

Armoury not up to fire code, future uncertain

Hillside regiment to pull out of Westmount after 67 years

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Quietly and without fanfare, most functions of the 34 Combat Engineer Regiment – formerly the 3 Field Engineers – moved out of the Hillside Armoury on the week of February 19 after 67 years in Westmount.

The regiment has taken up new quarters at Canadian Forces Base Longue Pointe in east-end Montreal but it has access to the armoury until June, Lieut.-Col. Benoit Doré, commanding officer, told the *Independent* last week. Meanwhile, military personnel will be in and out.

The new quarters at Longue Pointe “are supposed to be temporary,” he said, “and the militia unit intends to maintain its links with Westmount.”

Might it return? “That depends on real estate,” he suggested.

The armoury, which bears the addresses 1 and 3 Hillside Lane, requires “a lot of work” to bring it up to fire code standards, Doré explained. Although brick work was undertaken in 2012, even more work is required.

A final dinner and last parade take place at the armoury April 12 “to mark the closing of the Hillside armoury and to celebrate the move of the regiment,” according to an invitation sent to its members.

“I don’t know what happens to the armoury after that,” Doré said. “Maybe another branch of the government will move in. Maybe it will be put up for sale. All I know is that they offered me a brand new build- continued on p. 14

Bantam A Predators victorious



Westmount’s Bantam A Predators intercity hockey team won a best-of-three final series over the weekend at the Raymond Bourque Arena in Ville St. Laurent, beating the Mount Royal/Outremont Devils in two straight games, 5-2 and 2-1. Entering the play-offs in 7th place, the boys won each game, including a semi-final against the Westmount Wings, except their first, to emerge victorious as the 2014 Bantam A champions of the Eastern Hockey League. They were coached by Derek Galbraith, Nicholas Duhamel and Yul Hennelly, and managed by Oliver Sugden.

Photo courtesy of Willem Westenbergh.

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Fire spotted by parking inspector at former PO, future Lululemon site

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Parking inspector Richard Lamer was walking along Sherbrooke at Prince Albert March 24 when he spotted smoke issuing from windows at the side of the former post office now under renovation, Public Security officials said.

The *Independent* has learned that the renovation is being done for Lululemon (see story, p. 18).

Firefighters arrived at 3:35 pm as public safety officers blocked off Prince Albert while the fire was extinguished between the ceiling and the roof. It was reported to

have been caused by an electrical problem.

A worker in the building at the time had been checking out the source but apparently had not yet called 911.

The adjacent building was not evacuated.

Five or six fire trucks responded and “there was a big commotion,” said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain.

Noting this was not the first time that Lamer had spotted a fire or other incidents while on the road, McBain said, “there’s so much more to the parking inspectors’ job than ticketing. There have been many times when he has stopped to help someone.”

Provincial election 2014
All candidates’ meeting coverage, p. 6



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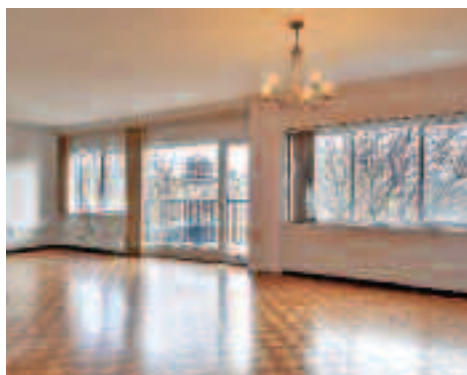
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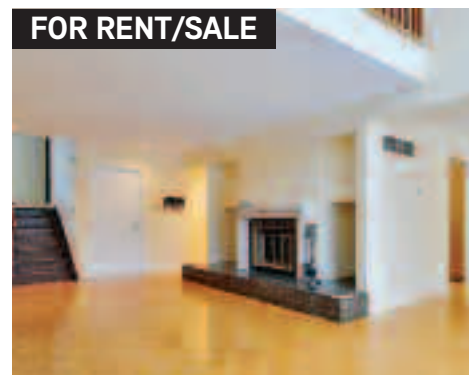


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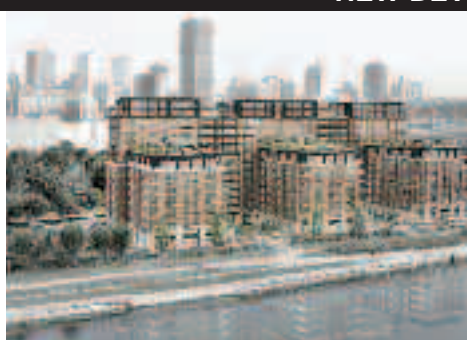


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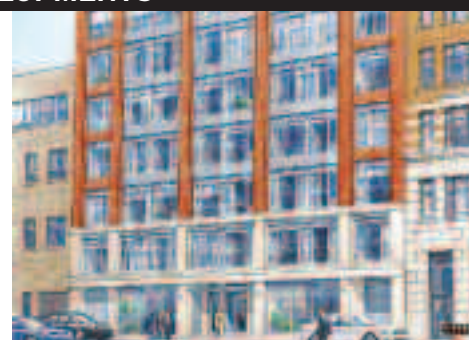
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Webster wins four



Photo courtesy of Stuart Webster Design.

Stuart Webster Design, which is owned by Westmounter Stuart Webster, was a big winner at the 35th Annual Association des Paysagistes Professionnels du Québec award ceremony held in Vaudreuil February 20.

The firm won first prize in the "prestigious landscape" and "innovative idea" categories, a special mention in the "Ö" (water) category and the *coup de coeur* voted on by the editors of Transcontinental Media.

PSOs resolve parking altercation

A parking altercation between two men behind a building on Sherbrooke near Arlington boiled over March 18 when the owner of the space was reported to have taken the man's cell phone from him, Public Security officials said. Officers were called to the lane at 6:18 pm where they were told by the owner of the spot that the other man often used his space while dropping off his children or going shopping.

Officers gave the phone back to the parking offender and explained that he did not have the right to park there. The man agreed not to use it again or to press

charges against the owner of the spot for taking his phone.

Officers also suggested the owner of the parking space clearly mark it as private parking.

Loose dog to SPCA March 18

A red and white Irish setter was taken to the SPCA March 18 when found running loose on Rosemount Ave. just after 1 pm, Public Security officials said. It did not wear an identification tag and its owner could not be traced.

7-year-old didn't know where to get off bus

Public Security helps Dubai tourist take lost boy to his school

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Public safety officers were called to help a tourist take a lost boy to his school March 20 after she went to his rescue on a number 24 bus on Sherbrooke St., Public Security officials said. The woman, who was visiting from Dubai, found the 7-year-old alone and crying on the bus around 7:45 am.

The boy had missed his stop for St. Léon's at Clarke and by the time the woman went to help him and realized what had happened, the bus was already at St. Urbain St. The woman got off with the boy and took another bus back west.

Apparently she had trouble understanding directions. On disembarking in Westmount, the two began walking west, away from the school.

The woman finally asked for directions from a passer-by who directed her to walk back east and then called Public Security at 9:23 am to alert them to the problem.

Patrollers tracked down the woman and boy at Sherbrooke and Clarke and all proceeded to the school. Officers then drove

the woman back downtown. She was already late for a commitment.

Officers met later with the boy's parents and "strongly advised" them not to put the boy on a city bus alone without knowing where he was to get off. They had apparently paid his fare for him as he got on. The family lives on Sherbrooke St. in NDG.



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'Important for municipal views to be heard'

Trent on CTV panel to analyze election results unfold April 7

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount residents who tune in to CTV to watch the provincial results unfold April 7 will likely recognize at least one face.

Mayor Peter Trent has been invited to provide ongoing analysis of the returns on a panel to be led by commentator Barry Wilson that will also include businessman Andy Nulman and former Bloc Québécois leader Gilles Duceppe.

Dog found running in street at Sherbrooke/Olivier

A dog was found in the middle of Sherbrooke St. and Olivier Ave. March 20 when officers were called to the location at 3:38 pm for a dog running loose, Public Security officials said. While officers were trying to catch the German spaniel, its owner emerged from the back of a house where it ran to. The dog had a current licence and the owner was given a verbal warning not to let the dog run unattended.

The main desk will include news anchors Mutsumi Takahashi and Paul Karwatsky along with Sebastien Dallaire of the research firm Léger, and Antonia Maioni, director of McGill's Institute for the Study of Canada.

"I think it's important for viewers to get a municipal viewpoint," Trent said when asked why he had accepted the challenge.

"This is one of the more important provincial elections and I have views I would like to share. It's an interesting panel, something I've never done before and I'm looking forward to trying something new."

Important election

The election, he said, is important not just because of the potential of going into a third referendum on separatism but because Pauline Marois, as premier, "has proven she's not up to the task and must focus on other things."

"Her style is divisive and not the quality we wish to see in a provincial premier," he said.

It had been a "tough year and a half," politically, on many people, "especially Westmounters, who don't like what they

see" in Bill 14 on language and Bill 60, the values charter.

Sigh of relief?

He predicts there will be "an audible sigh of relief in Westmount" if the government is defeated.

"In this campaign, I think it's important that I speak up, that municipal voices are heard. If the PQ does get in, I'll have to mind my Ps and Qs (excuse the pun)."

Trent said he has been working with Montreal mayor Denis Coderre on election issues. "Coderre has been very bold in speaking up against Bill 60 and being so blunt. We've never seen that before."

"If he can do it, then so can I."

Trent: One size does not fit all

He said it was also important to tell Quebec that Montreal – and Westmount, too – "are not hamlets in the Gaspé. One size does not fit all," regarding regulations governing municipalities.

Trent, who represents the Association of Suburban Municipalities as its president, he said he expects most of those citizens feel the same way as Westmounters. The composition of the former association

at the time of 1995 referendum made him feel it could not speak out on their populations' behalf.

The much larger group of municipalities at that time comprised more jurisdictions whose citizens held a greater variety of views on the referendum issue. A number of those cities did not vote to demerge, with the result that the reconstituted association is more homogeneous.



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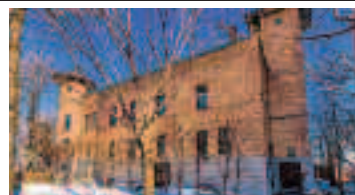
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Green, PLQ, QS candidates state case for April 7 votes

BY MICHAEL MOORE

Less than two weeks before they head to the polls, Westmount-St. Louis voters got their chance to test the mettle of some of their provincial election candidates during a question-and-answer event at Victoria Hall on March 26.

While party leaders trade barbs in televised debates, the Liberal Party's Geoff Kelley, Québec Solidaire's Mélissa Desjardins and the Green Party's Lisa Julie Cahn adopted a more conciliatory tone, largely avoiding stepping on each other's toes as they vied for votes in the April 7 election.

While his placards are strung throughout the city, long-time Liberal incumbent Jacques Chagnon's position as speaker of the provincial legislature prevents him from participating in partisan events.

Instead, he turned to Jacques Cartier legislator Geoffrey Kelley, his Liberal caucus colleague for two decades, to handle the debate.

"It's very unusual in a parliament for the speaker to come from one of the opposition parties. I think it's proof of Jacques' personality and the respect everyone in the National Assembly has for him," said Kelley.

No PQ, CAQ candidates

The fourth candidate who'll appear on the April 7 ballot, Parti Québécois candi-

date Denise Laroche, declined an invitation to attend, an absence not lost on Kelley.

"Next time I think we should have a ceremonial empty chair on stage because [the PQ] has a lot to answer for," he said.

A fifth potential candidate, Coalition Avenir Québec's François-Carl Labonté, was ruled ineligible earlier this month.

Unseating Chagnon

Second-time candidates Cahn and Desjardins are trying to score a massive upset in the Liberal stronghold, which Chagnon has won with at least two thirds of the vote in all six elections since the riding's creation in 1992.

Cahn frequently downplayed her chances of winning, claiming the Green Party and its candidates are often ignored, but said she didn't want the riding to be handed back to the Liberals on a silver platter.

"People say you will not win in Westmount, but I will still try," she said.

"There are people who want to vote Green, who want a change, who don't want to just give the job back to same person, even if they are doing a good job."

Desjardins, who frequently switched between English and French, largely avoided the underdog tone, pitching Québec Solidaire's platform of social and financial change as beneficial for both Quebec and the riding itself.



The debaters, from left, Lisa Julie Cahn, Geoff Kelley (for Jacques Chagnon) and Mélissa Desjardins.

"Quebec needs more *solidaire* at the National Assembly. The citizens need new ideas in politics and, most of all, change. It's time for citizens of Quebec and of Westmount-St. Louis to vote with their moral and ethical values," she said.

Candidates civil in varied topics

With the absence of a PQ punching bag in the staunchly federalist riding, the three debaters maintained a civil tone during the nearly two-hour-long Q&A period. The event was co-hosted by the Westmount Municipal Association and the *Westmount Independent*.

The trio had previously debated during the 2012 campaign, with questions then largely focusing on sovereignty and language issues.

With a referendum seemingly on the backburner, the questions from residents in the riding covered a wider range of topics, from local issues like access to medicine for Westmount's aging population to the future of the nuclear plant in Gentilly.

Environment, economy at risk?

When asked by resident Matthew Cope about the biggest issues facing the riding and Westmount in particular, the candidates largely followed their party platform lines.

Desjardins pushed for more accessible and environmentally-friendly public transportation to link the city to downtown. Kel-

ley, meanwhile, used the opportunity to blame the PQ for destabilising the economy with talk of a referendum and slashing education budgets at institutions in and adjacent to Westmount.

Cahn took up position between the two, agreeing with Desjardins that reducing the city's carbon footprint is important, but also calling out the current government for failing to recognize the true state of the economy.

"I don't think the people running the government know the difference in price between a liter of petrol versus a liter of milk," she said.

Health care

With the new MUHC superhospital due to open next year, the most prevalent question theme centered on health care and its availability to Westmount's aging population.

Calling it a "looming health crisis," resident Maureen Kiely asked the candidates how they would solve an expected shortage of pharmaceuticals.

Desjardins again pointed to the Québec Solidaire platform, which calls for the creation of Pharma-Quebec as a drug production and distribution agency.

Calling it a nation-wide issue, Kelley agreed with Kiely's assessment of the situation but put the onus on the PQ to explain.

"It's a shame [Laroche] isn't here be-

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Some questioners, from left, Frank Moller, Jerry Miller, Gerald Glass and Michael Shafter. In foreground, WMA member and timekeeper Mavis Young. In the background, city councillor Rosalind Davis.

cause the PQ has a lot to answer for," he said.

Cahn also agreed that it was an issue, but argued that society had become overly dependent on pharmaceuticals and should look at alternatives like marijuana being

used in their stead.

"It will become legal here in not too long. We need to think about how we are going to properly educate the population about it," she said.

Brazen thief leaves trail of stolen items

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A bag stolen from a car outside 66 Forden Ave. March 21 was pointed out to public safety officers at the top of the city steps leading from Stanton to Thornhill, Public Security officials said.

When officials went to the police station next door to hand over the bag, they learned another one had just been taken from a car parked nearby, outside Selwyn House School.

Relating the two incidents that had occurred between 8 and 9 am, officers were

on the lookout for the second item – a Victoria's Secret bag – which subsequently turned up outside a house on Redfern.

"We believe the thief broke into the car on Forden between 8 and 8:26 am, walked down to Thornhill, dumped the bag at the steps and probably walked right down Stanton past Public Security and police to Côte St. Antoine," said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain. "After stealing the Victoria's Secret bag, the thief seemed to have continued down Redfern."

Both cars were broken into by smashing the front passenger window, he said.

Comfort station broken into

A city surveillance camera captured three youths opening a window to the comfort station in Westmount Park March 21 at 9:55 pm, Public Security officials said. The facility had already been locked up for the night. The trio apologized when intercepted by public safety officers, who advised them that entering the building that way was "not a smart thing to do."

No signs of damage were found and the incident was listed as "mischief." They were identified as a 17-year-old Westmount boy, another boy aged 16 from the Town of Mount Royal and a 15-year-old NDG girl.

Sunday work stops after complaint

A resident of the apartment building at 288 Grosvenor Ave. complained about construction work on a Sunday, March 23, Public Security officials said. When officers arrived at 8:25 am, eight minutes after the call, however, they could not hear any noise but encountered workers who stated they had just come to pick up tools. The complainant said they had stopped working on learning she had called Public Security.

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Bowser & Blue singing to restore Victoria Hall's piano April 16

Community Events

VIRGINIA ELLIOTT

Residents of Westmount were extremely privileged at the end of the 19th century to have one of Canada's first public libraries and community centres, Victoria Hall.

After a devastating fire destroyed the original Victoria Jubilee Hall, the present building has been welcoming people since 1925.

Over the years, much has changed at Victoria Hall. The Cazavant organ is gone as are the showers in the men's washroom. There is no longer a bowling alley in the basement (now the dining room for the Manoir Westmount seniors' residence) or carpeted "Ladies' Lounges."

But Victoria Hall still welcomes the community to concerts, dance recitals, flower shows and other recreational activities.

The piano

On the stage in the concert hall is a Willis baby grand piano.

Preliminary research shows the Victoria Hall piano is based on a Knabe model built in Montreal somewhere between 1925 and 1938. The walnut body has some damage, and was stripped and varnished in the 1960s, losing its original stain.

The ivory keys are still intact and the sound of the instrument has retained its quality. An investment of \$10,000 to \$15,000 is needed to restore it. Many have said it is not worth it.

But there another element to take into consideration – the history of Victoria Hall.

World War II

It was 1942 and young men were going off to war. The Johnny Holmes Orchestra that played weekly dances at Victoria Hall needed musicians to replace those enlisting in the military. A young musician, 17-year-old Oscar Peterson, was brought in. Although he was a gifted pianist, Peterson lacked experience playing with an orchestra. So Holmes began giving him lessons and Peterson's popularity contributed greatly to the great success of dances that were held every week in Victoria Hall.

Peterson always attributed the skills he learned under Holmes' direction to helping him form the technique that launched his career. Perhaps the piano still gracing the concert hall is the very one that Peterson played in his early days with the Johnny Holmes Orchestra.

The Westmount Community Events Advisory Committee is organizing a series of fundraising concerts to restore the piano. The first event presents Bowser & Blue and David Pryde on April 16.

Side by Each

What better way to welcome spring than with an evening of laughter and music with the popular duo of Bowser & Blue in their concert titled, *Side By Each?* Opening up the show will be stand-up funny man David Pryde.

There will be an intermission and cash bar during the evening. Doors will open at 6:30 pm with the show starting at 7 pm on Wednesday, April 16.

Tickets are \$50 on sale at Victoria Hall during office hours 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (cash or cheque only). A \$20 tax receipt will be issued with the purchase of each ticket.

Virginia Elliott is the assistant coordinator of Community Events for the city of Westmount.

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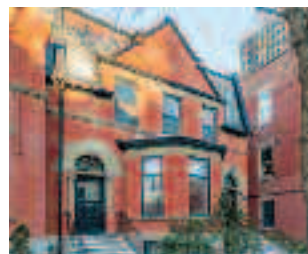
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Police Report

Lasalle man arrested after unsuccessful apartment break-in attempt

By MICHAEL MOORE

The following news story is based on information from police reports provided by a Station 12 constable in an interview with the reporter.

Westmount police arrested a 53-year-old man who had tried to use a bag of spare keys to open apartment doors in a St. Catherine building on March 26, according to Station 12 constable Caroline Gauthier.

Based on video surveillance, the Lasalle man used a key for the front door to gain access to the building around 2:30 pm before he began searching for unoccupied apartments on which to test his "handful of keys," said Gauthier.

The suspect reportedly went through the building knocking on doors, waiting to see if there was a response.

If a resident answered, the man allegedly claimed he had found a spare key outside the door and was simply checking to see if it belonged to that tenant. If no one came to the door, the suspect reportedly tried to open it using one of his keys.

After seeing the man move from apartment to apartment, a witness inside the building reportedly grew suspicious and elected to call 9-1-1.

"Thank you to the witness," said Gauthier. "Without the witness, it would have been impossible for us to have known something was going on in the building. It's important that people call [police] when they see bizarre behaviour."

The man had left the building by the time police arrived, but they were able to find him on the street outside using the witness' description of a 5'9, brown-haired, moustachioed man, said Gauthier.

Police don't think he managed to enter any of the unoccupied apartments, but according to Gauthier, merely trying to use the key on the lock constitutes breaking-and-entering.

According to Gauthier, investigators are trying to figure out where the bag of keys originated, how it came into the suspect's possession and whether a similar tactic has been used in any buildings in Westmount or Montreal.

Bees, but no stars at Earth Hour



From left, Alvéole representatives Etienne Lapierre, Declan Rankin Jardin and Emily Usher talk to Marc Garneau, member of parliament for Westmount-Ville Marie, about urban bees. Alvéole will install a beehive in your garden for \$750 and in your business environment for \$1,500. The fee includes extraction of the honey.

Photo: Ralph Thompson.

The March 29 Earth Hour event organized by the city of Westmount and the Westmount Healthy City Project is part of

a global awareness programme on the fight against climate change and for sustainability.

This year's event saw new contributors and more interest from the public. Unfortunately, the skies were overcast and there was no opportunity to stargaze.

Guest speaker Rémi Boucher from the Mount Megantic provincial park showed spectacular photographs of starlit skies not visible from the city because of light pollution.

The event was attended by Mayor Peter Trent, provincial legislator and Liberal candidate for Westmount-St. Louis Jacques Chagnon and Marc Garneau, member of parliament for Westmount-Ville Marie.

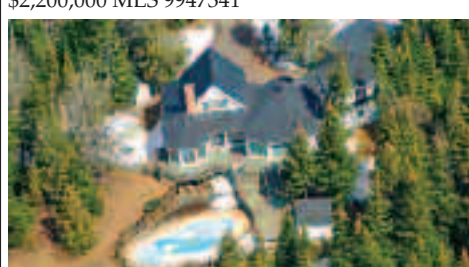
It was hosted by Anthony Moffat, professor emeritus of astronomy at the University of Montreal.



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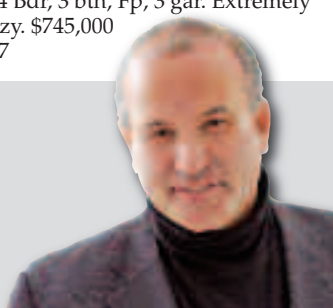
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Pee-Wee B Predators win semi, lose final



Westmount's intercity Pee-Wee B Predators lost in the finals to the first-place Devils of Mount Royal/Outremont, 3-4 and 2-3. "They have done really well this year and surprised a lot of people," said a source knowledgeable about local hockey before the final games. They are pictured here after their semi-final win.

Photo courtesy of Elin Miller.

Porsche destroyed, ignites suspiciously overnight on Mount Stephen

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A Public Security patroller came across a parked car engulfed in flames on Springfield at Mount Stephen March 27 at 12:23 am, department officials said. It was described as suspicious and is under investigation.

"We were first on the scene and called emergency services," said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain. A woman who identified herself as the daughter of the owner, arrived on the street but was told it was too dangerous to approach the

vehicle.

Firefighters extinguished the fire but the car, a Porsche Cayenne, was a total write-off, he said.

The car had been parked in the first space on the north side of Springfield when the smoke and flames were spotted by public safety officer Patrick Genest as he drove south on Metcalfe and looked along Springfield, McBain said. It belonged to a resident of Mount Stephen.

This was the second fire that Public Security personnel discovered in three days (see story p. 1).

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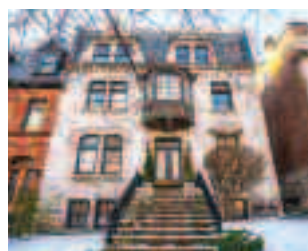
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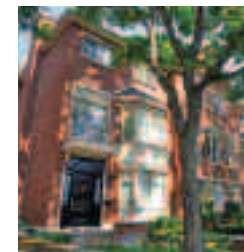
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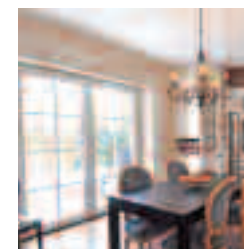
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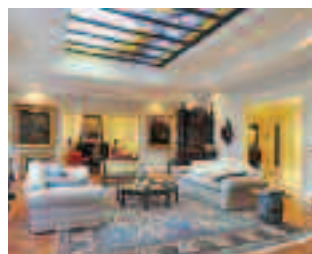
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History of Hillside Armoury

Building began as riding school, became military later on

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

So, what's to become of the soon-to-be vacated Hillside Armoury?

With its future uncertain as the 34 Combat Engineers move to new quarters, the proximity of the building at the corner of Hillside Ave. and Hillside Lane to the Westmount Athletic Grounds has led to suggestions over the last few years that it was a natural venue for an indoor pool or other use by the city's Sports and Recreation department.

Currently in need considerable repair, however, the building is not up to fire code standards, one of the reasons the military unit is leaving (see story, p. 1).

Located in a residential zone, its potential use includes a seniors' residence, according to city Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

Its acquired rights as an assembly building would be lost, however, if ever the building were to be converted to residential. Its development is limited to three storeys in height and further restricted by its heritage rating of Category II accorded "probably because of its historical association," Poirier said.

While the two-storey building is listed by the federal Treasury Board as having a floor area of 5,241 square meters, Poirier

describes it as "small" in terms of potential redevelopment.

If demolished, any replacement building would be even smaller because it would have to conform to the current larger setbacks on both Hillside Ave. and Hillside Lane, she pointed out.

As an assembly building, it could be used by other groups such as a badminton club, she said, noting the building has a gym though Poirier said she doubted it would be big enough to house a municipal pool.

And Mayor Peter Trent last week repeated a familiar phrase: "Westmount already has so many properties, we don't need any more" (see Nov. 5, 2013, p. 25).

History goes back to riding academy

The history of the building at 1-3 Hillside dates back to 1910, according to a research report prepared in 1981 by then city clerk Robert Wilkins.

It was in April of 1910 that the Mount Royal Stables Ltd. applied for and received city council approval to erect a stable and riding academy at the Hillside site. At the same time, the council is reported to have redesignated "the artery" (Hillside Ave.) as "a business street."

The riding academy, which appears to have operated for at least several years, was

The regiment's pending departure had been well known for several years but the timing caught many by surprise.

"After all these years, I was expecting a call from the commanding officer when they were leaving," Mayor Peter Trent said last week. He said he would be unable to attend the final dinner.

Zoned residential, the armoury has vested rights as an assembly building as long as it continues to be used for that purpose, according to city Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier. These rights expire after one year if not exercised or if the building undergoes demolition (see separate story, above).

The 3 Field Engineers achieved regimental status in 1948 two years after being created through the union of the 4th Field Company and 16th Field Company on their return from overseas action in World War II.

At that time, in 1946, they moved into what was then "the main building" at the Westmount Athletic Grounds (since demolished) before taking up residence at the Hillside Armoury.

The regiment's close association with



The Hillside armoury, March 28.

separately reported to have been advertised as "the largest and best ring in Canada."

While the Mount Royal Stables appeared on city property rolls as the owner until 1920, the building's first association with the military was suggested when the prop-

erty roll deposited in 1918 listed the "occupant" as "military stables."

Its outright ownership by the government first appeared in the roll of 1921 under the name of (King) George V with the occupant being the "Department of Militia - Barracks, and Public Works Department - Stores."

Lower Canada College's archives show that the school used the building as a gym in the 1920s and 1930s, likely on a part-time rental basis.

Through ensuing years, the occupant became the "Department of National Defence and Mechanical Transport - ordnance stores," with the designation of stores being located at number 3 Hillside and the garage at civic number 1.

There was a period when the building was understood to have been used for the storage of ice blocks used for refrigeration.

It was not until 1958, nine years after the 3 Field Engineers had moved in, however, that the words "Hillside Armoury" were added officially to what had become the DND ownership.

"It is unclear," the Wilkins report concludes, "whether any specific regiment occupied the armoury before the 3 Field Engineers."

The 712 Communication Squadron moved into the section listed as 1 Hillside Lane in 1954 but relocated in late 1996 to the Westmount Armoury on St. Catherine at Blenheim Place, the home of the Royal Montreal Regiment.

Armoury, cont'd. from p. 1

ing."

Longue Pointe is the headquarters of the army's 34th Brigade, which the engineer regiment supports.

The militia unit has been based at the armoury since 1949 when it moved out of the Westmount Athletic Grounds, which had been used by the military during World War II.

The regiment was accorded "freedom of the city" status by the city in 1981 for its contribution to the community. This tradition allows a military unit to march "with bayonets fixed" through a territory.

Doré said he was unaware of any protocol that would change this designation with the regiment's departure to another jurisdiction (Montreal).

The unit formed an integral component of the Westmount "garrison" along with the Royal Montreal Regiment and 34 Signal Regiment (formerly 712 Communication Squadron). In 2006, the regiment was combined with the 9 Field Engineer Regiment from Rouyn Noranda and renamed 34 Combat Engineers.

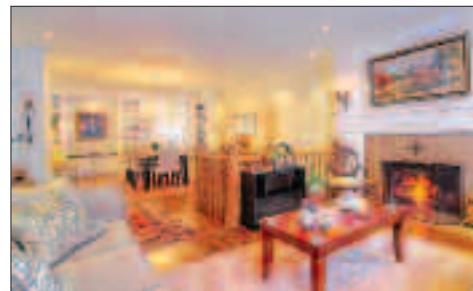
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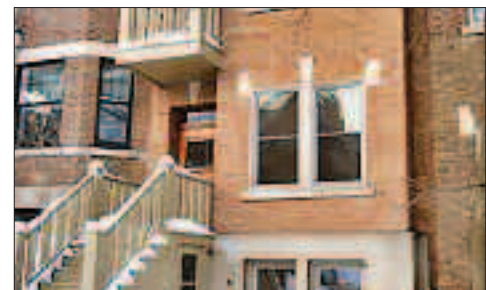
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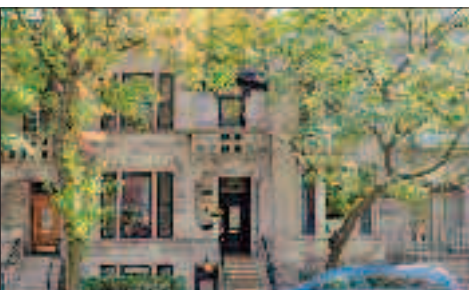
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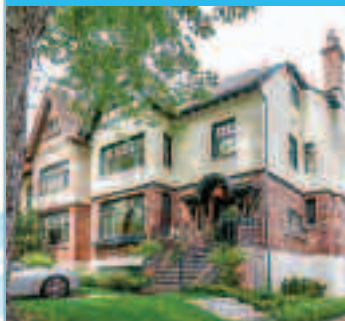
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REAL ESTATE BROKERS



Real estate

ANDY DODGE, CRA

Note: The following article relates to registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in 2013, as they appeared in monthly lists in the Independent.

The past year in real estate can only be described as a year of slumber in Westmount's real estate market, especially in the higher price brackets.

The election of the Parti Québécois minority government in September 2012 put a hold on the burgeoning local market as buyers opted to sit tight and wait to find out what was going to happen before choosing to plunge into a multi-million-dollar real estate investment.

While 2012 had seen four sales of more than \$4 million, there were none in the top price brackets during 2013, and the actual average price of one- and two-family dwellings dropped from \$1,526,464 to \$1,404,620 – more than \$120,000 – though the average mark-up climbed marginally, from 124 percent to 125 percent, over the span of the year. Volume dropped from 179 sales in 2012 to 143 last year, the

2013: A year of slumber

second-lowest annual total since we started keeping records in 1975 (lowest volume was 140 in 1976).

Top price last year was \$3,625,238 for 636 Clarke Ave., one of five sales over \$3 million. Another 15 sales were registered in the \$2-million-plus bracket, but this makes only 20 which cleared the \$2-million mark, or 14 percent of the year's sales, compared to 33 or 18 percent of all the one- and two-family dwellings sold in 2012.

In fact, the vast bulk of sales were between \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000 – 43 percent compared to 31 percent in 2012, and there were far fewer sales under \$1 million, perhaps an indication that while buyers were resisting paying \$1,500,000 and more, sellers were resisting efforts to pick up local real estate below the \$1-million mark.

The two lowest prices last year involved near-neighbour townhouses at 4828 and 4832 St. Catherine St., in front of the Westmount train station at the foot of Victoria Ave., which went for \$535,000 and \$505,000 respectively. Two other sales went for less than \$600,000, but in fact in 2012, 61 Clondeboye sold for only \$495,000.

The volume of condominiums declined only slightly in 2013, but still, the average price dropped from \$752,514 in 2012 to \$691,897 last year, while mark-ups were slightly higher, up 4.5 percent to 122.1 percent. Condo buyers opted more for apartments than duplex-type condos, with the two highest prices for re-sales involving apartments 2103 and 1903 at 1 Wood Ave., \$1,641,500 and \$1,465,000 respectively. This does not include the newly-constructed 1250 Greene Ave., where 10 of 14 units sold for more than \$2 million, nor the remaining apartments at 11 Hillside Ave., which sold for between \$328,000 and \$410,093. As reported last year, the first sale of a duplex-type condo over \$1 million involved 134 Arlington Ave., which changed hands in July.

Share sales of duplexes and triplexes were also popular last year, with prices ranging from \$680,000 for 330 Olivier Ave. in April to \$218,000 for 3237 St. Antoine St., one of four units in that building.

The top price among all properties sold last year was \$4,800,000 for the Vanguard School, 175 Metcalfe Ave., which is now being made into a condo development and advertised as the latest in luxury living. So

far, nothing has been registered at 215 Redfern Ave., but this should be part of the list of new condo sales in the coming year.

And with 23 Westmount homes now on the market asking \$4 million or more, we might see some movement depending on what happens in the upcoming election.

A breakdown of the residential sales by price bracket is as follows:

One- and two-family dwellings			
Price range	2012 Number	2013 Number	% of volume
5,000,000+	3	0	0.0%
4,000,000+	1	0	0.0%
3,000,000+	4	5	3.5%
2,000,000+	25	15	10.5%
1,500,000+	36	24	16.8%
1,000,000+	56	62	43.4%
900,000+	21	11	7.7%
800,000+	19	14	9.8%
700,000+	9	7	4.9%
600,000+	3	1	0.7%
500,000+	1	4	2.8%
400,000+	1	0	0.0%
Total	179	143	100.1%

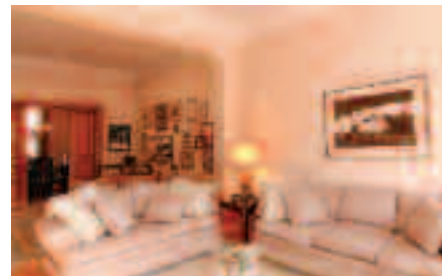
continued on p. 21

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Marianopolis student Nivatha Balendra competed at the regional Sanofi Bio-GENEius Challenge on March 27 at the University of Montreal. It is a part of a national biotechnology research competition that aims to inspire students to pursue studies and careers in biotechnology.

Her project, Don't Cry Over Spilled Oil!, involves using bacteria to remove water pollutants without creating harmful by-products.

She won first place at the 2012 version of the event. Fellow Marianopolis student Eunice Linh was an ambassador at this year's event. She won the 2013 regional competition and placed second at the nationals that year.

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Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount

AVIS DE PRÉSENTATION D'UN PROJET DE LOI D'INTÉRÊT PRIVÉ

Avis est donné que la Ville de Westmount s'adressera à l'Assemblée nationale, à la prochaine session ou à une session subséquente, afin de présenter un projet de loi d'intérêt privé ayant pour objet **LA DÉSIGNATION DES MEMBRES DE SON COMITÉ CONSULTATIF D'URBANISME QUI ONT DES COMPÉTENCES PARTICULIÈRES EN MATIÈRE D'ARCHITECTURE ET D'URBANISME, SANS ÉGARD À LEUR LIEU DE RÉSIDENCE, POUR UN MANDAT D'UNE DURÉE D'AU PLUS QUATRE ANS ET RENOUELABLE.**

Toute personne ayant des motifs d'intervenir sur ce projet de loi d'intérêt privé doit en informer la directrice de la législation de l'Assemblée nationale, édifice Pamphile-Le May, bureau 3.55, 1035, rue des Parlementaires, Québec (Québec) G1A 1A3.

Donné à Westmount, ce 1^{er} avril 2014

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF A PRIVATE BILL

Notice is hereby given that the City of Westmount will petition the National Assembly at the next session or a subsequent session, to introduce a Private Bill concerning **THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF ITS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHO POSSESS SPECIAL SKILLS IN ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING, REGARDLESS OF THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE, FOR A TERM NOT EXCEEDING FOUR YEARS AND RENEWABLE.**

Any person who has reasons to speak in regards to this Private Bill must inform the Law Clerk of the National Assembly, édifice Pamphile-Le May, Suite 3.55, 1035, rue des Parlementaires, Québec (Québec) G1A 1A3.

Given in Westmount, this April 1st, 2014

M^e Viviana Iturriaga Espinoza
Directrice des services juridiques et greffière /
Director of Legal Services and City Clerk

Lululemon going postal



Construction foreman Yves Raymond of Emcon Construction uses a hydraulic drill-hammer to remove a section of the entrance ramp at the former post office at the corners of Sherbrooke and Prince Albert, March 27. The vacated building is being prepared for its new occupant, Lululemon Athletica.

Photo: Robert J. Galbraith.

Carbon monoxide detector set off on Lansdowne Ridge

Firefighters answered a call March 21 for a carbon monoxide detector activated at a house on Lansdowne Ridge shortly after 1 pm, Public Security officials said. The culprit was reported to be a small amount of a chemical product for ceramics that had been in use from an aerosol can. Residents were advised to leave the doors open to air out the home.

4 seen trying to enter 215 Redfern

Public safety officers were called to the work site at 215 Redfern at 3:30 pm on Sunday, March 23, when four people were seen trying to open "multiple doors," at the condo development, Public Security officials said. Patrollers managed to find their way inside and found all in order. They met up with the four people, however, one of whom identified herself as a real estate agent who had forgotten her keys and apologized.

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Spring flowers here



Planting for the city's Spring Flower Show moved into high gear last week to

prepare the exhibit for general viewing starting April 3.

The traditional rabbit family will arrive April 17 in time for Easter weekend and will visit for one week, says head gardener Mélanie Banninger, right, working with gardeners Hélène Bazinet, left, and Christine Dupuis, not shown.

The display may be viewed at the greenhouses in Westmount Park weekdays 10 am to 5 pm and weekends 10 am to 5 pm.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 3

For the Atwater Library Lunchtime Series, Nancy Dunton on "The Houses of the Square Mile." She will examine residential architecture when Montreal was Canada's metropolis and discuss how Square Mile houses are used today. Free, donations invited. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

"First Fridays" family shabbat service and birthday celebration. Special Oneg Shabbat and cake for children celebrating birthdays. Free. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. 5:45 pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

"Reading with the Rabbi": Rabbi Grushcow discusses the book *Relational Judaism* by Dr. Ron Wolfson and its focus on relationships in our synagogues and beyond. Free. Seminar limited to 20 people. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. 12:30 pm. Also Wednesday, April 9 (7 pm).

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

For the Atwater Library Lunchtime Series, art historian Sandra Paikowsky on "A Visit to Venice in Montreal." She will concentrate on paintings. Free, donations invited. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

Centre Greene Book Sale to benefit its summer camp fund. 1090 Greene Ave. 10 am to 6 pm. Also Saturday, April 12 (9 am to 2 pm).

Archdeacon Bill Gray of St. George's Anglican Church will deliver the guest sermon at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom. Free. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. 7:45 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Temple Family Passover program for children from birth to age 11. Free. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sher-

brooke St. 11:45 am.

Bake sale for children's Providenciales Readers Club in Turks and Caicos. Westmount Public Library. 10 am to 4.

ONGOING:

Tumbling Tots. Centre Greene. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 am to 11 am. Indoor/park playground for parents and children under 5 years. \$3.50/morning drop-in. Coffee and cookies provided.

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WMA looking for 'volunteer' nominees

The Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) is seeking nominations for its annual Volunteer Citizen of the Year award. The award honours a Westmount resident who has over many years given outstanding volunteer service, who will be honoured during the WMA's annual general meeting on May 14 at Victoria Hall.

Nominations may be sent to the committee before April 25 at volunteer.award@wma-amw.org or by telephoning Mehdi Ghafouri (514.938.0083) or Marilyn Gillies (514.932.2026).



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9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Leshaah has the cutest, heart-melting poses. The camera loves him!

A handsome sleek black domestic shorthair, with gold-coloured eyes, he has the funniest antics and really enjoys cuddling. You would never think that he is 11 years old, with his playful ways! His owner is leaving the country and he has been taken in by Gerdy's Rescue in order to integrate him into a new family.

He is very healthy, is up to date with his inoculations and is neutered. He was declawed on all four paws, which makes him an indoor-only cat.

If you would like to find out more about Leshaah, who is a compassionate place-



ment, please don't hesitate to contact Gerdy at Gerdy's Rescue on her pager at 514.203.9180 or email her at info@gerdys-rescue.org. Its website is very informative and quite worth the visit at www.gerdys-rescue.org.

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Dog escapes as door left ajar

Patrollers managed to locate the owner of a dog found loose on Mount Pleasant March 21 at 8:30 am, Public Security officials said.

Apparently the door had been left slightly open when a member of the family had left the house.

While the department had a dossier on the dog, this was the first time it had been found loose and the owner was issued a warning for a first-time offence.

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Globetrotter visits Westmount Park School



The students at Westmount Park School got a break from their academic routine on March 26 when Buckets Blakes, a veteran performer with the Harlem Globetrotters basketball team, dropped by to teach the kids a few tricks about the game, while also sharing some pointers on action, bravery and compassion. Blakes was in Montreal in advance of a show the Globetrotters are giving at the Bell Centre on April 4.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Review, cont'd. from p. 17

Residential Condominiums

Apartments (not including new ones)

Price range	2012 Number	2013 Number	% of volume
2,000,000+	0	0	0.0%
1,500,000+	1	1	3.8%
1,000,000+	6	3	11.5%
900,000+	1	1	3.8%
800,000+	3	4	15.4%
700,000+	1	2	7.7%
600,000+	1	1	3.8%
500,000+	4	9	34.6%
400,000+	5	2	7.7%
300,000+	1	3	11.5%
Total	23	26	99.8%

Duplex- and triplex-type condominiums

Price range	2012 Number	2013 Number	% of volume
1,000,000+	0	1	9.1%
800,000+	3	0	0.0%
700,000+	3	3	27.3%
600,000+	4	1	9.1%
500,000+	4	2	18.2%
400,000+	0	2	18.2%
300,000+	3	2	18.2%
Total	17	11	100.1%

Dog caught off-leash at Devon Park

A public safety officer in Devon Park spotted a dog off leash March 22 at 9:15 am, according to Public Security officials.

The owner was warned to leash it and obtain a dog licence within 10 business days.

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Watch out for street sweeper starting April 1

Beware that with the start of spring comes street cleaning again," Public Security officials said last week.

"The street sweeper is ready to go April 1, pending an unexpected snow storm,"

explained assistant Public Security director Greg McBain. Tickets for parking in a maintenance zone cost \$53.

"It's important when parking to check for the signs."

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Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

As he documented his era, famed photographer **William Notman** took pictures not only of Montreal “society” in the 19th century, but also of dogs and children.

Today, these images are in the collection of the McCord Museum. Artist-in-residence at the McCord **Kent Monkman** used many of Notman’s photos for his painting, *Welcome to the Studio*, now on view at the museum.

Monkman is an artist who works in a variety of media including painting, film/video, performance and installation. He has exhibited widely in Canada, and is represented in numerous private and public collections including the National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

In *Welcome to the Studio*, Monkman focused on the relationship between photography and painting. Inspired by a painting of Gustave Courbet, *The Artist’s Studio*, Monkman used 30 of Notman’s portraits to create his own studio.

There is clever contemporary twist. Kent Monkman appears in his painting as

Monkman uses Notman for inspiration



Anne Birks.



Clodagh Wheatley and Nadia Martineau.



Dagmar and Ronald Guttman.



Kent Monkman.

the artist, and beckons viewers to take part and to enter his “studio.” Visitors sitting opposite the work can see their own self-portrait in a reflection, and are asked to tweet their “selfie” – a suggestion that erases time as it bridges the centuries.

History comes full circle in Monkman’s work. For the costume ball at the Château Ramezay in 1870, Monsieur de Blais Thibodeau dressed up as an “Indian,” as did Mr. Andrew A. McCulloch in 1898.

Monkman, who has Cree ancestry, used these images in his work, as well as that of **Percival Molson, Chief White Wings** (complete with fabulous feathered head dress) and his wife **Kainai, Sitting Bull** and **Bufalo Bill**, and the artist **Marc-Aurèle Suzor-Côté**.

Monkman discussed his piece at a special evening held at the McCord. Welcomed by McCord representative **Nadia Martineau**, and hosted by **Hélène Samson**,

curator of the Notman Photographic Archives, the event attracted a full house, including Westmounters **Caroline Gillespie, Dagmar and Ronald Guttman**, author **Clodagh Wheatley**, **Anne Birks**, **Cynthia Gordon**, and **Céline and Jacques Lamarre**.

Suzanne Sauvage, CEO and president of the McCord, invited departing guests to contribute so that the McCord could purchase Monkman’s work.

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by Thakoon Addition

Alice + Olivia By Malene Birger	Equipment Kate Spade New York	Pink Tartan Rebecca Minkoff	Thakoon Addition Theory
Cambio	Mackage	Rich & Skinny	Tibi
Diane von Furstenberg	Paul + Joe Sister	Smythe Les Vestes	... and more!

FACEBOOK.COM/SHOPJOSHUADAVID

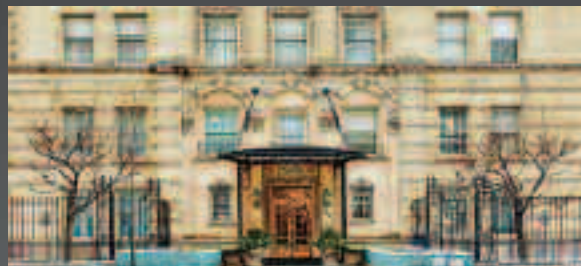
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WELCOME TO THE RIGHT ADDRESS



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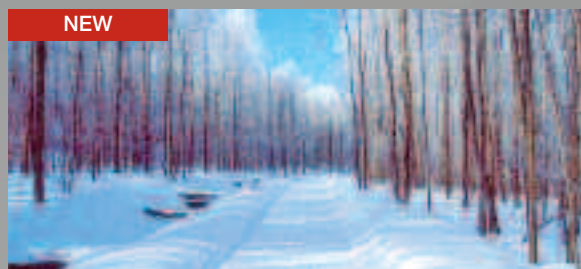
DOWNTOWN 1227 Sherbrooke W, #44 **\$795,000**
 ACADIA: Prestigious 3 bdr condo of 1619 s.f., garage, 24-hour security, great location. MLS 16250732



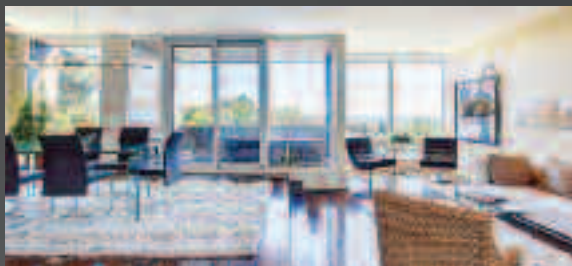
WESTMOUNT 5 Grove Park **\$1,325,000**
 Renovated 3+1 semi, garage on the flats.



TREMBLANT 121 rue Dicaire **\$325,000**
 Charming detached cottage, 3 bdrms, access to Lac Moore, 5 min from Mt-Tremblant. MLS 13212057



TREMBLANT AREA **\$399,000**
 Private Domaine opportunity!! Spectacular 186 acre lot of maple trees with road access, panoramic views of Mountain. MLS13274324



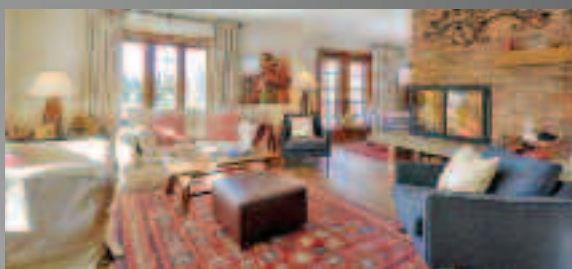
WESTMOUNT 627 Clarke **\$3,395,000**
 Views views views !!! Ideal as a condo alternative. MLS 26285951



LE PLATEAU 4235 de la Roche **\$425,000**
 Fabulous 2 bedroom ground floor condo. Renovated, furnished, wood floors, garden. Steps from Lafontaine Parc. MLS 22731061



TREMBLANT AREA **\$675,000,**
 Magnificent lot! 135 acre lot with 5000 feet on Rivière Rouge, ideal for private domaine or gentleman's farm.



TREMBLANT AREA **\$ 549,000**
 In the charming Village of Arundel, renovated 3 bedroom farmhouse on 22 acres wooded lot with magnificent barn.



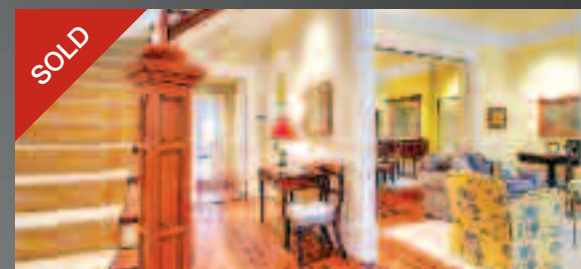
C-D-N 6301 Northcrest, #3P **\$899,000**
 Le Sanctuaire: Beautiful renovated 2+1 bedroom condo, 1,942 sf, very large terrace, 2 car garage. MLS 12706314



TMR 431 Grenfell **\$1,065,000**
 Great lifestyle house!!! Renovated 3 bedroom, Open Concept with large deck, garage and garden. MLS 10670164



HARRINGTON Ch. du Lac
 Cabane au Canada!! Unique Domaine of 850+ acres with frontage on Rouge River with private lake.



WESTMOUNT 333 Elm Ave. **\$1,549,000**
 Beauty on Elm!! Classic brownstone full of charm, renovated to today's standards, 3 bdrms, 2 fireplaces, 2 car prkg. MLS 22826019



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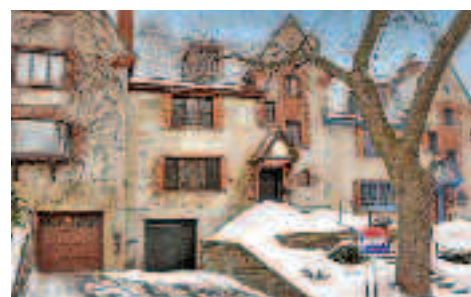


Westmount, 4398 de Maisonneuve
Approx. 1 yr of labour + over \$500K created this beautifully renovated 4 bdr home situated in one of the most desirable areas of Westmount. **\$1,495,000**

NEW PRICE!



Westmount, 118 Lewis Ave.
ADORABLE 1894 Victorian townhouse. Renovated kitchen, bathrooms, finished basement, etc. Great value! **\$689,000**



Westmount Adj., 3035 Cedar Ave.
Worthy of the pages of Wallpaper Magazine, feast your eyes on the ULTIMATE in sleek, urban design in a manificently restored townhouse. **\$1,450,000**



Westmount, 412 Metcalfe Ave.
DELIGHTFUL 1902 townhouse featuring splendid original details, PLUS a sleek new kitchen + bathrooms. Parking + garden. Great location! **\$1,198,000**



Westmount, 3764 The Boulevard
Ideal executive rental. A lovely, 4 bdr, 2 bath, 2 powder rooms DETACHED, near all services + the best schools. Available July 1st. **\$4,700/month**



Westmount, 11 Grove Park
Exquisite 4 bdr home recently renovated in the BEST of taste. STUNNING open kitchen, magnificent bathrooms. Fabulous location! **\$1,589,000**



Westmount, 636 Belmont Ave.
Impeccably renovated Arts + Crafts period home on desirable Belmont Ave. Superbly decorated by renown designer Julie Charbonneau. A/C. **\$1,499,000**



Westmount, 4893 de Maisonneuve O.
4 bedroom, 3½ bath 1983 built TH. A/C, fireplace, rooftop terrace. Garage + parking for 2 cars. Immediate occupancy. **\$875,000**



Westmount Adj., 5042 Ponsard Ave.
Circle road area. Remarkably spacious 5 bdr S/D. Lovely new kitchen. Ground floor den. Extraordinary garden! **\$1,100,000**



Westmount, 649 Roslyn Ave.
Here's an OPPORTUNITY! Detached, updated 1904 home featuring central A/C, 2 car garage, 4+1 bedrooms, 3½ baths! **\$1,699,000**



Westmount, 3238 The Boulevard
Spectacular! 1913 "Percy Nobbs" renov. 5 bdr + den home. A/C, Marvin windows. Stunning architectural details. Great value! **\$1,475,000**



Westmount, 9-11 Parkman Place
Great revenue property! Rarely available, this 7-room duplex offers a highly desirable location, garage, many recent major improvements **\$1,065,000**



Westmount, 200 Lansdowne Ave., #407
1,900 sq.ft. impeccable 3 bedroom, 2½ bathroom corner unit condo in a well managed, tranquil building. 2 garages! **\$798,000**



Westmount 275 Melville Ave.
The IDEAL condo in a beautiful Victorian! Adorable 3 bdr, 2 renovated baths, ground floor unit facing Westmount Park. MOVE IN CONDITION! **\$598,000**



Westmount Adj. 3580 de Vendôme Ave.
Astonishingly well renov. 1927 "Lambert". 4 bdrms, 3½ baths. "Denis Couture" kitchen. Pristine oak + mahogany. MOVE IN cond. 2 car garage! **\$1,285,000**



Plateau, 333 Sherbrooke E., 607 M1
Super sleek + elegant 900 sf, 1 bdr executive condo. Peaceful courtyard/mountain views. Garage. A/C. **\$449,000**

#6 in Quebec for Re/Max 2012*

#7 in Quebec for Re/Max 2013**