



ARTS & BOOKS Studio tour

This weekend's Art Westmount tour has 44 local artists exhibiting in their own spaces.
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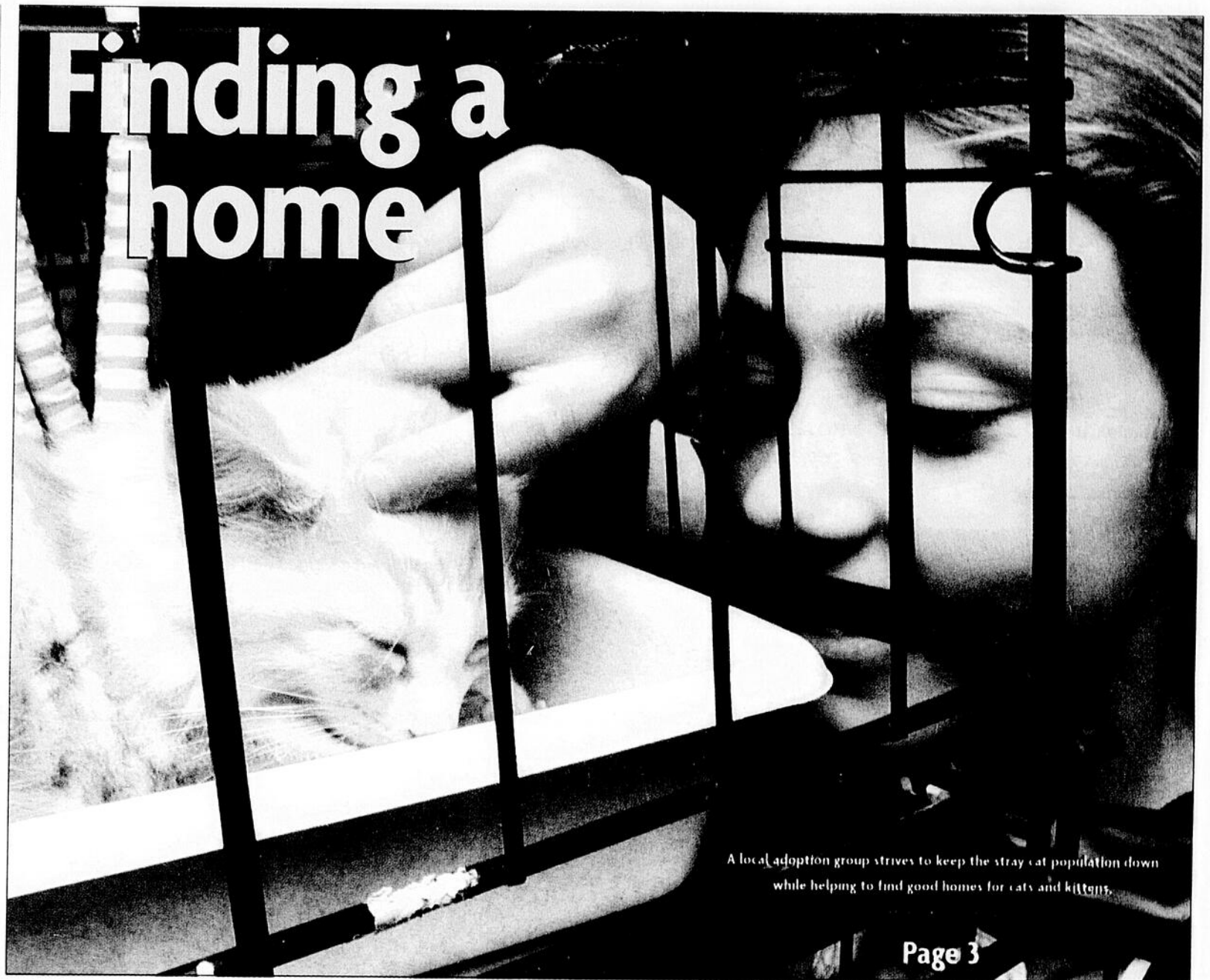
ARTS & BOOKS New voices

Vocal ensemble Choeur en Jazz sets up shop in Westmount.
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A local adoption group strives to keep the stray cat population down while helping to find good homes for cats and kittens.

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No word on Agglom refund as budget time looms

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> Martin C. Barry

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In a 32-page report on the dispute between Montreal and the suburbs issued last June, Montreal was told it must give back \$41.4 million in Agglomeration Council budget funds or a lot less than the \$105 million the suburbs were claiming. Westmount and the other cities complained that the City

of Montreal, which dominates the Agglomeration with its overwhelming population, compiled the island council's nearly \$2 billion annual budget last January without consulting them.

However, only 20 per cent of the \$41.4 million owing is actually coming back to the reconstituted cities. Montreal is supposed to get the rest.

The issue resurfaced recently during a Westmount city council meeting, when a resident questioned Mayor Karin Marks about the overdue repayment.

"That's a very good question, and if you have an answer I'd like to hear it, because I haven't heard anything directly and neither have any of the other 14 cities who were involved in the appeal," Marks responded.



Municipal Affairs Minister
Nathalie Normandeau

Continued on page 4

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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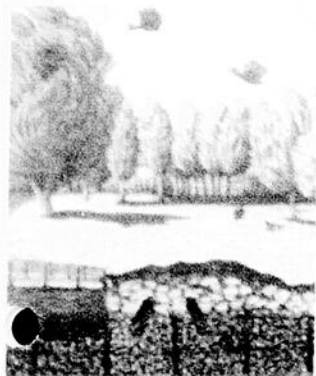
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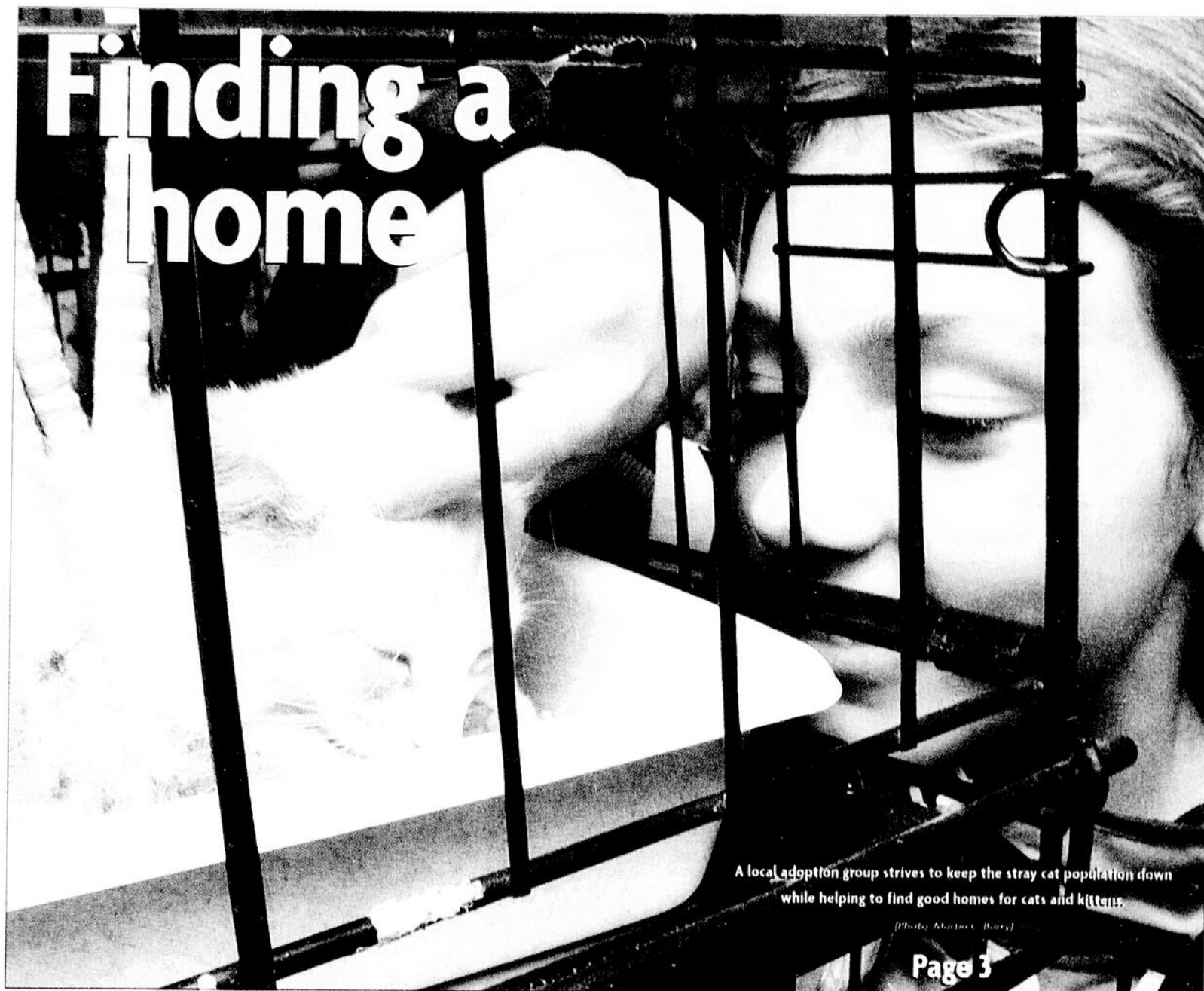
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CBC panel discussion looks for answers to Dawson tragedy

> Melanie Meloche-Holubowski

The flowers and posters have been removed and students have returned to the routine of school-work, but it may still be a while before things

get back to normal at Dawson College, as many expressed themselves during CBC's radio noon show broadcast on Monday, Oct. 2 from the college.

Vivid memories, questions regarding

Kimveer Gill's motives, and anger towards the government's response on the gun registry topped the debate.

Host Anne Lagacé-Dowson hoped it would be a therapeutic debate.

The physical reminders of the shooting are gone, but the reality of that day is only starting to sink in. Students, professors and even director Richard Fillion admitted they have sleepless nights, remembering the sights and sounds of that day.

"The dreams are very surreal and intense," says student Ricky Lebel. "I wake up with cold sweats at 3 a.m."

Student Zach Boucher says students in the atrium now tend to look over their shoulders, just to see if it is safe. "If there is a loud noise, everyone is on their toes." Some refuse to stay in the school for long, fearing the worst.

Many had not immediately understood the danger they had been in. Andreas Baroni was in the atrium during the shootings and says the "sounds of gunshots were like the sound of death." However, it was when he came back to Dawson with his parents he understood his close encounter. "I showed them where I was in the atrium and my mom burst into tears. She had no idea how close I was."

Through the fear and anxiety has come questions and the search for an answer to why Gill got guns and why no one noticed his posts on vampirefreaks.com.

Student Dan Haber visited the website, trying to understand Gill. "It didn't take too long to see he had problems. If you connect the dots, with what he wrote and the pictures, it was easy to see it coming."

Kate MacDonald says it is not so easy to know whose ramblings are serious threats.

"Gill was expressing anti-social ideas. There are thousands that do the same thing. The cliché was high. It's hard to pick him out," said MacDonald.

Dawson computer professor Georges Mac says it is practically impossible to monitor every website and blog for violence. "There are 800 to 900 million users on the Internet and there are over 350 million webposts. The police only have a small budget."

MacDonald argued the website was actually a good place for Gill to express himself, to have a sense of belonging. "People kept journals before, now they use blogs," she said.

Many cringed when Lagacé-Dowson played a clip from a previous CBC show where gun owner Raymond Compté said that collecting motorcycles is no different than collecting guns or knives. "Guns are articles used by humans. You have to humans the right way," he said.

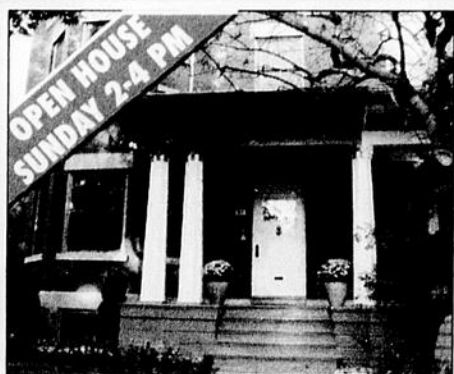
Teacher Brian Hellele was angry that Gill obtained military weaponry in the first place. "There is no argument for the possessions of such weapons," he stated.

Former police officer Jim Anderson agreed. "Hunters don't use handguns," he said. "Guns are made to kill."

The school has begun a letter-writing campaign to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, asking for tighter gun control.

Graham Weeks, a counselor at Dawson, also noted, "there is an increase in the number of heavy cases of people seeking help. We have four counselors for 9,000 students. That's not enough."

He said students need to look out for each other and notice those who are withdrawn. Get them involved in school and activities, he added.



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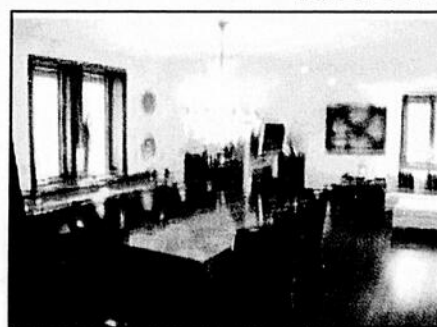
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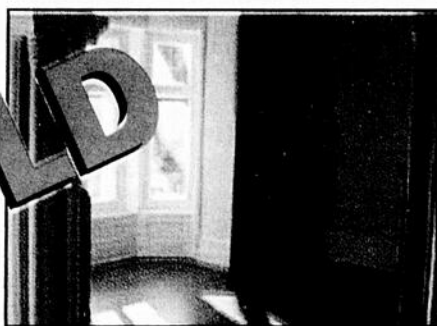
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Adoption group deals with increase in stray cat population

> Martin C. Barry

Spay and neuter, spay and neuter... These are key words when it comes to controlling the cat population of Westmount, says Steri-Animal co-founder Linda Heimann.

This has been a busy year for the non-profit animal welfare group, she said during a break at a cat adoption clinic held last Sunday at the Naturanimal & Pawtisserie Holistic Pet Center on Sherbrooke Street.

Volunteers with Steri-Animal have been working all summer, dealing with a population of stray pets that isn't getting any smaller.

Last week, the main branch of Montreal's SPCA reported that it, too, was dealing with a surplus of abandoned cats—most of them kittens. Presumably many people allowed their unspayed felines the run of the outside over the summer.

"Spring started early," said Heimann. "We had a mild spring, so cats were mating a lot earlier than usual and our fall has not been very bad either. So, basically, animals will mate when the days are longer. Now it's going to start to slow down a little bit."

When Steri-Animal got started three years ago, the idea was to prevent animals from having to go into shelters where they typically linger until they die. The adoption rate in shelters is notoriously low.

"We thought the best way to approach this was prevention," she said. "There are an awful lot of strays in Montreal. Quebec has the worst stray population in all of North America, because we have very loose (animal welfare) laws, if any at all."

Without getting into specifics, she said the group has been quite successful. "We've done



a lot of cats in the three years that we've been operational."

During adoption day events, which are held periodically in different parts of Montreal, cats that have been sterilized and judged to be friendly are made available. There are also many kittens which are the byproducts of pregnant females before they've been sterilized.

"The answer to this is prevention, prevention, prevention," Heimann emphasized. "Euthanization does not work."

She noted that even if you manage to euthanize half the population of a cat colony, the other half will still continue to reproduce.

Steri-Animal often receives calls from people reporting a stray mother cat with kit-

tens that have taken up residency underneath the back balcony of the house. "We go in and we catch the mother and we sterilize her," she said.

"We release her back where she came from if the person is agreeable to that. The kittens that we usually take in we foster out and bring them up to par, get them vaccinated and we try to adopt them out."

There is, of course, a cost for all this, but Heimann pointed out that Steri-Animal's cats are as healthy as can be, although more homes are desperately needed.

"We need help financially (and) we need help with good people who want to give good homes to animals."

For more information on Steri-Animal, go their website at www.steri-animal.petfinder.org.

City sues over Devon Park property dispute

> Martin C. Barry

The City of Westmount has launched legal proceedings against an Upper Lansdowne Avenue homeowner whom City officials claim carried out construction and landscaping that ended up encroaching on part of a public park.

A resolution tabled in city council on Sept. 25 states that the owner of 805 Upper Lansdowne "has carried out landscaping and the construction of two retaining walls and a fence on public property and therefore enclosing a portion of Devon Park for private purposes, without obtaining the City's permission."

It further says the owner "failed to comply with the notices issued by the authority having jurisdiction to cease occupancy of the park, and proceed to the restoration of the public property."

The City has retained the legal firm Fasken Martineau to file a motion in Quebec

Superior Court for a permanent injunction and for any other proceedings involved.

"This isn't a case of a few inches or two feet, this is a significant portion of the park," commented City Councillor Tom Thompson, who sponsored the motion.

"The landscaping was undertaken without a permit, and then, when the permit was requested, the landscaping proceeded even against the understanding that this was infringing on the Devon Park Westmount property."

While Thompson said the City showed fairness in giving adequate notice to the property owner on several occasions, "now we have to respect the citizens of Westmount, who are owners of the park. And so we are obtaining legal counsel to insist that this property be returned for use as it was intended and as it is for Westmount."

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Continued from page 1

Marks said the last time the suburbs heard anything from the province was when Municipal Affairs Minister Nathalie Normandeau spoke publicly when the Noel report came out. "We've never received a letter of confirmation; we never received any

indication of how this would be compensated to our residents," she said, noting that Normandeau had mentioned the possibility that the refund could take the form of tax credits.

"But we don't know how that's going to work (or) when it's going to work," Marks added. "And we have written to her and asked her to please confirm."

With Westmount's and the other cities' budgets due to be tabled soon, Marks agreed the refund would have a significant impact. "It's still a great deal of money and it belongs in the hands of our taxpayers and not in the wrong hands," she said.

In two detailed studies released last February, a coalition of the 15 demerged cities claimed they had identified many serious anomalies in the Agglomeration budget. As a result, they alleged taxes were at least

\$105 million above what they should have been. The suburbs filed appeals with the Municipal Affairs Ministry in accordance with the law. The City of Montreal had withdrawn its budget in December 2005, in order to fulfill electoral promises to not increase the tax burden on Montrealers. Montreal subsequently did not include the suburbs in the budget preparation process.

The demerged cities claimed that the 2006 Agglomeration budget made inappropriate transfers of local City of Montreal expenses to the Agglomeration, did not respect criteria permitting the distribution of common expenses (particularly administrative costs), imposed unduly heavy Agglomeration taxation through inappropriate allocation of expenses, and imposed an overall fiscal structure that unfairly transferred tax burdens from Montreal to the suburbs.

Westmount properties honored by heritage organization

Westmounter Michael McAdoo was recently given a Heritage Emeritus Award for maintaining and restoring his residence at 4274 Dorchester Boul.—one of two local properties to be singled out for this distinction by Foundation Heritage Montreal.

"I am very pleased to see another Westmount property owner honoured for restoring their own house by keeping its original characteristics," said Doreen Lindsay, president of the Westmount Historical Association.

"Mr. McAdoo and every other homeowner who undertake thoughtful, caring renovation to their house help to preserve the extensive heritage value of our city," Lindsay said.

Pierre-André Ouimet, president of the Foundation Heritage Montreal, said the Montreal Architectural Heritage Campaign is an opportunity for owners, heritage lovers and the general public to work together to preserve the city's unique character.

Twenty-three Heritage Awards were given out to homeowners and 12 to business at an official ceremony at Montreal City Hall on Friday, Sept. 22.

The other Westmount property, Sheinart's Ltd. clothing store at Atwater and St. Antoine Street, received an award in the commercial category.

The WHA's current lecture series, held on the third Thursday of each month at the Westmount Public Library, focuses on the preservation and restoration of local heritage properties.

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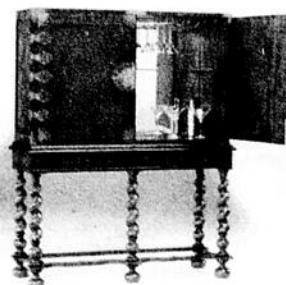
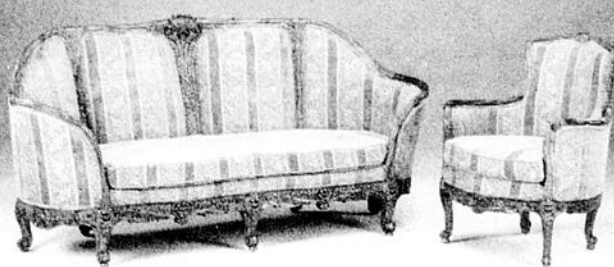
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Geraldine Gahan: A life well lived

> Marilyn Vanderstey

Westmount lost one of its most outstanding community investment specialists when Geraldine (Jay) Gahan died peacefully on Sunday, Oct. 1. She was 91.

Too often we don't take advantage of the time to get to know truly remarkable people, and Gahan was one of them. She lived a life of giving. To her best friend and husband John, to her family, and so much to her community.

"Auntie Jay made a truly remarkable impact as a tireless and highly effective volunteer," said her nephew, Lorne Hindle.

Over her lifetime, Gahan made things happen in her community of Westmount where she lived with John, a customs broker, in his family's house on Mount Pleasant Avenue for 48 years. In addition to working for many years, she was committed to her family's tradition of community and charity work. She was involved extensively with the Catholic Women's League for many years both on its executive and as a member of the parish of Ascension of Our Lord.

She reorganized Father Dowd retirement



home, and then as a board member went on to reorganize Montreal Convalescent Hospital Center, now known as the Lindsay Rehabilitation Hospital.

As late as 1987 she was still involved in making things happen and worked with the Anglican Archdiocese to co-found Logifem, a residence for homeless women at 2235 St. Jacques Street that today includes apartments for women getting back into life.

Probably her most memorable contribution to the Westmount community was her work in initiating the building of the Manoir Westmount. In 1974 Geraldine and John started lobbying the Westmount Municipal Association to build a residence for seniors.

While the WMA was not able to undertake such a project, it did put her in touch with the Rotary Club of Westmount. Gahan provided the vision and Rotary provided the funding, and the building was completed in 1979. In recognition she was made an honorary member of the Rotary Club and later awarded the Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary's award for achievement.

In 2005, the WMA recognized Gahan with

the Derek Walker Volunteer Citizen of the Year Award.

Gahan's funeral was held Thursday, Oct. 5 at St. Patrick's Basilica. Donations can be made in Gahan's name to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 2155 Guy St., suite 1120, Montreal, H3H 2R9.

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Polansky says: "Sometimes it's just shuck, shuck, shuck while other times we'll put together theme parties where we provide an all-Atlantic menu of Beau Soleil, Malpeque, Mystic, bring the cocktail sauce, lemon and oyster stands". The stands she alludes to are custom-made Oyster stands, also found at the restaurant and guaranteed to be a hit at any gathering.

Polansky offers her clients over 15 years of experience and will guide them through the maze of varieties she offers private clients. "For smaller wine and oyster tastings of, let's say 10 people, what I'll do is take a client to the SAQ and help them pair the right wines to six or seven oyster varieties, come over the day of, pre-pop the oysters and leave tasting notes. Or they can have one of our good-looking shuckers [it's a mostly all woman shucking staff at Maestro] handle the party."

Never has it been so easy to plan an intimate or larger affair, as she says "we can do a party for 10 or for 500, that is up to you." And oysters aren't the only delicacy on the menu; Polansky has also done parties where they've served shrimp dishes and tuna tartar. "Although typically it's the oysters that are the draw".

There is no established cost for these soirees, because the cost varies from season to season with a premium on kumomotos from Japan, BC and Washington State. Polansky describes them as, "A small oyster with a buttery finish... a delight."

It's best to contact Polansky directly for pricing and ideas for the type of evening you'd want to host. She also recommends trying some of their house cocktails, which they'll gladly will mix up or create uniquely for your celebration.

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Two arguments in favour of the park



Commentary

Wayne
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What began as an apparently routine proposal in Westmount city council has erupted into a touchy issue in which several local residents have expressed their outrage over the idea of installing artificial turf on the southern section of Westmount Park.

The idea is certainly not a new one. It was brought up several years ago, but with all the megacity complications it remained on the back burner. And it was not a radical idea, either, for several other municipalities have had artificial turf on their playing fields for years—without any significant problems or complaints from residents.

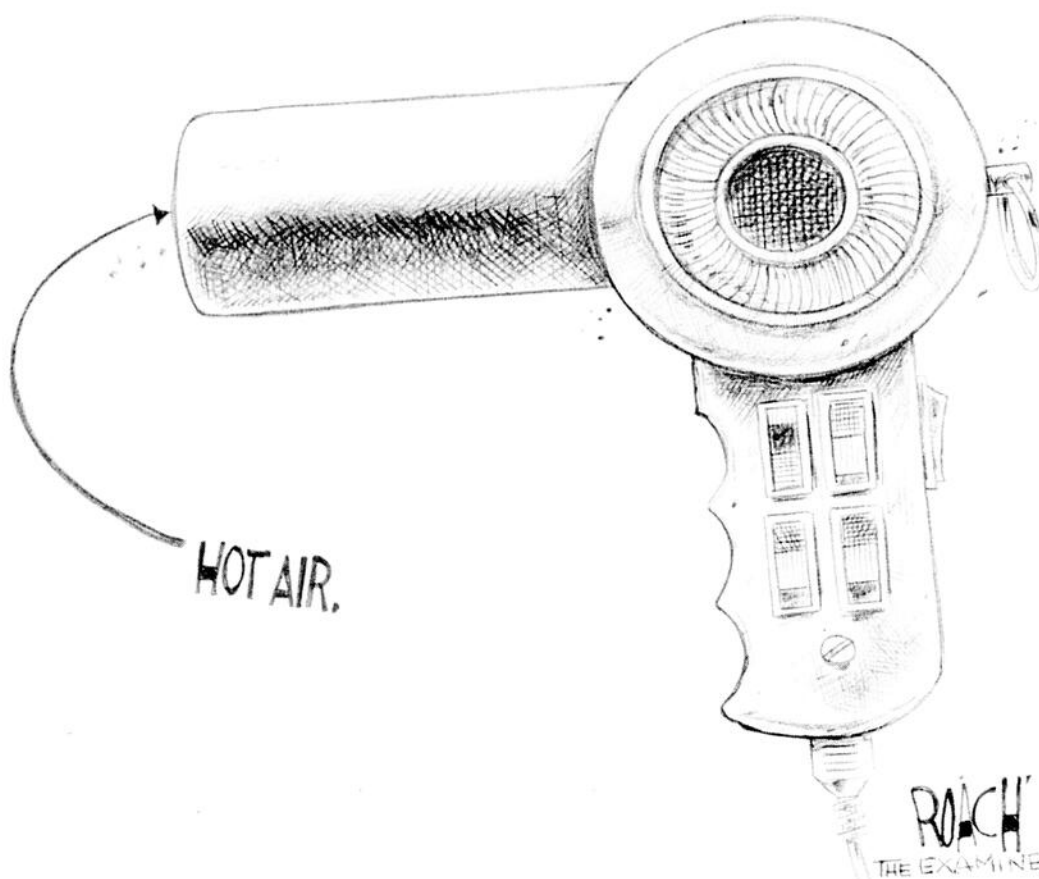
But here in wise old Westmount, where the pros and cons of issues tend to be discussed at some length before any definite action is taken, a growing number of people living on Melville Avenue and the surrounding area are coming forward to oppose the idea. They appear to be well organized and united in their determination to preserve the original character of the park, which dates back to the late 19th Century.

Under the banner 'Save the Park! Sauvons le parc!', they cite the deep influence of venerated landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, who designed Mount Royal Park as well as his most famous creation, New York's Central Park. An urban treasure like Westmount Park, they argue, should not be desecrated by artificial turf.

Both sides have the park's well-being at heart, and both present excellent arguments. City officials behind the plan are convinced that the \$1.7 million project will help to preserve the playing-field surface, which requires constant maintenance in its natural state. And with the ever-growing popularity of soccer, the field is expected to be used much more in the future. Preservation is at the core of both arguments, with one side stressing the value of preserving the park's character, while the other sees artificial turf as a viable way of preserving the field's surface.

This issue is certainly not about to go away; the residents' vehement opposition means that a series of public information meetings is likely to be held before any firm plans are announced. And with such a hefty price tag attached to the project, the final decision cannot be made without the assent of taxpayers throughout Westmount, not just those living across the street from the park.

LIBERAL CANDIDATES TRYING TO WHIP UP SUPPORT WITH HOT-AIR PROMISES



Conservatives must act on climate change



MP

Lucienne
ROBILLARD

As many constituents who have written and called my office have noted, there are a number of important issues facing Parliament during this fall session.

One issue that comes up frequently is the environment and global warming. Specifically, constituents are concerned that this minority Conservative government has no environmental plan, have abandoned Kyoto, and cut most of the climate change programs put in place by the previous Liberal government.

I think these concerns are well founded. Let's look at the evidence so far.

First, as I have discussed in previous columns, the minority Conservative government cut existing effective environmental programs such as EnerGuide, which gave financial assistance to Canadians to make their homes more energy efficient.

Second, Prime Minister Stephen Harper's announcement that his government will table a Clean Air Act confirms the Conservatives have little interest in producing a real plan to

address global warming. Despite frequent questioning, Environment Minister Rona Ambrose has failed to present any clear plan on how the Conservative government will implement the federal regulatory regime that is required for any serious environmental plan. The Minister has also refused to answer questions about why a Clean Air Act was needed when the Canadian Environmental Protection Act already provides all the tools necessary for any government to act. The implementation of entirely new legislation will result in significant delay. In fact, the Prime Minister admitted as much during his announcement when he said they would consult for at least a year.

It appears that the Conservatives introduction of a new act is an attempt to delay addressing this serious issue and distract from the fact the Harper government spent the last eight months cutting funding to federal programs and initiatives that address climate change and reduce air pollution.

Third, the Conservatives' recent cancellation of a \$1.5 million pledge to help the world's poorest countries begin to meet their Kyoto targets is yet another shameful sign that the Harper government has no interest in addressing global warming. The Kyoto agreement's clean development mechanism is designed to introduce clean technologies to developing countries, to help ensure their economic growth doesn't lead to massive increases in GHG emissions. The United

Nations Climate Change Secretariat estimates that approximately 800 projects were already lined-up under this mechanism, ready to generate estimated emissions reductions of over a billion tonnes by the end of 2012.

The minority Conservative government's choice to break yet another Kyoto commitment is made worse because this pledge was meant to help those nations with the most at stake. The Liberal Opposition believes Canada should be helping poorer countries develop clean technologies, instead of cynically sacrificing these efforts to mislead Canadians about Kyoto's mechanisms and their value.

Sadly, based on their actions thus far, it is clear to me that the Harper government does not see global warming and the environment as pressing issues.

A credible environmental plan would include short-term, medium and long-term pollution and GHG reduction targets, along with the means to live up to Canada's international commitments. The Liberal Opposition will continue to work tirelessly to press this government to take credible action against global warming and to live up to our Kyoto commitments.

• Lucienne Robillard is the Liberal Member of Parliament for Westmount-Ville-Marie and Deputy Leader of the Official Opposition.

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OLD NEWS from the archives

1935-2006

One Year Ago
October 20, 2005

COUNCILLORS ACCLAIMED: "The task has been simplified for voters in Westmount. With nearly all city council seats filled by acclamation, only the mayoralty race and the two-man contest in Ward 8 remain for the Nov. 6 election. Releasing the results of nomination applications filed at Westmount city hall by a 4:30 p.m. deadline last Friday, returning officer Lucie Tousignant declared that Patrick Martin, Tom Thomson, Guy Charest, Kathleen Duncan, George Bowser, Nicole Forbes and Cynthia Lulham had all been elected by acclamation."

Five Years Ago
October 18, 2001

STRONG SUPPORT: "Organizers of a local campaign to raise money to replace equipment destroyed in the World Trade Centre disaster say they are overwhelmed by the enthusiastic response they received last Friday and Saturday. The drive, which was held at Fire Station No. 2 at Victoria Avenue and The Boulevard, took in over \$20,000 for the New York Fire Department's Station 54, to replace Engine No. 4, which was destroyed after the World Trade Centre was attacked by terrorists and collapsed Sept. 11. Firefighters with the Westmount Fire Department accepted donations from passing motorists into large rubber boots. Inside the fire hall, caps bearing the letters FDNY were sold for \$20 each. Outside in the driveway, children had the opportunity to sit at the controls of one of Westmount's fire engines. Sandi Bolton and Pen Bridgman, the two main organizers of the event, said they were moved by some of the contributors, who gave hundreds of dollars individually in some cases. "We had somebody who came up to us this morning and handed us a cheque for \$500," Bridgman said Saturday, adding that the campaign raised more than twice what they had expected."

Ten Years Ago
October 17, 1996

WESTMOUNT.COM: "Westmounters with Web browsers will soon have access to City information and services. Westmount hopes to set up its own site on the World Wide Web, allowing computer-equipped residents to obtain everything from arena schedules to council minutes 24 hours a day. "It's more for customer service than anything else," said City director-general Bruce St. Louis. "When you're searching for information on anything these days, you hop on the Net and find it pretty quickly." The initial cost of equipment is estimated at \$15,000. A small group was formed to select an Internet provider. The Web site should be in place by the end of the year."

Fifteen Years Ago
October 17, 1991

HOLDEN LEAVES EQUALITY: "MNA Richard Holden strained under the yoke of Equality Party policies since his nomination; now the party, uncaring of its impact on their already limited numbers, has cut loose the tie. After party leader Robert Libman announced Friday he was taking steps to oust Mr. Holden, Mr. Holden held a press conference three hours later to say he was leaving the party to sit as an independent. Yet he refused to step down a day earlier, when Mr. Libman asked for his resignation after he made public an internal document which attacked the party and Mr. Libman's leadership. Mr. Libman said he believed Mr. Holden's decision to go public with the document was to improve his position going into the next election, for his riding association had recently said they would not support his nomination the next time."

Fairview recalled... and Charest's great deception



Civic Alert

Don
WEDGE

Were you there? If so, you will remember. If not, you heard about it. On a brisk Sunday afternoon six Octobers ago, thousands of Islanders, including busloads from Westmount, stood on the back parking lot of Fairview Shopping Centre in Pointe Claire and heard Jean Charest promise to give citizens their chance to overturn the forced mergers once there was a Liberal government.

The Boulevard resident Jane Martin was one who was there. "I was among those who stood out in that freezing parking lot and cheered Charest," she recalled. "I really believed his passionate remarks that day."

The following week, she joined the Westmount demerger group being set up by Kathleen Duncan and Doug McDougall of the WMA. "I had never been a local activist until then," she admitted. She became one of the strong anti-merger workers and eventually WMA Secretary.

"But then—what a miserable let down. Charest did not keep his promise."

Of course, we sort of did get our city back. Ville St. Laurent and others were tricked by the 35 per cent threshold rule introduced by the Liberals and stay force-merged.

"Unfortunately, even for us it was only a partial reconstitution," said Montreal-West's Mayor Campbell Stuart this week. He also had been at Fairview.

"Our key regional services used to be provided by the Montreal Urban Community (MUC). Our mayors sat on that council with Montreal and were part of all the decisions. Our co-owned police cars and buses carried our joint emblem."

"Charest changed it. Like the PQ, he cheated us out of a well-oiled organization and substituted an undemocratic, inefficient, expensive, dysfunctional Agglom arrangement," Stuart explained.

"He did not deliver on his unequivocal promise. He misled all who put him in power. It was the ultimate deception."

Boycott issue a quandary

Will the independent mayors group take up my suggestion last week that the time has come to further boycott the Agglom council? "All of us feel the present structure is useless," said Mayor Karin Marks, chairman of their association. "It is a charade!"

"Frankly we are in a quandary. We made a commitment to the minister to make it work and we have to represent our citizens as Montreal spends \$200 million of their money."

Marks is critical of Minister Normandeau's closed-door approach. "We have made several recommendations, but get no response. She met with Longueuil several times. The number of times she met with the suburban mayors: zero!"

"If Quebec continues to ignore us, then it may be time to make noise in a different way."

The mayor is also doubtful that working in the committees will be very fruitful. "There is no stipend for the huge amount of Agglom work—no fee for attending the council or committees."

"That tells me that is what they think it is worth—nothing!"

"The structure is totally undemocratic. Our ability to get information should be fundamental and enshrined in the law, not by the personal contact the minister thinks is a solution."

"The present Agglom is false and phony, showing a lack of respect for democracy."

Festive farewell for Fred

Westmount employees gave a spectacular retirement dinner honouring former City Engineer Fred Caluori last weekend. Though often hilarious, there were also many tributes and expressions of the respect colleagues felt for him over the 36 years he worked for Westmount.

Eight members of his family, Mayor Marks, four councillors, representatives of all City departments, the entire Public Works staff and several former colleagues were among the 84 guests in Victoria Hall's Lodge Room.

Some highlights:

- With Caluori were his wife, four children, parents, and son-in-law.

- Mayor Marks chaired a 'special' council meeting at which Caluori was again named Westmount's Assistant Director-General. It was an appointment he once held, but it had been taken away from him by the forced merger—although he continued to step in when Bruce St. Louis was absent.

- Director-General St. Louis compiled a 'Retrospective of 36 years of excellence'. A slide show, it highlighted Caluori's humble beginnings in the small Italian town of Casacalenda, academic achievements after moving to Canada and graduation from McGill Engineering School, being hired by Westmount in 1970, promotion to Director of Public Works and City Engineer in 1986, adding the Assistant Director-General role in 1998.

- The slides illustrated many of Caluori's achievements, especially during the ice storm, and focused on "one of Fred's most endearing qualities, his unfailing commitment to his staff, his profession and serving Westmount citizens," said St. Louis.

- Included were pictures of St. Louis after he had been hired by Caluori as a newly-graduated engineer.

- There were many gifts, serious and humorous. The D-G staff gave laminated pictures as souvenirs.

- Ed McCavour, the retired Assistant Director-General and Caluori's previous head of the Public Works Department, recalled hiring Caluori in the summer of 1970. McCavour himself has just been promoted to City Engineer but had no professional staff.

- Frank Moroni, former Roads and Parks Superintendent, remembered meeting Caluori as they both arrived for job interviews with McCavour. Both were hired and worked together until this year.

- Public Works staff presented a golden shovel—because "he was worth his weight in..."

- Hydro-Westmount 'presented' a set of traffic lights with remote activator.

- Public Security donated a life-time parking permit.

- Information Technology created a golden keyboard that spelt out "retirement good wishes."

- Victoria Hall staff presented an engraved pasta ladle as a memento of the many spaghetti meals he had prepared for employees.

- There were many speeches including ones by Councillor George Bowser and former colleague Gordon Black, who is now Director of Human Relations in TMR.

The reverence held for the former Public Works chief was a constant theme. Bowser brought his skills as a professional humorist to highlight them, as with: "Fred told me that Westmount has a microclimate. I have since determined that it was, in fact, caused by

Fred. He creates a small but noticeable area of warmth wherever he goes."

Mini Alert

- The recent meeting about the artificial surface for Westmount Park's playing field, although billed as public, was restricted to neighboring residents. If the project goes forward, Quebec's loan laws require a referendum procedure. So there should be plenty of opportunity for debating one of the big city-wide issues.

- Even with Westmount's Hazardous Household Waste collection (at the Library parking lot again this Saturday) and three all-year drop-off points, far too many used batteries find their way into landfills. Across the Atlantic, the European Union has just adopted a regulation banning them from garbage by 2010. Distributors will be required to take them back and recycle their contents.

- The 40th anniversary of opening Mayor Drapeau's Metro reminds many Westmounters how close we came to having Westmount's historic train station as an intermodal hub. After it was rejected due to public pressure, a further site was proposed on Sherbrooke Street in NDG. This too was turned down by public outcry and the current Vendome site developed instead.

- Cote St. Luc has finally begun to collect autumn leaves for composting. For this year's pioneering effort, their council is offering free paper bags.

- RDP citizen, Jean-Maurice Demers, whose wife was killed by a speeding motorist in August, has asked the RDP-PAT borough council to support an annual 'Journée In Memoriam' for similar victims.

- The Westmount Historical Association was surprised to find the strength of the francophone interest in its recent guided tours of legendary architect Robert Findlay's local buildings. One group of visitors was treated to a Westmount moment they could savour. Strolling past the walkers on a mid-level street was an elegant male—dressed like Prince Charles in Highland regalia, complete with kilt. In daylight! Tabarnak!

- Hogg Hardware features Westmount fashions in its west window: umbrellas with color-coordinated Wellies!

Kevin Dawson returns

Another familiar figure is back from retirement this month. Former Fire Inspector Kevin Dawson has returned to duty—but in the Urban Planning Department.

He had been a member of the city fire department, but was also trained as a building inspector. With the forced merger, he was transferred to the Montreal fire service. He retired a few months ago.

Recruited as a sanitary inspector, he will lead a short-term blitz on the mishandling of items intended for garbage or recycling pick-up by the City.

"Inspector Dawson has a comprehensive mandate," Public Works Commissioner George Bowser explained at last week's Council meeting. "He will focus on the cleanliness of commercial lanes, compliance with city rules for putting out garbage and recycling, as well as quality control inspections of contractors. He will also be following up citizen complaints and compiling a photographic data base of offenses found."

Though based in Urban Planning, Dawson will liaise with Public Works and Safety as well as former colleagues at the Fire Station.

• Community activist Don Wedge can be reached at alert@web.net. His columns are archived at www.westmountexaminer.com, go to Opinion.

City officials take to the green

The Westmount Lawn Bowling Club recently hosted employees of the City of Westmount to a tournament and dinner. It was organized by club members Doris Branscombe and Richard Menear, who were assisted by other club members.

Twenty-eight participants were grouped into teams of four, according to their functions in Westmount.

There was the city councillors' team, consisting of Kathleen Duncan, George Bowser, John de Castell and Patrick Martin. They and other bowlers showed great talent, despite the fact that in some cases they had never lawn bowled before. Much cheering ensued at accurate bowling and sighs emanated when the bowls did not go as planned.

Bowser's bowling was outstanding and if he would join and play for the Westmount club, it would be a great asset.

There was some hilarity when the police contingent said they were looking for their 'balls' instead of using the proper term of 'bowls'.

After stiff competition on the green, the Urban Planning Group, skipped by Joanne



The City of Westmount's Urban Planning team—Pierre Chartier, Joanne Poirier, Eve Malépart and Michel Poulin—won the staff tournament.

Poirier, narrowly defeated the D.G.'s, skipped by Bruce St. Louis.

St. Louis thanked the club on behalf of his colleagues for inviting them to a wonderful evening of lawn bowling and stated that they had a great time. They look forward to a repeat visit next season and he will have a trophy ready to present to the winning team.

It was truly a fun event and the losing teams will be seeking revenge next year.

Westmount women take home GG Trophy

In other local lawn bowling news, the 78th Governor General's Tournament took place last month in Galetta, Ont., and for the first time in its history, a ladies team from

Westmount won the qualifier play-down and participated in the tournament.

With Ghislaine Henry (skip), Irene Menear (third), Rosalie Parsons-Brown (second) and Pierrefonds LBC lead, Nicole Dumas, and with their sister team from Beaconsfield, the Westmount club won the ladies trophy, the Rose Bowl, by beating their Ontario counterparts.

The two games in the morning ended up tied in aggregate score. In the second game following a market lunch, the scores remained tied with only four ends to go.

The Beaconsfield ladies came from behind to tie their game, but the Westmount team pulled ahead of Ontario to win by five points and secure the win. Needless to say, all of the members of the club were thrilled by this victory.

The Governor General's Trophy was won by the men's teams from Beaconsfield and Verdun. The Quebec men both lost their morning games and were behind by seven points. In the afternoon games, though, the team skipped by John Devlin handily won 20 to 6 over their Ontario rivals and the victory was sealed.

Quebec's novice players, Janet Ilaysky (Beaconsfield) and John Kesson (Pointe Claire) won their singles matches to take home the Novice singles trophies.

The Governor General's Tournament takes place each year alternating between Quebec and Ontario. The 79th annual event will be played in Quebec next year—hopefully at the Westmount club.

CATHY MOORE

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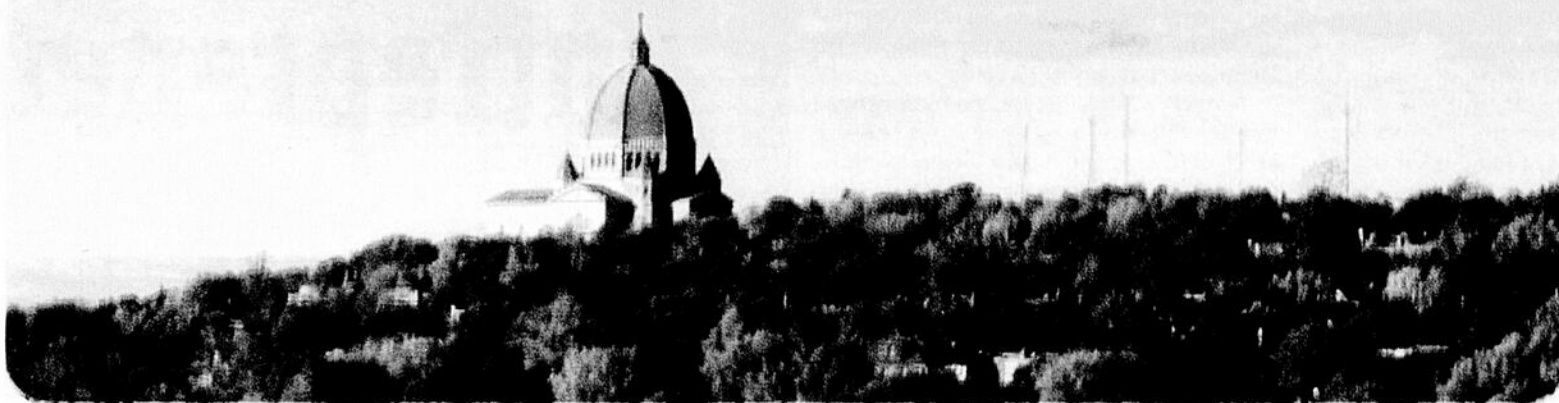
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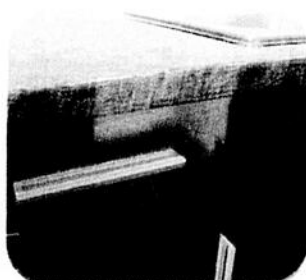
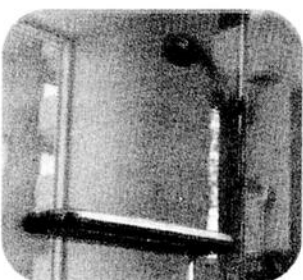
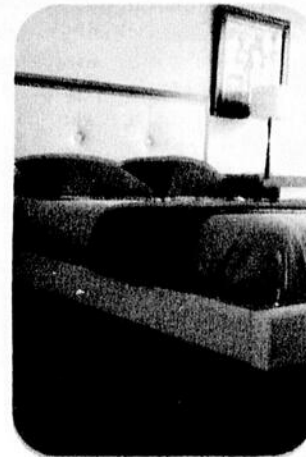
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Media spotlight shines on Westmount High



Around Westmount

Marilynn
VANDERSTAY

Westmount's only public high school made the national news last week as part of the CBC's Montreal Matters segment

This season the news show is focusing on education and took an intensive look at life in Westmount High School and how students and staff are overcoming some of the incredible challenges facing the public education system, especially as an inner-city school. The crew interviewed students, staff and principal Claude Dansereau.

The CBC was interested in the school because it recently received the highest ranking in Greater Montreal for a public high school without admissions criteria, as well as the diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds of its students.

But that wasn't the only attention WHS received lately. Two years ago, Katie McKenna began a project at WHS, following with cameras and microphones four grade 11 boys. Her purpose was to find out why teenage boys are being stereotyped by the media the way they are. She spent two to three days a week at the school and shot 160 hours of footage, which was edited down to 63 minutes.

The finished product of that study, a documentary entitled *The Year Before*, premiered at McGill University last week and was followed by a panel discussion with McKenna.

In addition to looking at the students, McKenna focused on principal Dansereau, who in the six years he has been there has turned the school around both academically and socially, and was determined to demonstrate that teenage boys do in fact have a soul. And they do, and he did.

Westmount Lawn Bowlers throw their final fling

Proving once again that their club is one of the most fun clubs in Westmount, the members of the local Lawn Bowling Club finished the club's 104th season with its annual 'final fling' on Saturday.

The annual event is a last fling of the bowl in the afternoon followed by a celebratory dinner in the club house. Doris Branscombe started the festivities by announcing the winners of the day's friendly tournament among the members. Richard and Irene Menear took home the cup for the season. The Club also celebrated Rosalie Parsons Brown and Irene Menear for winning the Governor General's Cup, taking it back from the Ottawa Club, once again. For 76 years the Club has been competing with teams across the province and Ontario for the coveted cup.

The Westmount Lawn Bowling Club plays throughout the week from May to October.

Giving the vest off her back

Kirsty Fleming, a long-time waiter at the Bistro on the Avenue on Greene Avenue is once again literally taking the vest off her back to raise money for the Cedars Cancer Institute gynecology oncology.

In 2003 she raffled a vest she had covered with lapel pins she collects from customers. It had become too heavy to wear. This month, Fleming is again raising money for the cause. "We changed uniforms a year and a half ago

and the vest is smaller, so it only took a year to cover it with over 400 pins," she said.

This year, in addition to the vest, there are eight other prizes that have been donated for the raffle. Tickets are \$30 each and can be purchased at the Bistro. The draw will take place at 5 p.m. Friday Oct. 20

Volunteers needed for St. Margaret tuck shop

St. Margaret's Senior Residence hosts some very interesting people who at the end of their lives are confined to the residence on Hillside Avenue.

Several years ago, a tuck shop was opened to offer residents everything from seasonal knickknacks and toiletries to snacks and a great cup of coffee. But recently the tuck shop has been forced to close because its volunteers, most of whom are seniors themselves, are no longer able to run the shop.

Volunteers are urgently needed to come in even if for just a couple of hours a week to open and run the shop. If you are interested in making a difference in community by volunteering at the tuck shop, you could choose your day and time.

Perhaps you would like to come in with a friend or perhaps your spouse and work together preparing coffee and tea with their state of the art coffee machine, helping chose a seasonal decoration or just having a nice conversation with an interesting senior. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to come and spend an afternoon. Training and support will be provided. For more information contact Melanie at 514-932-03630 extension 3018

Designer explains the how-tos of decorating

The membership and guests of the Rotary Club of Westmount were given a look into the world of interior design by Westmount interior designer Aurelien Guillory at a weekly lunch meeting last month.

Guillory gave an interesting illustrated presentation that not only looked at the hows of interior design, but also at how to personalize décor to reflect who we are.

Guillory hails from Louisiana, where he completed a double major in clinical psychology and fine arts, both of which he puts to use in his business of making living spaces comfortable and personal. Using well organized examples of decorating projects he has done, Guillory guided his audience through the steps to create a space in the home that reflects personalities, personal colour preferences, and what is good for the client. He says he personalizes each project so much he never uses the same fabric twice; that once he has used a fabric it belongs to his client.

The ABCs of fraud

As we all know all too well, telephone solicitation has become not just a nuisance but a viable venue for scams and other fraudulent schemes.

All too often the victims are seniors who are not informed about how those predators work. Recognizing the vulnerability of its residents and those in the community, Salvina Astorino, program director at the Chateau Westmount, recently organized an innovative consumer fraud education and prevention program—the ABCs of Fraud.

The program was presented by volunteers from CLSC René Cassin. The interactive presentation provided participants with information on the latest frauds and scams, ways to identify potential frauds and scams, prevention tips, and community resources related to consumer fraud.

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Located in the former Junior League store at 386 Victoria, Simpli-city is a new concept for Renaissance because it combines the sale of used designer clothing and accessories on consignment and Fair Trade products. The goal is to create a centre for ethical consumption.

From clothing to handicrafts to food, Simpli-city is the first store here in Québec to offer such a wide range of certified Fair Trade products, many are also organic as well. For example the entire clothing collections from People Tree, Ideo, HUG and Ethos are all wholly made with organic cotton.

Simpli-city rhymes with solidarity, justice, equality, and sustainable development

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When buying certified Fair Trade products, you have the assurance that the producers from the south are paid a fair wage for their work, meaning that the price covers the production costs and allows them a dignified standard of life. The profits generated by the sale of their products are reinvested in their local community.

People are the heart of our mission

"Shopping at Simpli-city is for people who want to consume responsibly and protect the environment. Buying Fair Trade helps reduce poverty while contributing to sustainable economic and social development in developing countries. Buying on consignment is the eco-friendly and responsible way to re-use high quality clothing and accessories" explained Pierre Legault, CEO of Renaissance.

Simpli-city is a new division of Renaissance, a non-profit organization founded in 1994. Renaissance is focused on the social reintegration of people having difficulty joining the work force and the promotion of a general consciousness of environmental issues.

Simpli-cité

RENAISSANCE

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"The tour was perfect. Our guide was a wonderful ambassador for your delightful school."

Year after year, families who visit Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School's annual Open House in October remark on how the student ambassadors who lead their individualized tours make the experience memorable, and meaningful.

Not only are the facts about its small size (350 girls, from Kindergarten to Grade 11), innovative French immersion program, and 97-year tradition of academic excellence at their fingertips, but also they are eager to share their genuine love for their school and appreciation for what makes it unique:

"After five years here, I still jump out of bed every morning feeling excited about going to school. I love ECS for its sense of community, of family, and friendship. I love the small classes where we get one-on-one attention. I love the teachers for their understanding and compassion. I love the spirit, the houses, and the fun." - Grade 9 student

From the earliest years in Junior School, through the Middle and Senior divisions, students develop leadership skills as they are entrusted with age-appropriate responsibilities, learn to work in groups and independently, and hone their communications skills.

In occupying leadership positions such as Ambassador, Prefect, Athletic Council Representative, and House Official, as well as through ECS's community service program, girls discover first-hand what it means to make a shared commitment, how to build consensus, and when to effect change.

By the time they graduate, ECS students are ready to take on the world-and do! Whether they're studying at top universities, discovering other cultures through volunteering abroad, or starting their own businesses, these confident and competent young women will continue to lead, and to learn.

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A unique health centre has recently opened its doors on Greene Ave. in Westmount. The Westmount Wellness Centre houses a team of professionals dedicated to offering clients alternative and natural options to various health issues. Our team is dedicated to treating patients through a holistic, integrative approach - taking the time to look at the whole individual and communicating with other health professionals, including mainstream doctors, to provide the best path to healing as possible. We believe that a patient is still an individual person, not just a labeled diagnosis, and therefore each person's treatment should be tailored as such. Of course, the most important person of the team is you - the patient and your input is an invaluable tool towards improved health. "The necessity for collaboration between the conventional and complementary, natural approaches has become more evident in the past few years. Integrative clinics are becoming the new trend in health care, as more people are wanting to take a more active role in their health," says Mel Alter, co-owner of the Westmount Wellness Centre. Our services include natural treatments for chronic illness, children's behavioral disorders / developmental delays, women's and men's health, perinatal, weight management, clinical nutrition, naturopathy, homeopathy, osteopathy, and acupuncture.

A brief introduction to some of our staff, who are available for consultation through appointment only.

Mel Alter, LPH, CCN: a successful compounding pharmacist, with a certificate in clinical nutrition from the International and American Association of Clinical Nutritionists and special interest in functional medicine. He treats chronic and inflammatory illness and children's behavioral disorders through a natural, nutritional approach.

Dr. Janice Goldfarb, M.D., MSc: has been practicing medicine for 14 years as a family physician. She also has done research in neurophysiology that has led her to working with children with behavioral disorders.

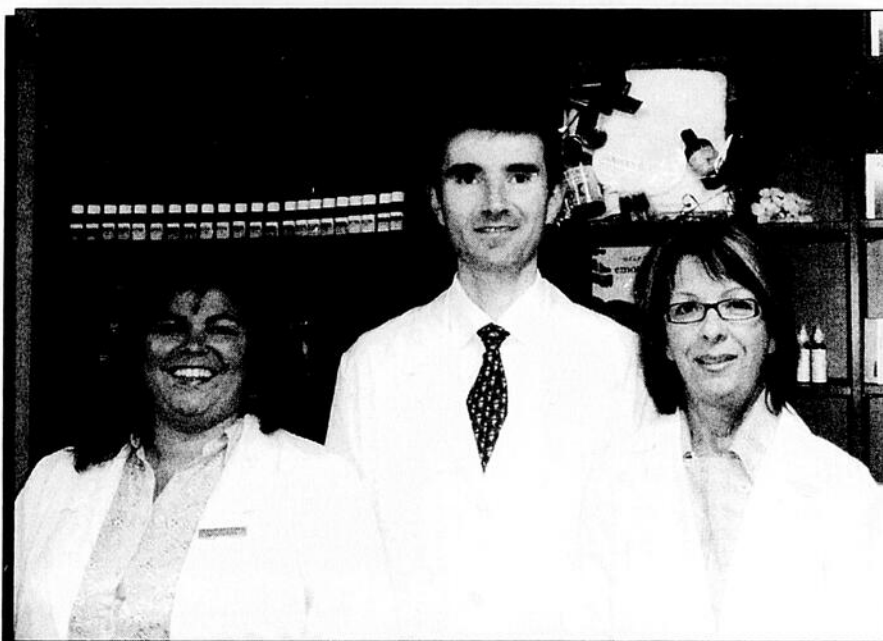
Mireille Mousseau, R.N.: has been a practicing nurse for the past 30 years. In the past 4 years, she has built a successful practice dealing with women's health issues such as pre-menstrual syndrome and menopause.

Victoria Sarah Moyal BSc. Nutrition: provides nutritional counseling for children with behavioral disorders / learning difficulties and their families. She is currently earning her post-graduate certification in clinical nutrition.

Chantal Ann Dumas ND: has been practicing naturopathic and functional medicine for the past 12 years. She specializes in hormonal health, perinatal care and children's health issues.

Michelle Renard Good, H.D., MSc, RNCP, PTS: combines her extensive knowledge and years of experience to provide the highest quality of personal training, comprehensive weight loss, nutritional counseling and homeopathic care to meet the needs of children, teens, and their families.

Lola Kakon, BA, Hom: has been practicing classical homeopathy for the past 10 years. Homeopathy is a global approach to well being... meaning mind and body are one, influence one and you influence the other.



From left to right: Chantal Ann Dumas, ND, Emmanuel Comte, ND, and Marlene Boudreault, Health Counselor

To help you put all of the knowledge and advice you will gain from a consultation with anyone of our health professionals, **L'Essentiel Santé**, a modern 1,600 sq.ft. natural health store, is conveniently located on the ground floor of the building. **L'Essentiel Santé** carries a wide variety of:

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Chantal Ann Dumas ND: Chantal is our manager at **L'Essentiel Santé**. She brings in 12 years of clinical practice combined with an extensive knowledge of the natural health industry. She is committed to giving you the best service and products available.

Emmanuel Comte, ND: Emmanuel is also a naturopath. He has a particular interest in the natural and functional approach to men's health, stress management, and digestive disorders.

Marlene Boudreault, Health Counselor: Marlene is an inspiration to many. After fighting off cancer, she is now studying naturopathic medicine. She represents the Hippocrates Health Institute of Quebec. Marlene gives advice and workshops on raw foods and juicing.

Come in and meet our dedicated professionals at the store, and should your health situation require, they are available for consultation by appointment in the clinic.



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"Pets have really become a part of our families..." beams Chuck Altman, owner of this cozy shop "...when our customers walk through the door, whether it's their first or fortieth, we want them to be comfortable." With a huge inventory, and so many varieties of high quality diets to choose from, it's great to have a staff that's knowledgeable and approachable. Pets are always welcome, and are warmly received. When dogs come for a visit "...the first place they usually go is behind the cash, that's usually where the open treats are..." confesses Altman "Some of them are just happy to get the extra attention, others enjoy having a place that's for them, while some are a little more discriminating, [they'll] only take certain treats, or they'll only take their treats from their favourite employees."

It's been just under five years since Chuck's taken over, but diehards will recognize that he has been hard at work at Little Bear since 1997, and things have really changed at this neighbourhood pet supply store. Clients are coming from all over now, and there has never been more to choose from. Whether you're looking for a choice of premium foods, treats, or chews for your pets, practical items like, collars, leads, carriers and crates, or something more specific, like jackets, boots, sweaters, vitamins, gravy, supplements, food toppers, lifejackets etc.... Little Bear has something to fit every budget and satisfy all your dog's or cat's needs.

After many delays Little Bear is finally going online, any day now www.littlebearonline.com will go live, and pet lovers worldwide will now have access to Little Bear's exhaustive collection of special order catalogs. "We're so busy now during the day, that taking care of our special orders has become more difficult." Now with



Chuck Altman, owner Animalerie Little Bear & Doobie
(photo 2005)

the website Chuck hopes "...that it will be a lot easier to continue to provide the type of service our clients have grown to expect, they'll be able to browse and order anything we can, from the comfort of your own home. Or if they find it online, our clients can come in and pick up exactly what they need, without any hassles." Once the website is active there will be exclusive online promotions, handy information, and listings of local pet services, as well as a page where customers can make special product requests, or ask for information. For now, however, the website will sell only accessories.

With all sorts of great products to choose from, Little Bear still remains the place to shop for your dog and cat food. The store carries a variety of USDA certified organic diets, Oregon Tilth organic, holistic, and premium pet foods, Whole canned foods, 95% meat, food toppers, gravies, dehydrated meats, and whole food mixes. A wide variety of supplements, vitamins, essential oils and an entire wall of natural treats, are just a few of the edible delights that are available. And some are homemade, locally, in

small batches, in order to help raise money for Animatch, an animal adoption agency.

After an amazing experience adopting his own dog, Doobie (Hebrew for little bear) Chuck has solidified his no-animals stance and proudly proclaims "As long as this is my store, Little Bear will never sell animals! There are too many homeless animals, and the existing shelters are overflowing as it is." Although he's recently adopted his own dog, Chuck still feels responsible for his client's pets. "...they are my main priority, always have been, and I want them to have the best selection of what's on the market. One visit to Animalerie Little Bear, at 4205 St Catherine Street West, at the corner of Greene, and you'll realize Chuck's not kidding. With so much to choose from, if you can't find what you need, just ask, it's probably on the shelves, or just a phone call away!



Animalerie Little Bear
4205 St. Catherine St. W. (corner Greene)

514-935-3425
www.littlebear.ca



The big blue hug: one child's breakthrough with autism

Giant Steps student uses chalkboard to communicate effectively

> Marilyn Vanderstay

Breakthroughs in communication between a Giant Steps student diagnosed with autism and his father have led to a unique and personal way to raise both awareness and funds to deal with the complex syndrome.

Two years ago, west-end resident Jason Goldsmith made a breakthrough in communicating with his five-year-old son, Ellis—a student at Giant Steps School on Hillside Avenue—through pen-and-paper stick man drawings. Today he is raising awareness about both the syndrome and the success through a

line of note cards he has created that feature Ellis's communications to his father.

The breakthrough moment came when Westmount speech language pathologist Nancy Ship and educator Wendy Wilson were visiting father and son in their home. While Goldsmith and Ellis were taking turns jumping on a home trampoline, Goldsmith had drawn a picture on the chalkboard of a stick figure jumping. Ship suggested he erase one of the legs so Ellis would jump on one leg rather than two.

"Much to our amazement, Ellis got off the

trampoline and drew the other leg back on the figure," said Ship. "This was the first time Ellis had spontaneously initiated a request to do what he wanted to do using a drawing to respond to his father."

A few weeks later, Ellis was helping his father in the kitchen. He accidentally dropped a dozen eggs and they broke all over the floor. While Goldsmith was busy cleaning up the mess, he sent Ellis to his room. By definition autistic children are pretty busy people, so when Goldsmith didn't hear activity in the room 15 minutes after he had finished cleaning up, he went to check on his son.

To Goldsmith's astonishment, he found Ellis standing quietly at his chalk board, busily working on drawings of broken eggs. When he saw his father he looked directly into his eyes, pointed to each egg, made the sound of an egg breaking and said, "Uh oh, broken." That communication was another self-initiated breakthrough. Goldsmith was speechless. These two incidents were the first time Ellis had communicated from his soul and was a big breakthrough in their communication and in Ellis's progress.

Since then Ellis has been communicating with his father through stick man drawings on everything from what he wants to eat to what he feels. One evening Ellis wanted his good night hug but his father was busy. After trying unsuccessfully to tell his father with his words, he drew a picture on his chalkboard of a big blue hug and pointed at it until his father heard him.

That image has become the logo of Goldsmith's children's graphics and designs business, The Big Blue Hug.com, that publishes note cards featuring Ellis's drawings. Each card includes an original drawing on the front and its story and a message from Ellis on the back. Goldsmith sells the cards through fundraising activities at schools and other organizations.

"I don't believe what I am doing is a model for others to follow, but by starting a business I am raising awareness so that hopefully others will not have to take such extreme measures to raise awareness," says Goldsmith.

To raise that awareness Goldsmith has also

(Continued on page 17)

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À ECS, la technologie n'est pas que la maîtrise d'un logiciel ou du matériel informatique, ni une matière enseignée isolément. La technologie est un outil au service des apprentissages. C'est pourquoi nous parlons d'un savoir informatisé.

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Pour obtenir des informations ou prendre rendez-vous, communiquez avec nous par téléphone au **514-935-6357**, par télécopieur au 514-935-1099 ou visitez notre site Web www.ecs.qc.ca. Des bourses d'études sont offertes aux élèves de la 6^e à la 11^e année. La clientèle de l'Ouest de l'Île de Montréal a accès à un service d'autobus privé.



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Arts & Books

www.westmountexaminer.com The Westmount Examiner Thursday, October 19, 2006 Page 15

Art Westmount 2006 nurtures the creative spirit

> Marilyn Vanderstay

Hidden behind the austere and traditional facade of Westmount is a talented assortment of local artists who toil in private studios and workshops in their homes and in centres in Westmount and beyond. They exhibit their work at the Victoria Hall Gallery and the Visual Arts Centre, local art galleries and an eclectic array of restaurants. But for the most part these artists that portray our lives and community in images of varied media are hidden from the public.

Until this weekend.

This Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the City of Westmount will bring to its residents the first Art Westmount 2006, a weekend dedicated to the city's artists.

Some of the 44 artists will exhibit their work in public shows and local businesses. Others will open the doors to their studios and workshops, and even their homes to the community to celebrate their work and give insight into the artistic process and profession.

The tour begins at Victoria Hall, where visitors will collect their map-brochures before heading out on the walking tour. They can begin at the Gallery at Victoria Hall, where Claude Hazanvickus is hosting his present exhibition. Upstairs, a group exhibition of familiar artists will be held in the Salle Prud'homme.

Then to the streets of the City itself, where participants will find exhibitions in local



Digital imagery by Peter Boyadjieff, one of 44 featured artists on the Art Westmount tour.

businesses along the main routes of Sherbrooke Street and Victoria Avenue and in the studios tucked into homes.

Susie Fairbrother will exhibit three new works at the Second Cup café at Claremont and Sherbrooke, while Bruce Roberts—with the consent of his wife—will open up his home on Irvine Avenue, where guests will be able to see him at work on his latest project—pigeons.

A few blocks over on Melville Avenue, first-time exhibitor and interior decorative painter by profession Irene Marconi will exhibit her easel canvases that feature Italian landscapes and still lifes in her home studio. A few other artists, including Barbara Asgary, will exhibit their work at their studios in the

Complex de Canal Lachine on St. Ambroise Street in nearby St. Henri, and everywhere in between the artists will be welcoming visitors for the first time ever. Even the office of *The Examiner* will be open to the public as editor and artist Wayne Larsen will be exhibiting some of his landscapes.

The unjuried event was opened to all interested artists who work in all media in Westmount. Seven senior artists who live in Place Kensington and participate in their watercolour class got together to open the residence to the public to view their work.

The idea for the autumn city walk was conceived during an informal conversation between visitors at a vernissage at the Victoria Hall Gallery last spring.

Artist Daniela Zekina, city councilor Nicole Forbes, Melville Avenue resident Richard Troll, Virginia Elliot, assistant coordinator for community events in Westmount, artist Jennifer Goddard and a few others were discussing just how many talented artists there are in Westmount and how it would be interesting for the public to see where and how they work and have the opportunity to discuss their work with them.

Billed as a nice way for the community to get out and enjoy a fall weekend while getting to know their artists, the walking tour is open to the public for no charge. Just show up at Victoria Hall either Saturday or Sunday and enjoy the tour.

To identify the artists, each one was assigned a number that corresponds on the map. That number was printed on a poster that will be posted outside the studio, home or business where the artist is exhibiting.

For more information on the tour, call 514-925-1403.

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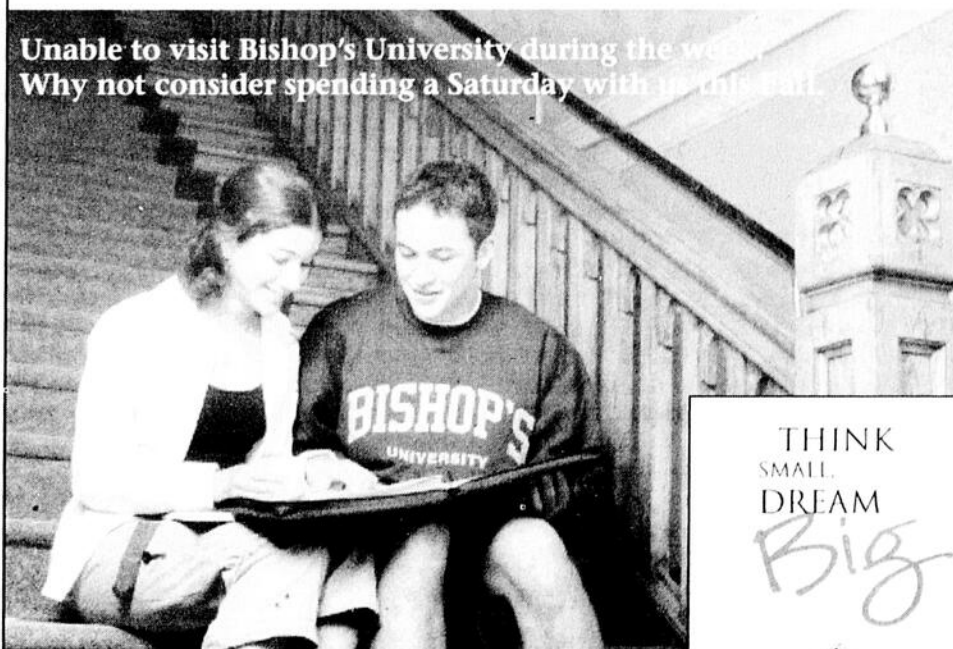
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Library week is a family affair

> Matthew Surridge

It is currently Public Library Week across Quebec, and the Westmount Public Library is celebrating with a range of special events and programs.

The theme of this year's week-long celebration of libraries is 'family', and accordingly the library has developed a schedule of activities to appeal to every family member. The library is holding an open house throughout Public Library Week, and giving Westmounters the opportunity to take part in several contests; it will host a very special meeting of its games club; and it will present a writing workshop overseen by author Alan Silberberg.

The library hosts Silberberg today at 4

p.m. Silberberg, a Westmount cartoonist and writer of the book *Pond Scum*, will oversee a children's writing workshop aimed at ages 9 and up. The workshop will take place in the Westmount Room, but the sign-up sheet for the event is at the desk in the children's department.

On Friday, Oct. 20, the game club overseen by Mike Ditchburn has a special meeting. Club members are invited to bring their families along to a special Family Games Night. Both traditional and new board games will be set up for play, not only in the children's department, but also upstairs in the adult library. The games will begin at 7 p.m.

The open house runs every day of Public

Library Week, through Saturday. There is coffee available in the mornings, and visitors can ask for tours of the library and its facilities. These tours can be geared toward a special interest, or can be used to explore the various services the library offers.

"You may think you know the library, but there are all sorts of resources that even if you go there regularly you may not be aware of," said Library Director Ann Moffat. "Just last week, two women who are in here all the time

asked me, 'do you have DVDs?' Well, yes."

The library has also welcomed Public Library Week with displays, an expanded readers' advisory corner, and pamphlets with special bibliographies focusing on different aspects of families. The Westmount Library is reflecting the theme of this year's celebration of libraries in many ways. The connection between libraries and families, after all, is a natural one. As Moffat puts it, "There's something here for the whole family."

Giller nominee to read in Westmount

> Matthew Surridge

This Wednesday, Oct. 23, the Westmount Public Library will host a reading and discussion with Ravi Hage, author of the novel *De Niro's Game*. The book has been shortlisted for the 2006 Scotiabank Giller Prize.

De Niro's Game is set against the backdrop of the Lebanese Civil War. It tells the tale of two friends, Bassam and George, who become involved with crime in Beirut in the early 1980s as they choose their respective destinies. The book has received glowing reviews, in addition to its selection for the Giller shortlist, and film rights have been bought by Atom Egoyan's production company.

Hage, who like his protagonists is of Christian Lebanese origin, came to Montreal in 1991. He studied at Dawson College and Concordia University, earning a degree in visual arts. Displays of Hage's work in photography and other media have been mounted in galleries around the world, and the

Canadian Museum of Civilization and the Musée de la civilisation de Québec have both acquired pieces of his visual artwork. He also curated film festivals and art exhibitions.

Hage writes in English, his third language. His short stories have appeared in numerous journals and magazines, and his story *The Salad Lady* was included in the 2004 anthology *Dinarzad's Children: An Anthology of Contemporary Arab American Fiction*.

The Scotiabank Giller Prize is Canada's largest literary prize. Founded by Jack Giller in 1994 in memory of his late wife Doris, the award recognizes excellence in Canadian literary fiction. In 2005, Scotiabank agreed to co-sponsor the prize, doubling the money awarded. The winner will receive \$40,000, while the other four finalists will each receive \$2,500. The winner will be announced on Nov. 7. The discussion with Hage will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Westmount Room, and is free of charge. A sign-up sheet is available at the library's circulation desk.

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Code: 1770

Singers needed: Local jazz choir seeks versatile vocalists

> Martin C. Barry

Choeur en Jazz has chosen Westmount as its new home base. The innovative male and female vocal ensemble is currently holding rehearsals at Mountainside United Church on The Boulevard.

The group's repertoire, which ranges from Gershwin to Rogers/Hart and Kirby Shaw, covers jazz and Latin music standards. Choeur en Jazz's roots go back a decade to Université de Montréal, where some graduates got together to form a choir they called Sacajazz.

"When the university decided to restrict the choir to only students, I decided to start this," said France Saint-Denis, Choeur en Jazz's manager. "It's really my favourite hobby."

Choeur en Jazz is currently looking for members—particularly tenors and basses—who are residents of Westmount. They also hope to stage a concert in December at Victoria Hall.

"We need more Westmount people," said Saint-Denis, noting they have just one member from Westmount so far. "We are right in the middle of Westmount, so it would be convenient for them."

According to Saint-Denis, the group currently has more need for male voices than female ones. "That's always the case with choirs," she said. "We also accept women, but we're really missing a few guys."

Applicants must be able to carry a tune during a 10-minute audition with the musical director. "If you can repeat five notes that he's playing on the piano, you're okay."

Another interesting aspect of the group is that they do not require musical reading skills. While the average age of Choeur en Jazz members is 45, some are as young as 25, while others are in their 60s.

This past summer, the ensemble announced the appointment of Philippe Bourque as their new artistic director. Bourque, who recently finished a Masters degree in choir conducting under the supervision of Julian Wachner at McGill University, also has a Bachelor's degree with distinction in performing classical piano.

Bourque's knowledge of choir direction also includes experience as assistant conduc-

tor of the Concert Choir and Chamber Singers at McGill University.

In addition, he is the conductor and artistic director of the Petits-Chanteurs de la Cathédrale.

Apart from choirs, his other musical interests range from classical piano to jazz gigs, as well as teaching and arranging music.

He has won the Lieutenant Governor's Prize at Montreal's renowned Vincent-d'Indy musical college, a Constance Willey Prize at McGill, and a study bursary from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Choeur en Jazz's rehearsals take place at Mountainside Church, 687 Roslyn Ave., every Wednesday from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

For more information, call 514-271-9311 or send an e-mail to france.saint-denis@videotron.ca.

Artistic Director Philippe Bourque is set to guide the Westmount-based Choeur en Jazz.



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TD Mutual Funds

TD Waterhouse

(Continued from page 14)

taken Ellis's drawings and developed them into striking stained glass art. The process is so simple kids can do it themselves. Goldsmith is teaching his first stained-glass art and information workshop this Saturday, Oct. 21, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Fusion Delights, 5667 Sherbrooke St. W. Goldsmith will help children five to 10 years design and paint their own stained glass art work and will be giving a presentation about autism to parents.

The syndrome of autism is a neurological dysfunction that is severely incapacitating and without intervention can be a life-long disability. Originally thought to be a rare disorder, recent studies have estimated that autism and related disorders affect one in every 166 boys and girls and the rate of diagnosis is growing at a rate of 172 per cent annually. Autism tends to significantly more common in boys than girls. There is no definitive medical test to identify autism or one of its related disorders including Asperger's, Rett's, Childhood Disintegrative, and Pervasive Development disorders.

Both the Montreal Children's Hospital and the Douglas Hospital host autism clinics. For more information about local events concerning autism or to see images of the note cards go to www.thebigbluehug or call Goldsmith at 514-342-3331.

To register for the stained-glass art workshop, call Fusion Delights, at 514-481-7698.

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Open Tuesday to Friday between 9 a.m. & 5 p.m., and Monday until 7 p.m.

100 Real estate purchase/sale
200 Real estate rent
300 Merchandise
400 Services
500 Personal services

550 Financial services
600 Employment
700 Training and Culture
800 Notices
900 Vehicles

105 Properties for sale

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ST-SAUVEUR: condo 3 c-a-c directement sur les pentes de St-Sauveur. Louer pour la saison nov.-avr. \$12,500. Vendre \$239,000. Contactez Elaine: 613-880-0211.

ST-SAUVEUR: ski-in 3-bed-room condo situated on the hills of St-Sauveur. Seasonal rent, November to April, \$12,500. For sale, \$239,000. Call Elaine: 613-880-0211.

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ST-SAUVEUR: ski-in 3-bed-room condo situated on the hills of St-Sauveur. Seasonal rent, November to April, \$12,500. For sale, \$239,000. Call Elaine: 613-880-0211.

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Thursday, Oct. 19

Contactivity Seniors Centre presents guest speaker Milenka Jonas, who will give the talk 'Men and Women's Health and Nutrition' at a 1 p.m. luncheon. Cost is \$4. Info: 514-932-2326.

The Westmount Historical Association's fall lecture series continues with 'Wardleworth House: Understanding the Importance of Metcalfe Terrace'. Architect Glenn Bydwell will discuss the origins and evolution of the well-known historic house on Cote St. Antoine Road, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke St. W. Admission is free for WHA members, \$5 for non-members at the door. Info: 514-925-1404 or 514-932-6688.

Saturday, Oct. 21

Art Westmount 2006 takes place throughout the city from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come and meet

local artists in their studio or exhibition spaces. Presented in tour format, this week-end-long event is a great way for Westmounter to get to know their artists. Maps and brochures will be available at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke W. Info: 514-989-5226.

Sunday, Oct. 22

Art Westmount 2006 takes place throughout the city from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come and meet local artists in their studio or exhibition spaces. Presented in tour format, this week-end-long event is a great way for Westmounter to get to know their artists. Maps and brochures will be available at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke W. Info: 514-989-5226.

Tuesday, Oct. 24

Caregivers Tea: Sharing and supporting, info

and resources for individuals who provide ongoing care and assistance, without pay, for family members and friends in need of support due to chronic physical, cognitive or mental health conditions. From 2 to 4 p.m. at Centre Greene, 1090 Greene Ave. No cost. RSVP. All welcome. Info: 514-931-6202.

Wednesday, Oct. 25

Dine & Discover returns to Temple Emanuel-Beth Shalom, 395 Elm Ave., with a hot new topic: 'The Bible's Top 10 Ideas', first in a three-part series. Dinner at 5:30, lecture at 6:20 p.m. Reservations required at 514-937-3575.

Concerto Della Donna, directed by Iwan Edwards, will join the choirs of Christ Church Cathedral for an evening of classical and contemporary choral music at 8 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral, 635 St. Catherine

St. Tickets: \$20 adult; \$15 students/seniors; or \$40 including wine and cheese reception. This is a benefit concert supporting the Cathedral's youth choir. For more information call Patrick Wedd at 514-843-6577.

Monday, Oct. 30

The Auxiliary of the Montreal Children's Hospital holds a knit sale, featuring quality handmade knitting, including blankets, sweaters, etc., from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the hospital, 2300 Tupper St., second floor B wing. Info: Rita Wilson at 514-412-4400 ext. 22384.

Ongoing

The McClure Gallery at the Visual Arts Centre, 350 Victoria Ave., presents 'Terre, pierre et fer', an exhibition by Jean Brillant, Jean-Louis Emond and Eva Lapka, Oct. 6 through 28. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from noon to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m. Info: 514-488-9558.

The Gallery at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W., presents the exhibitions 'Short Stories', sculptures by Claude Hazanavicius, and 'Temporal Edges', photographs by Lawrence Perlman, from Oct. 20 to Nov. 11. Vernissage is Oct. 19 at 6 p.m. Info: 514-989-5226.

Harmonia Westmount Women's Choir is looking for new members who have a knowledge of music and who like to sing. Please call Marilyn at 514-932-2026 for information.

The Advent Refugee Centre is in need of men's and women's fall and winter clothing in good condition. Donations may be brought to the Centre at 326 Wood Ave., weekdays between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Info: June Paterson at 514-933-6839.

The Montreal Camera Club meets each Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve, entrance at rear. Slide shows, competitions and workshops. Visitors welcome. Info: 514-637-2767.

Westmount Toastmasters: Take the fear out of public speaking every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke W.

The Rotary Club of Westmount meets each Wednesday at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke W., at 12:30 p.m.

Friends of the Westmount Library ask that you think of them if you have any books you wish to donate for their book sales. They accept quality hardcovers and paperbacks in reasonable condition, on all subjects. Please drop off your books at the library circulation desk, 4574 Sherbrooke W. Info: 514-594-4975.

Mary's Recovery: Weekly meetings in English and French at the Westmount YMCA for people seeking help in dealing with fear, anger, stress, depression, anxiety, panic attacks, phobias, insomnia, gambling addiction. Info: 514-485-2194.

605 Miscellaneous employment

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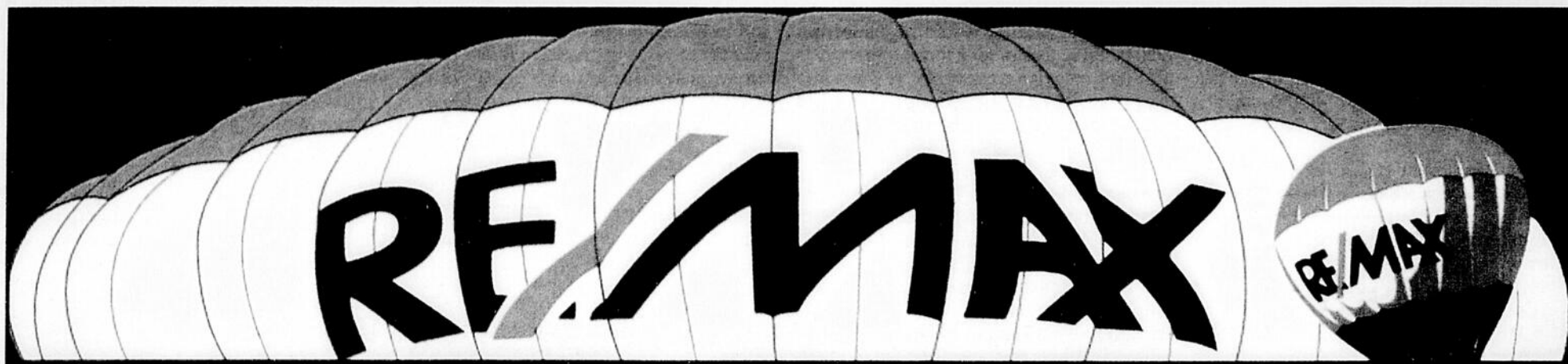
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1330 Greene Avenue
514-933-6781

RE/MAX Westmount Inc
remax-westmount@remax-quebec.com
Chartered Real Estate Broker

5673 Monkland Avenue
514-482-3347

WESTMOUNT



Classic Victorian cottage. Woodwork, stained glass, beamed ceilings, 2 fireplaces + 5 bdrms, fin-basement + garden. Great location! Asking **\$699,000**.

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WESTMOUNT



660 Grosvenor Ave. Impeccable home in the heart of Westmount. Stunning woodwork, gr. floor den, fireplaces, garage. Asking **\$799,000**.

RON BENVENISTI • ESTI JEDEIKIN
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WESTMOUNT



Spectacular land, 18,000 sf of town & country setting. Unique pool area. MBR has his & her ensuites, den, fp & other bdrms on one floor. Exquisite decor.

BOBBIE LUBIN KITMAN
514-484-8841

WESTMOUNT



Custom, luxurious condo with mountain views and elegant city living! Magnificent MBR suite complete with terrace & library, 3 gar. MUST SEE! MLS# 1243522. **\$895,000**.

JOYCE FAUGHNAN
514-933-6781

WESTMOUNT



Spacious & sunny 3-bdrm condo in prestigious 200 Lansdowne. 2 terraces, 2 garages. Great views! All amenities, pool, exercise room, 24-hr doorman. Steps to everything! MLS# 1243517. **\$745,000**

JOYCE FAUGHNAN
514-933-6781

WESTMOUNT



26 Shorncliffe Ave. Spectacular contemporary town & country setting. Kidney shaped pool & waterfall on 18,250 sf of land. Luxurious master bedroom ensuite with 2 baths, 2 dressing rooms and den. Fireplace and 2 car garage. **\$3,900,000**

WESTMOUNT ADJ.



3155 The Boulevard Spectacular detached limestone modern master piece. Designed by renowned architect Shulim Rubin. This residence was built as a family home which can transition to a maintenance free condo alternative. **\$3,500,000**.

WESTMOUNT



285 Clarke #PH601 Simply the best! 4200 sf of unparalleled luxury plus almost 1200 sf private rooftop terrace plus 750 sf of balconies, 3 car garage, fireplace, 3 ensuites, den & office. Asking **\$2,500,000**.

LIZA KAUFMAN
Cell: 232-5932
off: 933-6781
lkaufman@videotron.ca
#1 Chairman's Club
Hall of Fame 2005
www.lizakaufman.com
* RE/MAX Designation

WESTMOUNT ADJ.



3-storey "Tudor" family home with delightful city, garden and patio, some views. Master bdrm / sitting room with balcony + ensuite. Must see! MLS# 1246023. Good value at **\$759,000**.

JOYCE FAUGHNAN
514-933-6781

TOWN OF MOUNT ROYAL



Renov. family home in a great location! 4 bdrms, 3+1 baths + a fab. designer kitchen. Pool-size garden, move-in cond. MLS# 1242812. Asking **\$1,349,000**

JOYCE FAUGHNAN
ANNE-MARIE LARUE
514-933-6781

LIVING IN STYLE

GOLDEN SQUARE MILE



NEW LISTING!
Outstanding luxury 2 +1 townhouse condo with zen influence, chef's kitchen, southern exposure, dynamic views, 2 private terraces, 2 indoor garage + pkg. Don't miss this terrific opportunity to enjoy urban living while nestled at the mountain's edge.
Asking **\$1,459,000** or **\$7,500/M**

KAREN KARPMAN 514 933.6781
Affiliated Real Estate Agent - RE/MAX Westmount Inc. Brk.

WESTMOUNT



31 RAMEZAY AVE - Gracious stone home! Fabulous views, perfect for entertaining and family living. New price. **\$2,600,000**.

WESTMOUNT ADJ. LE CLAREMONT
2000 Claremont
1-2 bedroom condos available. Now under construction.
\$184K - \$512K

LILLIAN ENGELS
Off: 514-933-6781
Cell: 514-943-1309

MCGILL GHETTO



NEW PRICE - Motivated vendor -
Gorgeous condo, new kitchen + bath, fireplace, A/C, garden + 2x parking. Asking **\$235,000**

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS IN THE DOWNTOWN & MCGILL GHETTO AREA, DON'T HESITATE TO CALL.

RYAN LUDLOW
514-933-6781

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4 PM



4855 Jean Brillant \$369,000
Large, sunfilled condo (upper duplex). Large & sep. living/dining rooms. 3 bdrms. Great location.

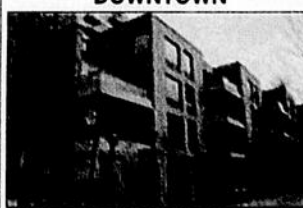
JUST LISTED



5032 Victoria \$385,000
Completely renov., lower condo duplex, new kitchen, new bathrooms, basement, garage, close to all amenities ++.

Bunny Berke
Affiliated Real Estate Agent
Tel: 514-933-6781
Fax: 514-933-5024
bunnie.eleanor@sympatico.ca

DOWNTOWN



Hidden treasure nestled on a quiet cul-de-sac! Over 2700 sf of luxurious space at an incredible price. For more details...

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deux fois...
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Going once...
twice...
SOLD

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Listed and Sold in 3 Days!

336 Redfern
Asking \$1,595,000

Family Homes Wanted - \$800K to \$4,000,000

I am currently working with 6 families looking for a Westmount address to call home. Their budgets range from \$800,000 to upwards of \$4 million.

If you are thinking of selling, please call me for a confidential discussion about whether your home would suit their needs. Discretion assured.

christina miller 514-933-6781
Affiliated Real Estate Agent - RE/MAX Westmount Broker

The most important work we will ever do will be within the walls of our own homes.

