

Westmount Park School moves out



Moving vans were very much in evidence last week at Westmount Park School, including on July 30, the date of this photo. The school is being renovated during the next two school years (see June 25, p.19). Even the exterior play structures of the Narnia pre-school, which is moving permanently to Temple Emanu-el Beth Shalom (see February 1, p.1), have been packed up. (see photo, p. 7).

PHOTO: TED SANCTON.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 13 No. 8a

We are Westmount

August 6, 2019

Busy, but not 'jam-packed'

Pool opened up to general swim 3 or 4 times in July heat



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BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

While the heat, humidity and sunny days in July may have seemed like a “heat wave,” the pool at the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) was only opened up to unrestricted general swim on about three occasions, according to department director Dave Lapointe.

This is in contrast with last July when maximum capacities were reported during extended heat waves (see story July 10, 2018, p. 1).

“It’s been busy but less than I would have expected,” he said last week. “I wouldn’t say exceptional or jam-packed like

last summer.”

The pool overrides its usual schedule when heat warnings are issued by Environment Canada and a heat wave is determined by temperature highs of 30°C with lows no cooler than 20°C for three consecutive days.

Those are times the sandwich-board signs declaring “general swim” are put up at the WRC, Lapointe said.

In terms of programming, lessons are full, but there are still openings, compared to the children’s summer camp program which is, in fact, jam-packed. On the ice, the city’s summer hockey camp has been in full swing.



William Gong

Real Estate Broker & Advisor

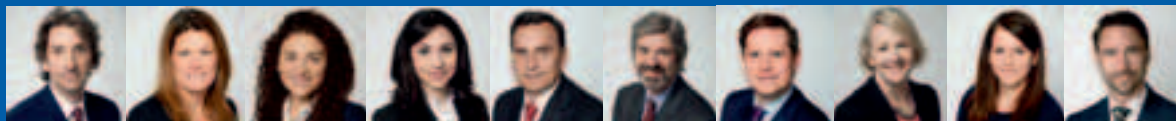
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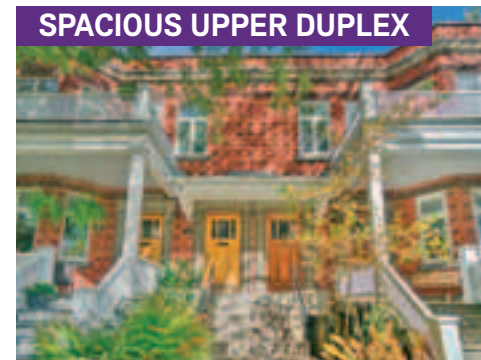
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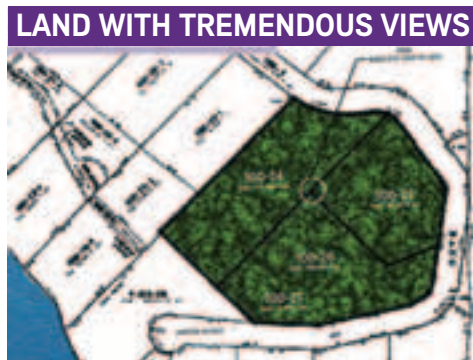
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Wired for the future, or the past?



This vehicle may look futuristic but its inspiration is, at least in part, the past. The owner is a ham radio enthusiast, a technology going back to the early 20th century. The many antennae are to pick up different frequencies. His licence plate is his call sign.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

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Branch falls



This branch was photographed July 29 at 5:30 pm in Westmount Park. According to by-standers, another branch had fallen nearby approximately two weeks before, almost hitting a girl.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

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'Had to come down hard,' Mayor Smith says

City levies hefty fines for missed recycling pick-ups

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city is taking a strong stand with its recycling contractor over irregular pick-ups, issuing fines of \$1,000 per missed block, Mayor Christina Smith said last week. This is the penalty written into the city's contract with the new provider, Services Ricova, which started April 3.

"We've had to come down hard on them," she said. "One week, they missed half the city but then sent around a truck at 10 pm."

The service has to improve within the time frame committed to with the supply of four trucks, she said. "People should be assured we are working to deliver the service."

City staff along with an outside law firm had met twice with the company over the past two weeks "and we were assured the service would improve."

Because strides were being made in the discussions, Mayor Smith said she was reluctant to divulge the total amount of penalties issued to date "but they are very significant." The city is able to track the trucks by GPS and is therefore able to monitor their location and missed streets.

Growing pains

This is the second set of refuse woes the city has encountered this year, both involving new contractors to the city (see story June 25, p. 1). Numerous complaints about missed garbage (landfill) pick-ups by Der-

ichebourg Canada, particularly in the Victoria village area, seem to have been mostly resolved, Smith said. These were attributed to "growing pains," she said.

Unfortunately, she pointed out, the city is required by law to award tenders to the lowest conforming bidder, which both Ricova and Derichebourg were.

She was planning to deliver a report on the recycling issue at the council meeting August 5, after press time.

Westmount wildlife



This large raccoon was spotted crossing eastwards on Prince Albert above de Maisonneuve the morning of August 5. It then climbed this tree, seemingly to investigate a nest in it. It found nothing and continued to climb.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CELL-PHONE EMF NOT A THREAT

Andrea Klein's concerns (letter, July 9, p. 8) about electro-magnetic fields (EMF) are shared by many people, but a closer look can provide some reassurance.

Previous experiences that she cites, with cigarettes, asbestos, suntans and pesticides each have different considerations and explanations and we should consider EMF only on the basis of its own science. In fact, the large increase in lung cancer following World War II was quickly recognized as a public health problem. The surge in smoking following the war, when soldiers were given free cigarettes, caused a clear epidemic. The long delay to achieve effective public health measures was not caused by the scientists, but by the intensive advertising and lobbying efforts of the cigarette industry. The science was clear from the beginning. And science is clear about the lack of danger from EMF.

Electromagnetic radiation occurs across a spectrum. Think of a piano keyboard with low-frequency notes, or energy rays, on the left and high-frequency, more dangerous rays, on the right. We are constantly surrounded by many different levels of radiation from this spectrum. The low energy bands are essentially harmless to us. This includes radio broadcasts, cell phones, the wi-fi in your house, and even TV remote controls. These are all weaker than the radiation from an ordinary yellow light bulb, which is itself radiation. As we move up the energy spectrum, we come to TV and UHF broadcasts, still safe.

The next step is a band of energy that human beings have evolved to detect with some sensitive cells in our retinas. This is the visual spectrum from red to violet. It is only when you reach the ultraviolet level that there is enough energy to dislodge electrons and damage cells. That is what "ionizing radiation" means. This damage can lead to cellular mutations that can cause cancer. UV light can damage skin, but it takes higher energies to penetrate deeper.

The EMFs below this level are just too weak to have an effect and there are no credible studies linking cancer (or any other illnesses) to this type of radiation. Just because we can see the towers does not mean they are any more of a threat to us than radio or television broadcasts washing over us constantly, or GPS signals, or smart meters, or TV screens. Even your household electric wiring leaks EMFs into the surroundings.

The energy in radiation rays from a cell-phone is 1 million times weaker than a light bulb.

We can be reassured by one simple proof. Our societies have been awash in these radiation fields for over 100 years, but there is no increase in cancer rates as a result. It was easy to see the increase in lung cancer when smoking became popular and we would be able to detect increases in other cancers if they were occurring. Furthermore, the problems with smoking, asbestos, suntan and pesticides all prove the point: threats to health were identified, confirmed with scientific investigations, and public health measures were adopted.

I think we can put cell phone towers out of our minds – and make more room for serious concerns about real threats like climate change!

For more information on EMF sources see www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/radiation/electromagnetic-fields-fact-sheet.

For information on health effects, see www.theguardian.com/science/blog/2016/feb/17/electromagnetic-radiation-doesnt-make-you-ill-or-give-you-cancer-heres-why.

DR. RICHARD MARGOLESE,
PROFESSOR OF SURGICAL ONCOLOGY –
MCGILL UNIVERSITY

HATS OFF TO WESTMOUNT'S LIFEGUARDS

I am a late adopter of our wonderful outdoor public pool.

An excellent value, well maintained, complimentary lounge chairs, umbrellas, the works (free wi-fi would be nice, too, but I digress).

However, the real stars of the pool are the lifeguards! They maintain strict enforcement of the rules in a firm, authoritative execution that commands respect and safety for all. So nice to see people take their jobs seriously in a professional and attentive manner! Hats off to all of them!

JOHN ARCHER, GROSVENOR AVE.

THANKS FOR THE SAX



Walking through Westmount Park is always a pleasure, especially on a warm (or hot and humid) sunny morning. That said, this experience has become even more enjoyable due to the appearance of a gentleman who plays the sax. This began about six weeks ago and, though his repertoire

is limited (some Simon and Garfunkel with an occasional "Happy Birthday"), he's a wonderful addition to the the park.

SAM BEITEL, ABBOTT AVE.

DON'T REWARD THE CYCLISTS

These columns have been filled for years, including in recent months, with accounts from observers of a wide range of obnoxious and illegal behaviour by cyclists. Bicycles no longer require licensing. Cyclists are not required to take courses in observance of the rules of the road. What few regulations apply are rarely enforced by the authorities. Yet I read recently that Westmount proposes to again expand cyclists' privileges. If they can't be punished for their bad behaviour, we should at least not be rewarding them. Why not use one of the few simple tools remaining: NO NEW PRIVILEGES UNTIL THERE IS A MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN CYCLISTS' BEHAVIOUR.

ROBERT COWLING, PARKMAN PLACE

ENFORCE CYCLING RULES

I want to offer my strong support to Serge Morin (letter, July 9, p. 8) for his observations about what appears to have become an oppressive city cycle culture. I have gotten the finger many times. Cyclists seem to have been encouraged to believe that the rules of the road do not apply to them. There were at one time signs in Westmount Park telling cyclists that the park walkways were strictly for walkers. Where are those signs? Apart from their appalling park behaviour, cyclists tend to demonstrate great contempt for red lights. Don't believe me? Spend a little time at the corner of Greene Ave. and de Maisonneuve. It is, of course, good to see so many on bikes and not in automobiles. That does not give cyclefolk licence to demonstrate such total disregard for others. There are rules. It is high time city mayors get the police department to start enforcing them.

DAVID LEVY, DE MAISONNEUVUE BLVD.

'RETURN OF THE JEDI' – MONTREAL STYLE

My cat Yoda went missing on June 12 when a screen fell out of a window in the early morning. A neighbour had seen both the screen and Yoda outside the window at 8 am and reported it to another neighbour, but I was out of town, and had cat sitters coming in twice a day to the house to check in on Yoda and his brother, Gandalf. On that particular day, however, only one cat sitter came and arrived in the evening. Thus it was only discovered in the late evening that Yoda had disappeared.

I was not informed until four days later, when I arrived home, as nobody wanted to

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

upset me.

Nonetheless, for those next four nights, my partner had gone out searching for Yoda, calling his name with treats in hand. He seemed nowhere to be found...

When I arrived home, we placed posters up around the neighbourhood and it was then that Lysanne [Fowler] contacted me. It turns out that we are neighbours and she walks her beautiful dog right by my house and has seen my cats sitting in the window, so she knew Yoda.

Her column, written in the *Westmount Independent* (June 25, p. 19), came to be what found Yoda.

I was contacted on July 2, almost three weeks to the day that Yoda went missing, by a lovely lady named Caroline, who lives downtown on Redpath. She told me this story:

Yoda had been living for two weeks in a shared courtyard on Redpath, and all the neighbours had been feeding him, as he seemed to have won over the hearts of all. Nobody knew where he came from. On June 29, Caroline was on Victoria Ave. in a taxi going home, when she asked the driver stop at the Metro store to get something to eat as she was hungry, and picked up a copy of the *Westmount Independent* just by luck, a paper she does not receive where she lives, and saw the column on Yoda and his picture, and realized this was the cat living in her courtyard.

She contacted me on the next day, asking me to forward some images of Yoda to her via email, as she thought he might be the cat in her courtyard, and she would pass it on to all her neighbours. I forwarded to her several pictures, which she sent out to all the people in her courtyard, and that evening, another lady named Caroline who shares the courtyard contacted me and said she believed she had Yoda. She and her son had been taking him in every evening, feeding him and giving him a safe place to sleep at night. Unfortunately, she was allergic, and had asked a

friend named Claudine, who lives in Griffintown, to watch over him for a few days, and so this lady contacted me and I went to pick him up at 11 pm that same evening, as she was leaving town the next day and Yoda would have been then placed back in the courtyard.

Yoda is now reunited with his twin brother and is in very good shape. The community of compassionate people in Montreal who care for animals is outstanding.

I am grateful to the *Independent* for posting the column and deeply thankful to Lysanne for writing it. This is truly a magical story.

I include some pictures of Yoda alone and with his brother.

NANCY LEPORE, DORCHESTER BLVD.



Yoda and his brother, Gandalf.

TRAFFIC CONE-ITIS

With the growing infestation of cones, people must realize that if they see one cone on top of another, their gestation period is only a few hours and there will soon be 20 to 30 more. On the old Champlain bridge, there was a regular disinfection team that went out twice a day. Could that team now be deployed on the island?

And going south on the 15 to the States, I have seen a new mutant variant cone, which is bigger with blue stripes. They appear to be moving north. Watch out!

IAN SPOFFORTH, ST. CATHERINE ST.

Brownstein named to City Clerk vacancies

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Andrew Brownstein, who has been affiliated with the City Clerk's and Legal Services department of the city for some six years, was named by city council July 15 as acting assistant director for a period of six months. The appointment fills vacancies created by the recent departure of both the director and assistant director.

A lawyer, Brownstein has been taking the minutes of council's general committee meetings since 2014, beginning during his six-month *stage* that took place before his admission to the Quebec bar and going into private practice.

Having grown up in Côte St. Luc, where

he lives, and worked on its demerger campaign leading up to the departure from Montreal in 2005, Brownstein told the *Independent* last week that he understands the value that independent cities place on their liaison with residents.

"He's very up to speed on our various issues and understands our role within the agglomeration and the importance of our perfectly bilingual community," said Mayor Christina Smith. "His enthusiasm is contagious."

Brownstein earned his law degree from the University of Montreal in 2013 and has been specializing in labour and employment law and other civic areas along with some municipal work.

Narnia moves east



The play structures of the Narnia pre-school were gone by July 31, the date of this photo. They have been a fixture on the east side Westmount Park School, bordering Melville Ave., since at least 1986. Narnia is moving permanently to Temple Emanu-el Beth Shalom (see February 1, p. 1) and Westmount Park School is moving out for two years so major renovations can be done (see June 25, p. 25 and photo p. 1).

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

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Registry fails to obtain referendum number

500 Claremont to get council’s blessing second time around

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A highlight of the city council meeting August 5, after press time, is expected to be the final approval of a high-end apartment project for 500 Claremont, a vacant institutional building at the corner of Windsor. It has been in the works since the end of 2016.

The city’s blessing and favourable vote was to be announced by Mayor Christina Smith following the results of a registry on the non-conforming redevelopment July 24 in which 77 opposing signatures were obtained. A total of 122 were required for a possible referendum.

“I’m glad we can move forward with this,” she said. Preservation of the Category II heritage-rated institutional building by conversion into residential use has been favoured by the city.

Mayor Smith said that it was “a small group driving opposition” to the project, despite it having already been through a

successful approval process more than a year ago.

This was before the developer asked to be able to increase the number of apartment units from 16 to up to 20 and base-ment parking from 32 to 43 as well as to rebuild the top fifth storey whose brick had been discovered to be in poor condition (see story December 11, 2018, p. 6).

Under the city’s by-law for non-con-forming projects called Specific Construc-tion, Alteration or Occupancy Proposal for an Immovable (SCAOPI), any changes to such a project had to be resubmitted through the lengthy process.

“The by-law is very, very rigid,” Mayor Smith noted.

Waiting to start work

“We’re grateful the process has come to a conclusion and we can start work,” de-veloper Gideon Pollack said last week. “We also hope to continue to work hand in hand with the city. The next step is to finish

the interior layout and demolition plans” for the fifth storey.

Meanwhile, Elizabeth Currie of Clare-mont, who has been a driving force against the project, said “we are continuing to look at a variety of options so council will take into account the opinions of 77 people who

signed the registry during the construction holiday period” (see separate story, below).

Opponents have argued the building would increase traffic on Claremont, posing safety issues, and that it would be oversized in a block of single-family dwellings.

Opponents to continue the fight, question registry process

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Despite the city council’s final approval of a non-conforming project at 500 Clare-mont expected August 5, after press time, some of the opposing neighbourhood resi-dents are now looking at “every option” to continue their fight, according to Elizabeth Currie of Claremont.

While there were not enough signatures to request a referendum, she called the council approval “legal” but “undemocratic” from a community point of view since 77 residents in the area turned out to sign over a vacation period.

“I just wonder why council can’t take this as a message,” she said. “We don’t feel the council has listened to what the community wants.”

While the concerned zone and two contiguous ones were legally eligible to sign the registry, she explained, “we probably could have had enough signatures for a re-ferendum if the zone along Sherbrooke had not been included.”

She questions the inclusion of this long narrow strip along the north side of Sher-brooke from Grosvenor east to Metcalfe, where she doubts residents would experience much impact from the project or care enough to turn out to sign the register for a referendum.

The inclusion of this likely unaffected zone probably helped increase the number of qualified voters to the required 122, she added, “and all because one property caused the entire zone to be ‘contiguous.’” This appears to be an apartment property just east of Grosvenor.

Local Democrats mark July 4



Westmounter Deb Desmettre celebrating Independence Day.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RANDI WEITZNER.

Some American Montrealers with a preference for the Democrats marked In-dependence Day with a party July 4 at the chalet on Mount Royal.

The organizers are a part of the Demo-crats Abroad (DA) organization, which strives to provide Americans with a Demo-cratic voice in US government and help elect Democratic candidates by mobilizing the overseas vote.

“DA Montreal has recently elected a new executive committee,” chairperson Randi Weitzner told the *Independent* by email. “We have organized a number of events in the last few months, from small gatherings on the West Island to larger

events downtown like the [Democratic can-didate] debate watch on June 26.”

Regarding the Independence celebra-tion, Weitzner summarized, “We were a small, but hardy group who braved the in-tense heat to meet up to celebrate this very American holiday (without tanks and air-planes, thank you, Mr. Trump).”

Westmounter Deb Desmettre was among the participants. She added, “Even though I no longer live in the United States, it’s still important for me to be ac-tively involved in American politics. I’m happy to be a member of the Democrats Abroad Montreal group as well as a West-mount resident.”

Comin’ Up

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

“Words & Music 2019: Music and poetry in Westmount Park.” Westmount Park near the lagoon. 2 pm.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13

Outdoor screening event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first lunar land-ing, organized by the city of Westmount. Westmount Park. 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

The Canadian Heritage of Quebec hosts a picnic lunch on the site of the former Hurtubise farm and opens an exposition in the Hurtubise barn. Reserve at coord @hcq-chq.org. 561 Côte St. Antoine Rd. 12 noon to 3 pm; guided tour: 1:30 pm.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

Westmount Park campout (rain or shine), organized by the city of West-mount. Westmount Park. 10:30 pm.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Rabbi Allan Nadler, professor of Jewish studies and former rabbi at the Shaar. “Ala-

bama’s Abortion Ban or Quebec’s Bill 21? Why a Strictly Secular State is Safer.” \$5. Registration required 514.937.9474 x 139. Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, 425 Metcalfe Ave. 12 noon.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Susan Doherty discusses her book *The Ghost Garden: Inside the lives of schizophre-nia’s feared and forgotten*. Free. Atwater Li-brary, 1200 Atwater Ave. 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Hands-on workshop on “Protecting Yourself Online” by Liz Perrin. Free, but advance registration required: Richard Cas-sidy: 514.935.7344 or richard@atwater library.ca. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 1 to 3 pm.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Richard Goldman, lawyer and legal plain language specialist with Éducaloi, conducts an information session on powers of attorney and protection man-dates. Free. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 1 to 3 pm.

Garneau 'revisits' space, moon at Manoir

BY HEATHER BLACK

Who can forget the image of astronaut Neil Armstrong's moon walk or his memorable words: "...one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind"?

On July 19, MP and former astronaut Marc Garneau spoke to a rapt audience at Manoir Westmount about the event as well as his own experience as the first Canadian in space.

Recalling the Cold War, Garneau reminded seniors of the USSR's Sputnik program and the American response: NASA's Mercury, Gemini and Apollo missions. He also mentioned Canada's space contribution from NASA's recruitment of 30 former Avro-Arrow engineers to the Quebec-made landing legs for Apollo 11. Garneau recalled the 1969 moonwalk: "I was a young naval officer on a 59-foot yawl in the English Channel, but we heard the radio broadcast." The event made a lasting impression and, in October 1984, he became the first Canadian astronaut to travel to outer space.

Garneau described his own *Challenger* shuttle-ride as "euphoric." Floating in front of a window at 24,000 feet, he said: "I saw a beautiful planet, more fragile than we realized." This "overview" of Earth brought home the need to preserve the environ-



MP Marc Garneau spoke on the Apollo 11 legacy at Manoir Westmount.

ment as well as promote international peace and cooperation. He also commented on the mission's positive impact on his life, "which left a desire to share this incredible experience."

Garneau, the current minister of Transport and former president of the Canadian Space Agency (2001-06), also described Canada's involvement in the NASA-led *Lunar Gateway* project. This planned space

station – with a robotic Canadarm3 – will serve as a research laboratory and landing platform for future Mars expeditions. The 30-minute talk was followed by questions on such topics from space pollution to commercial moon travel.

In response to a query on international programs and rivalry, Garneau said: "Space belongs to us all."

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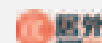


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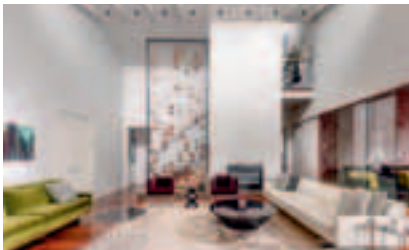
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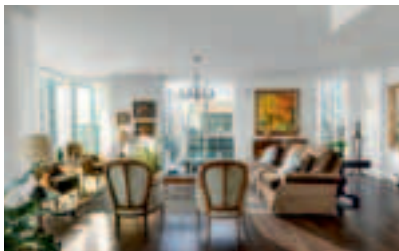
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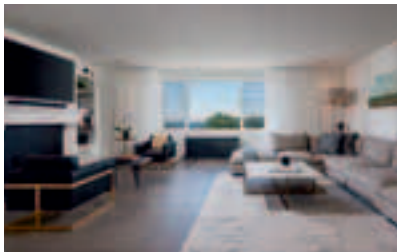
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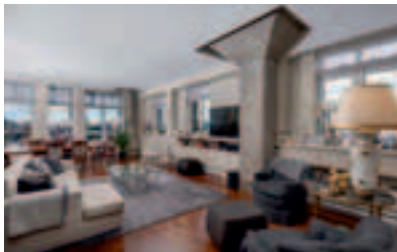
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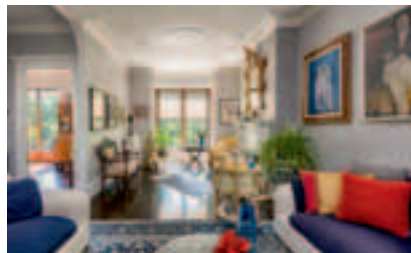
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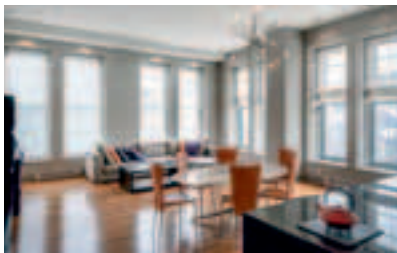
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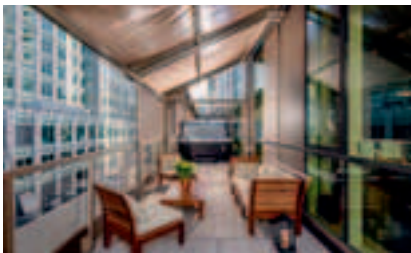
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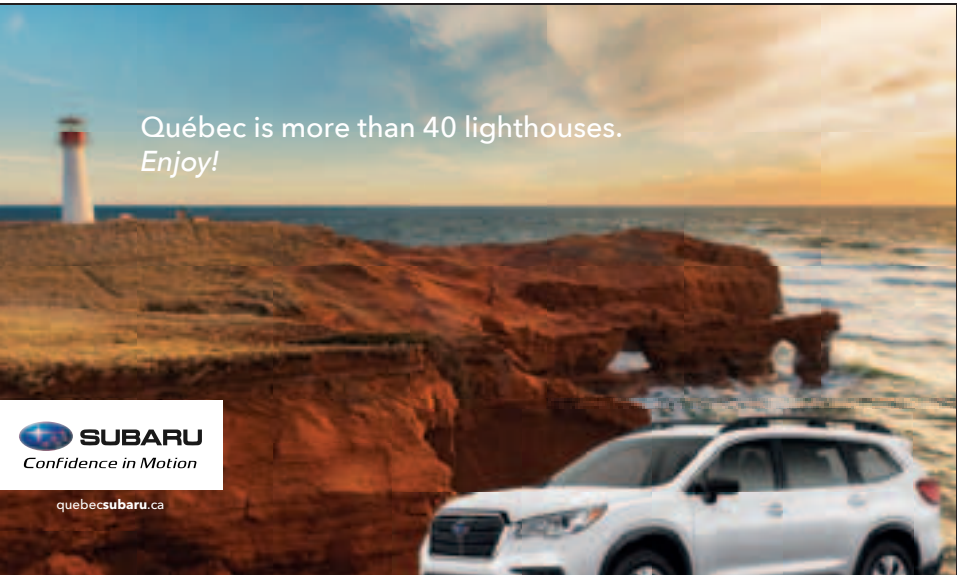


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March transfers: highs and lows



Real Estate

ANDY DODGE,
CRA (RET.)

Note: The following article relates to the registration of deeds of sale for Westmount property in March 2019, gleaned from city- and non-city sources. A list of sales can be found on p. 15.

Home sales in March this year provided an interesting mix of prices, as three sold for more than \$3 million each while two others sold for less than \$1 million, the first time since last June that two under-\$1 million sales were registered in the same month. Highest price was \$4,500,000 for a large mansion at 3261 Cedar Ave., which is now being renovated. That price beat out two more Westmount homes that sold for \$3,500,000 and \$3,300,000.

On the other hand, 536 Lansdowne Ave., a tiny attached house between Sherbrooke St. and Côte St. Antoine Rd., sold for \$500,000, the lowest price for a single-family dwelling in Westmount since 212 Prince Albert Ave. sold in March 2016, for \$460,950. The sale price was actually 20 percent less than its municipal evaluation, the only mark-down of the month and in fact for the year 2019, and the biggest

mark-down since February 2018. Mark-ups ranged up to 53 percent, recorded in the sale of 4329 Montrose Ave., but the average was only 19 percent, thanks largely to the strong mark-down of 536 Lansdowne. The average price of the 11 single-family sales was \$2,050,119, an average that has been over \$2 million in all but one month since last September.

Condos

Two condominiums sold in March, bringing to seven the number in the first quarter of 2019, higher than the six sales registered in the last quarter of 2018 but otherwise well below any quarterly volume since the middle of 2015. The seven sales sold for an average \$910,000 but most significantly an average mark-up of 51.7 percent, a record high.

The only other sale closed in March involved a 60-percent share of 450-52 Grosvenor Ave. for \$990,000. The valuation of the entire duplex is only \$1,065,000.



536 Lansdowne on August 1.



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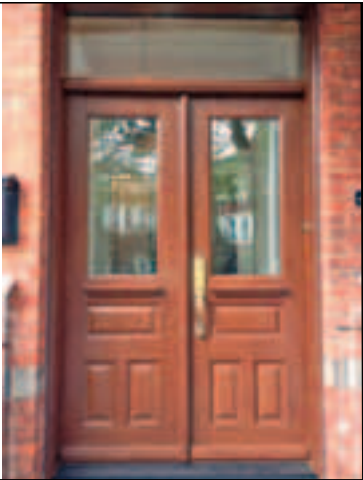
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Bought & Sold – real estate transfers in March 2019

ADDRESS	VENDOR	PRICE	2017 VAL	RATIO (%)
3261 Cedar	Despina Gabriel Kydoniefs	\$4,500,000	\$3,585,300	25.5%
466 Côte St. Antoine	Beatrice Baudinet	\$3,500,000	\$2,959,100	18.3%
561 Grosvenor	Sean O'Donnell & Annie Cardin	\$1,618,310	\$1,411,400	14.7%
659 Grosvenor	Nicolas Jean Michel Emmanuel Mougeot	\$1,780,000	\$1,542,300	15.4%
536 Lansdowne	Michele France Cloutier	\$500,000	\$629,400	-20.6%
600 Lansdowne	Hugh Russell Brodie	\$1,480,000	\$1,378,400	7.4%
317 Melville	Martha Stephenson & Danièle Sauvageau	\$965,000	\$741,700	30.1%
4329 Montrose	Elaine Lalonde & Eric Simard	\$1,640,000	\$1,071,800	53.0%
482 Mount Pleasant	Emma Kate Griffin & Neil Alexander Bruce	\$3,300,000	\$3,162,600	4.3%
8 Renfrew	Howard Robert Ornstein & Teresa August	\$1,993,000	\$1,610,600	23.7%
62 Somerville	Marie-Claude Lanoie	\$1,275,000	\$833,800	52.9%
CONDOMINIUMS				
399 Clarke Ave #7E	Haimei Lu	\$415,000	\$350,400	18.4%
12 Park Place #6	Sandrine Ferst	\$750,000	\$526,800	42.4%
SHARE SALES				
450-52 Grosvenor, 60%	Philippe Castaing & Marie-Lyne Drouin	\$990,000	\$639,000 ¹	54.9%

¹Valuation is 60% of \$1,065,000.
Exclusive use of 450 Grosvenor.

Pursuant to a request to the city of Westmount's city clerk under *An act respecting access to documents held by public bodies and the protection of personal information*, the *Independent* received a list of addresses that received "welcome tax" bills in and near March 2019. Other information published here was researched by columnist Andy Dodge.

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ExpoCity

Jusqu'au 1^{er} septembre, participez au concours de photo de la Ville de Westmount. Pour tous les détails, visitez westmount.org/expocity.

Vous venez d'arriver à Westmount?

Bienvenue! La Ville offre à ses résidents une multitude de services et d'activités. Visitez la page Web pour nouveaux résidents à westmount.org.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Club de lecture d'été TD 2019

Jusqu'au 31 août, Bibliothèque. Demandez votre trousse du club de lecture d'été au comptoir des enfants. Le thème 2019 est *C'est ta nature!* Participez à une foule d'activités, dont :

- *Histoires et comptines en famille* (6 à 36 mois), les **mercredis jusqu'au 21 août, 10 h 30**
 - *Grenouilles et amis* (3 à 6 ans), **11 juillet, 16 h**
 - *Heure de conte sensorielle* (TSA, 5-11 ans), les **lundis du 16 juillet au 20 août, 16 h**
 - *Les animaux de la ville* (3-6 ans), **14 août, 16 h**
 - *Pluie et arc-en-ciel* (3-6 ans), **21 août, 16 h**
- Et encore plus! Consultez le westlib.org.

StoryWalk® au parc Westmount

Jusqu'au 31 août. Comment attraper un ours qui aime lire d'Andrew Katz et Juliana Léveillé-Trudel. Partagez vos photos en utilisant le mot-clic #BPWStorywalk.

Cercle de lecture Finnegans Wake de Joyce : The Boaters and Sifters of ALP

Le mercredi 21 août, 19 h, Bibliothèque. Discussion sur le chef-d'œuvre de James Joyce, *Finnegans Wake*. Apportez votre exemplaire du livre. 514 989-5299.

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Mots et musique au parc Westmount

Le dimanche 11 août, 14 h, parc Westmount, près de l'étang. Apportez votre pique-nique au parc Westmount pour un après-midi de musique et de poésie. 514-989-5226

Galerie du Victoria Hall : Exposition

Du 11 juillet au 16 août. La Galerie est fière de présenter les artistes **Carlos Angel, Hala Farhat, Jaroslava Miler, Lisa Osterland, Tom Thompson et Maureen Tracey**. Lun-ven 10 h - 21 h; sam 10 h - 17 h. 514-989-5265.

Prochaine séance du conseil le mardi 3 septembre

Shakespeare en plein air

Les samedi et dimanche 10 et 11 août, 19 h, parc Westmount. La troupe Repercussion Theatre présente la comédie *Measure for Measure*. Représentations en anglais seulement; application web disponible pour suivre en français (**theatre.plank.co**). Apportez une chaise. 514-989-5226.

Projection dans le parc

Le mardi 13 août, 20 h, parc Westmount. Célébration du 50^e anniversaire du premier atterrissage sur la Lune. Projection sur grand écran des films *For All Mankind* (1989) et *Le Voyage dans la lune* (1902). Présenté en collaboration avec le Cinéclub de Montréal. 514 989-5226.

Film sous les étoiles

Le vendredi 23 août, à la tombée du jour, parc Westmount. Apportez vos chaises pliantes et couvertures pour le visionnement du film *How to Train Your Dragon 3* (en anglais). 514 989-5229.

Camping familial dans le parc Westmount

Du vendredi 23 août au samedi 24 août, parc Westmount. Apportez votre tente et passez la nuit au parc Westmount. BBQ, activités, et petit déjeuner organisés par les Scouts de Westmount. Inscription requise, 15 \$ par famille. 514 989-5226.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Turcot : réouverture du passage piétonnier de l'avenue Greene

Un passage piétonnier sur l'avenue Greene au niveau de la route 136 est ouvert à depuis le 27 juillet 2019. D'autres fermetures pourraient être requises d'ici la fin du projet pour terminer la construction des infrastructures.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Nouvelles pistes cyclables

Les nouvelles pistes cyclables sur l'avenue Redfern (entre le boulevard De Maisonneuve et Ch. de la Côte-St-Antoine) et sur l'avenue Lansdowne (entre l'avenue Westmount et le boulevard de Maisonneuve) sont maintenant ouvertes. Une piste cyclable sur l'avenue Claremont sera bientôt ouverte.

Collecte de recyclage

La Ville tient à vous rappeler que vos matières recyclables doivent être placées en bordure de la rue au plus tard à 7 h le mercredi matin pour la collecte. 514-989-5311.

Sign up TO WESTMOUNT E-NEWSLETTER

Visit westmount.org/ewestmount to subscribe and receive the latest news by email from your City!

CITY HALL

ExpoCity

Participate in the City of Westmount's photo contest until September 1. For more details, go to westmount.org/expocity.

New to Westmount?

Welcome! The City offers its residents a multitude of services and activities. Find out more on the website page for new residents at westmount.org.

LIBRARY

TD Summer Reading Club 2019

Until August 31, Library. Ask for your Summer Reading Club kit at the Children's Desk. This year's theme is *The Antium World!* Take part in all kinds of activities, including:

- *Family Storytime* and songs (6-36 months), Wednesdays from July 3 to Aug. 21, 10:30 a.m.
 - *Frogs and Friends* (3-6 yrs), August 7, 4 p.m.
 - *Sensory Storytime* (ASD, 5-11 yrs), Tuesdays from July 16 to August 20, 4 p.m.
 - *City Critics* (3-6 yrs), August 14, 4 p.m.
 - *Amis and Amisbows* (3-6 yrs), August 21, 4 p.m.
- Find out more at westlib.org.

StoryWalk® in Westmount Park

Until August 31. How to Catch a Bear that Loves to Read by Andrew Katz and Juliana Léveillé-Trudel. Share your photos with us using the hashtag #WPLStorywalk.

Reading group for Joyce's Finnegans Wake: The Boaters and Sifters of ALP

Wednesday, August 21, 7 p.m., Library. Join the circles skimming the surface or sifting through the layers of Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*. Bring an open mind and a copy of the book. 514 989-5299.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Words and Music in Westmount Park

Sunday, August 11, 2 p.m., Westmount Park, near the lagoon. Bring a chair or picnic and listen to poetry and music in the Park. 514 989-5226.

Gallery at Victoria Hall: Exhibition

July 11 to August 16. The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present artists Carlos Angel, Hala Farhat, Jaroslava Miler, Lisa Osterland, Tom Thompson & Maureen Tracey. Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 514-989-5265.

Next Council Meeting Tuesday, September 3

Shakespeare in the Park

Saturday and Sunday, August 10 & 11, 7 p.m., Westmount Park. Repercussion Theatre presents the comedy *Measure for Measure*. Free will donation. Bring a chair. westmount.org or repercussiontheatre.com.

Outdoor Screening

Tuesday, August 13, 8 p.m., Westmount Park. Come celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first lunar landing. The films *For All Mankind* (1989) and *Le voyage dans la lune* (1902). In collaboration with The Film Society of Montréal. 514 989-5226.

Movie under the Stars

Friday, August 23 at dusk, Westmount Park. Bring your lawn chair and blankets, and enjoy an outdoor screening of *How to Train Your Dragon 3*. 514 989-5229.

Westmount Park Family Campout

Friday, August 23 to Saturday, August 24, Westmount Park. Bring your tent and spend the night in Westmount Park. BBQ, activities, and breakfast organized by the Westmount Scouts. Registration required. \$15 per family. 514 989-5226.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Turcot: reopening of Greene Ave. pedestrian crossing

The Greene Ave. pedestrian crossing at route 136 reopened since July 27, 2019. Subsequent closures may be necessary between now and the end of the project to complete the construction of the infrastructure.

PUBLIC WORKS

New bicycle paths

The new bicycle paths on Redfern Avenue (between De Maisonneuve Boulevard and Ch. de la Côte-St-Antoine) and Lansdowne Avenue (between Westmount Avenue and De Maisonneuve Boulevard) are now open. A bike path on Claremont Avenue will soon be open.

Recycling Collection

The City would like to remind you that your recycling materials must be deposited curbside no later than 7 a.m. on Wednesdays for collection. 514-989-5311.



Province's new education guide will refer to native 'genocide'

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The term “cultural genocide” will be used when referring to the history of Canada’s natives in a new educational guide on genocide soon to become part of the teaching of history in high schools across the province.

The Westmount-based Foundation for Genocide Education’s founder and president, Heidi Berger, was the guest speaker on June 13 during the Shaar Hashomayim Sisterhood’s closing luncheon before summer.

Her comments on natives came following the release two weeks earlier of a report by the National Inquiry Into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls that referred to victims of a “Canadian genocide.”

Given a reported rise in hate crimes in Canada, part of Berger’s message was that there is an urgent need for mandatory genocide education, as well as education to prevent radicalization and the rise of extremist groups.

Social media increases hate?

“As you are very well aware, there has been dramatic rise in anti-Semitic rhetoric and hate crimes, not just in North America, but across the world,” she said, pinning some of the blame on social media which “legitimizes and magnifies the voices of hate.”

While the Holocaust during World War II ranks high as an example of genocide, others cited by the foundation include the Armenian, Bosnian, Rwandan and Cambodian genocides, as well as ongoing genocidal campaigns in Iraq, Syria and Myanmar.

“And it even happened in our own country with the cultural genocide of our First Nations,” said Berger. “The narrative of hatred is always the same, beginning with dehumanizing a very convenient scapegoat.”



Foundation for Genocide Education founder and president Heidi Berger, far right, addressed the Shaar Hashomayim Sisterhood on June 13.

Berger was inspired to launch the foundation by her mother, a Holocaust survivor who died in 2006. Berger’s mother implored her daughter to continue on her behalf to inform the world about the Holocaust.

A filmmaker and teacher of communications at Concordia University, Berger created an interactive 15-minute presentation binder and booklet based on testimony her mother gave to Shoah (Holocaust) researchers and to the Montreal Holocaust Museum.

Berger said she also felt motivated to start the foundation because of a major

lack of educational resources for teaching the history of genocide. According to Berger, there are only two small paragraphs dealing with genocide in a Quebec secondary 5 (grade 11) contemporary history course.

However, 10 US states and eight European countries have mandated the teaching of genocide. While no Canadian province currently teaches genocide, Quebec is about to become the first to provide an educational guide on genocide in the province’s high schools, she added.

“And it won’t be just another textbook,” said Berger. “This is an interactive, online

tool that will be exciting for both teachers and students to work with. There will also be instructional videos produced and funded by our foundation that accompany the guide. And the government has agreed to organize teacher-training workshops for all educators to learn how to teach this sensitive subject.”

Asked during a question-and-answer session to clarify the foundation’s position on native genocide, Berger said, “First of all, I would like to make this very clear: we’re not a political group. And the history of the First Nations is going to be called a cultural genocide in this guide.”

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9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Well, the most important part of presenting adorable Franky is that he is diabetic and receives an insulin injection after each one of his two meals a day, 12 hours apart. As other readers do as well, I know how this works as I have a diabetic kitten from a litter that was born at home. It is a simple routine, a complete diabetic food meal in stock at the veterinarian (kibble and stew), followed by an insulin injection under the skin behind the shoulder up to an hour later. Franky is already on this program so it is just a matter of following his established routine in a new family.

Franky is wonderful, kind and generous with his affections. He came to the SPCA



Franky, so loving

as he was homeless outdoors. He is in a foster home at the moment and in need of a forever family. He is a healthy six-year-old who has received all his health and dental care from the SPCA and is ready for adoption. If you would like more information on him, please do not hesitate to contact the SPCA foster program at pfa@spca.com.

Little Bear, for kittens

The SPCA needs our help to provide newborn kitten supplies to the specially trained foster families that take in motherless newborn litters. This is a very busy summer and the volunteer families are very successful in saving these newborns. The SPCA has suggested the sponsoring of a Kitten Kit in the amount of \$60 as a tax-deductible donation. Here are the supplies in each kit for three kittens: kitten formula, feeding bottles, syringes, a scale, gloves, a thermometer, a kitten-size litter box. Please go online at the Montreal SPCA Neonatal Kitten Program: www.spcq.com/en/the-neonatal-program-for-orphaned-kittens/.

If you are dropping by Little Bear Pet Supplies at 4152 St. Catherine St., corner Greene Ave., please participate in the Cat Gift Basket and Dog Gift Basket raffles, each \$5 ticket for the large gift baskets is entirely donated to the Kitten Kit program as well. As a neighbourhood, we are rallying together to support this program for the most vulnerable newborn kittens who are found and brought in to the SPCA for care.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Demolition Application

1. The City of Westmount has received an application for a demolition permit, and for a preliminary program for the building located at **62 Belvédère Road**;
2. A public sitting of the Demolition Committee will take place on **September 16, 2019 at 5:35 p.m.** in the Council Chamber of City Hall, located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, in Westmount;

The legal notice relating to the foregoing is available at: <https://westmount.org/en/resident-zone/legal-services-city-clerks-office/public-notice/>

www.westmount.org

BUILDING PERMITS What's permitted

Council approves 21 building permits July 15

The following 21 permit requests for demolition, exterior construction, alteration and renovation were approved at the July 15 meeting of the city council. There were no refusals.

Approved

- 1358 Greene:** to install a fence in the rear yard;
- 1 Summit Circle:** to build a terrace on the roof and stairs for access on condition that the terrace is not visible from the street;
- 23 Burton:** to replace a front door as per option A on the application;
- 618 Carleton:** to make modifications to the garage and rebuild its roof deck;
- 4913 Sherbrooke:** to renovate the storefront and replace the front windows on the second floor;
- 4547 Sherbrooke:** at a Category I house, to repave the walkway and the driveway and to introduce a planting bed provided the width of the walkway is reduced to align with the staircase on the east boundary;
- 33 York:** to install a fence and to pave the driveway;
- 39 York:** to install a fence and pave the

parking apron provided it is physically separated by vegetation from the walkway;

- 11 Anwoth:** to install a fence;
- 364 Metcalfe:** at a Category I house: to resurface the walkway, driveway and parking areas and to do landscaping in the front yard provided the new parking space in front of the tree, when seen from the street, is eliminated from the scope of the work.
- 70 Summit Circle:** landscaping in the rear yard;
- 631 Carleton:** to build a retaining wall;
- 640 Murray Hill:** to replace windows;
- 3685 The Boulevard:** to install a new play structure at St. George's School;
- 411 Clarke:** at a Category I house, to modify the walkway and driveway provided the width of the driveway on city property is a maximum of 10 feet;
- 780 Lexington:** landscaping in the side yard;
- 5 Bellevue:** to replace the railing of balconies;
- 437 Argyle:** landscaping;
- 380 Lansdowne:** to replace windows;
- 9 Côte St. Antoine:** to rebuild the front staircase;
- 446 Victoria:** to repair the balconies.

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The MAAA's second clubhouse is in the centre of this photo looking at the south side of St. Catherine St., with the greystone "Brides Row" to the left. Westmount High is now at this location.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WHA.



Westmount Then & Now

CAROLINE BRESLAW
and JANE MARTIN

The site of Westmount High School and the adjacent Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) has a fascinating history. When Westmount was still the village of Côte St. Antoine, the land between Hollowell St. and Hillside Ave. stretching from today's St. Catherine St. to the train tracks was the site of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association (MAAA)'s clubhouse and grounds.

Formed through the union of three Montreal sporting groups – the Montreal Bicycle, Lacrosse and Snowshoe clubs – the MAAA purchased 10 acres of land in 1887 that were originally part of the Irvine farm.

The old Irvine cottage on St. Catherine St. served as the first clubhouse. Montrealers flocked to the popular events held there, using the streetcar once service was extended west to Greene Ave. There was a central playing field with a banked cinder track around its perimeter. Cycling races, lacrosse tournaments, speed skating championships, track and field competitions, cricket games and more were held on the grounds. There were also open-air skating rinks and tennis courts for members. When a new clubhouse was built in 1910, a roofed grandstand was added to accommodate spectators. Immediately to the east on St. Catherine St. stood a series of grey-stone rowhouses, known as the Brides Row.

The grounds and clubhouse were used by the military during both world wars. In World War I, troops were reviewed in the fields, and the new clubhouse was converted to a convalescent home for injured soldiers. During World War II, the facility saw an even greater military presence, including reviewing areas, offices and long rows of wooden barracks for troops. The property had been purchased by the city of Westmount in 1936 and was used regularly

What's a WAG?

over the years for track and field and other sporting events, including practices by the Montreal Alouettes football team.

(Change continues to this day at the MAAA. Its current building downtown on Peel St. will shortly undergo a huge renovation and addition.)

When the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal (PSBGM) was searching for land for a large high school in the late 1950s, the site on St. Catherine St. was judged to be ideal. In 1961, after demolishing the clubhouse, viewing stands and homes fronting on the street, the PSBGM constructed the new Westmount High School. Today's WAG is located on the site of the original track. The school rents

the playing field from the city, as does Selwyn House. It is also used by soccer, softball and baseball players. The WAG has tennis courts, a dog run, a children's playground and community gardens. This land, once owned by a private sports club, is now public and is enjoyed by local schools and residents.

More information about Westmount's heritage can be found on the Westmount Historical Association website www.wha.quebec.



A track and field race at the WAG in 1955.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LOWER CANADA COLLEGE.



Westmount High School shortly before its opening in 1961.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WHA

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Social Notes
VERONICA REDGRAVE

Ilios Gala was outstanding

The Hellenic Ladies Benevolent Society's Ilios Gala was once again a standing-room only – and outstanding – stylish soirée. The annual event raises funds to send underprivileged and special needs children to various summer camps, and supports the Educational Assistance Program for children's scholastic needs throughout the school year.

The evening commenced with cocktails in the inimitable setting of Le Windsor's crystal-chandelier-strewn Peacock Alley, where guests bid on silent auction items while enjoying the popular oyster bar.

A special Greek wine tasting was hosted by **Chris Dedes**. Dinner and dancing took place in the Windsor Ballroom where international singer **Nitza Melas** performed, accompanied by **Alexandros** and his band. Famed tenor and Il Bazzali restaurant chef Davide Bazzali was "auctioned off" and his operatic reputation preceded him, as his "sale" raised high bids in an animated live auction hosted by CJAD's **Elias Makos**, MC for the evening.



Senator Leo Housakos and Demie Housakos, Tony Loffreda, and Tina and Tom Pentefountas.

Distinguished guests were **Michalis Gavrilidis**, consul general of Greece; **Mary Deros**, Montreal city councillor for Ville-ray-St. Michel-Park Extension and her husband **Peter Deros**; **Nicholas Pagonis**, president of the Hellenic Community of Greater continued on p. 22



Ernie and Belle Grivakis, Léa Girard Nadeau and Harry Grivakis.



Anda Lanni, Peter and Vivian Pamel and Sandra Khoury

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Loffreda named to senate

Westmounter Tony Loffreda has been named to the Canadian senate by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

When asked if he was a federal Liberal, Loffreda told the *Independent* by email August 2, “I am an independent senator, have always been independent, wanting and working in the best interests of Canada.”

He has retired as vice-chairman of RBC Wealth Management, saying “the senate is a full-time employment and will be my sole employer!” He will spend time in Ottawa in order to attend “every sitting” of the upper chamber, he continued.

He added, “I have always had an interest in people, community engagement, positive impact and politics will allow me to keep doing what I love.”

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Cole at Galerie de Bellefeuille’s ‘Meet the Artist’



Darlene Cole with “Lake (polka dots + peonies)”

BY HEATHER BLACK

Toronto painter Darlene Cole was on hand to meet and greet art patrons at her July 13 vernissage at GdB’s Greene Ave. gallery. With large oil canvases of young women with flowers or on horseback, Cole’s *Lake* series recalls the beauty and elegance of an earlier era. Her figures – rendered in translucent tones against a watery blue background – are impressionistic and fluid. The artist said, “I was inspired by our wet spring and the sound of rain on my studio skylight. I paint in natural light and both my studios face lakes.” To convey the

idea of “immersed in a moment,” the artist adopted a more painterly style for the series.

“It’s important to evolve as an artist,” Cole explained. “And I like it to flow naturally.” Although many subjects evoke a romantic past and nostalgia for simpler times, others – such as a young couple in swimsuits – are equally contemporary. Also on display were large floral compositions as well as bold and dramatic, black-and-white floral or figurative prints. Although the exhibition has ended, some of Cole’s enchanting *Lake* series can be seen at 1367 Greene Ave.

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Social notes, cont'd. from p. 20

Montreal; Senator **Leo Housakos** and his wife **Demi**; and **Emmanuella Lambropoulos**, MP for St. Laurent.

Gala patrons included **George Alexopoulos** (Belden Canada Inc.); the **Georgoudes** family (Lanvac Surveillance); **Julie** and **Socrates Goulakos**; **Ernie Grivakis** (VVS Films); **Karambatsos Lawyers**; **Nikolas Klimis** (Lambert, Klimis, Sakkas and Marsh); **Tony Loffreda** (RBC); **Vivian** and **Peter Pamel**; and **Mary, Michael** and **Nick Tsatsoulis**.

Gala committee members were **Belle Grivakis** (social chair); and co-chairs **Sandra Khoury**, **Nitza Melas** and **Maggie Pagonis**.

Noted in the crowded rooms were HLBS president **Viola Vathilakis** and vice-president **Joanne Bisbikos**, as well as **Tina** and **Tom Pentefountas**, **Anda Lanni**, **Angela** and **Ted Di Giorgio**, **Vivian** and **Peter Pamel**, **Sandra Khoury**, and **Léa Girard Nadeau** and **Harry Grivakis**.

The evening closed with lots of enthusiastic Greek dancing.



Ted and Angela Di Giorgio



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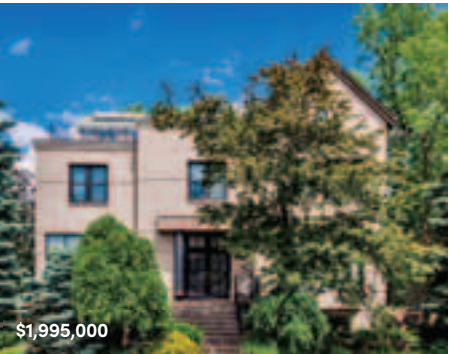
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