

In conversation with residents of Westmount One

First class hotel-style living popular with Westmount One residents

By Peter Kerr

“I thought that I’d move into a residence when I turned 80. I decided that it really was time when I turned 90. I was living at 2100 Atwater, and the building manager – whose family own this building – wanted me to come and see Westmount One. I took one look at the walk-in shower and I was sold! No more worries about slipping in the bathtub. Of course; the rest of the building is beautiful. And I also appreciate that large walk-in closet” I’m in conversation with Marien Blair, who has joined fellow residents Phil Callahan and Ivy Beech to share their experience at Westmount One.

Phil Callahan joins in; “My daughters looked around and found this place. Most of us don’t like to cook anymore, and the food here is excellent. Phil continues, “This isn’t an ‘old folks home’ – we’re all pretty active. We have a bus to take us to Ogilvy’s and other outings, including trips to the Casino every couple of weeks. We have activities here every day, movies a few times a week, and they take us to Place Kensington to swim.”

Phil’s comments about food spark contributions from Marien and Ivy about the subject. “The menu offers good choices.... The soups are always really good.... Lots of vegetables....lots of fruit... the food even looks beautiful... the barbeques and Sunday brunches are to-die-for... my grandson loves the Friday salad bar.”

Ivy Beech has recently moved in after coming back from England. “I have a beautiful suite with a lovely view. We have a roof top patio and flower garden with comfortable lawn furniture and it’s



(Left – right) Marien Blair, Phil Callahan and Ivy Beech enjoy the lifestyle and friendships they’ve found at Westmount One.

very popular.” Ivy continues; “We’re encouraged to have guests, and my bridge club comes here when it’s my turn to host the game. We also have tea every afternoon at 3, and we can have guests.”

Residents bring their own furniture to Westmount One, and Ivy has her piano in her suite. “I feel at home here – you have your own things. My grandson thinks this is like a 5-star hotel.”

In addition to their own activities and all that good food, the residents at

Westmount One are active in supporting charities. Marien notes; “We raise money for the Children’s Hospital and The Brewery Mission. Ivy has donated one of her paintings for our auction for The Children’s. We also knit afghans and bed-clothes for the Brewery Mission. Next month we’re having a fashion show fundraiser and ‘the cane brigade’ will be out in force,” quips Marien.

Speaking for the group, Marien says, “People need companionship. We care for each other here.” “We’re very fortunate to be here,” adds Phil.

Marien continues; “The happy people come here. This is our home where we can relax, be happy and be fed.” And with a twinkle in her eye, she adds, “Keep your eye on us Peter – because we’re going places.”

Westmount One is located at the beginning of The Boulevard in Westmount, and all suites have panoramic views of; the city, the mountain and St. Joseph’s Oratory, or the St. Lawrence. It is a new building built and managed by Fairway Properties a family business that is owned and operated by the Gelber family. They have extensive experience in the construction and management multi-family buildings and luxury retirement residences in Westmount, Cote-St-Luc and the West Island.

Westmount One has luxury accommodations for independent and assisted living. For more information or to visit Westmount One, please call Carol Steers at: 514-487-8282.

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– Marien Blair