Notes:  
Federal CJA AGM, p. 22

## Council members take to the streets for student safety



From left, front row, councillors Elisabeth Roux and Conrad Peart, Mayor Christina Smith, and councillors Anitra Bostock, Mary Gallery and Kathleen Kez were at Roslyn School September 29 to deliver a driving and pedestrian safety message, as forecast and explained last week (“City council helps Public Security ‘drive home’ school safety,” p. 3).

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF WESTMOUNT.





CARLY WENER FRIDMAN  
Courtier Immobilier • Real Estate Broker

TRUST IS THE KEY

Achieving your goals together

Whether you are looking to buy or sell,  
it would be our pleasure to assist you



(514) 934-1818  
1245 Av. Greene, Westmount  
QC H3Z 2A4

[www.carlyfridman.com](http://www.carlyfridman.com)  
[info@carlyfridman.com](mailto:info@carlyfridman.com)

Westmount Dental Care

Dr. Douglas E. Hamilton

YOUR SMILE INTRODUCES YOU TO THE WORLD.  
WHAT DOES YOURS SAY ABOUT YOU?

Learn how you can benefit from the latest advances in dentistry.  
Visit us on the web or call today for a consultation with our caring team.

WestmountDentist.com | Westmount Square  
514.937.3008

FEATURED WESTMOUNT GEM FOR SALE!



6 GRENVILLE | \$2,450,000 | MLS 13446386

LOCATION! Discover timeless elegance in this sun-drenched, 4-bedroom, 3½ bath John Hand residence. Once a featured home on the cover of 'Chez Soi' magazine, this is the quintessential Westmount property you've been waiting for. Situated on a private cul-de-sac with expansive southern views and mere steps from Murray Hill Park, its location is beyond compare. A double garage & central A/C provide the ultimate in comfort & convenience.



J|P  
JILL PRÉVOST



# A LEADER IN LUXURY REAL ESTATE

## NEW TO MARKET



## NEW TO MARKET



## RECENTLY REPRICED



## RECENTLY REPRICED



## RECENTLY REPRICED



## RECENTLY REPRICED



## NEW TO MARKET



## NEW TO MARKET



## NEW TO MARKET



## NEW TO MARKET



## NEW TO MARKET



## NEW TO MARKET



## NEW TO MARKET



## NEW TO MARKET







# Joseph Montanaro

Courtier Immobilier | B.Arch | Real Estate Broker



4151 Boul. De Maisonneuve O., Westmount  
**\$ 3,995,000**



57 Belvedere Circle, Westmount  
**\$ 3,995,000**



528 Av. Argyle, Westmount  
**\$ 3,650,000**



650 Av. Murray Hill, Westmount  
**\$ 3,650,000**



607 Av. Clarke, Westmount  
**\$ 3,395,000**



3174 Boul. The Boulevard, Westmount  
**\$ 2,749,000**



477 Av. Prince-Albert, Westmount  
**\$ 2,499,000**



NEW TO MARKET

Trafalgar, apt. A54, Ville-Marie  
**\$ 2,450,000**



NEW TO MARKET

786 Av. Upper-Lansdowne, Westmount  
**\$ 2,375,000**



3737 Boul. The Boulevard, Westmount  
**\$ 2,350,000**



4840 Av. Westmount, Westmount  
**\$ 2,195,000**



NEW TO MARKET

478 Av. Wood, Westmount  
**\$ 1,125,000**



ACCEPTED OFFER

17 Av. Pagnuelo, Outremont  
**\$ 5,495,000\***



ACCEPTED OFFER

488 Av. Wood, Westmount  
**\$ 4,995,000\***



ACCEPTED OFFER

1 Grove Park, Westmount  
**\$ 2,775,000\***



ACCEPTED OFFER

15 Rue Holtham, Hampstead  
**\$ 4,650,000\***



SIGNIFICANT SALE

Surrey Gardens, Westmount



SIGNIFICANT SALE

Summit Circle, Westmount



SIGNIFICANT SALE

Av. Metcalfe, Westmount



SIGNIFICANT SALE

Av. Morrison, Mont-Royal



EDITORIAL

How many paper newspaper copies do we need?

Firstly, I want to thank everyone who has written in to support my editorial requesting that the city reinstate its former, larger, advertising budget with us (see September 16, p. 18).

I have received some wonderful letters for publication and will publish them soon. It is not too late to add your voice. Please write to me at editor@westmountindependent.com.

One other piece of feedback that I have received was a question. “Why,” this reader in effect asked, “do I receive a paper copy when I am perfectly happy to read the online or email version of the paper? Wouldn’t it save the company money to not print and not distribute my copy?”

Short answer: Yes, it would save money,

but not much, and it is both unfeasible and against the goals of a free newspaper to limit distribution house by house.

Long answer: Let’s back up. Oddly, at a free newspaper, the reader/user of the product is not the client. This situation does not mean that the reader is not important to us! Advertisers would eventually realize if there were no readers and the reader is our ally for this reason. Here at the *Independent*, we have always received excellent support from our readers when we have asked for it. But the *business* – the motor that makes it all possible – is set up around the client, who is the advertiser.

So what does the advertiser want? The advertiser does not want his or her ad to sit only on a website. The advertiser wants some “push” to get the newspaper (and his or her ad) into the hands of as many people as possible.

For this reason, we try to print as many papers as possible and to distribute them as widely as possible – within reason (e.g. basically only in Westmount).

Will there be some costs that could theoretically not be incurred? Yes, but that goes with being a free paper.

Others have an ecological bent. Will there be some waste? Some unused, unwanted papers? Yes, but that also goes with being a free newspaper.

On the financial side, the cost of one copy of the paper is negligible. Even 100 or 1,000 newspapers added to the end of a

printing run cost almost nothing. Most of the costs in a newspaper edition are in the content, the layout and the set-up of the printing press. Once a press is running, to repeat, an extra newspaper or 1,000 cost almost nothing.

Think of it another way. The *Independent* does not own a printing press, nor does it own a distribution company. Those items are hard-money costs to us. If we could get away with just having a website, without those expenses, wouldn’t we do it? We print the papers in order to exist.

No paper papers, no free newspaper.

There are many specific pro-physical-paper constituencies to consider too, from both a reader and advertiser point of view.

Some people may not have computer access and/or are used to a physical paper from decades of habit. Others simply prefer to leisurely read a physical newspaper and so better absorb its content – articles and ads. A newspaper also has the benefit of being delivered to an address and a family – to be left around, for example, on the kitchen table for all to read and discuss.

We want to get the paper into the hands of all these groups.

On the practical side, the service that we use (when Canada Post is not on strike) cannot “un-target” one address. The idea at Canada Post and at/for its newspaper clients is to distribute the paper as widely as possible (always, again, within reason – e.g. we don’t print 100,000 papers and distribute them in Calgary).

One final point: a free, “pushed” paper fits neatly with a municipally focused newspaper because most people don’t think they care about municipal news. If we do a good job with p. 1 and everything else, less-than-keen residents find themselves reading our newspaper without even realizing it.

Are there keeners who would log into our website every week to get updated? Yes, and I know many of them by name. They are questioners at city council, or letter writers to this paper, or past/present/future council members. But they do not exist in sufficient number, in my view, to have a business. We need the less municipally attuned residents of Westmount (who themselves are distributed across a spectrum from somewhat interested to totally indifferent) to read at least some of the paper, some of the time – and a wide, free distribution is a way to do it.

A free newspaper is a delicate dance between ads and content, readers and advertisers, news and opinion, light and

heavy news, graphics and text, revenue and costs, high distribution and prudence.

Thank you again to anyone who has made, or will make, it easier for us. – DP



Our newsstand at the Metro grocery store on Victoria is the best of both worlds. Readers who want a physical paper can pick one up. During strikes that interrupt our door-to-door delivery by Canada Post, the number of papers picked up at Metro increases, and we re-stock the stand repeatedly. This photo was taken on Friday, October 3.

**Editor’s note**

**Letters to the editor policy for end of election period**

In keeping with our practice during the previous four municipal election campaigns, letters to the editor published in our last issue (October 28) before the November 2 election that mention a candidate **will be shown** to that candidate for possible rebuttal in the same issue. There will be no second “right of reply” to this possible reply. – DP

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

**We are Westmount**

**Editor**

David Price: 514.935.4537  
editor@westmountindependent.com

**Chief reporter:** Laureen Sweeney

**Graphics:** Ted Sancton

**Advertising sales**

Aleen Candiotti: 514.223.3567  
advertising@westmountindependent.com

**Accounting:** 514.223.6138  
office@westmountindependent.com

**PRESSTIME:** Monday at 10:30 am  
(except before long weekends, Friday at 10:30 am).

**LETTERS:** We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit them to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. Letter writers should not expect to be published in every issue, or in back-to-back issues, or repeatedly in the same season or on the same topic. Please include your name and street for publication (or borough or municipality if you do not live in Westmount), but not your address (unless you want it published).

13,500+ physical copies plus low-resolution email and web versions  
(11,000+ during possible postal strike – 8,000+ during actual postal strike)  
Distribution: Tuesday to Friday (longer when interrupted by postal holidays)

OWNED AND PUBLISHED BY:  
Sherbrooke-Valois Inc., 310 Victoria Ave., #105, Westmount, QC H3Z 2M9

**For our in-progress mitigation measures during the postal strike, please consult our website**



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IT'S TIME FOR CLEAR ANSWERS ON KEY ISSUES

As another election approaches, the citizens of Westmount deserve more than just platitudes and promises. We require specific, actionable answers to the pressing problems that affect our daily lives and the future of our city. I call upon every candidate for mayor and council to publicly state their positions on the following critical issues. Silence on any of these matters will rightly be interpreted as a sign that they do not consider the question a priority.

1. *The state of our roads:* Our roads are in terrible condition. Potholes and deteriorating surfaces are a nuisance and a safety hazard. When can residents expect a comprehensive repair plan? At what speed will this plan be executed, and what priority will road repair hold in the next city budget? We need a clear timeline and a commitment of resources.

2. *The Summit Woods leash-free area:* The current situation at Summit Woods is untenable. The lack of a requirement for dog-bite insurance leaves the city and its residents exposed to risk. Many elderly residents and young children now fear to use a public park meant for all. Furthermore, the failure of some owners to clean up after their pets and the significant use of this expensive facility by non-residents are significant concerns. How will you control the park for the benefit of all Westmounters, rather than a vocal minority? Should Westmount's leash-free parks not be reserved for Westmount taxpayers? If these parks are so desirable, let other municipalities bear the cost and responsibility for their own.

3. *Public safety and enforcement near Westmount Square:* Westmount Square and the surrounding area have repeatedly been held hostage by demonstrators, many from outside our community, who show no respect for our laws or our residents' right to peace and security. This occurs with seeming impunity. What specific, actionable measures will you implement to curtail this disruption and ensure that our laws are enforced, with clear consequences for those who break them? Laws are only useful if they are enforced.

4. *Parking, bike paths, and cyclist accountability:* The city must not abandon hard-working, tax-paying homeowners who have lost their street parking to bike paths. The volume of potential use for these paths must be a primary criterion for their implementation. Furthermore, with new infrastructure comes new responsibility. To ensure safety for pedestrians, drivers and cyclists themselves, we must consider visible identification for bicycles to hold riders

accountable for traffic violations. The police must also consistently enforce existing helmet laws. Once again, laws are only useful if they are enforced.

These are not minor grievances; they are fundamental questions about safety, fiscal responsibility, and the quality of life in Westmount. The voters are listening. We expect and deserve your answers.

J. YERMUS, OAKLAND AVE.

DOG WALKERS NEED TO SHOW MORE RESPECT



This photo was taken on Kensington Ave. just below Sherbrooke St.

Dog walkers need to show a little respect to home owners, gardeners and city workers.

This is not acceptable.

CHRISTOPHER DUNKLEY,  
CÔTE ST. ANTOINE RD.

PROTESTS PERCEIVED AS HATEFUL DUE TO CHOICE OF LANGUAGE, SYMBOLS

In response to "Protesting peacefully a cornerstone of democracy" by Sasha Klein Charland! (September 23, p. 8).

I won't just call you wrong – slogans like this mean different things to different people – but I will say this clearly and firmly:

To many Jewish people around the world, the slogan "Free Palestine," and especially the chant "from the river to the sea," reads as a call to dismantle the state of Israel. That is unacceptable to us: Israel is our homeland with historical ties that go back thousands of years, and we will not agree to its erasure. For many, the phrase implies the removal of Jewish self-determination and even the elimination of Jewish presence from the land.

We have tried to help Palestinians in practical ways – providing work and security to people in Gaza at various times – but that does not change what happened on October 7.

Hamas carried out a brutal, premeditated attack on civilians, including sexual violence, mass murder and the taking of hostages. Those atrocities, and Hamas's deliberate use of civilian areas for its military infrastructure, make defending our citizens necessary and make it harder to protect innocent Palestinians caught in the crossfire. Hamas is supported and armed by Iran, and until its rule is ended, the cycle of violence will continue.

Israel today includes a significant Arab minority who live and vote within the state. We want the same freedoms and rights for Arabs throughout the region. Some diplomatic progress was being made through agreements like the Abraham Accords, but peace requires partners willing to renounce violence.

As Golda Meir asked, "How do you make peace with those that only want to kill you?" Israel has repeatedly sought peace and has been refused. The facts and the suffering on both sides are real, and misinformation only poisons the possibility of a lasting solution.

Many of these protests are perceived as hateful rather than peaceful because they go beyond advocating for Palestinian rights, and instead use language and sym-

bols that call for the destruction or removal of Jews and the state of Israel.

Chants like "From the river to the sea" or "Intifada revolution" may be framed by some as liberation slogans, but to Jews worldwide they signal a demand for the elimination of their homeland and, by extension, their existence in that land.

When protesters glorify or excuse terrorist attacks, refuse to condemn atrocities like October 7, or celebrate the suffering of Israeli civilians, it shifts from a call for justice to open endorsement of violence. A true peace movement centres on coexistence – but protests that deny one side's right to exist are not promoting peace. They are promoting hatred.

ALLAN GOLDBERG, LANSDOWNE AVE.

NO CONGRATULATIONS FOR DISRUPTING PEACEFUL STREETS, FORGETTING OCTOBER 7

Response to Sasha Klein-Charland (September 23, p. 8).

Thank you for your illuminating comments supporting pro-Gaza protesters. How refreshing. The protesters have been disruptive and frightening to many of the older people they see fit ..... to intimidate. Congratu- continued on p. 17



**VOTEZ  
À LA MAIRIE  
VOTE  
FOR MAYOR**

C'est le temps d'un nouveau

**LYNNE CASGRAIN**

It's time for a change

**lynnecasgrainwestmount.ca**

Authorisé par / Authorized by **Claude Bismuth** agent officiel / Official Agent





CALL US TODAY TO PROTECT  
YOUR HOME BEFORE WINTER!



ROOFING  
CHIMNEY &  
FIREPLACE  
SPECIALISTS

We are the original slate repair specialists.



ALL work is carried out by our professional team.  
NEVER OUTSOURCED!!!!



514.484.0646  
info@foyerlambert.com  
www.foyerlambert.com

YES WE  
ARE ALSO THE  
FIREPLACE  
EXPERTS!

Soaking up autumn sun, view



Yasmine had dropped her younger brother off at school and was enjoying the spectacular view from the summit lookout October 3. It was a beautiful day and Yasmine, like many others, was taking advantage of the spectacular autumn weather. Yasmine is studying law at the University of Sherbrooke.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.





Jessica Winton enters council election race for District 2

# At 24, she aims to provide a ‘fresh perspective’ for the future

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Jessica Winton, a familiar questioner at city council meetings, recently declared her candidacy for city council in District 2. This is where she continues to live in her family home while pursuing graduate studies in urban planning at the University of Ottawa three days a week. She is also a citizen member of the city’s Environment and Sustainability Committee.

“The main reasons I’m running are fairly simple in that after my experience on [this] committee, I saw firsthand the many shortcomings of city operations,” she told the *Independent*. Being 24, “I think Westmount needs a perspective for the future rather than burying our head in the sand to the ongoing problems we face as a city. Despite Westmount being my home for over 15 years, I want to engage with the place I’ve fallen in love with more than before.”

She said she hopes to “move [this] conversation forward” in being proactive as a councillor, “modernizing city services by bringing forward more community-focused projects, improving city communication and following through on the city’s re-



Jessica Winton photographed September 12 outside Victoria Hall. PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

development plan for the southeast.”

In this regard, “I would also mandate development of family-sized units to make up at least 35 percent of built units. The current ‘shoebox’ problem of downtown

developments is they are overpriced and often only able to fit a single person or couple.”

She advocates for “unprecedented levels of transparency” with goals including “city operated non-market housing” (such as for seniors), creating a mandatory rental registry as an important and simple step for making housing more accessible to everyone as well as to create many community engagement efforts such as adding free services such as expanding community gardens.

### Prepared to adjust schedule

Winton usually spends three days a week living in Gatineau to attend courses at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Ottawa. If elected, however, she says she “would probably” still have more time to devote to Westmount than many councillors who have “regular work and families.” If the council work turns out to be more demanding, she said she would “adjust her courses.”

When appointed last year by city council to the city’s newly created environmental advisory committee, she referred to herself as “a younger voice” on the committee. She

was the only one of the five appointees who attended the council meeting (see story July 9, 2024, p. 13).

Winton was then a student in urban planning at Concordia and a research assistant as well as “an engagement lead” for Openwaste.ai. “This is a research project to develop an app that helps people identify and sort their waste in the best manner possible,” she explains.

She won a lieutenant-governor’s youth medal based on the sustainability-related projects she had led at Concordia. These include the first round of sustainability ambassadors leading a project called “Waste Invaders,” a game about waste sorting. She is also president of Queer Concordia, an on-campus resource centre for trans and queer students.

At the University of Ottawa for an MSc in environmental sustainability, she said her research will focus on Canada’s “waste management crisis” and its shortfalls compared to other countries. “Are our problems because of poor regulation or are there deeper social factors? I’ll be happy to put it to paper very soon.”

She refers to her website at [www.jessicawinton.ca/platform](http://www.jessicawinton.ca/platform).



Fort  
Insurance & Group Benefits

A team of **225 +** professionals

**100% independent** advice

Over **50** partner insurers

📞 866 937-7611    📍 4 Westmount Square    ✉️ [info@fort.ca](mailto:info@fort.ca)

## Committed to better protecting you.

car • home • vr • high value • coproperty • construction • bond • garage • industrial • group benefits • group insurance

# JCC

J COLLINS CONSTRUCTION INC



**J. Collins Construction Inc.**  
[www.jccmontreal.ca](http://www.jccmontreal.ca) – 514 554-6042  
RBQ 5625-7694-0  
**GENERAL CONTRACTOR**





**Coiffure Jean John**

**4897 Sherbrooke, Westmount  
514-486-6261**



**NEW online  
appointments  
now available!**

[saloncoiffurejeanjohn.com](http://saloncoiffurejeanjohn.com)

**Homme Men    Femme Women    Enfants Children**

Left, the lane behind 4000 St. Catherine on October 1. Right, in the lane between 4000 St. Catherine and 4024 St. Catherine, this temporary shelter has taken firm shape between the *Independent's* September 22 visit and its October 1 one. It makes use of material that was on site on the first occasion.

*Fire, cont'd from p.1*

St. 4000 St. Catherine was formerly the Miso restaurant and, before that, a McDonald's. The *Independent* does not know precisely on whose land the fire started or occurred. Attempts to reach Resilience for comment October 6 were not successful.

Guy Lapointe Jr., division head of communications at the Montreal fire department, told the *Independent* by telephone on September 30, "In both cases [the fire has] the same 'origin'...

"What we saw on the scene was [consistent] with the description that we received on the 911 call...

"We don't go into how it started and we're not going to go as far as to determine if it was voluntary or not. Was it cooking? Was it a cigarette? We don't go into that."

Lapointe explained that "cause of a fire" and "origin of a fire" are distinctions in their lexicon.

"The cause – what specifically caused the fire – I'm not saying the cause is a homeless person. I'm saying the origin of

the fire was in a homeless person's tent...

"The cause would be what lit the fire and that I can't tell you because we don't know."

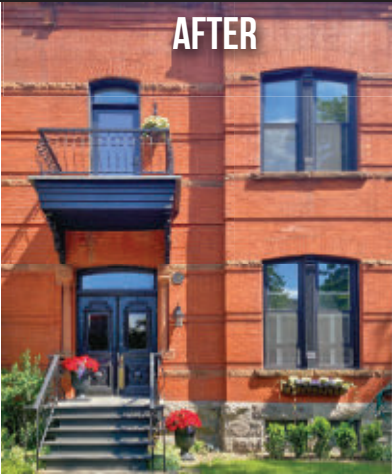
Lapointe told the *Independent*, "I know the Montreal police were going to do some checks. I don't know how far they went with that, so maybe they can give you more information."

SPVM spokesperson Julien Levesque told the *Independent* on September 29 that they had no report of a fire at 4000 St. Catherine on September 22 in their police files.



Specialists in  
wood windows  
and doors!

**FREE ESTIMATE**  
514 486-4635



You'll love what we can do for your home!

**MartinIndustries.ca**

Showroom 8178 Montview (corner Royalmount)





Mystery structure on summit



“Could this be part of the [federal] Liberals’ low-cost housing plan?” quipped one Westmouter, as seen October 3 in Summit Woods.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.



SUTTON | 742 PERKINS

This 119 acre property ... hobby farm... boasts stalls for 20 horses and a large indoor arena. A 6 bedroom, 4 + 1 bathroom home with an indoor pool is nestled on a quiet country road, just 10 minutes from the village of Sutton. Definitely worth a visit. Priced to sell.

MLS 12874870

Bunny Berke

Residential & Commercial Real Estate Broker

bunneberke@gmail.com

514.347.1928



COURSE DOMINIQUE DAGENAI DES  
CÈDRES CONTRE LE CANCER DE L'OVAIRE  
DOMINIQUE DAGENAI CEDARS  
RUN FOR OVARIAN CANCER

19 OCT 2025  
8 H 30 | 8:30 AM

COURSES | RACES  
10 KM - 5 KM - 2 KM

S'INSCRIRE REGISTER



COUREZ OU DONNEZ  
POUR COMBATTRE LES  
CANCERS FÉMININS  
RUN OR DONATE  
TO FIGHT WOMEN'S  
CANCERS



En mémoire de / In memory of:  
Dominique Dagenais





**WHEN QUALITY & EXPERTISE COUNT!**  
*YOU NEED TO CALL*  
**ZOURIK INC.**  
**RUG & CARPET CLEANING SPECIALISTS**

**Hand wash & repairs of new and antique rugs**

**Furniture & Wall to Wall Carpeting Experts**

*40 PLUS YEARS SERVING WESTMOUNTERS WITH OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND WORKMANSHIP*

**514-825-5500**  
**zourikcleaning@gmail.com**

*REFERRED FOR A REASON*

# Lock your doors and windows, burglary victim says

By MARTIN C. BARRY

A word of advice comes from a Westmount homeowner concerned about burglaries and break-ins.

“I just want people to be aware and not end up in the situation I was in,” says Emily, whose home was recently accessed via an unlocked door.

The recent arrest of a serial-burglar who committed a string of break-ins in Westmount only drew her attention after her experience and she never thought it was something that could happen in her household.

“I had gone to bed early,” she said, sharing her account.

Although most of the house’s contents were untouched, her purse, which had been on the kitchen counter, was no longer there.

After wondering whether she’d merely forgotten it somewhere, including at her place of work, she came to the conclusion it had been stolen, along with a wallet containing a debit card.

By the time she was able to contact the bank and cancel the card, a \$300 debit had been run up on the card, in addition to a loss of \$300 in cash. However, because she promptly notified the bank, the debit loss

was replaced.

“I think everyone should definitely remember to lock their doors and check windows too,” she said.

She suggested that a household alarm

## Police Report Distraction wallet thieves still active in Victoria village

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Police at Station 12 are warning senior citizens and other potentially vulnerable people to hold tightly onto their wallets while shopping, following yet another distraction theft at a busy Victoria Ave. supermarket last week.

Since last year, the Victoria village Metro store has been among several local retail establishments that have found themselves assailed by teams of thieves and pickpockets who steal wallets while distracting their victims.

Last April, the wallet of an 85-year-old woman was stolen in a Metro store aisle after she was approached by scammers. They then stole \$10,000 from one of her bank accounts after calling her on the

system can be useful to stop or deter burglars, while noting it’s also important not to leave anything valuable in the back yard as it can only serve as a temptation to would-be thieves passing by.

phone and fooling her into revealing her transaction card PIN.

Several more distraction thefts at other Vic village establishments were also reported in June.

In the latest incident, around one in the afternoon on September 27, an 80-year-old woman who was shopping in the Metro store left her purse sitting in her grocery cart while stepping away for a few moments.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit, a suspect is believed to have passed by at that moment and snatched the woman’s wallet.

His suggestion to shoppers is to either keep the wallet on their person at all times, or at least to zipper or ..... close the purse so the *continued on p. 22*

**HUITRES EN MOUVEMENT**  
Quality Seafood

*Delivered fresh and opened on ice*

**Platter of 25 Oysters Raspberry Point**

**Premium Seafood platter**

**5 sections of cooked snow crab from Baie-Comeau. 7-8 oz**

*Mention Westmount Independent newspaper and Delivery is on us!*

**5475, ave Royalmount, local 124, Mont-Royal (Qc)**

**www.huitresenmouvement.com**  
**514 703-4770**

**VINTAGE MUSTS**

ACCESSOIRES DE MODE ET DE MAISON  
FASHION AND HOME ACCESSORIES

ART ET ARTS DÉCORATIFS DU VINGTIÈME SIÈCLE  
FINE AND DECORATIVE ARTS OF THE 20TH CENTURY

1 WESTMOUNT SQUARE, SUITE CK-05  
MONTREAL [QC] CANADA H3Z 2P9  
514-602-1545

**SMALLER NEST Downsizing**

A gentle and personalized approach in helping seniors relocate

- ✓ Manage your entire move
- ✓ Plan your new layout on computer
- ✓ Empty an apartment or house
- ✓ Sell/donate unwanted items
- ✓ Arrange an estate sale
- ✓ Cancel/forward utilities, mail, etc...
- ✓ Arrange a moving company
- ✓ Pack & unpack your moving boxes
- ✓ Set up your new smaller nest

**(514) 808-4248**  
kathleen@smallernest.com  
www.smallernest.com



SELECTION OF FINE PROPERTIES

LUXURY LIVING FACING SERENE GREEN SPACES



**\$9,888,000**

**16 AV. DEVON**  
WESTMOUNT


A MODERNIZED ARCHITECTURAL GEM



**\$6,800,000**

**68 CH. BELVEDERE**  
WESTMOUNT

WESTMOUNT'S CHARM WITH UNLIMITED POTENTIAL



**\$5,295,000**

**3206 THE BOULEVARD**  
WESTMOUNT

ELEGANT VICTORIAN TOWNHOUSE WITH GARAGE



**\$3,995,000**

**1212 RUE ST-MATHIEU**  
VILLE-MARIE

A BEAUTIFULLY RESTORED CLASSIC HOME



**\$3,195,000**

**117 AV. ARLINGTON**  
WESTMOUNT

A BREATHTAKING HERITAGE LANDMARK



**\$9,650,000 +tx**

**1700 RUE NOTRE-DAME O.**  
LE SUD-OUEST

A HISTORIC FIREHOUSE REBORN



**\$3,195,000**

**680 AV. VICTORIA**  
WESTMOUNT

CHARMING HOME WITH TIMELESS APPEAL



**\$1,945,000**

**3244 THE BOULEVARD**  
WESTMOUNT

**SOLD**



**1 AV. WOOD #204**  
WESTMOUNT




LUXURY REAL ESTATE HAS A NAME

**MARIE-YVONNE PAINT**

MYPAIN.TCA - 514 933 5888 - f @ in



# May volume up – Average mark-up over valuation up too



*Real Estate*

ANDY DODGE

*Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in May 2025, gleaned from city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 15.*

Last month we bemoaned the low volume of real estate closings in Westmount, as only five deeds were signed for single-family houses, while six were signed for condominiums. But then suddenly notaries' offices were filled with buyers signing up to move into Westmount properties.

Twenty-seven house sales in Westmount is the highest monthly volume since June of 2021 when 28 homes changed hands, and that was the most since June

and July 2012, when 28 and 30 sales, respectively, were registered.

The 27 May sales tallied a price of \$68,183,000 for houses with municipal valuation (the 2023 assessment) of \$61,447,200, thus creating a mark-up of 11 percent, the strongest monthly mark-up since July last year.

Individual prices ranged from a low of \$1,320,000 for 181 Metcalfe Ave., the only remaining house on the east side of Metcalfe below St. Catherine St., to \$5,375,000 for 16 Braeside Place, near the top of that narrow street above The Boulevard. And while 181 Metcalfe sold for almost 50 percent more than its target value, that figure was topped by a 52-percent mark-up for one of the 1982 townhouses at 4893 de Maisonneuve Blvd., just east of Prince Albert Ave.

The biggest mark-down of 19.4 percent went for one of the declining number of bungalows on top of the mountain, this one at 69 Summit Crescent, which brought



69 Surrey Gardens. All photos October 1.

the vendors \$2,490,000.

**Condos**

Five condominium sales were registered in May, and with one more added to the list for April, we have recorded an even

dozen sales for the second quarter of 2025, with the June sales list still to come. The dozen condos hold an average price of \$1,081,900, down slightly from the average for the nine first-quarter sales, but the price:valuation ratio is +4.9 percent, while in the first quarter it was -0.5 percent.

**Interesting 'others'**

Some interesting "other" sales popped up in the deeds registered in May. The large "Heather Manor" apartment building at 239 Kensington Ave., just north of St. Catherine St., sold for \$24,350,000, some 33.8 percent above its municipal valuation.

A house that sold at 3777 Grey Ave. in NDG has a small piece of land at the back of its yard that happens to be in Westmount, part of what was once the driveway leading from Côte St. Antoine Rd. to the "Monklands" mansion that is now Villa Maria School.

Also sold were a triplex on Victoria Ave. north of Sherbrooke St., a fourplex on St. Antoine St. near Brooke Ave., and a commercial building at 4909-11 Sherbrooke St., west of Prince Albert Ave.



4893 de Maisonneuve.



181 Metcalfe.



16 Braeside.



**Convenient, caring, personalized attention**

At Uniprix Pharmacy Cohen Tenoudji, we pride ourselves on delivering exceptional customer service, quick and efficient prescription filling, and personalized wellness consultations to meet your unique health needs.

As a local compounding pharmacy, we go beyond the ordinary to create custom medications tailored just for you and your loved ones.

Visit us today and experience the difference of personalized care, right here in Westmount.

**BERTRAND COHEN TENOUDJI** PHARMACIE PHARMACY

5025 Sherbrooke (west of Clarendon) 514-484-2222 Fax: 514-484-2205

street-level entrance - free parking in the back of medical building

pharmacymontreal@gmail.com www.montrealpharmacy.com

REAL ESTATE BROKERS



**Evi Ho** **Anne-Marie Larue**

514 862-7718 514 919-0877

eviho@outlook.com amlarue@uniserve.com

**WE WILL EXCEED YOUR EXPECTATIONS!**

RE/MAX ACTION INC AGENCY – WESTMOUNT





**Ron Benveniste**

**514.942.9352**

Toujours disponible à répondre à vos questions  
Always available to answer your questions

RE/MAX Action Courtiers/Brokers



# Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in May

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2023 VAL	RATIO (±%)
16 Braeside	Tijie Zhao & Delin Wei	\$5,375,000	\$3,867,500	39.0%
54 Chesterfield	Marvin Benjamin & Esther Szynekarsky	\$2,900,000	\$2,143,500	35.3%
576 Côte St. Antoine	Andreas Soupliotis	\$2,297,000	\$2,314,900	-0.8%
4893 de Maisonneuve	Christina Ayoub Miller	\$2,290,000	\$1,507,000	52.0%
32 Edgehill	Amin Andalib & Tanya di Genova	\$4,650,000	\$3,650,000	27.4%
478 Grosvenor	Michelle Syba	\$1,975,000	\$1,660,500	18.9%
565 Grosvenor	Marc Greenberg & Wendy Mendel	\$1,736,000	\$2,070,000	-16.1%
469 Lansdowne	Madeleine Burla	\$1,750,000	\$1,576,600	11.0%
800 Lexington	Geneviève Fortier-Riberdy	\$3,475,000	\$3,368,700	3.2%
181 Metcalfe	Peter Dalfen & Julie Timmins	\$1,320,000	\$881,900	49.7%
4293 Montrose	Richard McLachlan & Betty Edwards	\$1,700,000	\$1,677,100	1.4%
4307 Montrose	Pierre Trahan & Anne-Marie Crepin	\$2,650,000	\$2,539,500	4.4%
4315 Montrose	Mark Schrager & Annalise Siegenthaler	\$2,272,000	\$2,270,900	0.0%
493 Mount Pleasant	Pierre Laurin & Gisèle Molgat	\$2,400,000	\$2,356,500	1.8%
652 Murray Hill	Luigi Lepanto & Mary Hagerman	\$2,350,000	\$2,139,800	9.8%
322 Redfern	Regula Rued	\$2,750,000	\$2,289,700	20.1%
44 Roxborough	estate Nina Schlesinger Spiegel	\$3,240,000	\$3,075,600	5.3%
4267 Sherbrooke	Xionqwei Chen	\$2,150,000	\$2,547,600	-15.6%
43 Stayner	John Gowdy & Paula Charbonneau-Gowdy	\$1,355,000	\$1,361,700	-0.5%
434 Strathcona	Pramod Puligandla & Sofia Stavridis	\$3,320,000	\$2,540,300	30.7%
69 Summit Crescent	Benoit Sestier & Lise Dupont	\$2,490,000	\$3,089,500	-19.4%
3742 The Boulevard	Juan Hu	\$1,675,000	\$1,528,200	9.6%
774 Upper Lansdowne	Furong Fan	\$2,350,000	\$2,720,900	-13.6%

continued on p. 17



4175 Sainte-Catherine, apt. 1601, Westmount  
Price upon request 2 + 1 Bedroom



**PROFUSION**  
IMMOBILIER

**Forbes**  
GLOBAL PROPERTIES



**TINA BAER**  
Real Estate Broker  
**514.603.9870**  
tbaer@profusion.global

profusion.global

*Over* **37** YEARS OF  
SUCCESS  
*...and counting*







**COUVREUR DE TOITURES**  
**MONT-ROSE**  
RBQ # 2267-5367-96

Asphalt & White Gravel

Skylights

Modified Membrane

Slate/Copper

Fiberglass Shingle

Metal Roofing

BOOK AN ESTIMATE

5937 Ch Upper Lachine, NDG H4A 2C2  
514 489-8178  
info@couvreurmontrose.com  
www.couvreurmontrose.com

LOOKING FOR CARE GIVER EMPLOYMENT

- 20+ years experience

- Reliable, honest, caring and professional

"We are honored to recommend Clorine, who has been an invaluable employee of our family for the past 18 years. Throughout her time with us, Cloe has consistently demonstrated outstanding dedication, compassion, and an exceptional work ethic as a caregiver to our two special needs daughters."

Please email: [clorine.john@yahoo.com](mailto:clorine.john@yahoo.com)

# Kittens Nathan and Jules



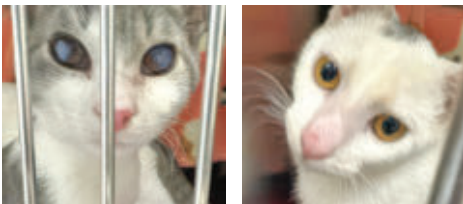
9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

To say that the SPCA is full is an understatement, so we hope that you can find a place in your heart and your home for one or two kittens in need.

Nathan (gold-tone eyes) and Jules (bluest-of-blue eyes) are wonderful kittens who are presently at the Montreal SPCA cattery. They are so handsome and affectionate, waiting for cuddles and playtime.

Nathan and Jules are both very healthy, up to date on their kitten inoculation program, neutered and microchipped. You can find out more about them by going to the Montreal SPCA website at [www.sPCA.com](http://www.sPCA.com), and then referring to their information pages from their identification numbers



(2000343991 for Nathan and 2000343992 for Jules).

As they are presently available for visits and adoption conversations with the cattery staff, please do not hesitate to plan to drop by since the SPCA is open every day, Monday to Friday from 3 pm to 8 pm, as well as Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm. It is located at 5215 Jean Talon St. West, Côte des Neiges, Montreal H4P 1X4.

This is a special time, as these precious little kittens are waiting start their new lives in your loving arms.

## Appreciation to Gabriella the groomer

I had a senior-cat-grooming emergency (a claw issue) and a friend referred me to Gabriella at the Spa Le Petlandais. I called and explained that there was a need. She was so kind in making swift arrangements to help my fragile 17-year-old tortoiseshell cat. So, my little note here is one of appreciation and a sharing of help if you need grooming for your pets, at the pet spa located at 5643 Côte des Neiges, as well as for grooming with pick-up and delivery, or at home for an elderly or fragile little one.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Spa Le Petlandais at 514.995.7367 or on its Facebook page. Kindness is memorable.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



CHAUFFAGE DIRECT INC.

DIRECT HEATING INC.

THE TIME IS HERE!

CALL NOW: 514 990-1346


Tune up includes the following:

- Clean and adjust automatic controls, thermostat and safety limit controls
- Brush out burners and heat exchangers
- Adjust combustion for optimal fuel efficiency

- Lubricate motors and pumps as needed
- Check for gas and combustion leaks
- Check blower belt wear, tension and alignment
- Check flue for satisfactory operation



QUEBEC CERTIFIED  
DHI IS AN AUTHORIZED  
MEMBER OF CMMTQ



RBQ#8103 4118 36

MANUFACTURER  
CERTIFICATION



ACCEPTED

[www.dhidirect.net](http://www.dhidirect.net)

[dhiservicecalls@gmail.com](mailto:dhiservicecalls@gmail.com)



445 rue Deslauriers, St-Laurent, QC H4N IW2

All DHI technicians are experienced,  
licenced with training and certification  
by many manufacturers including:  
Lochinvar, A.O. Smith, Raypak, Camus,  
Rheem GSW and many others.



**Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in May,** *cont'd from p. 15*

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2023 VAL	RATIO (±%)
564 Victoria	Bernard Colas	\$1,825,000	\$1,843,300	-1.0%
574 Victoria	Johanna Borsu & Mark Williams	\$2,060,000	\$1,809,900	13.8%
642 Victoria	Gérard Vannoote & Denis Boulianne	\$3,128,000	\$2,402,000	30.2%
4350 Westmount Ave.	Gilles Cohen & Nadine Jachimowicz	\$2,700,000	\$2,214,100	21.9%
CONDOMINIUMS				
399 Clarke #1A	Katia Wafer	\$350,000	\$275,100	27.2%
175 Metcalfe #408	Huifang Yan	\$776,800	\$803,400	-3.3%
215 Redfern #110	Thomas Bolland & Geneviève Savard	\$1,580,000	\$1,193,800	32.4%
4410 St. Catherine #3A	Yi Nina Chen Marczynski	\$580,000	\$482,800	20.1%
1 Wood # 311	Anthony Lawlor & Cynthia Lawlor	\$1,050,000	\$1,091,600	-3.8%
SHARE SALES				
4721 de Maisonneuve, 56.4%	estate Verena Sollberger	\$975,000	\$1,407,067 <sup>1</sup>	-30.7%
OTHER				
3777 Grey <sup>2</sup>	Andréa Tremblay	\$1,480,000	\$1,821,800	-18.8%
239 Kensington <sup>3</sup>	Woodcrest Investments Inc.+	\$24,350,000	\$18,200,000	33.8%
3129-35 St. Antoine <sup>4</sup>	9383-0362 Québec Inc.	\$1,700,000	\$1,442,600	17.8%
4909-11 Sherbrooke <sup>5</sup>	Mustanse Muhammed Ali Khan	\$2,025,000	\$1,946,200	4.0%
444-46 Victoria <sup>6</sup>	Marisa Henriques	\$3,415,000	\$3,033,000	12.6%
APRIL 2025				
1 Wood # 507	estate Bruce Mintzberg	\$650,000	\$978,700	-33.6%

<sup>1</sup>Valuation is 56.4 percent of \$2,494,800.  
<sup>2</sup>Property is mainly in Montreal; 63.2 s.m. of land at the back of the property is in Westmount with a valuation of \$69,984.  
<sup>3</sup>Apartment building. Besides the corporation, vendors include six members of the Galardo family and six numbered companies owned by members of the Galardo family.  
<sup>4</sup>Fourplex. <sup>5</sup>Commercial property. <sup>6</sup>Triplex.

**Letters,** *cont'd from p. 7*

lations.  
You seem to have selective memory concerning the October 7 massacre on peaceful civilians, including raping women and burning babies, that set these events in motion. How about celebrating while dying people were paraded through Gaza and the desecration of bodies? And don't let the hostages still used as human shields deter you from your one-sided discussion. And by the way – I guess you are also unaware that many of these protesters are paid to show up and disrupt our peaceful streets.

Regrettably, the Palestinian people have been held hostage by Hamas. Imagine if the billions of dollars spent on weapons and tunnels had been used to cultivate and create a better way of life instead of lining the pockets of their leadership living in luxury in Qatar?  
Unfortunately, these facts do not fit into your narrow view of things.  
NEIL WILLIAMS, SHERBROOKE ST.

For our in-progress mitigation measures during the postal strike, please consult our website

**WOOD FINISHING**  
ON-SITE SERVICE

- Touch-ups and Repairs i.e.: scratches, water marks, worn surfaces
- Polishing and Staining
- Kitchen Cabinets
- Fine Furniture



HENRY CORNBLIT, professional craftsman  
FREE ESTIMATE 514.369.0295  
www.woodfinishingmontreal.com

**RB**  
**RONDA BLY**  
ESTATE SALES  
CERTIFIED APPRAISER

Expert Evaluations  
Full Professional Setups  
Complete Cleanup Available  
**514 236-4159**  
**www.rondably.com**  
The Gold Standard in Estate Sales Since 1998

**Lamp Repairs**  
25 years' experience  
with Areuco Lighting  
in Westmount

- In-home service
  - Free pick-up and delivery
- Call Robert at EclairSol  
**514-582-3906**

**Ruth Stalker Antiques**



Jamie and Alison Stalker  
514 931-0822  
alison.stalker@bellnet.ca

155 Hillside Avenue  
Westmount, Quebec  
H3Z 1W1



Fight not over, vows Cllr. Kez

# Council votes to drop legal action against MTQ over sound barrier

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The long legal fight by Westmount for a sound barrier along the Ville Marie Expressway (Route 136/720) came to an

## Council wrap up, cont'd from p.1

delivering city services.

She said that when she first arrived in the mayor's office in 2017, "city hall's roof leaked, the windows had holes, the masonry was being held together by the vines, the greenhouse had collapsed, and the roads, sewers and parks all needed attention.

"We rolled up our sleeves, put our heads down and went to work."

She likened maintaining the city to doing the laundry: "Just when you've finished, there's always more waiting."

In light of the current municipal election campaign in progress, she also had a message for residents when council candidates are at their doors with various promises: "Ask how they plan to bring them to life."

Responding to questioner Diana Bruno of Springfield, Mayor Smith stated there were probably a record number of candidates in this election as well as electors in

abrupt and disappointing conclusion for many on October 1 when the outgoing city council at the last meeting of its mandate voted to accept legal advice and drop its challenge against KPH Turcot and the

the age demographic of 18 to 25 "facing incredible challenges." She urged residents to "get out and vote."

The eight councillors in turn thanked her for her leadership, led by Councillor Antonio D'Amico, who has occasionally voted against a council motion. He spoke first, thanking her for her "co-operation," followed by Jeff Shamie saying "you showed us it was important to dissent."

Conrad Peart said the mayor had led by example, while Anitra Bostock thanked the administration and Mary Gallery stated that the mayor had stayed "respectful, even when we disagree."

The question period included a thanks from city employees, followed by a resident's request for protective barriers around the under-construction Roslyn staircase leading from The Boulevard to the Roslyn lookout.

Richard Dufour of Anwoth, a frequent questioner, thanked the mayor for "always responding with respect."

Quebec Transport ministry (MTQ).

The reasons were listed in the council resolution as based on a joint analysis of noise levels conducted by SNC Lavalin (now Atkins Realis) and those for the MTQ, stating in a report from late this summer that "it appears from this analysis that the noise levels after the project are generally lower than before the project" some five years ago.

"It was disappointing to learn that the sound measures taken after the newly constructed highway after year one and year five did not produce the results we were seeking," said District 8 councillor Kathleen Kez.

"Regardless, it is disheartening that in this day and age the MTQ is not obliged to



Westmount  
A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

Such a face! Made to melt hearts and most certainly get a few treats!

Young puppy Master Jack is at the Montreal SPCA kennel, available to come home as soon as you can arrange for him to join you. He would also fit right in with our neighbourhood canine group, with his easygoing ways and playful energy.

Jack is very healthy, up to date with his puppy vaccination schedule, neutered and microchipped.

Please do not hesitate to search the Montreal SPCA website at [www.sPCA.com](http://www.sPCA.com) for his information page from his identification number, 200345593, then plan your visit at the day that works best for you as it is open for adoptions every day, Monday to Friday from 3 pm to 8 pm, then Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm.

Do not hesitate as it is nearby at 5215 Jean Talon St. West, Côte des Neiges, Montreal H4P 1X4.

install a sound wall on our southern border even though they have one installed [for residents living on the south side of the 136]."

Now that there are no more legal proceedings, Kez added she is hoping "our MNA, Jennifer Maccarone, will push for a sound wall on our behalf at the provincial level." Kez said she "will continue to advocate for Maccarone "to push as hard as possible for this much needed sound wall. The current situation is unacceptable."

Going back to before legal action was instituted against the MTQ (see August 30, 2022, p. 4), affected residents had been asking to have a sound wall or barrier (see May 31, 2016, p. 1).

## Cutest Jack puppy



Jack is a wonderful companion, a cute-as-a-button puppy who is very happy to play and cuddle. Bringing him into the family would be a wonderful opportunity to share so much love.

Your neighbour, Lysanne

## LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

### Painter Available

Excellent interior painter, meticulous, reasonable rates and references provided. Call Lucie 514-944-2763.

## DOG WALKER Rain or Shine

Call Tom:  
514 865-1360

email: [tomgsimon36@gmail.com](mailto:tomgsimon36@gmail.com)

@dogwalker\_rain\_or\_shine



## Meet the Candidates

## Westmount Municipal Election – 2025

**Where** Victoria Hall,  
4626 rue Sherbrooke West

**What** Meet the Candidates  
– Counsellors

**When** Wednesday, October 15, 2025,  
7:00 – 8:15 PM District 1 – 4  
8:15 – 9:30 PM District 5 – 8

**What** Meet the Candidates  
– Mayor

**When** Thursday, October 23,  
2025, 7–9 PM



Westmount  
Municipal  
Association

## Master Editions Antiques & collectibles

## Estate & Moving Sales

### We Provide

Professional Evaluations  
Staging of your home  
Courteous & bonded Staff  
Clean-up after sale

Iona & Marvin  
514-501-9072





# Gas leak at Wood/St. Catherine forces evacuation of Alexis Nihon shopping centre

BY JENNIFER BALL

A gas leak on St. Catherine near Wood Ave. forced the Alexis Nihon shopping centre to be evacuated the morning of September 30, and 2,000+ clients of Hydro Westmount were affected by the resulting preventative power outage.

The shopping mall is located at 1500 Atwater Ave. It is located between Atwater Ave., de Maisonneuve, St. Catherine and Wood Ave. The mall and its towers are mostly in Westmount, with a small part in Montreal's downtown/Ville Marie borough.

Streets surrounding Alexis Nihon were closed, and according to the city of Westmount's website, approximately 2,160 Hydro Westmount clients were affected by a resulting power outage (see story below).

## Traffic! Police! Firefighters!

A large traffic jam resulted on many nearby streets, aggravated by existing water-main/road work on Greene below St. Catherine.

Montreal police spokesperson Jeanne Drouin said on September 30, "The fire department is in charge of this event. We are only doing the traffic. There is a large perimeter established around this gas leak."

The *Independent* spoke with Martin

Guilbault, division chief of the Montreal fire department, on September 30, asking him what prompted the shopping mall to be evacuated at 11 am that morning. He replied, "It was a gas leak due to people working on the street who cut a gas line..."

"The exact location of where the gas line was cut was on the corner of Wood Ave., at St. Catherine."

"[The fire department] has to make sure that everyone is safe. That's why we evacuated Alexis Nihon Place and we're [allowing] Énergir to do their work to close that leak..."

"Énergir is the organization who's responsible for the all the gas in [Montreal] right now. That's their job when these things happen."

On September 30, the *Independent* reached out to Mugisha Rutishisha, director of Communications at the city of Westmount, asking who had cut the gas line.

On the same day, he replied: "The work on-site was carried out by les Entreprises Ventec... At this time, the incident is still under investigation."

The *Independent* reached out to Les entreprises Ventec on October 2 asking for their account of how the gas line was cut. There was no response by the deadline that the *Independent* provided for them to respond.

# Gas leak at Wood/St. Catherine results in blackouts up to seven hours

BY JENNIFER BALL

A gas leak occurred on September 30 at Wood Ave., corner of St. Catherine, when an Énergir gas line was damaged during work on the sidewalk near the intersection. It left 2,160 customers affected by a power outage, some up to seven hours. (See above.)

Mugisha Rutishisha, director of the Communication department at the city of Westmount, provided a statement on October 1, explaining the reason for the power shutdown, when it was deployed and when power was restored.

## Public Security reacts to gas leaks, Dawson College evacuated

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount Public Security was part of the detail of law enforcement officers blocking off streets during the gas leak on St. Catherine St. west of Atwater September 30 around 10:47 am.

The leak also caused the evacuation of Dawson College.

As crowds of students collected onto

Atwater, one was heard saying excitedly: "I can smell it!"

Another, smaller, gas leak October 2, at 8:50 am, was discovered by a Public Security patroller at Clarke and Sherbrooke. It was reported to have occurred when a sub-contractor was working in front of 351-381 Clarke. Streets were blocked but re-opened around 10 am, Public Security officials said.



Fire trucks outside Alexis Nihon on St. Catherine at Atwater Ave. on September 30.



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
**WESTMOUNT**



## Canada Post Strike: Contingency Plan for the Delivery of Voter Registration Cards

Due to the ongoing Canada Post strike, the Office of the returning officer is committed to deploying every necessary measure to ensure that voters receive their voter's registration card. This notice, sent to every address within the City's territory, will indicate:

- The names of the voters registered at that address on the electoral list; and
- The locations, dates and times at which the revision of the electoral list will be held.

If the strike is not resolved in time, municipal employees will proceed with **door-to-door distribution** of voter registration cards to all registered voters, starting on **October 9**.

If any of the information on this notice is incomplete or inaccurate, the voter must appear before the **Revision Commission** to request, as the case may be, a **registration, correction or deletion**.

An **online portal**, managed by a third-party contractor, will also be made available to residents to verify their registration on the electoral list. All details will be posted on the city's website.

Moreover, any voter can verify their registration in one of the following ways:

- By consulting the Elections Québec website;
- In person at City Hall during opening hours on **October 6, 8, 14 or 15**;
- Or by calling **514-989-5280**

Thank you for your cooperation.

Office of the returning officer  
Me Paule Geoffroy Béliveau – Returning officer  
[elections@westmount.org](mailto:elections@westmount.org)  
514-989-5280

[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)



# Two more books for productive Westmount author Monique Polak

By Martin C. Barry

“Prolific” is perhaps the word that’s most fitting when taking into account the literary output of Montreal author Monique Polak.

Polak, who has lived in Westmount a little more than a year, has written nearly three dozen fiction and non-fiction works for children and adults.

This includes her two most recent children’s books: *Christmas Weekend* (Linda Leith Publishing, which is based in Westmount), and *Just a Minute*, co-authored with Kirstie Hudson (Orca Book publishers of British Columbia).

While the first (fiction for teens) re-

volves largely around Geoffrey who isn’t thrilled about having to spend Christmas cooped up at his family’s Laurentian cottage in the company of his father’s latest girlfriend, the latter (also for young readers) deals with themes that include time-keeping, watches, clocks sundials and the passage of time.

Both were given an official launch on September 18 at the Biblio Café coffee shop on Sherbrooke St. in NDG.

► From left, book publisher Linda Leith, Polak’s husband Guy Rouleau and author Monique Polak, all Westmounters, are seen here during the launch of the two most recent works by Polak at Biblio Café in NDG on September 18.



# Pierre-Paul aspires to set Guinness record for kite-flying height

By Martin C. Barry

A Westmount resident has plans to apply to Guinness World Records after flying a kite one afternoon this summer over Westmount Park to what he estimates may be some kind of a new record for kite-flying height.

In mid-August, according to Deguerlain Pierre-Paul’s account, he was flying from a position around the centre of a playing field in Westmount Park.

While Canadian drone-flying regulations oblige drone owners (regarded as pilots) to obtain a permit from Transport Canada, there are no such rules for kites, he said.

“The kite went higher than a helicopter passing by,” he maintained, while estimating the altitude at around two kilometres. Although he believes he may have set a record, he acknowledged he hasn’t any proof, but hopes to make another attempt that can be submitted to officials from Guinness World Records.

According to the Guinness World Records website, the record for the undisputed highest altitude by a single kite was set in September 2014 in Australia by Robert Moore, who reached an altitude of 4,879.54 metres or 4.9 km. There is no mention of records set on a regional or country-by-country basis.

Originally from Haiti, where kite-flying is pursued passionately as a hobby, Pierre-Paul, 53, custom-builds many of his own kites, although he also flies ones that can be purchased in specialty stores.

“Through the years, I’ve developed my own technique,” he said, noting that improvisation is an important part of building successful kites. As there are few toy stores



Deguerlain Pierre-Paul hand-builds but also buys many of his kites.

in the Caribbean nation, Haitian children learn how to make their own fun through kites, he added.

At one time, Pierre-Paul also took part

in kite fighting, a more advanced form of the hobby with a strong following in Asia and South America. It uses sharp-edged kite-control lines, sometimes with razor

blades attached, allowing flyers to compete aggressively while trying to cut the lines of rival kites.

Although he often assembles hand-made kites from materials, including wooden pieces and thin plastic wrap purchased for less than a dollar in discount stores, one Montreal kite expert charges \$100 just to repair store-bought, professional quality kites and sells them for many times more, according to Pierre-Paul.

In a high-tech age like ours when so many tasks are being accomplished with the help of miniature devices linked wirelessly to a smartphone app, Pierre-Paul flies his kites with a relatively simple gadget: a handheld spool equipped with nylon fishing line, which he said is “perfect for kite flying.”

In the meantime, he hopes to find other Westmounters who share his love of kite-flying or who would like to learn more about the sport. He can be reached by e-mail at: [deguerlain1900@gmail.com](mailto:deguerlain1900@gmail.com).

See also p. 1 for picture.



CONSTRUCTION  
**ANGUS**  
RBQ: 5776 5083-01

**IAN SUTHERLAND**  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

**BRICK AND STONE WORK  
CONCRETE STRUCTURE & FINISHING  
FOUNDATION RESTORATION  
ASPHALT**

**514.262.3320**  
[constructionangus.com](http://constructionangus.com)


Painting | Decoration & Finishing



**STUART  
DEARLOVE**  
[www.stuartdearlove.com](http://www.stuartdearlove.com)

Standard & Restorative Painting  
Plaster  
Stripping, Wood Finishing  
Interior & Exterior  
Spray Paint and Fine Finish

 **514-994-3187**   
[sdearlove@bell.net](mailto:sdearlove@bell.net) RBQ 8328 8514 09  
OVER 20 YEARS PAINTING EXPERIENCE



**Arthur Younanian**  
Notaire – Notary

4635 Sherbrooke West  
Westmount, QC H3Z 1G2

Tel.: 514 931-2531  
[info@aynotary.ca](mailto:info@aynotary.ca)  
[www.aynotary.ca](http://www.aynotary.ca)





## Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

# ICRF Montreal turns 50, honours Dr. Batist



Jeffrey Bernstein, Sheryl Ramroop, Dana Frank, Meagan Reinish, Brigitte Fortin, Jeff Solomon, Vivian Billick, Alexandra Feifer-Wexelman and Robert Bard.

Kiraly-Batist and Gerald Batist, Janet and Jeff Solomon, CEO Globe Metal and gala diamond sponsor; ICRF board members Bernard and Sharyn Sepinwall, who is the daughter of co-founders Nettie and Sidney Weinstein; board member Aubie Herscovitch, partner De Granpré Chait and his wife Gretty Deutsch; vice-president medi-

cal affairs at Merck; ICRF past president Jordanna Feifer; Vivian Billick (gala silver sponsor) and Dr. Robin Billick; Mia and David Goodman, CEO Pharmascience, (the Goodman Family Foundation was a platinum sponsor); and bronze sponsors Lisa Singer and Farrell Miller.

The sensational *soirée* raised close to

\$400,000 in support of early-stage research projects, “empowering scientists in Montreal and Israel to drive forward discoveries that save lives,” said Brigitte Fortin, CEO ICRF Montreal.

ICRF Montreal is the local chapter of the Israel Cancer Research Fund, the largest non-governmental funder of cancer

## GOLDEN GLAMOUR

Handmade diamond hoop earrings and eternity rings in 18k gold.

Customize your own with choice of gemstones & rose, white or yellow 18k gold.



KAUFMANN de SUISSE

PASSIONATE JEWELLERY SINCE 1954

Patek Philippe · Parmigiani Fleurier · Arnold & Son  
Moritz Grossmann · Schwarz Etienne · Gerald Charles · Laurent Ferrier

2195 Crescent Street · 514.848.0595 · KaufmanndeSuisse.ca







Gerald Batist and Lynn Kiraly-Batist.



Janet and Jeff Solomon.



Jeffrey Bernstein, Robert Bard and Gerald Batist.

**Social notes, cont'd from p. 21**

research in Israel. The organization supports groundbreaking research in both Israel and Montreal through fellowships, project grants and collaborations that ad-

**Police report, cont'd from p. 12**

wallet isn't as easy to grab.

**Cash stolen from store at night**

In spite of numerous attempts by police at Station 12 to make sure store operators in Westmount don't leave cash behind after closing hours, some merchants are still finding out on their own the reason why.

With that said, a Victoria Ave. store lost several hundred dollars of the previous day's sales proceeds after thieves managed to break in through a rear door and take what was in the cash register.

"To get in, they forced the door in the back, they walked in and they stole about \$300 from the cash [register]," Cst. Yigit said regarding the 8:30 pm September 27 incident. Nothing else was taken besides the money.

He suggested that if merchants don't want to immediately take the day's cash proceeds to a bank's night deposit drop, they should at least remove the money

vance cancer treatment worldwide.

Since its founding, ICRF has funded more than 2,885 research grants, supporting cutting-edge cancer research and contributing to major scientific breakthroughs.

from the cash register where it is most conspicuous and conceal it somewhere inside the store.

It's worth noting that many store owners routinely leave the cash register open and empty, while placing the cash drawer in a place where it can be seen from outside, such as in a front window, so that would-be thieves get the message there's nothing of value in the store.

**Police from all over island help with gas-leak traffic**

Station 12 had to call for reinforcements from police stations all over Montreal last week after being overwhelmed by calls for assistance following a gas leak at Alexis Nihon Plaza that led in turn to a widescale power outage.

"Officers were mobilized from across the island of Montreal to come to the downtown area to control circulation and traffic lights," said Yigit, adding that squad cars and officers from as far away as Montreal North were on the scene. (See full coverage on p. 19.)

**Social Notes**

# Federation CJA welcomes new chair Essiminy, recognizes Sebag, Cape



From left, Charles Bronfman, David Cape and Stephen Bronfman.

The annual general meeting of Federation CJA welcomed its new board chair Patrick Essiminy, the head of the employment and labour department at Stikeman Elliott LLP. Along with having served in numerous leadership roles within Federation CJA, Essiminy is known for championing community engagement and phil-

anthropy.

Outgoing board chair Steve Sebag was honoured with a touching tribute.

Also at the evening, philanthropist and businessman David Cape was awarded the Bronfman Medal in recognition of "extraordinary service and leadership to our Jewish community," said Stephen Bronfman, there with his father Charles.

Cape is the 63rd recipient of the prestigious honour. Currently president Groupe Marcelle Inc. and chair of Federation CJA's financial resource development, he previously served as president of Federation CJA and chair of the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs.

Present were the Eliaz Luf, new Israel consul-general for Quebec and the Atlantic provinces; D'Arcy McGee provincial legislator Elisabeth Prass; Yair Szlak, CEO Federation CJA; and former federal justice minister and attorney general Irwin Cotler, now international chair of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights. – VR

## Your house has a story - discover it.

We offer meticulously crafted, bespoke historical and architectural monographs for your home, expertly researched, written, and designed. From the architect and style, to the captivating narratives of past inhabitants, we meticulously research the archival records to unveil your home's rich history, ensuring a timeless legacy preserved for generations to come. Contact maisonkraftmtl@gmail.com for pricing and to see samples from Westmount's own Rabinovitch House and Moss House.



maisonkraft

## Chinese Works of Art WANTED

Paintings

Jade

Snuff Bottles

Porcelain

Censers

Buddha Figures

Porcelain Plaque

Porcelain

V.I. ANTIQUES & FINE ART  
Victor Isganaitis  
Appraiser-Consultant  
514-944-4919





# sicotte & co

Marie Sicotte  
Real Estate Broker

+1 514 953 9808  
marie@mariesicotte.com  
mariesicotte.com



\$6,850,000

Westmount  
3999 MONTROSE AV.

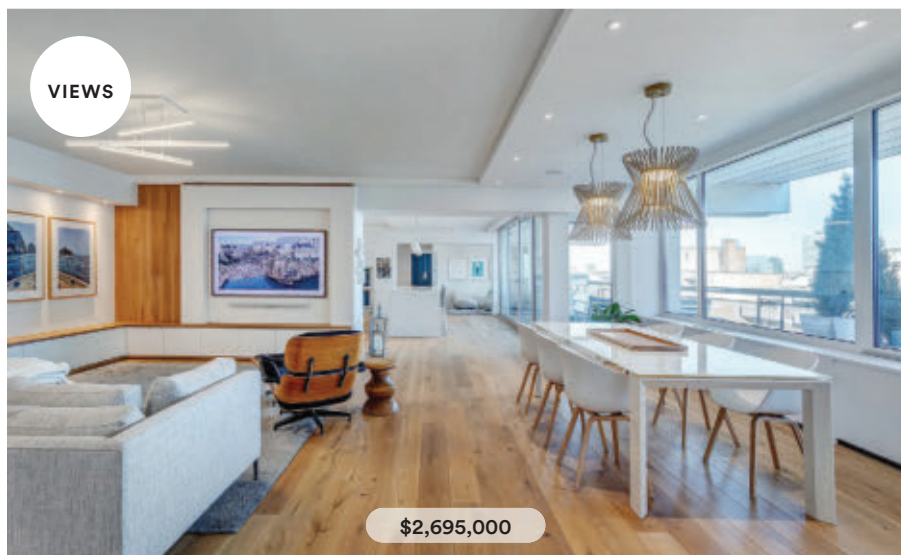
4 4 3 + 1 2 2



\$4,350,000

Mont-Tremblant  
3177 CH. ST-SULPICE

5 4 + 1 1 1 2



\$2,695,000

Golden Square Mile  
1545 DOCTEUR-PENFIELD AV., APT. PH3

4 4 3 + 1 2



\$2,395,000

Westmount  
73 HILLSIDE AV.

3 4 2 + 1 2



Scan me to know me!

Sutton

GROUPE SUTTON CENTRE-OUEST, INC.  
245 AV. VICTORIA, BUREAU 20, WESTMOUNT, QC H3Z 2M6





CARL KNOWS  
EVERY CLIENT IS A PRIORITY

CARL  
RÉMILLARD  
FONTAINE  
REAL ESTATE BROKER



\$4,498,000  
420 CH. DE LA RIVE-BOISÉE, PH700  
PIERREFONDS



\$2,095,000  
75 AV. DES PINS E., PH407  
LE PLATEAU-MONT-ROYAL



\$1,995,000  
1455 RUE SHERBROOKE O., PH7  
VILLE-MARIE



\$1,499,000  
3940 CH. DE LA CÔTE-DES-NEIGES, APT. B52  
VILLE-MARIE



\$1,238,800  
3 RUE WESTMOUNT-SQUARE, APT. 513  
WESTMOUNT



\$795,000  
1321 RUE SHERBROOKE O., APT. D70  
VILLE-MARIE



\$679,000  
900 RUE SHERBROOKE O., APT. 72  
VILLE-MARIE



\$569,000  
3940 CH. DE LA CÔTE-DES-NEIGES, APT. B54  
VILLE-MARIE



4175 STE-CATHERINE OUEST #1201  
WESTMOUNT

514.726.2077  
crfontaine@profusion.global

Groupe Immobilier Carl-Rémillard Fontaine Inc.

Scan this QR Code to view  
all of our listings.



Our Other Unparalleled International Network



profusion.global

© Profusion Immobilier Inc. Real Estate Agency. All rights reserved.

\* subject to conditions