

New plan keeps bike path on de Maisonneuve during water work

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

New safety concerns have been raised following recent news that users of the bike path on de Maisonneuve will not be diverted south to St. Catherine between Melville and Clarke during water work by Montreal and Westmount on de Maisonneuve.

These were voiced last week by Dan Lambert, president of the Association of Cyclists and Pedestrians of Westmount, who is concerned about potential dangers facing cyclists and others using the bike route as a safe-distancing pandemic corridor while the work is under way.

While keeping the bike path open is good news because diversions are “never good” for cyclists, he told the *Independent*, management of the workplace equipment in co-existence with the cyclists and pedestrians will be critical in his view. As it is, the amount of gravel used to cover the temporary water supply hoses on the south side will pose obstacles to anyone with mobility issues.

Although traffic will be limited to residents only, he is concerned about vehicles having to swerve into the bike path to get past construction equipment and taking up more than one driving lane.

The position of the bike path may shift from one side of de Maisonneuve to the other, however, depending on the progress of the work. Other temporary detours may be expected.

Pedestrian alternative?

“We have suggested that the city create a safe zone along the south side of Sherbrooke St. [as an alternate pedestrian corridor],” he *continued on p. 22*

‘Bad weather’? What’s that?



Two-year-old Westmounter Christina Hoffmann was not at all bothered by the rain while dressed up in her “wellies” (Wellington boots) and rain jacket and out with her mum in Westmount Park on April 15.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

Twice-the-estimate bids rejected as ‘too high’

Murray pond to stay dry, council to consider next steps

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The pond at King George (Murray) Park appears to be heading for another dry summer now that the city’s tenders for its repair were rejected at the council meeting April 6 as “too high,” stated the resolution presented by Councillor Cynthia Lulham.

Two rejected tender bids for its reconstruction came from Excavation E.S.M. for \$845,136 and Ventec Inc. at \$887,262.

These were almost double the estimates.

As a result, the city is evaluating the next steps, according to interim assistant director general Bruce St. Louis. “I’ll have to sit down with the council [in general committee] and have another look at it.”

“I believe it’s important to restore what we had,” explains Lulham, whose commissionership includes parks. “The pond is a major landscaping and architectural feature.” *continued on p. 9*



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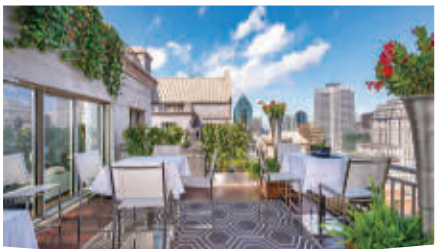
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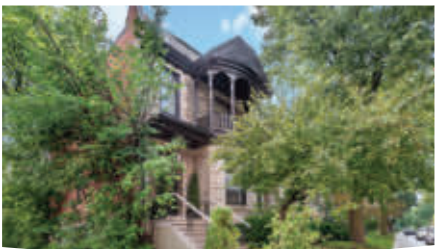
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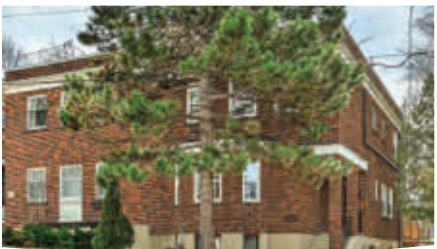
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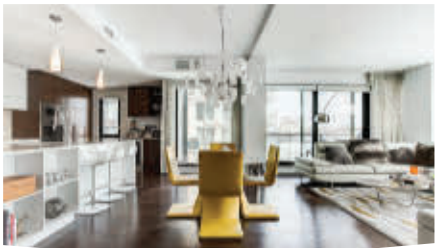
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Detours without end



The Montreal metropolis is infamous for its detours, including one some years ago that trapped residents of a neighbourhood in an infinite loop. These two signs, seen on St. Catherine St. near Kitchener April 9, invite motorists on a perpetual detour. New slogan: "Where one detour ends, another begins"? To make matters worse, the detour that seems to begin at this point leads motorists via Kitchener into the middle of the city of Montreal's water main work on de Maison-neuve.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Mouton Noir lease renewed for 3 years

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The Mouton Noir café at the Westmount recreation centre (WRC) had its original five-year lease renewed under a three-year option at the city council meeting April 6. This will allow it to continue preparation of light meals and take-out as well as the operation of the indoor space, depending on COVID restrictions. It also runs an outdoor terrasse on the arena's green roof. Under terms of the lease, the monthly rent is listed as the higher amount of \$250 or three percent of monthly sales to a maximum of \$750.

The concession had initially opened in November 2015 under a service agreement for a one-year pilot project under which the

city paid no operating expenses but received no rent in return either (see story September 15, 2015, p. 3).

When the city re-zoned the WRC to add "commercial" as a secondary use, this allowed for the operation of the café and a pro shop and made it possible for the café to obtain a liquor permit for beer, wine and wine cocktails (see story August 16, 2016, p. 3). In accordance with Westmount's long established by-laws, no alcoholic beverages are allowed to be served without food.

Last year, the Mouton Noir was granted a monthly rent reduction to help compensate for the lack of business during the pandemic closure of the WRC building. This reduced the rent to \$62.50 for each of April, May and June.

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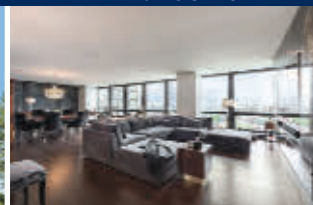
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Speed reduction, safety, parking on Dorchester

Reserved parking zone goes up, second crosswalk coming?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City efforts to slow traffic on Dorchester and improve the safety of people trying to cross the busy divided artery are continuing while a new residents' only parking zone was set up last week on the south side from Clandeboye to Greene.

The new reserved parking zone follows the installation the first week of December

of a crosswalk highlighted by pedestrian-activated yellow-flashing lights at Clandeboye.

"I'm delighted," said District 8 councillor Kathleen Kez of the new reserved parking. "Now residents will be able to find parking on the south side where they live and the city's coffers will benefit because non-residents will have to start using the meters on the north side."

She's now hoping for more changes to improve life for residents of the area. This includes a second pedestrian crossing further west at Columbia. This would not be lighted. It was described in minutes of the city's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting of December 8 as to be installed "in the following week."

"I'm eager to have this as soon as possible because the more crosswalks, the better," she explained last week. "It's something I've been fighting for."

Paving this summer

More changes on Dorchester, however, are complicated and could be held up by this summer's repaving of the north side of the street from Greene to St. Catherine. This is when two-way traffic will use the current east-bound (south) side, Kez said.

The TAC minutes of February 16 tabled at the April 6 council meeting state that a survey is in preparation to seek input on the possibility of creating resident-reserved parking in the current lane on Dorchester between Bruce and Columbia. This would reduce speed.

While residents have been asking for different measures for the safety of pedestrians, such as a stop sign, a crosswalk, and wider sidewalks, the same minutes note that an actual stop sign at Columbia would not conform to norms of the Ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ).

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After washing by MTQ Graffiti reappears soon after along highway wall at Selby Park

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Within three or four days after Transport Quebec (MTQ) washed long standing graffiti off the new Highway 136 wall along Selby Park just east of Greene, the concrete structure was again defaced, Councillor Kathleen Kez said last week.

"I have asked the city to request the MTQ to plant trees such as cedars or thorny bushes alongside to prevent more graffiti," she said.

The cleaning of graffiti by the MTQ has been part of negotiations held by the city in which the ministry agreed to undertake washing twice a year, she explained.

"After waiting more than a year for the graffiti to be removed on both the south and north sides on the wall, it was back after only four days on the south side. It's not nice for residents to look at from their homes and backyards on Selby lane."



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The Columbia/Dorchester intersection on April 16. Councillor Kathleen Kez is hoping for a crosswalk here.



The new-ish Clandeboye crosswalk on April 16.



New parking signage on Dorchester east of Greene on April 16.



PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

EDITORIAL

BAN FIREPLACES? A SOLUTION IN SEARCH OF A PROBLEM

“[One vehicle that failed in the market] was a sport utility, the GMC XUV, which had a roof like a roll-top desk, and you could roll the whole roof forward almost to the driver, so that you could move grandfather clocks upright and Christmas trees and everything... “It was the answer to a question that nobody asked.”

– car executive Robert “Bob” Lutz on the *Charlie Rose* show, November 9, 2011

Two recent contributors to this newspaper, columnist Heather Westman of the Healthy City Project (March 30, p. 20) and letter writer Morris Charney (April 13, p. 6), have decried the continued freedom of Westmounters to burn wood in fireplaces and wood stoves.

I can’t help but disagree, and urge council to continue its past, wise practice of letting sleeping dogs lie.

Before enacting yet another law, let us ask a simple question: is there a problem?

In examining Councillor Marina Brzeski’s claim that wood burning is infrequent here, Westman “could not find information on the usage of fireplaces ... on the city’s website” – which also shows us that Westman herself has no information that wood burning is frequent or high (whatever these might mean) or even that it is

at such-and-such a level.

Why legislate away a simple pleasure and heating source back-up if the overall level and effects are immaterial, as many people think?

And let’s be clear: the burden of proof should be on the proponents of change, and of less freedom, to prove their case. If the amount of firewood use in Westmount is high, give us the numbers and explain how they translate into actual bad health consequences.

Facts or feelings?

Charney goes further in his indifference to quantities: “It is not a matter of how many homeowners are trying to heat their homes using wood, be it in fireplaces or stoves. There are very few who are foolish enough to consider doing that.”

Why isn’t the low amount of firewood use relevant? What other problem is approached in this any-is-too-much way? (“Everyone is skinny! Time to diet!”?)

(By the way, if – as Charney contends – downdrafting of toxins from fireplaces is such an issue in the summertime, wouldn’t a plastic bag and some duct tape on the chimney top put an end to that?)

Quoting allegedly august sources (the WHO, the EPA, the city of Montreal etc...) about the carcinogenic character of wood

smoke and its other ill effects as proof that a ban is necessary is also illogical. Many substances are bad in the abstract, but hardly relevant in trace amounts or worthy of blanket bans.

Or is the goal some kind of neo-Victorian purity (“There is wood burning happening in our community! It must stop!”), and not an actual positive change in people’s health?

Even worse, are the logical leaps leading us to an imperious scientific managerialism? Charney writes: “Educating the public is not the answer. The science is already known. Wood-burning fireplaces have to be phased out and it is necessary to pass a by-law in that regard.”

No discussion? No cost-benefit analysis, including a dialogue of a ban’s effect on freedom? No appreciation for why “the public” does not share these particular scientists’ narrowly framed preoccupation?

Or is it: “The people have not embraced enlightened goals with sufficient enthusiasm. Time to ‘guide’ them to the correct behaviour”? As Rousseau might have put it: “Let us force them to be enlightened.”

Environment yes, but not at any price

Concern for the environment is laudable, but if we do everything possible – no matter how miniscule the benefit and/or

how large the cost (in effort, option foreclosure and freedom) – the results will be undesirable. Even environmental efforts themselves can suffer if resources and goodwill are expended on petty, diminishing-return victories instead of substantial ones.

There is also the likelihood that environmental action becomes about feeling good, not doing it. (“There was wood burning in our community! We have stopped it! On to the next piece of theatre!”)

In this case, one material casualty of a wood-burning ban would be the elimination a repeatedly tested back-up source of heat. The occasional fire for pleasure makes the necessary fire for survival safer.

Charney mentions Quebec’s 1998 ice storm as a time when wood stoves were needed, but we can look to the February blackout in Texas for a more recent, deadly example of not having off-grid heat options.

And Canada is colder than Texas.

*

On a completely different note, I encourage the relevant city workers to check that the drains of the lagoon in Westmount Park are duckling-proof. Two years ago, ducklings were sucked away to their doom (see June 11, 2019, p. 6) and I remember that it was a concern last year too.

David Price is the editor of the Independent.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NO TO NO-CAR ZONE

As a resident of Plaza Tower, the 33-storey building connected to Alexis Nihon Plaza, I was disappointed to read your article re: the plans to have a car-free zone in front of the building (April 6, p. 1).

We have had to deal with this situation for the past two years due to repairs to the roof membrane of the Atwater Metro station.

There are approximately 800 tenants in Plaza Tower who have been denied the usual, appropriate ambulance, fire brigade, police, taxi and delivery services. Now the powers-that-be are talking of maybe making this permanent – and during a pandemic.

As for the future work planned between Clarke and Melville, now it will be their turn to put up with the inconvenience.

Dawson students don’t need to cross de Maisonneuve Blvd. to get to the plaza. They have a direct connection underground.

The main players in this fiasco, I am

sure, are not among the 800 tenants who live in the building. They enthusiastically use terms like “animation,” “seating,” “place making,” “cafés,” “terraces” and some kind of attractions we see in many public places around the world. I am still trying to figure out what all this means for the car-free zone.

Let’s hope this plan does not come to fruition. If it does, how about a skating rink in front of the building and bobsleighbing on the elevated ramp from the front entrance during the winter months? But watch out for those cyclists if they are still around.

By the way, Plaza Towers’ postal code is H3Z 1J9, which is in Westmount, not Montreal.

GEORGE SHARKEY, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

THANKS FOR THE LAGOON

I walked through Westmount Park today and was so delighted to see the water in the pond! I saw a pair of ducks earlier and now I know that the ducklings that are hatched will live this year, unlike other

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

years when the city didn't fill the pond early enough.

Great job! Much appreciated!

CLAIRE SALZBERG, CLAREMONT AVE.

THANKS FOR THE Y POOL

I am so grateful to be able to swim at the YMCA Westmount's indoor pool. It is so refreshing to be able to stretch arms, legs, torso, neck, etc. for 45 minutes, and this, at a very minimal cost (\$5), or free on Fridays: 10:45 to 11:35 am, *bain libre*!

I wish to say thank you to Anthony D'Alesio Jr. for his patience and clear info on what to do, and what not to do. Also to the pool staff and their *gentillesse*. Special thank you to the cleaning/sanitation staff for an impeccable service!

MONIQUE ELIZABETH SAVOIE,
ST. CATHERINE ST.

LET THE FIELDS GROW, AT LEAST A LITTLE

Westmount, can you hear the buzz in the air?

Spring has sprung and the air is full of bees and birds – glorious! The photo below was taken last week on Murray Hill and shows a bee (don't ask me what kind!) gorging on a wild flower's nectar (again...). I suggest you take a good look now because this sweet magic will soon be cut short with the start of mowing season. Goodbye wildflowers, bees and birds.

Westmount, let (some) fields grow! They will be beautiful.

Don't take my word for it – a pretty special guy 2,000 years ago thought as much: "Consider how the lilies of the field grow: They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his glory was adorned like one of these" (Matthew 6:28-29).

Westmount, can we leave some patches of beauty to grow this summer? Just some tiny patches here and there? Our buzzing friends will feel so much more welcome in our renewed urban oasis.

DAVID SEARLE, KENSINGTON AVE.

MORE MEMORIES OF JANE ATKINSON

Looking through my files, I found the photo at right of the late Jane Atkinson from 2011 at Summit Woods with Christina Idziak, former curator of the Morgan Arboretum and forestry consultant who drew up the four-season panels for the nature board.

This is the Jane Atkinson I remember: smiling, having fun while on a trail with us at the woods, and providing us with her plant and shrub identification skill.

JOHN FRETZ, LANSDOWNE AVE.

REMOVE CITY HALL'S BARS

I was interested to note that city hall continues to maintain security bars in its windows (April 13, p. 9).

Some years ago (2008), when we were doing our own masonry and window renovations, we applied for a permit to restore/replace the 1925 security grills that we had on our building ... only to be told by city hall that such screens would not be permitted, and that alarm systems were our only option.

It's time for city hall to eat crow and remove its own security bars..... there are alarm systems for that!

GEORGES GOHIER, ACADEMY RD.

FIX THE SIDEWALKS, PLEASE

Letter sent to Mayor Christina Smith

I recently had hip replacement surgery and, since a month after the operation, I have been taking walks, weather permitting, and I am absolutely dismayed by the disgraceful condition of the sidewalks, which appear to have not been touched in at least a decade and look like they belong in a Third World country, not in a "prestigious" town such as Westmount. They are hazardous.

In my opinion, the city is risking law suits resulting from inevitable falls as a result of this obvious negligence.

Most of the streets I walk on are Redfern, Clarke, Sherbrooke, Kensington and



Metcalfe, and they are all equally bad.

I look forward to a detailed reply.

BERNARD ARBESS, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

MONTREALERS MISS THEIR STOWE

Thank you very much for publishing the column "Stowe misses its Montrealers" (April 6, p. 9) about my cherished Montreal friends who ski in Stowe. I was pleasantly surprised when I received over 10 e-mails from your readers. I was overwhelmed with gratitude and appreciation. I have written dozens of similar stories but none has gotten such a heartfelt response.

The letters were very detailed about the writers' times in Stowe and how much skiing there means to them. I got several replies from the people I described in the story and they were delighted I thought so much of them. Other responses were from

people I didn't know but owned homes in Stowe and expressed how dear their ski days in Stowe were to them.

A few of the replies were from elderly Montrealers who had sold their homes but wanted to share the good times they and their children had in Stowe both in the winter and summer.

Stowe means so much to the Montrealers and that's what I love about them. I miss my Montreal friends in Stowe and they miss being there. Without a doubt these Stowe skiers are truly an amazing group who are sorely missed. I would be surprised if some of these people didn't pen you a letter.

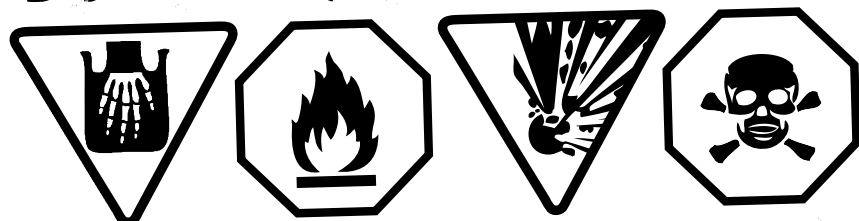
I would also like to share with you the watercolour below that I painted of skiing in the woods with my dear Montreal friends. Stay safe and well.

MARTHA R. LANG, BURLINGTON, VT



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Old Electronics

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For more information, consult westmount.org/hhw

Reminder: The Bethune Street Public Works yard depots have been closed since March 2019.

Stay in the vehicle at all times:

- if you absolutely must get out of your vehicle, make sure you wear a mask and respect a distance of 2 metres from the employees
- if you must give information to employees, please do so while remaining in your vehicle



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'We can afford to end homelessness,' Brewery Mission CEO tells Rotarians



Left, Old Brewery Mission CEO James Hughes, seen here with Rotary Club of Westmount president Jim Fares, summarized the shelter's efforts to help the homeless during the pandemic over the past year during the Rotarians' noon-hour webcast on April 7.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Old Brewery Mission CEO and president James Hughes wants to do more than just reduce homelessness to an acceptable minimum – he believes it can and should be eliminated altogether.

And not only for the sake of the homeless, but also because it makes sense economically, he insists.

"Our tendency is still towards emergency response," Hughes, who took the reins of the downtown Montreal homeless shelter last year, told members of the Rotary Club of Westmount during the service organization's April 7 noon-hour web conference.

"When the house is on fire, you've got to put the fire out. But at the end of the day, we can house folks for a lot less than it costs to provide emergency services on a continuous basis."

Beyond emergency response

Hughes suggested that a current mindset, that society can't afford to house everybody, needs to change.

"I put to you that we can afford to house everybody and that we can afford to end homelessness. In fact, we'll save money, including the millions of dollars that it's taken to put the emergency services up during this time of COVID."

Before being appointed to replace former Old Brewery Mission head Matthew Pearce, who retired last September after 13 years service, Hughes edited the book *Beyond Shelters: Solutions to Homelessness*

in Canada from the Front Lines, as well as other publications centered on poverty, social inclusion and indigenous affairs.

20 fewer years of life

Around 2008, the Old Brewery Mission's mandate shifted from managing homelessness to reducing it permanently through long-term solutions. During his talk, Hughes told the Rotarians that on average a chronically homeless person in Montreal will live 20 years less than most other people.

"It's somewhat immoral to even think that we find ourselves in such a rich place with so many people who we have not been able to support in terms of intervening early enough and smartly enough to find them the housing that they need and that we enjoy," he said.

Hughes said a layer of complexity was added to Montreal's homelessness problem when the pandemic started in March last year. Because homeless people tend to gather in groups and shelters where a lack of privacy causes COVID-19 to spread, he said a prevailing view at the beginning was that things would become very brutal quickly.

To implement sanitary and social distancing protocols, the mission had to drastically reduce the number of people it took in, although new facilities were opened to accommodate the rest. The mission's facilities have also been fitted with hundreds of plexiglass panels to prevent the transmission of the coronavirus. continued on p. 9

Owner, artist imitate life – and (unwittingly) each other



"Everyone must do their part to fight COVID-19," said resident Stuart Korne while forwarding this picture of his dog Snaps.

PHOTO COURTESY OF S. KORNE.



© Lise Gallant

Rotary, cont'd. from p. 8

As a result of these and other measures taken during the pandemic's first phase last year, very few homeless people got COVID, Hugues said. However, the situation changed drastically early last December when "a match was lit in the homelessness sector" and the number of people testing positive rose drastically.

"It did spread very quickly and we were somewhat overwhelmed," he said, noting that special pandemic facilities for the homeless, such as the former Royal Victoria Hospital and some hotels, were opened for those infected with COVID and needing to be isolated. "We still have a few cases, we're still not quite done yet, we're still very nervous about the variant," he said.

Israeli film festival coming

The Festival du cinéma israélien de Montréal, which Westmounters have supported in the past (see May 15, 2018 p. 21), runs this year from May 2 to 12. The event is online this year, but has been at the Old Forum in the past. Film formats include feature films, documentaries and shorts.

Murray pond, cont'd. from p. 1

Background information accompanying the city's capital works budget for 2021 described the central water feature as "beyond its useful life."

When in operation, the pond leaks and may damage the playground equipment downstream."

It had been leaking for a number of years (see story April 16, 2019, p. 3). The problem worsened and the pond with its circulating water fall was closed down after that while tender documents were completed for the work in this year's budget. The two received bids were opened February 5 to be analyzed.

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Front fences prohibited except...

By-laws, guidelines list various configurations and conditions

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Hoping to add a front fence in the coming months?

If so, it will help to take time to check out the city’s landscape design by-laws 1547 and 1548 as well as the *Guidelines to Building and Renovating in Westmount*, all available on the city’s website under Resident zone/urban planning.

That’s because fences at the front of a property are prohibited in Westmount “to preserve the open character of the urban landscape” and allowed only “in exceptional circumstances.”

These all come with special conditions and technicalities based on location, configuration and safety.

A permit will also be required.

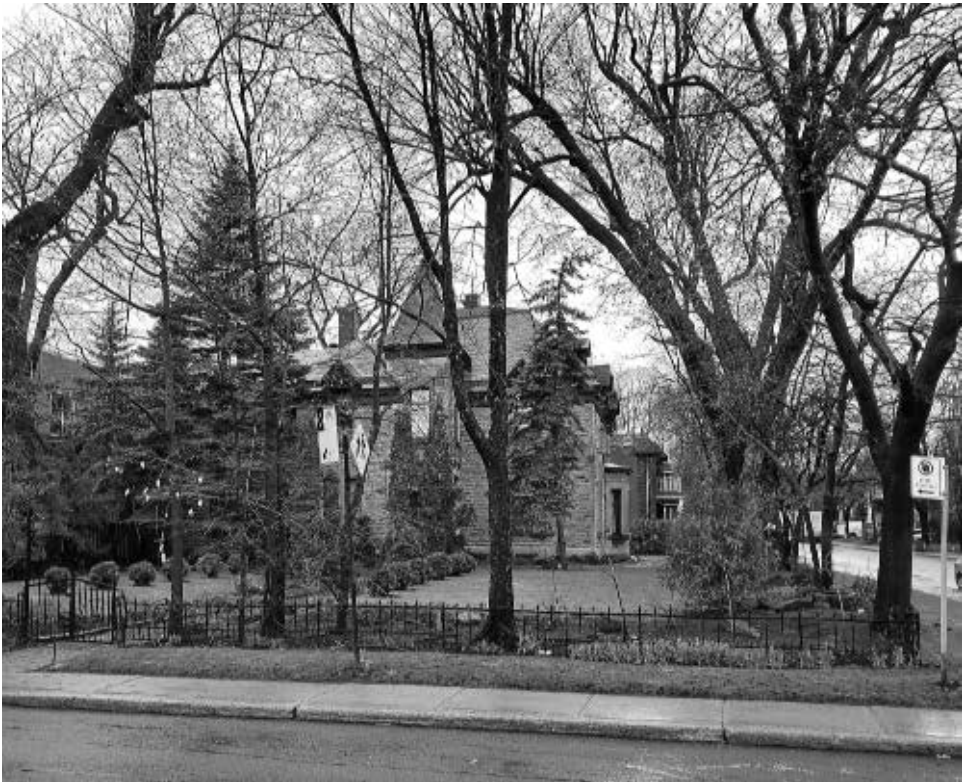
Essentially, front-facing fences are only permitted on side areas or “lots,” on “transverse” (street-to-street) lots, on corner lots or on those with retaining walls, particular

slopes and configurations, or based on safety and practical situations such as around tennis courts, school yards, or as a heritage-documented feature.

Depending on individual circumstances, these require different heights and various conditions all detailed in By-law 1547 (article 6) in which fences must harmonize with styles, and character of the building and street.

In the case of a heritage property, such as the green fence in front of 178 Côte St. Antoine Rd., called the Goode House, a historical document is required attesting that a fence existed and that its presence is consistent with the historic landscaping of the site.

In the words of the guidelines: “Ensure that fences facing the street contribute to enhancing the special characteristics of each building, site, and heritage area, considering the privacy or safety needs specific to the intended use.”



This house on Côte St. Antoine in NDG (corner Northcliffe) might be able to document its fence as a “heritage-documented feature” if it were in Westmount. It was photographed April 16.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT

Bike collision leaves pedestrian unable to work

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Police at Station 12 have opened a traffic-incident investigation following a collision last week between a teenage boy riding



Seen here on April 13 outside his Claremont Ave. home, Yi Chen suffered an injury to his arm when a bicycle driven by a teenager boy struck him at high speed on Belmont Crescent a short distance from King George Park.

ing his bicycle near King George Park and a pedestrian who suffered an arm injury that has left him in pain and temporarily unable to work.

Yi Chen, 55, of Claremont Ave. told the *Independent* that around 7:40 pm on April 10 he was out for a walk near the electric charging station on the west side of King George (Murray) Park, when a bicycle driven by the boy approached in his direction quickly.

“At that time, the kid was playing basketball with one hand and manipulating the bicycle with [the other] hand, whizzing down from the mountain, at a very fast speed,” Chen said in an e-mail to the *Independent*.

Chen said that after they collided, he fell abruptly to the ground, then realized his right arm had been injured, that he was in pain and he was having difficulty moving.

“The kid was about 14 or 15 years old, and he said ‘sorry’ to me again and again, explaining that his bicycle brake was broken,” added Chen.

Presuming (incorrectly as it turned out) that the arm was broken, given the pain he was feeling, he said he asked the boy to call his parents to deal with the situation.

“He answered that his home was just around the corner of Belmont and Westmount, and implored me to go to his house to find his parents,” Chen recalled being told by the boy, while adding the boy called

his mother on a cell phone. Chen said this also allowed him to jot down the number the boy was calling.

They walked along Belmont Ave., and the mother ran to greet them. “She wanted me to let her son go home first, she explained that he was under 14 years old, also she was willing to accompany me to the hospital for a physical examination. I agreed.” The boy then rode away, said Chen.

“She walked with me for about five minutes and suddenly ran away,” said Chen, adding that his arm was so painful at that point that he was unable to stop her from leaving.

The *Independent* left a voice mail, and made a follow-up call to the phone number Chen said the boy called to contact his mother, as we tried to hear their version of events. We had not received a reply by deadline.

In an interview, Chen said that after having his arm checked in the emergency department at the Jewish General Hospital, he found out the arm bone hadn’t been fractured. However, he said the arm is bruised and he has to wear it in a sling while recovering.

Chen, who works as a legal consultant, said the injury is affecting his ability to work. He said a doctor at the JGH gave him a letter of certification stating he can’t work for 30 days. “I need to drive my car



Yi Chen’s arm the day after the incident.

PHOTO COURTESY OF Y. CHEN.

in order to work, and at this moment I cannot drive,” he said, adding that he is also unable to type at his computer.

Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel confirmed that Chen filed a complaint, and that the woman left the scene in haste.

Pimentel said that in cases involving collisions between bicyclists and pedestrians, an adult bicycle driver can be charged and fined \$1,000 under a Highway Safety Code clause involving the endangerment of pedestrians.

From age 14 to 18, the fine is \$750, he added. However, if the boy is under 14 as may be the case in this situation, he won’t be fined at all.

“By law, you cannot give a Highway Safety Code infraction for under 14 years of age,” said Pimentel, after consulting Station 12’s traffic experts.

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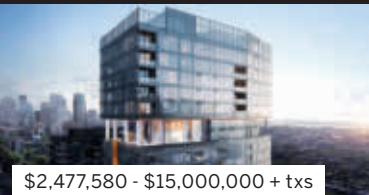
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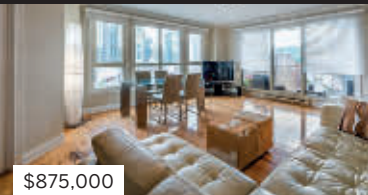
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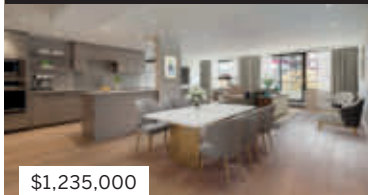
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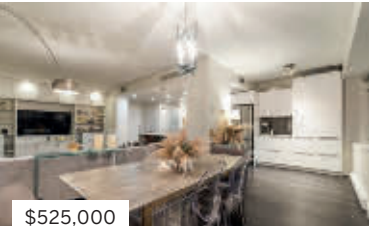
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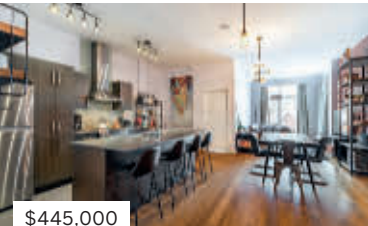
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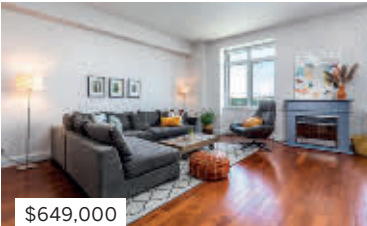
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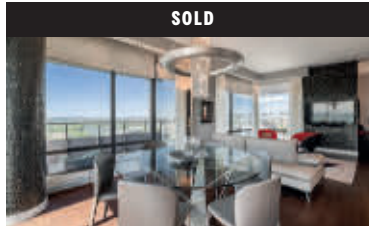
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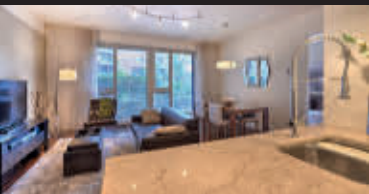
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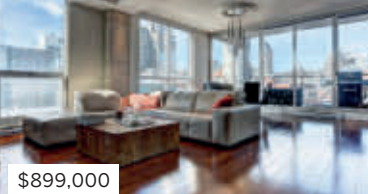
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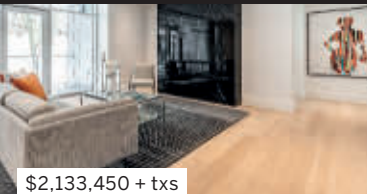
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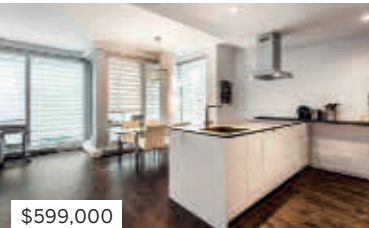
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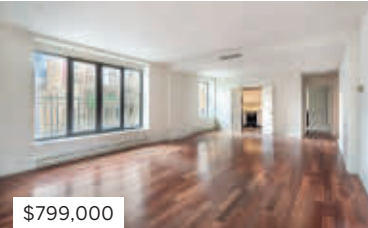
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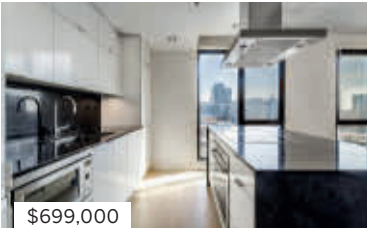
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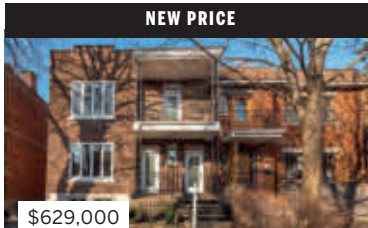
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We all want to know more about COVID-19 vaccination



There are many reasons to get vaccinated, including protecting ourselves from the complications and dangers caused by infectious diseases, but also to stop the return of infectious diseases that are avoidable through vaccination.

The COVID-19 vaccination campaign now underway is aimed at preventing serious complications and death from COVID-19. We also use vaccination as a way of protecting our healthcare system and getting back to a more normal life.

When did the vaccination campaign start?

COVID-19 vaccination in Québec began in December 2020 with the delivery of the first vaccine doses. Because the availability of vaccine is limited, categories of people deemed at higher risk of developing COVID-19 complications have been given priority. As more vaccine becomes available in Canada, the categories of recipients will be extended.

Order of priority of recipients of COVID-19 vaccines

- 1 Vulnerable people and people with a significant loss of autonomy who live in residential and long-term care centres (CHSLDs) or in intermediate and family-type resources (RI-RTFs)
- 2 Workers in the health and social services network who have contact with users
- 3 Autonomous or semi-autonomous people who live in private seniors' homes (RPAs) or in certain closed residential facilities for older adults
- 4 Isolated and remote communities
- 5 People 80 years of age or older
- 6 People 70 to 79 years of age
- 7 People 60 to 69 years of age
- 8 Adults under 60 years of age who have a chronic disease or health problem that increases the risk of complications of COVID-19
- 9 Adults under 60 years of age who do not have a chronic disease or health problem that increases the risk of complications, but who provide essential services and have contact with users
- 10 Everyone else in the general population at least 16 years of age

What supply strategy was used to acquire the vaccines?

The Government of Canada signed advance purchase agreements for seven promising COVID-19 vaccines with the following companies: AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson, Medicago, Moderna, Novavax, Pfizer and Sanofi Pasteur/GlaxoSmithKline. The purchases are conditional upon approval of these vaccines by Health Canada.

To date, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines have been approved for distribution in Canada. Soon, other vaccines from these companies will be used to speed up COVID-19 vaccination.



What types of COVID-19 vaccines are being studied?

There are three types of vaccine currently being studied.

- 1 mRNA vaccines:** These vaccines contain part of the RNA of the virus which has the ability to make the S protein located on the surface of the virus. Once the RNA messenger is inside our cells, they make proteins similar to those on the surface of the virus using the instructions provided by the RNA messenger. Our immune system recognizes that this protein is foreign and produces antibodies to defend itself against it. The RNA fragment is quickly destroyed by cells. There is no risk that this RNA will alter our genes.
- 2 Viral vector vaccines:** These contain a weakened version of a virus that is harmless to humans. Once in the body, the vaccine enters our cells and gives them instructions to make protein S. Our immune system recognizes that this protein is foreign and produces antibodies to defend itself against it. Once in the body, the vaccine enters our cells and gives them instructions to make protein S. Our immune system recognizes that this protein is foreign and produces antibodies to defend itself against it.
- 3 Protein subunit vaccines:** These contain non-infectious fragments of proteins that mimic the envelope of the virus. Our immune system recognizes that this protein is foreign and produces antibodies to defend itself against it.

Will an mRNA vaccine alter our genetic code?

No. Messenger RNA does not enter the cell's nucleus or come into contact with the nucleic DNA. As such, it cannot alter our DNA in any way.

How do COVID-19 vaccines work?

When someone receives the vaccine against the virus that causes COVID-19, their body starts to defend itself against the virus. An immune reaction occurs which neutralizes the virus producing antibodies and activating defense cells.

Most COVID-19 vaccines in development prompt the production of antibodies to block protein S; the protein that allows the virus to infect the human body. This prevents the virus from entering and infecting human cells.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is composed of strands of ribonucleic acid (RNA) genetic material surrounded by a crown-like envelope with proteins that include the S (spike) protein, hence the name "coronavirus."



What side effects can be expected from injection with the COVID-19 vaccine?

Some minor side effects may occur, such as redness or pain at the injection site and fatigue, fever or chills. These symptoms are less common among vaccine recipients over the age of 55, are usually benign and do not last long.

As of now there are no known serious side effects from mRNA vaccines. While other random problems may arise, such as a cold or gastroenteritis, they are not related to the vaccine per se.

Because the vaccine does not contain the SARS-CoV-2 virus, it is not capable of causing COVID-19. However, people who come into contact with the virus in the days leading up to their vaccination or within 14 days of receiving the vaccination could still develop symptoms and get the COVID-19 disease.

As such, following health measures remains important until such time as a majority of the population has been vaccinated.

Why did it take 40 years to develop a flu vaccine but only nine months for one against COVID-19?

Past efforts, particularly during the SARS epidemic in 2003, advanced coronavirus vaccine research and accelerated the fight against COVID-19.

There are currently over 50 COVID-19 vaccines undergoing clinical trials around the world, the result of unprecedented scientific cooperation. Considerable financial and human resources have been invested in the development of vaccines that meet regulatory requirements in such a short span of time.

Public health and regulatory authorities in many countries, including Canada, are working hard to ensure that as many safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines as possible become quickly available to their populations.

Why are two vaccine doses required?

The second dose "reminds" the immune system to continue producing antibodies and ensures long-term protection. In current circumstances, where COVID-19 is spreading very fast, administration of the second dose may be delayed somewhat to be able to vaccinate more people with the first dose.

[Québec.ca/COVIDvaccine](https://quebec.ca/COVIDvaccine)

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Zoom, to an all-time high!



Real Estate

ANDY DODGE

Note: The following article relates to offers to purchase Westmount residential dwellings that were reported by local real estate agents as having been accepted in March 2021. Because they are not final registered sales, the addresses cannot be made public, but give a good idea of current trends in local real estate activity. The graph at right offers a picture of these trends over time.

“Zoom” is the word of the 2020s, and it doesn’t just apply to friendly gatherings and meetings over the internet; it is fast becoming the only way to describe the incredible real estate market, whether it is in Westmount, Montreal or across the country.

Prices in Westmount have been going straight up for 11 months now, past the peak reached briefly last March before the COVID-19 pandemic stopped the market cold in its tracks. As buyers realized they were going to be spending more time at

home and needed extra living space or facilities, the value of real estate has gone up nationally and Westmount is no exception.

The average Westmount house is now worth over \$2.5 million; the three-month volume is at its highest point since 2017; Westmount had its first sale this year over \$5 million in March, and of 13 total sales, none were below \$1,100,000. Mark-ups over valuation ranged from 10 to 88 percent with an average of 40.6 percent, the highest since the new valuation roll came into force in January last year. Seven of the 13 sales took place in less than 10 days, and the average days-on-market plummeted to 52 from 147 in February. Four of the 13 sales were above the asking price, one 16 percent above asking after nine days.

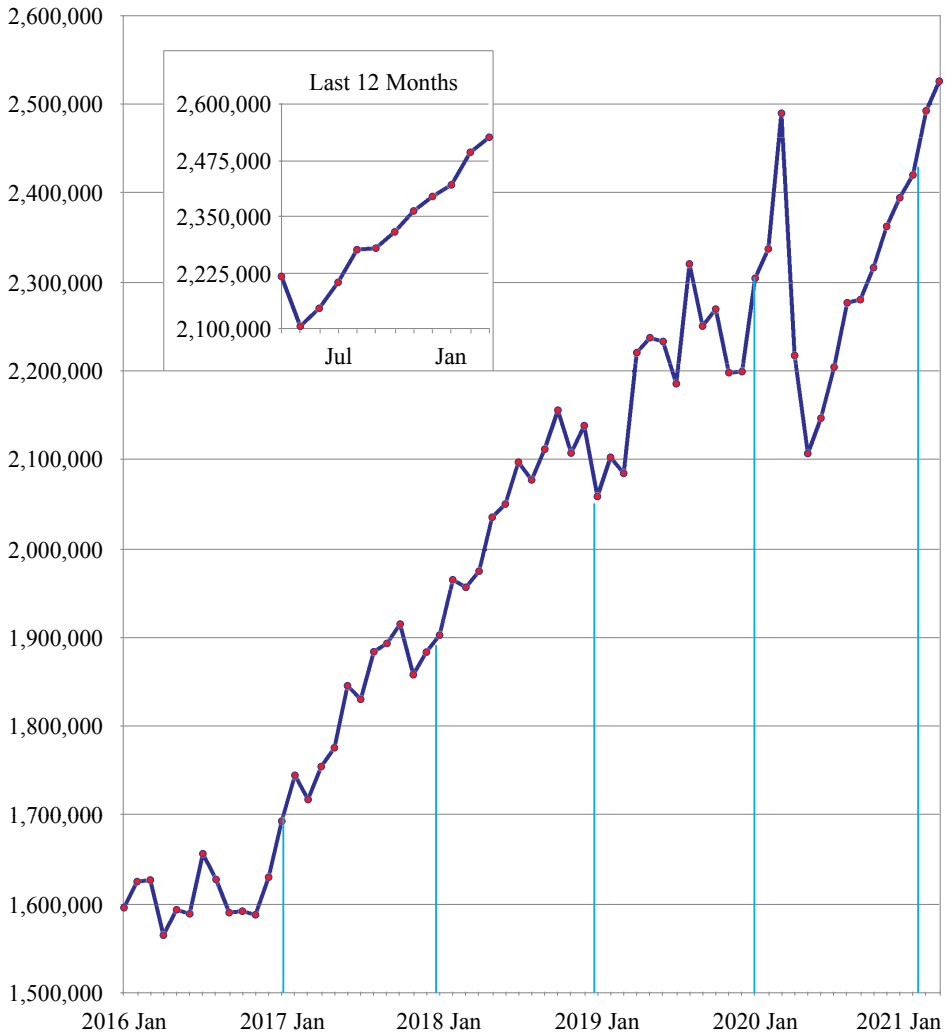
As one local agent put it, “it’s exhausting!”

In many cases, agents were able to double-end the commission, acting as both the listing agent and the buying agent. Four extra sales like this were added to the February sales list, and four more double-enders took place in March.

Condos

The condo market was no slouch, either. Volume for the first quarter reached

Average adjusted price for ‘typical’ Westmount house, by month, January 2016 to March 2021, based on accepted offer dates



12 sales, compared to an average of 9 per quarter last year. The average price dropped slightly from \$1,095,174 in the fourth quarter of last year to \$1,067,750, the only times the average has been over the \$1-million mark.

Two sales, both at Château Westmount Square, 4175 St. Catherine St., were above \$2 million; one very modest apartment on Hillside Ave. sold for \$400,000 in late January, the same month an apartment at 200 Lansdowne Ave. sold for 17.8 percent less than valuation, the only mark-down of the quarter.

The highest-priced condo sale of the quarter, \$2,550,000, also was the highest mark-up at 59 percent.

Adjacent

Life was more genteel for agents working the fringes of Westmount, though there were three sales in southern Côte des Neiges (the Circle Rd./Cedar Crescent district), and one each in most of the other

adjacent-Westmount districts.

Houses are selling 75 percent above valuation in the Square Mile and only 11 percent above valuation in the Shaughnessy village area, but of course volume is very low so the statistics are hardly indicative of the market. For the other areas average mark-ups are between 27 and 39 percent.

With the coming of spring, the number of available Westmount house listings increased from 64 in mid-March to 71 in mid-April, still none asking under \$1 million for the seventh month in a row but otherwise slight increases in the number of listings in every price category.

Seven other houses were rented in the past month, but the same number came on line to leave the number of available rental listings at 24.

Listings for sale in Westmount range from \$1,149,000 to \$27,500,000, while the rentals range from \$4,000 to \$20,000 per month.



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Novel #11

McKenzie publishes *Six Weeks to Live*

Westmounter Catherine McKenzie on April 1 with an advance copy of her eleventh novel, *Six Weeks to Live*, published by Simon & Schuster. Publication day is April 20.

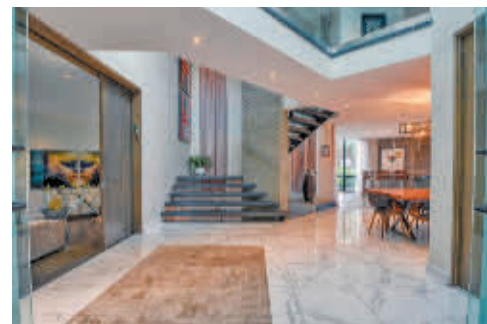
“Jennifer Barnes never expected the shocking news she received at a routine doctor’s appointment: she has a terminal brain tumor – and only six weeks left to live,” runs the book’s back cover, but “... when she realizes she was possibly poisoned a year earlier, she’s determined to discover who might have tried to get rid of her before she’s gone for good.” McKenzie has called it “her take on the two *DOA* movies.”

After 23 years as a litigator, McKenzie retired from Westmount law firm IMK in August last year to focus exclusively on writing. She recently published an essay in the *Toronto Star* explaining that decision and process – writing, among other things: “I was 46. I’d been practising law for half my life in the same firm. When I looked ahead to the next 20 years, I asked myself: was this what I wanted to be doing? The answer was no.”

She is the wife of the *Independent’s* editor.



PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.



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Line painting under way



Bike-path line painting has been under way in recent weeks including on Westmount Ave. near Marianopolis CEGEP on April 9, left, and de Maisonneuve at Prince Albert on April 12, right, where one could contrast the old with the new.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

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Exclusions: toilet paper, hand soap, paper towel.

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Description	Valeurs
Hauteur extérieure	231 cm / 91 po
Largeur extérieure	110 cm / 43,5 po
Longueur extérieure	119 cm / 47 po
Cuve de rétention	227 L / 50 gal
Capacité du lavabo	57 L / 12 gal
Poids	139 kg / 310 lbs

Spotted at a de Maisonneuve construction site: “A turnkey luxury pre-fab on the flats for under 1 million!” The “Kensington Crescent” listing comes complete with details (toilet, urinal, sink etc) and dimensions: 91 inches high by 43.5 by 47. “With today’s prices, this port-a-potty is priced to

sell!!!!” discoverer Anne Sutherland told the *Independent*.

“I know the housing market is tight in Westmount, but I did not realize it was this tight!” said resident Eric Caron in forwarding his own photo of the dream home.

PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
A. SUTHERLAND.

Update

One-room cottage sold (?) & now ‘occupied’ (?)



No sooner had we laid out the story at left than word came April 15 to our newsroom that the “Kensington Crescent” dream house had been sold and was for rent. Speculators biding their time before another sale? Are renovations in the offing? Perhaps an extension, or another floor? Or is this a long-term investor in Westmount’s residential rental market who plans to manage the estate as is? Well, the real estate market in Westmount moves fast and by the time we went by April 16 the “for rent” sign had been taken down. Has someone moved in? The new owner seems to have added wifi (see sticker on top of door) and left his or her umbrella outside. Perhaps he or she was in residence when the picture was taken?

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Police Report

COVID curfews may be curbing crime

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Whatever might be said about the hardships and limitations resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, it appears to be contributing to a downward trend in local crime.

“No break-ins,” Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel told the *Independent* last week while summing up a report of recent crime incidents.

“I don’t know. Maybe there are no break-ins because everybody’s at home,” he suggested.

Whereas thefts from inside vehicles were once the most common type of incident reported by Pimentel in his weekly summary, he noted during a recent interview that they now appear to have been replaced by police interventions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These include \$1,550 tickets issued to

individuals caught violating the overnight curfew, and inspection visits by the police to dwellings to verify that the occupants are respecting 14-day quarantine orders after returning to Canada from outside the country.

While the *Independent’s* files suggest there was an upsurge in Westmount of curfew violation tickets as well as quarantine inspections beginning in February, Pimentel said only one \$1,550 ticket was issued last week.

He said it was given to a man spotted by police on Tupper St. near the corner of Atwater Ave. on April 16 around 2:35 am, well after the 8 pm to 5 am curfew had started.

Officers from Station 12 also made at least three quarantine inspection visits in Westmount over the past two weeks, including one at a home on The Boulevard and another on Columbia Ave.

Grundy on why Westmount needs an environment advisory committee



In Conversation

HEATHER BLACK

At the March 15 city council meeting, resident Susan Grundy asked the city to establish an environment advisory committee. A former chair of the Westmount Healthy City Project, Grundy is advocating for a council-community partnership. To learn more, I recently spoke to the environmentalist.

Active partnership

A member of the Coalition of Friends of the Environment, Grundy is inspired by the recent creation of an environment committee by Pointe Claire and Beaconsfield's Environmental Advisory Committee (BEAC) formed in 2006. Grundy commented: "My experience with the Westmount Healthy City Project and the Waste Management Subcommittee has shown me the limitation of volunteer citizen efforts when they are not aligned with city priorities and planning."

Aware of Beaconsfield's successful

waste reduction program, Grundy recently spoke to the chair of the BEAC, Councillor Karen Messier. "Their committee meets eight times a year and currently consists of the chair – the councillor with the environment portfolio – the city's director of sustainable development, and six citizens representing city districts," Grundy said. "Citizens with various expertise and backgrounds apply and are selected by council, much like our Accessibility Committee."

Grundy noted that, once appointed, citizen members sign a non-disclosure agreement. "These committee members are an essential link to other environmental ambassadors in the community," she said. "This network grows over time, building awareness and momentum."

Team commitment

Beaconsfield – according to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) – reduced its waste to 51 percent of the initial amount from 2013 to 2016. In addition to Councillor Messier's strong leadership, Grundy credits success to environmental engineer Andrew Duffield, the director of sustainable development, who is one of FCM's "Local Climate Change Heroes."

Grundy said: "Readers will be interested to learn that he is a former Westmount Public Works employee" and former assistant director of the department (see August 7, 2012, p. 4).

In her question to city hall, Grundy noted: "A formal structure, led by the city with resident representation, would go much further towards addressing environmental issues in Westmount." As long-term strategies are needed to solve environmental issues, she mentioned that city and citizens must work together regardless of election results. She commented: "City leadership comes and goes, but an environment advisory committee remains."

In December 2020, the city of Montreal initiated a zero-carbon plan that affects members of the agglomeration. "I envision



a network of environment advisory committees across the island that act in unison to address common issues." Grundy said. "Given the urgency of climate change, all policy and legislation need to be seen through the lens of the environment."

Leadership role

Grundy is encouraged by the positive

response of Mayor Christina Smith and Councillor Marina Brzeski.

"Based on past history, Westmount is well positioned to move forward," she said. "Look at the success of our pesticide legislation and our early adoption of composting. An environment advisory committee would be an important step in the same direction."

Editor's note: It might interest the general reader to know that the environment committee of the Healthy City Project has existed for approximately 30 years; and has pushed, or worked with, the city on pesticide banning, composting and other areas of environmental protection, e.g. concerns over radio-frequency accumulation. It has, in a sense, acted as an "advisory committee." For more on its history, please see the obituary of resident Jenny Patton (September 11, 2018, p. 4).

Councillor Marina Brzeski, commissioner of sustainability and accessibility, said she had called the committee's most recent meeting last week in response to Grundy's council question at the March 15 meeting. The committee, which has not held regular meetings since at least the start of the pandemic, has declined in membership. – DP with background from LS.

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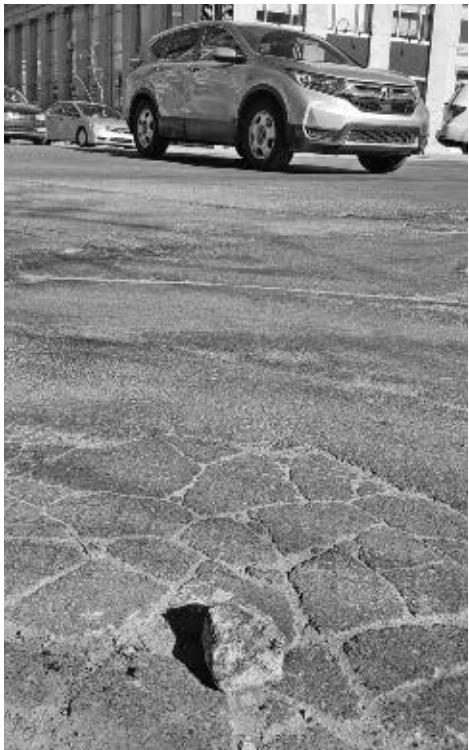
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Westrocks



This large chunk of asphalt, left, was seen April 8 on Claremont near Willow and this rock, right, was photographed April 13 at Sherbrooke and Victoria.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

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Westmount A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

Gaston is ready for adoption.

Yes, he is ready for Westmount family and doggy life! Only six months old and cute as a button with his fluffy fur and pink nose, he would benefit from adoption as soon as possible from the Montreal SPCA kennel. He could then join in the 2021 puppy pack, taken regularly by his new family to join the other dogs at the dog parks and the Summit.

Gaston

Gaston is so sociable. He will grow into a strong fellow with family and buddies galore. This growing pup is up to date on his inoculation program. He is neutered and microchipped. Please refer to his identification number 46945779 when you visit the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com and fill out the adoption application for him on the attached link. Once submitted, you will then be contacted for a telephone interview, followed by a visit by appointment at the SPCA.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Alice is so pretty, with an adorable little face – perfection in a tabby with stunning green eyes. She is very loving, yet shy, and growing into her self-assurance with new people. Alice is available for adoption from the Montreal SPCA cattery, as a next step from a foster home to a new home where she will grow more confident. She is very healthy but suffers from ataxia, which makes it important that she keep away from stairs and remain an indoor-only cat. Thinking of small details, her litter box will have to be a lower-sided one as her balance is not always perfect. In Westmount, cats

Miss Alice Kitten

and dogs benefit from their owners' accumulated wealth of knowledge and experience with their pets. Owners here are accepting and adapt to health needs easily. So, with this assurance, I have no worries that Alice will not be chosen just because she is a reduced-adoption fee "humanitarian adoption." Miss Alice is growing still, so on her program for inoculations, she is spayed and microchipped. Please refer to her identification number 46935269 when you visit the Montreal SPCA website at www.sPCA.com and fill out the adoption application for her on the attached link. Once submitted, you will then be contacted for a telephone interview, followed by a visit by appointment at the SPCA.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



Chaos on de Maisonneuve



The scene on de Maisonneuve between Melville and Olivier April 16 can only be described as chaotic. There were workers, dump trucks, gravel, metal frames waiting to be used, pedestrians, cyclists, motorists – and confusing signage, including a bike detour near Clarke that no bike-path user could easily see (above left), which led to a dead-end on the lawn of St. Léon de Westmount (above centre); and a blast of contradictory signage at Olivier (above right): was the closed road meant to be barrée, two-way, or open to local traffic only? Another, west-facing sign there (bottom left) directed non-existent eastbound motorists away from de Maisonneuve (which is already one-way west). Meanwhile, cyclists worked their way through, including this one at Metcalfe (bottom centre left) and at least one car used the confusion to go east on de Maisonneuve at Redfern (bottom centre right), despite clear one-way west signage (bottom right).

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.



Some loose gravel on de Maisonneuve near Metcalfe on April 16.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Bike path, cont'd. from p.1

said in a question submitted the city council meeting April 6. “Has the city identified an alternate route [to bypass the construction zone]?”

While Mayor Christina Smith said she would get back to Lambert with an answer, he said Monday at press time that there had been no news but that the current construction arrangement on de Maisonneuve seemed to be working “very well for both cyclists and pedestrians, so that would be a better solution than trying to create a lane on Sherbrooke St.”

While the city had previously said the bike path would have to be re-routed, a

technique has apparently been found to avoid digging trenches into individual properties on the south side to replace the public portions of water service entries.

We welcome your letters

We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week.

email us at:
editor@westmountindependent.com

Innovation on de Maisonneuve



A new, less disruptive technique to reach and replace the public portion of houses' water entries without a full ditch was on full display April 16, including one that had been dug on de Maisonneuve near Metcalfe (above left) and one where the necessary form was on site waiting to be deployed near Kensington (above right). Other frames and forms were all over the site too (below).

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.



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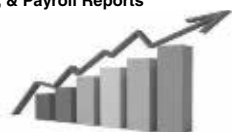


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Remembering Dawson College’s David ‘Max’ Price (1931-2021)

“(Arthur) David Price, known affectionately to many of his friends as ‘Max,’ passed away in Victoria on January 18, in his eighty-ninth year, after a long battle with leukemia and a recent fall,” according to his obituary on Legacy.com.

“He is survived by his beloved brother Michael Price, sister-in-law Donna, nephew David, nieces Brenda Price, Laura Niemi, Lorraine MacFarlane, and great-nieces Jessica and Kaitlyn, and by his lifelong friend John Lucas, who cared for him throughout his lengthy illnesses

with unfailing grace.”

Price was born in Victoria, BC and attended Oak Bay High School, UBC (BA & MA), the University of Zagreb and the University of London (PhD). Price originally taught in Vancouver and Rothsay, Saskatchewan; and in Spain, Portugal and England.

He then taught at Collège militaire royal in St. Jean and finally in the English department at Dawson College CEGEP for 30 years.

“He was loved by his students and es-

pecially esteemed in the Asian community for his devotion to his second-language students, whom he nurtured and supported in class and out,” continued the obituary.

He was given a Master Teacher Award while at Dawson and retired in 1999 to return to Victoria.

“Despite his accomplishments Max remained all of his life humble and self-effacing, a compassionate, loyal, generous and loving man. He will forever be remembered by his family, friends and col-

leagues,” concluded the notice.

“I was not related to Max,” said *Independent* editor David Price, “but I was frequently mistaken for him because, before his return to the West, he would often write ‘letters to the editor’ of the *Gazette* under the sign-off ‘David Price.’ He was reasonable and articulate on a number of topics, and I never suffered from the misconception.

“I regret that we never met, and I extend my condolences to his family, friends and students.”

Enough garbage to furnish a house?



All sorts of items were being chucked out during Westmount’s spring cleaning, including a barbecue on Sherbrooke at Melville (March 25), a child’s seat in the alley behind Victoria’s 300 block and a sofa (both on April 12).

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

Lululemon under renovation for a month



Retail Review

VERONICA REDGRAVE

To my great surprise, the massive Lululemon on Sherbrooke St. at Prince Albert is closed for renovations. When I popped in for tennis gear (ever hopeful!),

a few weeks ago, the staff never mentioned it, so when I went to change a size, I was surprised to see a team of workmen outside.

Their St. Catherine St. shop (downtown, at Drummond) told me that the changes will take a month to finish. That store is paying the price of the Lululemon fan club overflow... There were huge line-ups that day as, with COVID restrictions, the number of people in the store is limited.

Still, worth the trip.

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Retail Review

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Details, fabrics and European style at Les Dames de Nohant



don't we all! – a gorgeous soft beige cashmere scarf-shawl caught my eye.

Along with her prints charming, Chimaud carries leather, "always the finest quality."

Look up halfway between Claremont and Prince Albert on Sherbrooke's north side. Take your eyes away from your mobile. Discover the chic shop upstairs.

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The welcome arrival of spring has not only brought overnight cheery crocus sightings but a crop of new shops. All are fabulous. During my Sherbrooke St. stroll on a seasonally-early-no-coat day, I discovered Les Dames de Nohant: European fashion at its finest.

Owner Delphine Chimaud is proof that French women sport a special style. The day we chatted, her elegant wardrobe was right on trend while still being classic. "I love details." And, indeed, her silk shirt had just that, without being "look at me." Speaking of silk, the pieces in her collection are the "best quality." The lovely cashmeres she carries ("*J'aime les matières*") are artisan-worked.

The boutique, open for only a few months, carries *Vogue*-hot patterned pants and dresses.

The shop offers stylish European brands that Chimaud knows from working in Paris and includes the renowned Italian Momoni line, which she has exclusively in Canada.

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Agia, Bruno, Dunsky, White exhibit at 126th WASM show

By Heather Black

The Women's Art Society of Montreal (WASM) will hold its annual juried exhibition and sale April 21 to 25 at Le Livart Gallery. Entitled *Kaleidoscope*, the exhibition will include works in oil, watercolour and ink as well as photography. Four Westmounters – Mona Agia, Diana Bruno, Ruth Dunsky and Margaret White – are among the WASM's 61 exhibitors.

Founded in 1894

Since its founding in 1894, the WASM's annual competition, juried exhibition and sale has been a highlight of the spring season. However last year the event was cancelled. Bruno – a member of the Montreal Camera Club and exhibitor at Arts Westmount and The Gallery at Victoria Hall – said: "This exhibition has been postponed three times due to COVID constraints, so I'm delighted to see a little bit of normalcy and that WASM artists can once again show their work in a gallery venue."

Opens April 21

The annual competition will be judged in the morning and the exhibition-sale will be open to the public April 21 at 1 pm and for the following four days from 10 am to



From left, Diana Bruno and Margaret White and in Westmount Park on April 10.

6 pm. Another exhibitor and member of the Montreal Camera Club, White won Westmount's 2019 ExpoCity photo contest and has also exhibited at Arts Westmount and The Gallery at Victoria Hall. She said: "Since I have retired, I have more time to paint or photograph and participate in community events."

More information about the art show and virtual vernissage is posted on its website. The association – which formerly met at the Unitarian Church on de Maisonneuve at Claremont in NDG – now holds its monthly speaker program via Zoom. Le Livart Gallery – open to 15 people at a time – is located at 3980 St. Denis St.

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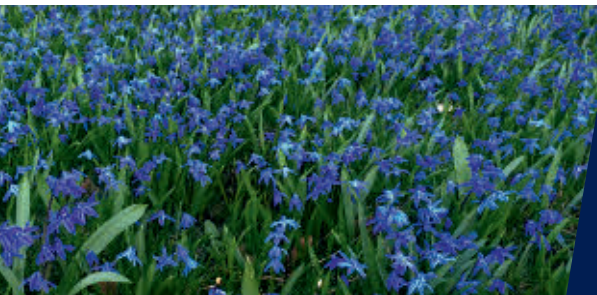
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infoWESTMOUNT

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NOUVELLES

PROCHAINE SÉANCE
DU CONSEIL

Lundi 3 mai

NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL
MEETINGMonday, May 3rd

Collecte de résidus domestiques dangereux le 24 avril

Samedi 24 avril, 9 h à 17 h, stationnement de la Bibliothèque. Apportez vos restants de peinture, huiles, piles usagées, etc. Vos appareils électroniques usagés seront ramassés la même journée. westmount.org



Household hazardous waste collection April 24

Saturday, April 24, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Library parking lot. Bring leftover paint, oil, used batteries, etc. Used electronic devices will be collected the same day. westmount.org.

Séances du conseil en direct sur Zoom

Les séances du Conseil sont maintenant diffusées en direct sur Zoom. westmount.org

Bois Summit : chiens en laisse

Pendant la période de migration des oiseaux, soit **du 16 avril au 15 juin**, les chiens doivent être tenus solidement en laisse EN TOUT TEMPS au bois Summit. westmount.org

Parc Westmount : dessouchage d'arbres

Du 13 au 26 avril 2021, l'entreprise Arbo-Design procèdera au retrait de souches d'arbres dans le parc Westmount. N.B. : le parc à chiens sera fermé une partie de la journée **du 19 avril** pour ces travaux. westmount.org

Collecte de résidus de jardin

Placez vos résidus de jardin en bordure de rue selon l'horaire affiché pour votre secteur. Sacs en papier ou contenants ouverts seulement. westmount.org/residusverts

Sports et loisirs : inscriptions

Les inscriptions pour les activités d'été sont en cours. Consultez le guide d'activités en ligne à westmount.org.

COVID-19 : vaccination et consignes

Visitez santemontreal.ca pour vous renseigner sur les cliniques de vaccination locales et le site quebec.ca/sante pour connaître les plus récentes mesures sanitaires en vigueur.

Council meetings live on Zoom

Council sittings are now streamed live on Zoom. westmount.org

Summit Woods: dogs on leash

During the bird migration period from **April 16 to June 15**, dogs in Summit Woods must be kept on leash AT ALL TIMES. westmount.org

Westmount Park: tree stump removal

From April 13 to 26, 2021, contractor Arbo-Design will carry out tree stump removal in Westmount Park. Please note that the dog park will be closed for part of the day on **April 19** to carry out this work. westmount.org

Green waste collection

Place your garden waste at the curbside according to the schedule posted for your sector. Paper bags or open containers only. westmount.org/greenwaste

Sports & Recreation: registration

Registration for summer activities is now underway. Consult the activities guide online at westmount.org.

COVID-19: vaccination and guidelines

Visit santemontreal.ca for information about local vaccination clinics and quebec.ca/sante for details about the latest health measures in effect.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Service de cueillette sans contact

Réservez vos items en ligne ou par courriel; vous aurez 3 jours pour les ramasser. Horaire :
Lundi et mercredi : 13 h à 17 h
Mardi et jeudi : 13 h à 19 h
Vendredi : 10 h à 17 h.

Service de recommandations de livres

Remplissez le formulaire en ligne pour recevoir une liste de livres recommandés. westlib.org

Galerie du Victoria Hall : appel aux artistes

Invitation aux artistes de Westmount pour la saison 2021-2022 de la Galerie. **Date limite : 11 mai 2021.** Info : galerieart@westmount.org ou 514 989-5265. westmount.org

Bibliothèque de semences

Semences gratuites pour les membres : faites une demande en ligne ou par téléphone et venez récupérer vos semences à la Bibliothèque. Choisissez parmi plus de 50 variétés de plantes, incluant fines herbes, fleurs, légumes et plusieurs variétés patrimoniales. westlib.org

Journée du cinéma canadien

Mercredi 21 avril, en ligne. La Bibliothèque présente une projection virtuelle du film La passion d'Augustine de Léa Pool. Inscription sur Eventbrite. westlib.org

Jour de la terre : Faire une différence!

Jeudi 22 avril, sur Zoom (en anglais). Une discussion en compagnie de trois propriétaires d'entreprises locales qui intègrent des valeurs de développement écologique. westlib.org

Mitch Joel : Discussions au coin du feu

Mercredi 28 avril, 20 h, en direct sur YouTube. Invitée : Victoria LeBlanc, artiste, écrivaine et commissaire d'exposition de la Galerie du Victoria Hall. westmount.org

Atelier de cuisine en direct

Dimanche 2 mai, 15 h, en ligne. Dans cet atelier pratique par Ateliers & Saveurs, vous apprendrez à préparer de délicieuses recettes en direct de votre cuisine en compagnie d'un chef professionnel (atelier en anglais). Inscription sur Eventbrite. westmount.org

LIBRARY

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Reserve items online or by email; you will have 3 days to pick up your items. Pickup schedule:
Monday and Wednesday: 1-5 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday: 1-7 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Book recommendation service

Fill out an online form to receive a list of recommended books. westlib.org

Gallery at Victoria Hall: call to artists

Westmount artists are invited to apply for the Gallery's 2021-2022 season. **Deadline: May 11, 2021.** Info: galerieart@westmount.org or 514 989-5265. westmount.org

Seed Library pickup service

Free seeds for members. Make a request online or by phone and pick up your seeds at the Library. Choose from more than 50 varieties of plants, including herbs, flowers, vegetables and heirloom varieties. westlib.org

National Canadian Film Day

Wednesday, April 21, online. The Library presents a virtual screening of Léa Pool's

La Passion d'Augustine. Register on Eventbrite. westlib.org

Earth Day: Making a Difference!

Thursday, April 22, on Zoom. Join us for a discussion with three local business owners whose companies incorporate values of sustainability. westlib.org

Fireside chats with Mitch Joel

Wednesday, April 28, 8 p.m., live on YouTube. With guest Victoria LeBlanc, Artist, writer and Curator of the Gallery at Victoria Hall. westmount.org

Live Cooking Workshop

Sunday, May 2, 3 p.m., online. In this hands-on workshop by Ateliers & Saveurs, you will learn how to prepare delicious recipes in your own kitchen with guidance from a professional chef. Register on Eventbrite. westmount.org

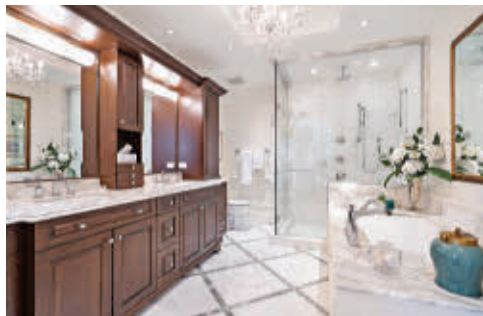


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